



Karni Sena Gogamedi murder case: Delhi Police takes 3

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Afternoon

VOIC E

IEWS & VISION OF CITY

Volume: 16, Issue: 102

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023 MUMBAI

08 PAGES, ₹ 2/-

RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332

www.afternoonvoice.com

The Lok Sabha elections are scheduled for April-May and Assembly elections for October- November in Maharashtra



AV Team

The Lok Sabha elections are scheduled for April-May and Assembly elections for October- November next year. The BJP has embarked on a statewide campaign to highlight policies and programmes undertaken under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Centre and Shinde, Fadnavis and Ajit

Pawar in the state. Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has exuded confidence that the BJP-led coalition government will return to power after the 2024 Assembly elections. The Party has started a statewide campaign to showcase the policies and programmes implemented for the people.

State BJP chief Chandrashekhar Bawankule said, "Under the leadership of Modi

at the Centre, we have focused on empowerment of the poor and oppressed. In Maharashtra under the collective leadership of Shinde, Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar, the Maha Yuti is making concerted efforts to provide benefits to everyone. We are confident of doing well because we work for people's welfare."

Despite emerging as the largest party in 2019, the BJP was demoted to the Opposi-

tion as its alliance partner Shiv Sena joined the alliance of the NCP and Congress. The Maha Vikas Aghadi, led by then chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, ruled for two and a half years. After a split in the Shiv Sena, the BJP formed a coalition government in Maharashtra with Shinde as chief minister in 2022. A year later, in July, the BJP split the NCP. And the Ajit Pawar-led NCP faction joined the government.

Can Mayavati's Nephew Aakash Anand bring back lost glory of BSP

Editoritis



Dr. Vaidehi

Mayavati, and her Bahujan Samajwadi party already lost sheen and relevance in Uttar Pradesh. She was called as 'Dalit-ki-Beti', later on became a 'Daulat-ki-Beti', losing people's confidence in her. The weakening relevance of Mayavati which started from Dalits themselves, became too noticeable after the ill-conceived alliance with SP in 2019. Otherwise, Mayavati's fall commenced in 2012 when she failed to retain her government in Uttar Pradesh. She could win just 80 seats from 206 she won in 2007. She lost 126 seats, a steep fall. Again, in the 2014 General election she blanked out whereas in 2009 she had won 20 seats. After these two consecutive losses Mayavati understood that she lost her grip in UP. In the assembly election 2017 again, BSP won 17 seats and 19% votes. Though Mayavati is able to steadily keep

her vote share, her share of seats reduced year after year. In 2019 she won 10 seats because of the Mahagathbandhan. Since she is not able to win the election and come to power, she became vulnerable. In four elections she failed to show that Mayavati had broken the alliance with Samajwadi Party soon after the election. Her inconsistency has harmed her reputation.

Mayavati came to politics on the mercy of Kanshi Ram. He was a government employee in Maharashtra who conceived the idea of creating a political movement for the Backward Communities. In the 1970s he launched BAMCEF and then expanded the idea to a political group called DS-4 in 1981.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 02

Editoritis

In 1977 Mayawati was a schoolteacher living with her parents, preparing for the Indian Administrative Service. She had given a few political speeches and done some activist work.

After Babri Masjid demolition in 1992, Uttar Pradesh was put under President's Rule and political violence had become widespread in the state.

Akash Anand has also been entrusted with the task of gearing up the party cadre for the assembly election and restructuring the party organisation in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Can Mayavati's Nephew Akash Anand bring back lost glory of BSP

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Finally, DS-4 was graduated into a full-fledged political party BSP, in 1984. Kanshi Ram's key innovation was to spread the umbrella of his movement wider, to include all Hindu minorities and Muslims. What made the party further tick was his personal energy and organizational capacity. Kanshi Ram designed DS-4 and later BSP as a socio-political movement rather than a political party. A host of new books were written, revising Indian history from a Dalit point of view and highlighting Dalit heroes that the "upper caste" historians had ignored. The aim was to change the idea of Dalits in society so radically that rather than being the forgotten, lowest caste, they become a dominant fixture of India's self-image.

In 1977 Mayawati was a schoolteacher living with her parents, preparing for the Indian Administrative Service. She had given a few political speeches and done some activist work. Kanshi Ram, himself just an upcoming leader, saw potential in her and convinced her to follow him into politics full-time. By late 1980s, she had become the uncontested second-in-command of the party. A clear division of labour had emerged, where Mayawati concentrated on Uttar Pradesh, while Kanshi Ram concentrated on the rest of the country. And while she was rising within the party, the party was rising in the country.

After Babri Masjid demolition in 1992, Uttar Pradesh was put under President's Rule and political violence had become widespread in the state. In 1993 elections, UP votes were divided between BJP supported by the upper castes, Yadav's SP, supported by the OBCs, especially Yadavs, and BSP, supported by the SC/STs. Congress was a distant fourth. SP/BSP formed an allied government with Mulayam Singh Yadav as the Chief Minister. For the most part Kanshi Ram stayed away from UP politics, leaving Mayawati to handle the day-to-day affairs of the alliance, which quickly gave her the title of "Super Chief Minister."

In 2002, she became Chief Minister for the third time, for sixteen months. BSP's agenda to make Dalit identity dominant also had to be pursued aggressively. Her swearing-in ceremony was followed by huge government hand-outs – jobs guarantee, loan waivers, land distribution and reservations – to her base

and massive shuffling of bureaucracy to promote Dalit officers. This was invariably followed by rampant corruption and further divisions within the UP society.

When Kanshi Ram died in 2006, people speculated that Mayawati's career would end here. But in 2007 elections, BSP won a clear majority in the state by achieving a strange coalition of Dalits, Muslims and Brahmins, the latter two being stolen from SP's and BJP's bases. For the first time, BSP was assured of a stable full-term. Her charm faded with time and now it is difficult to regain the lost glory. Uttar Pradesh politics is more complicated compared to other states. Since Independence Congress had dominance in the state till Rajiv Gandhi was alive, because of the unstated support of Brahmins, and the forward class Congress remained in power. Brahmins are the opinion makers in Uttar Pradesh. Muslims who form 19.5% want to assert themselves. They have been wavering in their support from SP, to BSP, to Congress. Dalit used to be loyal to BSP but later on they too switched to Akhilesh, When Mayawati started promoting Brahmins, Dalit got irked.

Recently, the name of Akash Anand, who has been long anticipated to be Mayawati's successor, figured the second place in the list of BSP's star campaigners for the Himachal Pradesh assembly election. Akash Anand has also been entrusted with the task of gearing up the party cadre for the assembly election and restructuring the party organisation in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Akash was made national coordinator of the BSP in 2019 when Mayawati changed the party organisation after breaking alliance with the Samajwadi Party. The BSP had worked to emerge as the third alternative in Himachal Pradesh. Mayawati and national coordinator Akash Anand addressed a series of the party rallies in Himachal Pradesh. Interesting to see how Akash Anand is going to bring back the sheen to the party.

Volume No. 16 | Issue No. 102

Afternoon VOICE
RNI No. MAHENG/2009/29332
VIEWS & VISION OF CITY

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Voices



Air Pollution: The time to act is Now



- Jubel D'Cruz

Our environment, health, and quality of life are at stake, and it's imperative that we address this growing concern urgently.

In today's world, almost everything around us is contaminated and so is the air that we breathe. Air pollution is becoming a matter of great concern day by day. Every living being needs fresh air to remain healthy. Breathing in polluted air can lead to fatal diseases like asthma and cancer, which in turn can lead to death. With the increasing number of cars and factories, the world is becoming a hard place to breathe in. The environment thrives upon balance. To curb the great deal of air pollution that exists, more trees should have been planted. Instead, we can see deforestation all around us. People seem to carelessly continue doing things that is making the environment more polluted. They need to take steps that will reduce the effects of air pollution like using solar panels in replacement of fossil fuel and by using electricity and petroleum efficiently.

Air pollution is a silent but pervasive threat that affects millions of people worldwide. It manifests in various forms, from industrial emissions to vehicular exhaust, and even natural events like forest fires. Unfortunately, its consequences are far-reaching and affect us on multiple fronts.

First and foremost, air pollution has a severe impact on human health. The inhalation of pollutants like fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and toxic gases can lead to respiratory diseases, cardiovascular problems, and even

premature death. Vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing health conditions are particularly at risk.

Furthermore, air pollution doesn't just stop at harming our health; it also damages our environment. It contributes to climate change by releasing greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane. It degrades the quality of our natural resources, from soil to water bodies, impacting ecosystems and biodiversity. It's not just a threat to our health; it's a threat to our planet.

In addition to its health and environmental effects, air pollution has economic consequences. The costs associated with healthcare, lost productivity, and damage to infrastructure are staggering. It burdens our healthcare system and hampers economic growth.

As responsible citizens, it is our duty to address this crisis head-on. We must advocate for cleaner energy sources, stricter emission standards, and sustainable transportation options. We must also be mindful of our individual carbon footprint by reducing energy consumption and adopting eco-friendly practices.

The time to act is now. We cannot afford to ignore the insidious effects of air pollution any longer. It's a threat to our health, environment, and economic well-being. Let us join hands to raise awareness, demand policy changes, and take personal actions to combat this issue. Our future depends on it.

Letters to the Editor

Bring a government of people's interest

Will BJP win the 2024 Lok Sabha elections? The answer lies in the womb of the future. One by one BJP is starting to spread in every state. So obviously the confidence of everyone in this party will be at its peak. But in politics anything can happen anytime. So BJP still has a long way to go. BJP can't rule the country by killing or ending the rights of regional parties. So the picture we see now can change anytime. Politics in the country is no longer trustworthy. If national parties are dodging regional parties, it's not right. The regional party in each state has its own unique role and identity. No one should erase it. Otherwise, everyone will have to suffer the consequences. BJP's Vijayarath is definitely a shocker in the minds of the opponents. BJP is in power today due to weak opposition. Such opposition parties coming together will be a

danger bell for BJP.

Uday Waghvankar

Fulfill the promises

It has become a trend nowadays for newly elected parties coming to power to put their promises to reality as soon as the swearing in ceremony is over. Advertisements, bulletins and hoardings follow declaring that two or three of the parties guarantees have been fulfilled within two days of assuming office. Some files also get cleared within a couple of days. Unfortunately, in most cases the ripples are felt for a few months and then we find most of the promises like monetary aid to women, LPG at a low price, free bus travel for women and children, support for farmers, government jobs for the youth, medical insurances and so on remain unfulfilled. The public again starts queuing up with grievances and the scenario is back to square one.

A consistent approach by leaders who feel the pulse of the public, meticulous planning on how to fulfill the promises given during election times, avoiding in house party politics and a fair approach to

mitigate the problems of the commoners can win the trust of the public which in a way helps the government to rule good and make the life of people better.

M Pradyu

Shock to China, Italy out of BRI project

Italy is no longer part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). It is considered the dream project of Chinese President Xi Jinping. Italy was the only country of G7 which became its part. In such a situation, its exclusion is being considered as a blow to China.

MT. Farooqi

Centre Announces a Mitigation Project

The Union government on Thursday released ₹493.60 crore to Andhra Pradesh and 450 crore to Tamil Nadu in the wake of the damage inflicted by severe cyclonic storm Michaung this week. Apart from this, the Centre approved another tranche of 561.29 crore for Chennai for flood mitigation efforts. It a good initiative from Central govt. This mitigation project will help

make Chennai flood- resilient. This is the first in a series of urban flood mitigation efforts.

TKR.Noori

A Short-range ballistic missile Agni-1 successfully conducted

India on Thursday successfully conducts training launch of short-range ballistic missile Agni-1 from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off the Odisha coast. The missile was successfully test-fired last time on June 1 from the same base. In October last year, India successfully test-fired 'Agni Prime' a new generation of ballistic missiles from off the coast of Odisha. The Agni series of missiles are the mainstay of India's nuclear delivery options. It jogs APJ Abdul Kalam's reminiscences of wisdom, greatness and advanced strategy, who showed India a new path of development.

Tauqueer Rahmani

Readers are requested to mail Letters to the Editor only at

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No postal letters will be entertained

(The views expressed are authors' own)

City

Sanjay Raut cautions Congress over 2024 Lok Sabha polls



The Congress would face more difficulties in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls if there are people around the Gandhi family who do politics that is favourable for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut said

on Sunday. In his weekly column Rokhthok in the party mouthpiece 'Saamana', Raut also sought to raise doubt over the electronic voting machines (EVMS).

He claimed that during the counting of ballot papers (postal ballots), the Congress

was ahead in 199 seats in Madhya Pradesh, but the situation changed when votes in the EVMs were counted.

The BJP swept the polls in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, while the Congress won in Telangana. The results of assembly polls held in these states last month were declared on December 3.

"If there are people around the Gandhis who do politics that is favourable for Modi and Shah (Union minister Amit Shah), then there will be more danger in 2024," Raut said, referring to Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Kamal Nath who led the party campaign in the state. **PTI**

Ram Temple: Shinde hails PM as group of 300 leaves on foot for Ayodhya



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Sunday thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for fulfilling the dreams of crores of Indians with the construction of a grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh. He was speaking at an event to see off 300 devotees who will make the journey to Ayodhya on foot and reach there after 47 days.

"I am thankful to PM Modi and UP CM Yogi Adityanath for

fulfilling the dreams of crores of people with the construction of the Ram Temple. It will be fruitful for their 'shraddha, asmita and bhakti' (devotion and pride)," Shinde said.

Asserting that Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray also wanted a grand temple to be built in Ayodhya, the CM said the holy city has completely been transformed and has become an important pilgrimage centre of the world. **PTI**

Registration of properties in Pune up 7 pc in Nov amid strong housing demand: Knight Frank

Registration of properties in Pune rose by 7 per cent annually to 14,607 units in November on higher demand, according to Knight Frank India. Real estate consultant Knight Frank India on Sunday released properties' registration numbers of Pune compiled from the Maharashtra government data.

A total of 14,607 units were registered last month, up from 13,694 registrations in November 2022, the data showed. Stamp duty collections for November 2023 stood at Rs 473 crore. The cumulative value of registered properties in November 2023 amounted to Rs 13,342 crore.

During January-November

2023, Pune city recorded total registrations of 137,217 properties, up 9 per cent from 125,702 registrations in the corresponding period of the last calendar year. Stamp duty collections increased 10 per cent to Rs 4,779 crore during January-November this year from Rs 4,344 crore in the year-ago period. **PTI**

By end of Jan' 24 Mumbai Coastal Road phase 1 to be complete, says CM Shinde

The first phase of Mumbai's mega coastal road, from Marine Drive to Worli, will be operational by the end of January 2024, said Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Saturday. The coastal road, being constructed by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC),

proposes to connect the Marine Drive area in south Mumbai to Kandivali, a western suburb, via the existing Bandra Worli Sea Link. It is expected to ease Mumbai's northbound traffic. The first phase of the project is a 10.58-km stretch between Marine Drive to Worli in south Mumbai.

Faction of Shiv Sena against NCP MLA Nawab Malik

CM Devendra Fadnavis, has said the faction of Shiv Sena led by him has also taken the same stand against NCP MLA Nawab Malik. Shinde said the allegations against Malik are serious in nature and he sitting on the treasury benches along with ruling party legislators doesn't keep up with the traditions of the House. This comes after Fadnavis wrote to Ajit Pawar that the BJP cannot welcome Malik in view of the pending case and charges against him. Malik, out on bail in the al-



leged money laundering case, created a stir on Thursday morning in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly when he sat on a treasury bench seat, leading to speculation that he had aligned with the Ajit Pawar faction, part of the ruling alliance.

Fadnavis meets Piyush Goyal, seeks Centre's help to tackle Maharashtra onion farmers' unrest

In a meeting with Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Piyush Goyal in Mumbai late Saturday night, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis sought the Centre's immediate intervention to tackle the problems of onion, soyabean and cotton farmers in the state.

Drawing Goyal's attention



to the unrest among farmers and traders following the Centre's

decision to impose a ban on onion export, Fadnavis urged him to provide some much-needed respite to cultivators. He also apprised the Union minister of the plight of soyabean and cotton farmers who suffered crop losses following unseasonal rain and hailstorm in Maharashtra. The minister assured that he would consider all the issues.

Grappling with an 'extremist' tag, raids put spotlight back on Borivali-Padgha

On Saturday, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) raided Borivali-Padgha, a quaint sleepy little town abutting the Mumbai-Nashik highway, arresting Saquib

Nachan claiming that he was the head of the ISIS module that was radicalising men to undertake terror attacks on the country.

The raid was yet another of the dozen-odd raids that have been

conducted by various state agencies on this Muslim-dominated town, located 53 km north of Mumbai, since July when two of its residents including Saquib's son Shamil Nachan were arrested.

Nation

Karni Sena Gogamedi murder case: Delhi Police takes 3 accused to Jaipur



yesterday, then we nabbed them in Chandigarh and now we have arrested them and taking them to Jaipur to hand over to Rajasthan Police," the Special CP said. He also informed that two of the three people, Nitin Fauji and Rohit Rathore were shooters while the 3rd one- Udham Singh was providing logistics support.

Director General of Police Umesh Mishra congratulated the police team for arresting the accused in the murder of Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi. He also thanked the Delhi Police for their cooperation and coordinated efforts. The Chandigarh Police team raided the hotel in Sector 24, Chandigarh where the Delhi Police had arrested last night the shooter who had killed Gogamedi. ANI also accessed footage of the hotel in Chandigarh where the Crime Branch of Delhi Police in a joint operation with Rajasthan Police, detained three accused, including the main accused Rohit Rathore and Nitin Fauji in the Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi murder case. ANI

After the murder of the President of the Karni Sena, Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi, Delhi Police has said that the three main accused in the case were arrested yesterday and will be handed over to Rajasthan police today. Ravindra Yadav, Special CP, Delhi Police Crime Branch said, "In this case, 3 main accused have been arrested by Delhi Police Crime Branch. The first accused is Nitin Fauji, a resident of Mahendragarh, Rohit Rathore, a resident of Makrana, Rajasthan and the third is Udham Singh, a resident of Hisar."

He added that coordination with the Rajasthan Police was important to track down these accused. "We had coordination with Rajasthan police. They told us that after committing the murder they took a taxi to Didwana and from there, boarded a bus towards Delhi. We were continuously tracking them, which revealed that these people deboarded in the middle and went to Rewari railway station and from there to Hisar station. From there, these people went to Manali," he added. "We came to know that these people were coming back

Andhra Pradesh: TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu writes letter to PM Modi declare cyclone "Michaung" as national disaster

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) Chief and former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, N Chandrababu Naidu wrote an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging him to declare cyclone "Michaung" as a national disaster. Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday informed PM Modi that cyclone Michaung has damaged crops of 22 lakh acres, amounting to a staggering Rs 10,000 crore as per preliminary assessments.

In his letter, the former CM mentioned significant losses in cattle, livestock, and trees due to cyclone Michaung. Describing the impact on infrastructure as alarming, he reported approximately 770 km of roads were damaged and critical facilities such as drinking water, irrigation, electricity, and communication suffered heavy impairment.

Naidu stated that the agricultural and fishing sectors have been adversely impacted by the

cyclone. Shedding light on the alarming situation of the farmers, the TDP Chief mentioned that the devastation has led to four farmers tragically taking their lives due to crop loss, and fishing communities have lost boats, nets, and their means of livelihood. Cyclone Michaung, marked by winds reaching speeds of up to 100 km/h, has caused widespread devastation, claiming six lives and bringing life and livelihoods to a standstill across 15 districts in the state.

The impact of the cyclone was not only confined to Andhra Pradesh alone but has also affected neighbouring Tamil Nadu. Naidu earnestly requested that PM Modi declare cyclone Michaung as a 'national disaster.' To comprehensively address the situation, the former CM also requested the PM to dispatch a team from the Government of India to assess and estimate the extent of the damage inflicted. ANI

BJP MP are about to stage protest against the seizure of cash in the ongoing raids by IT

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MPs will hold a protest at the Gandhi statue in Parliament on Monday as part of a protest against the seizure of cash from some premises linked to Congress MP Dheeraj Sahu in the ongoing raids by the Income Tax Department. The episode has provided fresh ammunition to the BJP, which is leaving no stone unturned to attack the opposition Congress over the incident.

Congress MLA Komatireddy Venkat Reddy took charge as minister for roads, buildings and cinematography on Sunday. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy won from the Nalgonda Assembly constituency by defeating BRS' Kancharla Ramakrishna Reddy and BJP candidate Madagoni Srinivas Goud in Telangana Assembly elections 2023. Komatireddy won as a candidate from Nalgonda assembly constituency four times, in 1999, 2004, 2009 and 2014.

Ahead of the polls, Congress MLA Komatireddy Venkat Reddy earlier sparked controversy after a video of him allegedly saying, "Sonia Gandhi is going to give the CM position to me" was widely shared on social media. In the purported five-second clip, Reddy is seen addressing a poll rally in Nalgonda on Tuesday and is heard saying in Telegu "Sonia Gandhi is going to give the CM position to me if the party comes to power. There is no one senior to me here". After Congress won with a majority in Telangana, Congress leader Revanth Reddy was "unanimously" chosen as the new Chief Minister of the youngest state Telangana. ANI

He further said that the first work that will be done is to give 18 lakh 'Awas' to the people. "Today, I have been unanimously chosen as the leader of the legislative assembly. I am thankful to PM Modi, Union HM Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda for showing trust in me," he added. Sai won the recently concluded assembly polls from

Former Union Minister Vishnu Deo Sai is all set to become CM of Chhattisgarh

After he was chosen as the new Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Tribal leader and former Union Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that Bharatiya Janata party will work with honesty to gain everyone's faith and vowed to fulfil guarantees given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "With all honesty I will work for 'Sabka Vishwas' and the promises made to the people of Chhattisgarh under 'Modi Ki Guarantee' will be fulfilled. As a CM of the state, we will try to fulfil the promises," Vishnu Deo Sai said.

He further said that the first work that will be done is to give 18 lakh 'Awas' to the people. "Today, I have been unanimously chosen as the leader of the legislative assembly. I am thankful to PM Modi, Union HM Amit Shah and BJP national president JP Nadda for showing trust in me," he added. Sai won the recently concluded assembly polls from



Kunkuri in north Chhattisgarh, a region the BJP has swept.

Sai is a prominent figure in the BJP and has held various positions, including being the former state chief and former union minister. Sai hails from the influential Sahu (Teli) community which has a sizable presence in the Durg, Raipur and Bilaspur divisions. He served as State President of the party for Chhattisgarh from 2020 until 2022. He was the Union Minister of State for Mines, Steel in the first PM Modi cabinet. He is highly regarded among tribal voters. ANI

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World

Maldives: Contamination found in Pakistani syrups, Report

Maldives has reported contamination in Pakistani syrups and suspension medicines, Dawn reported. The report prompted the World Health Organisation (WHO) to issue an alert urging countries to step up vigilance and test products manufactured by a Lahore-based pharmaceutical company, according to Dawn.

Dawn is a Pakistani English-language newspaper. After receiving information from Maldives, the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) sealed the syrup section of the company, Pharmix Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd. The authority may also initiate legal action after receiving lab test reports. The substances found in the syrups are reportedly used in hydraulic brake fluids, stamp pad inks, paints, plastics and cosmetics.

A company representative, Fayaz Ahmed, confirmed that Drap had sealed the firm's syrup section, but said that no company does it willfully. At the moment, he said, he was not in a position to comment on the issue. As per a statement, the WHO's medical product alert referred to five different syrups and suspension medicines initially detected in the Maldives and Pakistan and notified to the organisation on November 8. Some of the tainted products have also been detected in Belize, Fiji and Laos.

It stated: "The five products are Alergo Syrup, Emidone Suspension, Mucorid Syrup, Ulcofin Suspension and Zincell Syrup. A total of 23 batches of these products are affected. The stated manufacturer of all the affected products is Pharmix Laboratories (Pvt) Ltd Pakistan." "In November 2023,

samples of five different batches of Alergo syrup were screened for non-compliance by the quality control laboratory of the Maldives Food and Drug Authority (MFDA) in accordance with the thin-layer chromatography (TLC) test for diethylene glycol (DEG) and ethylene glycol (EG) for inclusion in the International Pharmacopoeia. The routine screening detected potentially unacceptable amounts of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol as contaminants," the WHO stated, as per Dawn.

A pharmacist told Dawn that DEG and EG were used the world over in liquid preparation for antifreeze e.g. hydraulic brake fluids, stamp pad inks, ballpoint pens, solvents, paints, plastics, films, and cosmetics.

According to Drap CEO Asim Rauf, the regulator had issued protocols and all the compa-



nies were bound to follow them. "The Lahore-based company had manufactured its products in 2021, before issuance of the protocols, and the contamination has been found in some of the batches in Maldives and within

Pakistan," he said, adding, "All syrups of the company have been recalled and the syrup section of the company has been sealed. Moreover, samples have been sent to a laboratory for further tests." ANI

France: Court convicts six teenagers in teacher's beheading case

A French court convicted six teenagers for their connection with the 2020 beheading of history teacher Samuel Paty, a shocking incident that sent shockwaves across the country, CNN reported. The teacher had displayed caricatures of the Prophet Mohammad in a class on freedom of expression, sparking outrage among some Muslim parents who avoid depictions of prophets due to religious beliefs.

Among the defendants was a teenage girl who had alleged that Paty asked Muslim students to leave the room before showing the caricatures. The court found her guilty of false accusation charges and slanderous comments, establishing that she was not present in the class at the time, according to CNN. The other adolescents faced charges related to participating in a premeditated criminal conspiracy and aiding in preparing an ambush. Paty, aged 47, was fatally attacked outside his school in a

Paris suburb by an 18-year-old assailant of Chechen origin, who was subsequently shot dead by the police.

The court found the teenagers guilty of having pointed out Paty to the murderer. Louis Cailliez, lawyer for Paty's sister Mickaëlle, expressed satisfaction with the full conviction but deemed the sentences "too lenient." Dylan Slama, a lawyer for one of the teenagers, acknowledged the difficulty of finding satisfaction in such tragic circumstances but noted a sense of relief for his client, as reported by CNN. The most severe sentence was assigned to an adolescent who received a six-month prison term and could potentially serve at home under electronic surveillance. The girl convicted of false accusations and slanderous comments received an 18-month suspended sentence with two years of probationary measures. All six teenagers face suspended sentences tied to strict probation measures lasting two to three years. ANI

Italy: Fire broke out at hospital in Rome, Four people dead

At least four people have died and more than 200 people have been evacuated after a fire erupted near the mortuary of the San Giovanni Evangelista hospital in Rome's Tivoli on Friday night (local time), CNN reported, citing Italy's fire brigade. The fire erupted on the lower level between the mortuary, clinic, and kitchen area at around 10:30 pm (local time). The fire quickly spread to the emergency room area on the

floor above.

Two of the four victims died due to smoke inhalation. One person died from a heart attack, and another person died from burns. Other bodies that were in the mortuary at the time were also burned, according to the fire brigade.

Seven children and several babies were among those who were evacuated. A hospital spokesperson said that 134 of the evacuees were taken to nearby

hospitals, CNN reported, citing its affiliate Sky24. According to witnesses who were in the emergency room waiting for treatment, the electricity went out and the fire seemed to spread to the entire wing quickly, CNN reported, citing Italian press reports. A fire brigade spokesperson said that the building's wiring and some of the chemicals stored there could be some of the possible causes of the fire, CNN reported. ANI

US: Six people dead after thunderstorms hit Tennessee

Six people died after tornadoes and strong thunderstorms hit Tennessee, US, according to CNN. Moreover, three people were confirmed dead in Madison, a suburban neighbourhood of northeast Nashville, emergency management officials said.

The Nashville Office of Emergency Management shared on X, "We have teams assessing damage and looking for patients. Unfortunately, we can confirm there are three fatalities as a result of the severe weather on Nesbitt Lane." Meanwhile,



officials in Montgomery County also confirmed three deaths, including a child, after a tornado struck the Clarksville area, CNN reported. The Montgomery County government issued a statement, saying, "At this time, we can confirm that three people are deceased--two adults and one child--as a result of the tornado that touched down this after-

noon. Additionally, 23 people have been treated at the hospital." Officials said they are still in a "search and rescue phase" to see if there are more dead or injured. "This is a sad day for our community. We are praying for those who are injured, lost loved ones, and lost their homes," Montgomery County Mayor Wes Golden said in a statement. ANI

Expression

Technical skills will increase opportunities for B Pharma



Vijay Garg

Retired Principal Educational
Columnist Malout Punjab

These days, work in research and innovation in the field of pharmaceuticals has increased. But the situation of lack of skills is also visible here. According to a report of the year 2022, there is a shortage of 80 percent skills in the field of pharmaceutical manufacturing. According to a study by the Indian Pharmacists Association, the demand for clinical pharmacists is expected to increase by 15 percent in the next five years.

Why do B Pharm?

1. Pharmacy world's second largest
Is the profession with the largest scope.
2. Opportunities open up in many sectors related to the field of healthcare.
3. In view of the aging population of the world and the increasing fear of epidemics, the need for these professionals has increased.
4. It is a global profession. With appropriate education and courses, opportunities can also be found abroad.
5. There are posts for youth with this degree in various government departments also. Like Army, Government Medical College, Railways, Health Ministry etc.
6. Better sellers in entry level jobs compared to other fields It can start from twenty five thousand rupees per month. These skills are also needed B Pharm graduates can further expand their opportunities by pursuing certified programs in Quality Assurance, Pharmacovigilance, Regulatory Affairs, etc. There is a demand for skills in production, research and development in this sector. Learning some technical skills will increase your grip on opportunities.

There are some such technical skills. AI and Machine Learning: In the growing trend of smart medicine, artificial intelligence and machine learning are being used in drug trials. And a lot of work is going on in the process of construction etc. Big Data and



Analytics: In this sector, the use of Big Data analytics and virtual and augmented reality skills has increased in clinical research. Most of the companies are taking the help of telemedicine, electronic health records, cloud computing etc. Coursera; futurelearn; Udacity; are some platforms for upskilling. their demand is This expertise will prepare the Clinical Research Associate for global opportunities.

As a Clinical Research Associate You will get opportunities in pharmaceutical companies or units related to medical tests. Regulatory Affairs Specialist Regulatory affairs specialists typically work for government agencies or pharmaceutical companies.

Pharma covigilance specialist A pharmacovigilance specialist collects and analyzes data on the use of medicines and medical devices and works to prevent related risks. They work for government agencies or companies. Pharmacists Pharmacists are professionals in the healthcare sector who Which provide guidance

on the distribution of medicines and the use of medicines that can be used without medical advice.

What will be the roadmap?

1. B. For Pharma, choose Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Maths in 12th.
2. Give national level entrance examination for B Pharma course.
3. After graduation, you will get job opportunities in pharmaceutical companies in positions like Research Associate, Medical Writer, Drug Safety Associate, MR in sales department, Chemist, Drug Coordinator, Pharmacist, etc.
4. Diploma for Higher Education. You can do courses like PG Diploma in Clinical Research, Diploma in Drugstore Management, Post Graduate Diploma in Pharmacy Practice, and PG Diploma in Clinical Trial Management.
5. After Masters, PhD, MBA, opportunities will open in the field of Pharmaceutical Management, Clinical Reserve Management.

These are the entrance exams

1. Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test

The most important of the many entrance exams for B Pharma is the Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test (GPAT) conducted by the National Testing Agency. This is a national It is a level exam.

2. Entrance examinations of various states: Various states also conduct entrance examinations. Like Maharashtra Common Entrance Test (MH CET), West Bengal Joint Entrance Examination (WBJEE) and Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET) etc. Many private institutes also conduct entrance exams for BPharma course.

Major Institute

1. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Hyderabad
2. Jamia Hamdard University, Delhi University, Punjab University Institute or Ph. Chemical Technology, BITS Pilani, Manipal Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences Institute of JSS College of Pharmacy

Entertainment

Actor Kajol drops glimpses of Sunday schedule, says "Chill-kind-of-Sunday.."



Actor Kajol treated fans to a glimpse of what her chill-kind of Sunday looks like. Taking to Instagram, Kajol shared a monochrome picture from her Sunday relaxing Sunday in bed. The image captured Kajol smiling while enjoying music on her bed. Sharing the picture, she wrote, "It's a lie-in-bed-and-listen-to-music-and-chill-kind-of-Sunday-no?"

As soon as the picture was posted, fans and followers flooded the comment section with heart emojis. Meanwhile, Kajol will be next seen sharing screen space with Kriti Sanon in 'Do Patti'. **ANI**

Actor Genelia shares adorable video of father doing son's hair makeover

Actor Genelia Deshmukh treated fans with an adorable video of Riteish giving a hair makeover to his son. Taking to Instagram story, Genelia shared a beautiful video of father-son bonding.

In the video, Riteish can be seen trimming Sharing the video, "When the son insists his baba has to trim his hair. All kids ever want is time- it matters more to them than any gifts you can ever give them." **ANI**



Actor Vidyut's sports action film announces its release date



Actor Vidyut Jammwal's sports action film "Crakk" will be released in theatres on February 23, 2024, the makers announced on Saturday. The movie is directed by Aditya Datt of "Aashiq Banaya Aapne" and "Table No. 21" fame. It is produced by Jammwal's production banner Action Hero Films. The company shared the news of the film's release date in a post on microblogging site X. **PTI**

Sonakshi Sinha pens a sweet birthday wish for rumoured boyfriend Zaheer Iqbal



Actor Sonakshi Sinha on Sunday penned a special wish for her rumoured boyfriend and actor Zaheer Iqbal on his birthday. Taking to Instagram, Sonakshi shared a goofy yet cute video featuring herself and Zaheer.

Along with the video, she penned a sweet message, "The cray to my Z(ee)... this is quite self-explanatory. Happy birthday to my very own personal psycho @iamzahero [?]" As soon as the video was uploaded, fans and followers chimed in the comment section. Huma Qureshi wrote, "Awwwwieeee."

Recently, on Sonakshi's birthday, Zaheer dropped a string of cute pictures from their shoot sets to their outings. Sharing the pictures, he wrote, "Kuch toh log kahenge, logo ka kaam hai kehna. Neways....You can always lean on me. You are the best. Keep "Roaring " and soaring always. May u see more of the world than anyone ever has May u always live the mermaid life. Always be HAPPY. I love you." **ANI**

Hollywood stars Charlize Theron and Daniel Craig are set to star together in the upcoming movie "Two For The Money". Justin Lin, the director of multiple "Fast & Furious" movies, will direct the project, which has been acquired by Apple Studios after a bidding war, reported entertainment news outlet Variety. In "Two For The Money", Theron and Craig will essay the roles of career thieves whose relationship spans the course of three big jobs. The movie is based on an original idea by Lin and Dan Mazeau. **PTI**



Star Charlize Theron and Daniel Craig are all set for their upcoming project "Two For The Money"