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**ONLY 440 JOBS GIVEN BY DELHI GOVT SINCE 2015, KEJRIWAL LYING ABOUT FIGURES, SAYS BJP AAP REPUTES**



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## MCD schools will be upgraded on lines of Delhi govt schools in 5 years: Kejriwal

FW CORRESPONDENT  
New Delhi

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal reviewed the education system in MCD schools on Thursday and said they will be upgraded on the lines of Delhi government schools in the next five years.

Chairing a high-level meeting with Education Minister Atishi and MCD officials, Kejriwal emphasised the need for a significant overhaul of the infrastructure of the schools run by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

During the meeting, Kejriwal said even the best schools of MCD fail to match the standard of Delhi government schools. He identified several areas that require attention, including sanitation, toilets facilities, overburdened teachers and a lack of adequate number of non-educational staff, the government said in a statement.

"The chief minister stressed that MCD schools need to be transformed on the lines of



Delhi government schools. The Kejriwal Model of Education, which has transformed Delhi's government schools, will be implemented in MCD schools very soon," the statement added.

The chief minister expressed confidence in the talent of children, stating that if MCD supports them adequately, they will outperform the whole nation. He also highlighted the need to motivate teachers and principals and send them

for proper training, similar to Delhi government teachers, officials said.

"The chief minister has set a target of transforming the infrastructure of all MCD schools within five years. The government also plans to identify vacant land in MCD schools for the construction of new secondary schools," the statement added.

Kejriwal directed MCD officials to deploy estate managers, IT assistants and security guards in all schools.

**“The chief minister stressed that MCD schools need to be transformed on the lines of Delhi government schools. The Kejriwal Model of Education, which has transformed Delhi's government schools, will be implemented in MCD schools very soon**

Urban Development Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj, MCD Mayor Shelly Oberoi, MCD Deputy Mayor Aaley Mohd Iqbal and MCD Leader of the House Mukesh Goyal also attended the review meeting.

## World Bank lowers India's GDP growth forecast to 6.3 per cent in FY24

NEW DELHI: India is expected to grow at moderate rate of 6.3 per cent in FY24, said the World Bank due to shrinkage in consumption on back of slower income. The international financial institution has lowered its prediction for India's GDP growth in the current fiscal year from 6.6 per cent.

To tame inflation, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised interest rates by 250 basis points since May 2022. «Rising borrowing costs and slower income growth will weigh on private consumption growth.» the World Bank said. Owing to the withdrawal of pandemic-related fiscal support measures government consumption is projected to grow at a slower pace," said the bank. The World Bank estimated last fiscal year's growth at 6.9 per cent. It projected the current account deficit to narrow to 2.1 per cent of gross domestic prod-



**“Owing to the withdrawal of pandemic-related fiscal support measures government consumption is projected to grow at a slower pace**

## March sees second highest GST collection of ₹1,60,122 lakh cr



NEW DELHI: The gross GST revenue collected in the month of March 2023 is Rs 1,60,122 crore of which CGST is Rs 29,546 crore, SGST is Rs 37,314 crore, IGST is Rs 82,907 crore (including Rs 42,503 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs 10,355 crore (including Rs 960 crore collected on import of goods). It is for the fourth time, in the current financial year that the gross GST collection has crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore mark registering second highest collection since implementation of GST. This month witnessed the highest IGST collection ever.

The government has settled Rs 33,408 crore to CGST and Rs 28,187 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement. The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of March 2023 after IGST settlement is Rs 62,954 crore for CGST and Rs 65,501 crore for the SGST.

The revenues for the month of March 2023 are 13% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year. During the month, revenues from import of goods was 8% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 14% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year. The return filing during March 2023 has been highest ever. 93.2% of statement of invoices (in GSTR-1) and 91.4% of returns (in GSTR-3B) of February were filed till March 2023 as compared to 83.1% and 84.7%, respectively same month last year.

The total gross collection for 2022-23 stands at Rs 18.10 lakh crore and the average gross monthly collection for the full year is Rs 1.51 lakh crore. The gross revenues in 2022-23 were 22% higher than that last year. The average monthly gross GST collection for the last quarter of the FY 2022-23 has been Rs 1.55 lakh crore against the average monthly collection of Rs 1.51 lakh crore, Rs 1.46 lakh crore and Rs 1.49 lakh crore in the first, second and third quarters respectively.

The chart below shows trends in monthly gross GST revenues during the current year. The table shows the state-wise figures of GST collected in each State during the month of March 2023 as compared to March 2022.

## Rahul Gandhi mentor, Priyanka guide, says Navjot Singh Sidhu

NEW DELHI: Days after being released from jail after undergoing rigorous imprisonment in a 1988 road rage case, former Punjab Congress chief Navjot Singh Sidhu on Thursday called on party leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Vadra here and described them as his mentor and guide, respectively. "Met my Mentor Rahul ji and Friend, Philosopher, Guide Priyanka ji in New Delhi Today," Sidhu said in a tweet. "You can jail me, intimidate me, block all my financial accounts but my commitment for Punjab and my leaders will neither flinch nor back an inch!!" Sidhu was released prematurely on April



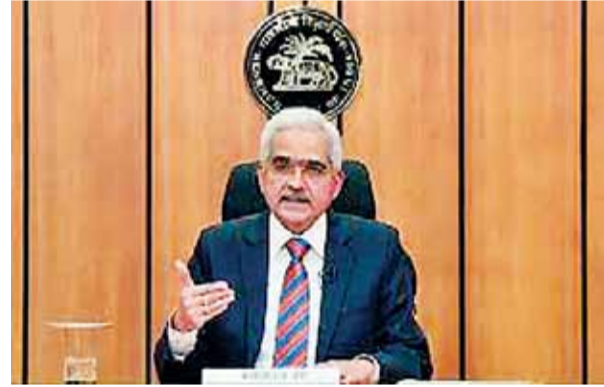
1, with a remission of 45 days in his prison term. This was Sidhu's first meeting with Rahul and Priyanka Vadra after his release from the Patiala jail. Sidhu was lodged in an ordinary barrack as the government has decided to do away with the special cells in jails for VIP prisoners.

## Industry bodies welcome Repo rate hold by RBI

NEW DELHI: The Monetary Policy announced by Reserve Bank of India has maintained the Repo rates at 6.5.

As industries were fearing an increase in Repo rate and tightening of interest rates, RBI's maintaining the status quo has soothed the frayed nerves. Commenting on RBI maintaining the repo rate at 6.5 per cent, A Sakthivel, President, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) said that it will further boost growth through increasing investment.

While most Central banks have given more weightage to inflation as compared to growth, RBI stroke a nice balance between the two, giving primacy to growth, he said. President FIEO said that the increasing investment will lead to further



production and easing of supply thus reducing the inflation in next couple of months. Secretary General of Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) Anil Bharadwaj has welcomed the hold on the repo rates. "Further tightening of interest rates would have pared the economic growth especially in sectors dominated by MSMEs," Bharadwaj said.

Subhrakant Panda, President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) said, "The pause in policy

**“The pause in policy repo rate by RBI is a welcome move given the evolving macro-economic and financial markets scenario”**

repo rate by RBI is a welcome move given the evolving macro-economic and financial markets scenario." "The renewed phase of turbulence that Central Banks are grappling with globally given developments in the banking sector, geo-politics and slowdown in growth & trade flows warranted a prudent response which RBI has delivered," he said.

## Terror group threatens 30 RSS leaders in J&K

FW DESK

The Resistance Front (TRF), considered a front for Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba has issued threats to thirty members of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in Jammu and Kashmir. The TRF has threatened largely Muslim leaders who are supposedly associated with RSS.

These RSS members are in-charge of areas in South and North Kashmir in the union territory, according to an official. The list does not include any big name. The threat letter has come at time, when Kashmir Valley has been by and large peaceful. An all-party delegation, on invitation of National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah, is slated to visit Kashmir probably later this month to assess the ground situation. Leaders of as many as 13 opposition parties had met in Delhi and submitted a memorandum to Election Commission to start process of election in the union territory.

## Home Ministry recommends CBI probe against Oxfam India



NEW DELHI: The Union Home Ministry recommended a CBI probe into the affairs of the Indian arm of the global NGO Oxfam for alleged violation of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, sources said.

The home ministry found that Oxfam India continued to transfer foreign contributions to various entities, including other NGOs, even after registering under the FCRA, which prohibits such transfers after an amendment that came into force on September 29, 2020, sources said.

## Opposition parties show unity, slam govt for washout of Budget session's 2nd half

NEW DELHI: Opposition parties, including the Congress, TMC, BRS and Samajwadi Party, came together in a show of unity on Thursday and accused the Modi government of getting the second half of the budget session "washed out", while asserting that if this attitude continues, the country will move towards "dictatorship".

With the tricolour in hand, several Opposition MPs marched from Parliament to Vijay Chowk and then representatives of 19 parties held a press conference at the Constitution Club where Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge



and other leaders resolved to take the Opposition unity further.

Kharge accused the Narendra Modi government of not walking the talk on democratic

principles and causing disruptions in Parliament to divert attention from the Opposition's demand for a joint parliamentary committee (JPC) probe into the Adani issue.

## Two Lashkar-e-Taiba militants escape from police custody in Kashmir

FW DESK

Two militants, who were involved in a grenade attack on a wine shop in North Kashmir town of Baramulla on May 17 last year, have escaped from police custody. Officials said on Wednesday. The militants have been identified as Maroof Nazir and Shahid Showkat, both members of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). They were arrested on May 19 last year and were lodged in the Baramulla police station. According to an official, the militants escaped during Sehri time, and security forces have launched a massive search operation to apprehend them.

## Ensure clean milk for citizens, no garbage for cattle: HC tells Delhi govt

FW CORRESPONDENT  
New Delhi

The Delhi High Court has asked the city government to ensure supply of clean and hygienic milk to citizens and to ensure that cattle do not feed on garbage as it can have a detrimental effect on the quality of milk and those who consume it.

The order by a bench headed by Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma came on a petition by a lawyer seeking directions to the authorities to take all measures for ensuring clean and hygienic milk for the people of Delhi.

counsel said adequate steps were being taken to ensure supply of clean and hygienic milk to city residents and proper regulations were already in place.

He further said if the petitioner files a representation with the authorities about her grievances, it will be considered in accordance with law.

Observing that "no further orders are required to be passed" in the matter in view of the stand of the government, the court said the petitioner is at liberty to file a representation before the authorities.

"The State Government (GNCTD) shall take appropriate steps to ensure that clean and hygienic



milk is provided to the citizens of Delhi and that cattle do not feed on garbage, plastic, papers etc. as this can have a

detrimental effect on the quality of milk which is produced by cows and the same can have deleterious effect on the people

who consume it," added the bench, also comprising Justice Subramonium Prasad in his order passed last month.

Petitioner Ritu Gauba had sought direction to the Commissioner of Police to "call for and scrutinize the statement of the Constituency funds being properly used for public welfare and to improve public health" and "book, arrest and proceed according to law in case of dereliction of duty to public for safety and security of public health".

She also prayed for a direction to the city police chief to make regulations for safety and security, care and protection of

cattle under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and the penal code.

Lastly, she sought a direction to the Commissioner to "instantly take measures within a week for making provisions for clean drinking water for the cattle from the public funds in the hands of the Public authorities".

During the proceedings, the petitioner, however, said she was only pressing her prayer pertaining to clean drinking water for cattle.

The counsel appearing for the Commissioner of Police submitted it is not his duty to ensure supply of clean and hygienic milk to the people of Delhi.

## Conman Kiran Patel handed over to Gujarat police

FW DESK

The conman Kiran Bai Patel from Gujarat who was arrested in Kashmir a month ago has been turned over to the Gujarat police, as he is wanted in cases in the western state as well.

For four months, Kiran Bai Patel misled the Jammu and Kashmir administration by posing as a senior Prime Minister's Office employee and obtaining Z-Plus security and proper protocol in the Valley for himself.

Gujarati officials had asked for the transfer of custody. Patel was handed over to the Gujarat Crime Branch officials following the Chief Judicial Magistrate's directive.

Patel had been to many loca-



tions in Jammu and Kashmir since October, including forward positions along the Line of Control.

Before the police were informed that Patel was a conman, he also met with officials in several districts throughout Kashmir.





## Innovative solutions needed to deal with rare diseases

The state must maintain continuous vigilance and strive to address public welfare concerns. A prime example is the Centre's announcement of full exemption from basic customs duty for all drugs and food imported for the treatment of rare diseases listed under the National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD) and anti-cancer drug Pembrolizumab. This builds upon the benefits previously included in the policy, finalized almost a year ago. To qualify for this exemption, individual importers need to obtain a certificate from specified authorities. Generally, medicines attract a 10% basic customs duty, but certain lifesaving drugs and vaccines receive concessions or exemptions. Exemptions already exist for specific drugs treating Spinal Muscular Atrophy or Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Rare diseases are characterized by their low occurrence rate, often resulting in limited drug availability due to insufficient demand. Treatment can be expensive and inaccessible for many patients, with the NPRD estimating annual treatment costs for some rare diseases ranging from Rs 10 lakh to over Rs 1 crore per year for a 10 kg child. Costs typically increase with age and weight, and treatment is often lifelong. Duty exemption will lead to significant savings for patients. Support organizations for patients with rare diseases applaud the move, providing relief and hope to patients and their families in an otherwise challenging treatment landscape. Although rare diseases are defined by their infrequent occurrence, the sheer number of conditions (estimated between 7,000-8,000, with 450 reported in India) and the total affected population (approximately 100 million in India) make it a pressing issue. The NPRD highlights the problem's magnitude and emphasizes the judicious use of scarce resources. The government must ensure its directives are fully implemented while pursuing innovative solutions for this patient group, remaining committed to the goal of affordable healthcare.

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## THE FINANCIAL WORLD

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ARUL GEORGE SCARIA ASKS SHOULD COPYRIGHT LAW PROTECT PUBLIC INTERESTS OR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF ITS HOLDERS?

## The controlled digital lending

An ongoing legal tussle in the United States between four major publishers and the Internet Archive (IA), which is a not-for-profit organisation trying to build a globally accessible digital library, has, once again, posed a fundamental question about the interface of copyright law and technological advancements — should copyright law protect the broader public interests or the commercial interests of the copyright holders?

The IA has archived more than 735 billion web pages, 41 million books and texts, 14.7 million audio recordings, 8.4 million videos, 4.4 million images, and 890,000 software programs. Within a short span of time, the IA has become a truly global digital library to access information, particularly for persons with disabilities. A substantial portion of the books digitised by IA are outside copyright protection and are accessible without restrictions.

Publishers have alleged that around 3.6 million books, which have also been available to borrow under some conditions, are actually copyrighted. They have been particularly upset by the 'National Emergency Library' that the IA set up at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, wherein the IA relaxed the conditions for lending.

The publishers have argued that the IA thus violated the diverse rights provided under copyright law for 127 titles published by them. The IA rebutted by arguing that books under copyright protection are lent only in a regulated manner, through 'Controlled Digital Lending' (CDL), and should, therefore, be considered to be 'fair use' under United States copyright law.

### Understanding Controlled Digital Lending

The IA's CDL model follows the lending approach generally seen in physical libraries, where if one copy is owned, that



copy can be loaned to one person at a time. So, the IA avails one digital copy of each non-circulating print book it has stored.

Also, irrespective of the number of physical copies of that book that libraries participating in the IA's digitisation project own, for the purpose of digital lending it counts as only one additional copy per library. For example, if libraries of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, the Indian Institute of Science, and the National Law School of India University (NLSIU) were partners in the IA's digitisation project and each of these institutions had six physical copies of a particular book on health law, the CDL model would ensure that readers could borrow no more than three copies of that book at a time.

But in a decision that can have far-reaching consequences for the future of CDL, the district court for the Southern District of New York (SDNY) has ruled in the motions for summary judgments that the IA's activities violated various rights vested on publishers under copyright law, and that the activities do not constitute 'fair use' under the same law.

### CDL and the public interest

Conversations with librarians indicate

that lending physical copies of books from libraries, including at India's leading universities in India, has been on the decline. But that does not mean the demand for reading books is going down so much as that people's reading habits are changing. Closing physical libraries at the height of the pandemic may have just accelerated this shift. Today, many people prefer to read books on devices such as their smartphones and tablets.

The CDL is a positive response to this trend; it also helps bridge the gap between urban and rural, and the privileged and unprivileged, readers vis-à-vis access to books, because it allows even people in the remotest villages to access books from libraries that are far away.

It is also evident that CDL initiatives ease access to many books that may have gone out of print or may not be available to access in many physical libraries.

By making books accessible to readers, the CDL invokes enormous public benefits for education, research, and cultural participation. However, the court concluded that the public benefits highlighted by the IA "cannot outweigh the market harm to the publishers". In this regard, the court overlooked some

of the evidence the IA produced with regard to the works in the suit, which indicated that even when the IA was engaging in CDL, the sales of print and electronic copies of these titles from the publisher's preferred platforms were not affected.

While assessing the public benefits vis-à-vis potential economic losses for copyright holders, the court also ignored the insights of the U.S. Supreme Court in Google LLC vs Oracle America, Inc., (2021). In that landmark decision, the court suggested that when determining the potential market effects as part of the 'fair use' analysis, one would have to also weigh the public benefits of copying against potential financial losses for copyright holders.

### India and CDL

Though India is yet to have a major CDL initiative, some universities such as the NLSIU have initiated major digitisation projects that can facilitate CDL in future. The outcome in the IA litigation will in turn have considerable ramifications for such initiatives, in India and elsewhere. In addition, even current lending practices in physical libraries could be threatened if other courts followed the SDNY district court's logic, in prioritising the economic interests of just one of the stakeholders over the broader public interest.

It is high time to remind ourselves that the copyright system is not just about protecting the interests of copyright holders, but, equally, about protecting the rights of the users of copyrighted works, and thus the broader public interest.

Arul George Scaria is an associate professor at the National Law School of India University (NLSIU). Views are personal



VINOD THOMAS BELIEVES CARBON TAX CAN PAVE WAY FOR DECARBONISATION AS A WINNING DEVELOPMENT FORMULA

## It's time to put a price on carbon emissions

In the absence of a price for the use of natural resources such as air and forests, environmental destruction has been part of every country's recipe for boosting GDP growth. But the consequence of this approach has been the relentless emission of carbon, causing runaway climate change. It is time, starting with the biggest economies of the G-20, to agree on valuing nature, including by pricing carbon effluents. India can take the lead, as president of the G-20 this year, in carbon pricing, which will open unexpected avenues of decarbonisation.

### Ways of pricing

Three ways of pricing carbon are: the establishment of a carbon tax domestically, as in Korea and Singapore; the use of an emissions trading system (ETS), as in the European Union (EU) and China; and the application of an import tariff on the carbon content, as the EU is proposing. Some 46 countries price carbon, although covering only 30% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and at an average price of only \$6 a ton of carbon, a fraction of the estimated harm from the pollution. The International Monetary Fund has proposed price floors of \$75, \$50, and \$25 a ton of carbon for the United States, China, and India, respectively. It believes this could help achieve a 23% reduction in global emissions by 2030.

The economy-wide benefits of carbon pricing in terms of damages avoided (plus revenue generation) generally outweighed the cost it imposed on individual industries in the EU, British Columbia, Canada, and Sweden. A key dynamic is that carbon pricing,



by signalling a price for cleaner air, makes investment in renewable energy such as solar and wind, which has huge prospects in India, more attractive.

### Impact on India

Among the three ways of pricing, India could find a carbon tax appealing as it can directly discourage fossil fuels, while raising revenues which can be invested in cleaner sources of energy or used to protect vulnerable consumers. It could replace the more inefficient scheme of petroleum taxes which are not directly aimed at emissions. By the way, Saudi Arabia and Russia are at the low end of gasoline prices (including taxes and subsidies), China and India in the mid-range, and Germany and France at the high end. In most countries, including India, fiscal policy has set in place the basic structures needed to implement a carbon tax. For example, they can be woven into road-fuel taxes, which are established in most places, and extended to industry and agriculture. Policymakers have to choose the

tax rate, which varies widely from Japan's \$2.65 a ton of CO2 to Denmark's \$165 a ton set for 2030.

India could start with the IMF figure of \$25 a ton. The main obstacle is the argument by industrial firms about losing their competitive advantage to exporters from countries with a lower carbon price. It would stand to reason, therefore, for all high, middle and low-income countries to set the same rate within each bracket.

It might also make sense to allow companies to use high-quality international carbon credits to offset up to a certain percentage of their taxable emissions. The EU excludes transport, where higher costs would have been passed on to consumers directly, Singapore provides vouchers for consumers hit by utility price rise, and California uses proceeds from the sales of carbon permits partly to subsidise purchases of electric cars. Some make a case for exempting "emission intensive trade exposed" enterprises from the carbon tax, but output-based rebates would be superior ways of doing the same.

### Communication is important

All said, any type of carbon pricing faces stiff political opposition. When a new, conservative government took office, Australia repealed the 2012 tax just two years after it was instituted. Recent months have revealed the political pressures on decarbonisation: soaring energy prices led the EU to sell millions of emission permits, causing a 10% drop in carbon prices. Sweden may have handled some of these political constraints as well as any by presenting the carbon tax as part of a bigger fiscal package that lowers other taxes and includes new social safety nets. Communicating the idea of wins at the societal level, even in the presence of some individual producers' losses, is vital.

A high enough carbon tax across China, the U.S., India, Russia, and Japan alone (more than 60% of global effluents), with complementary actions, could have a notable effect on global effluents and warming; it could also pave the way to seeing decarbonisation as a winning development formula. As carbon pricing gains acceptance, the first movers will be the most competitive. India, as president at the G-20 summit this September, can play a lead role by tabling global carbon pricing in the existential fight against climate change.

Vinod Thomas is the author of a new book, 'Risk and Resilience in the Era of Climate Change'. This article draws on work with the Centre for Social and Economic Progress. Views are personal



### BOOKS: REVIEW

## Enlightening corporate lessons meet engaging storytelling

"Connecting Fables with the Corporate World" by Dr. A. E. Kumar is a captivating book that merges valuable corporate lessons with enthralling storytelling, making it an excellent choice for anyone seeking insights into the business realm. As a graduate of IIM Ahmedabad (1990-92), Dr. Kumar utilizes his extensive corporate experience to present readers with informative examples and insightful lessons.

This engaging book is composed of 54 stories, which Dr. Kumar has thoughtfully arranged into five distinct sections: Self, Peers, Boss, Work Environment, and Entrepreneurship. These sections provide a comprehensive view of various aspects of the corporate world. Each chapter begins with an intriguing story and proceeds with an account from Dr. Kumar's own corporate life, illustrating

the lesson he learned from the story. To conclude each chapter, there is a section dedicated to self-reflection, prompting readers to consider the morals of the story and how they might apply to their own professional lives. This interactive format fosters a deep connection and engagement with the book from start to finish.

For example, in the chapter titled "Merchant Sleeping Under a Banyan Tree," Dr. Kumar underscores the importance of accepting management's decisions. He recalls his initial disappointment upon receiving a Jeep from the administration instead of a more luxurious car. However, a month later, the Jeep was involved in an accident, which left all three occupants with serious injuries but alive. An insurance surveyor commented that if it had been a car, all three passengers would have likely died. This experience

We can easily connect our experiences with the stories and the way it has given the exposure of corporate world

taught Dr. Kumar not to be overly critical of management's decisions and to recognize that events often unfold for a reason.

Dr. Kumar's talent for narrating stories and connecting them with incidents from his corporate journey makes the content highly accessible and enjoyable, ensuring readers remain engrossed. The book's reliability and applicability to various industries allow readers from diverse backgrounds to either acquire new knowledge or reflect on their own experiences. "Connecting Fables with the Corporate



Connecting Fables with the Corporate World  
By Dr. A. E. Kumar  
Clever Fox Publishing  
278 pages; Rs349

World" is a must-read for both executives seeking fresh insights and MBA students aiming to enhance their understanding of the corporate landscape.

In summary, "Connecting Fables with the Corporate World" by Dr. A. E. Kumar is a unique and engaging book that combines enlightening corporate lessons with gripping storytelling. With 54 stories organized into five sections addressing different aspects of the corporate world, Dr. Kumar offers readers an all-encompassing perspective. The book's format encourages readers to reflect on the morals of each story and relate them to their own careers, fostering a deep connection with the content. Dr. Kumar's ability

to present stories and incidents from his corporate life in an easily understandable manner captivates readers, making this book suitable for individuals from various industries. Whether you are an executive seeking new insights or an MBA student wanting to delve deeper into the corporate world, "Connecting Fables with the Corporate World" is a highly recommended read.

"Selection of fables, narration of experiences is engrossing. We can easily connect our experiences with the stories and the way it has given the exposure of corporate world. The author has given the details of his journey, ups and downs of career, lessons in a hard way, working with different leaders, his involvement while working with farmers, workers, traders and many of his colleagues," wrote a reader on Amazon.

"One can easily relate it to own voyage and can put oneself in his shoes. The insights, moral and incidents bring us closer to the author's experiences. The language is lucid and stories are fabulous," added the reader.









# TAAPSEE PANNU

## lands in controversy for wearing Goddess Lakshmi necklace

MUMBAI: In past, many actors have come under the radar of hurting religious sentiments and has been accused on many occasions by religious and political leaders, this time around, it is Taapsee Pannu who has been accused of the same. The actress' recent appearance at the Lakme India Fashion Week in Mumbai has triggered a controversy where a man named Eklavya Singh, who is a member of the Hind Rakshak Sangathan and son of BJP MLA Malini Gaur, has filed a complaint against the actress for her look at the prestigious fashion show. In the complaint, Singh has alleged that Taapsee Pannu wore a revealing outfit while adorning temple jewellery with Goddess Lakshmi's statue in the locket. An official was quoted in media reports, opening up about the complaint registered against the actress saying, "We received a complaint from Eklavya Gaur (son of BJP MLA Malini Gaur) against actor Taapsee Pannu for hurting religious sentiments and image of 'Sanatan Dharma' by wearing a locket having 'Goddess Lakshmi' with revealing dress during ramp walk at Lakme Fashion Week held on March 12 in Mumbai." The officials have asserted that investigation of the matter is currently in process.

“ We received a complaint from Eklavya Gaur (son of BJP MLA Malini Gaur) against actor Taapsee Pannu for hurting religious sentiments and image of 'Sanatan Dharma' by wearing a locket having 'Goddess Lakshmi' with revealing dress during ramp walk at Lakme Fashion Week held on March 12 in Mumbai”



# Chinnamasta An incredible pose of ODISSI DANCE

MANPREET SINGH  
Odisha

Odissi is a major ancient Indian classical dance that originated in the temples of Odisha — an eastern coastal state of India. Odissi, in its history, expresses religious and spiritual ideas particularly of Vaishnavism through songs written and composed according to the ragas & talas of Odissi Music. Odissi also express ideas of other traditions related to God and Goddess. Mainly - Shaktism. Chinnamasta (Severed Head) is the Hindu Goddess of transformation. She is the sixth of the Dasa Mahavidya, the wisdom Goddesses, and is also known as Chhinmastika or Prachanda Chandika. She is depicted holding her own head, which she has just cut off. She is known as the self-decapitated Goddess. Chinnamasta dance pose is one of the most sacred and tricky poses in Odissi dance. It is generally performed by two experienced dancers as it is also considered to be most difficult pose. Younger of Odisha are doing very hard work for

## Zeenat Aman remembers Parveen Babi on her birthday

NEW DELHI: Veteran actress Zeenat Aman recalled the late actress Parveen Babi on her birthday and called her “the most gorgeous, glamorous and talented actress”. She also talked about the similarity between them observed by the people in the 70s. Parveen was born on April 4, 1954 and she started her career in the showbiz with modelling. She made her acting debut in 1973 with 'Charitra'. However, she was recognised for her acting skills in 'Majboor' and became successful with movies like 'Deewar', 'Amar Akbar Anthony', and 'Namak Halaal'. Parveen had been in a relationship with Danny Denzongpa and later with Kabir Bedi, and then Mahesh Bhatt. She was found dead in her apartment on January 20,

2005 in Juhu, Mumbai. Parveen and Zeenat were considered to be the most stylishly dressed actresses of the 1970s and 80s. They worked together in 'Ashanti' and 'Mahaan'. Zeenat, who gave several hits such as 'Satyam Shivam Sundaram', 'Hare Rama Hare Krishna', 'Qurbani', 'Dhund', 'Don', 'Manoranjan' and 'Yaadon Ki Baarat', shared a throwback picture with Parveen and wrote a heartfelt message for her. Taking to Instagram, she shared the note and wrote about the resemblance between the two: "I'd like to remember and honour Parveen today, on her birthday. Parveen was gorgeous, glamorous and talented. Back in the 70s, we wore our hair in a similar manner and enjoyed Western fashion. Though neither of us saw it, we



were told we had an uncanny resemblance. It must have been true, because as recently as last year I was approached in Dubai as 'Parveen ma'am'." Zeenat said: "Naturally, the media at the time spun tales of competition and rivalry between us, but in reality we were always warm towards each other. Not best friends, but contemporaries, colleagues and well wishers. We worked together on Ashanti and Mahaan." Talking about the struggle and Parveen's mental illness, she said: "Parveen's struggle with mental illness came at a time when the country was still so insensitive

and ignorant on these matters. After her death, I often ruminated on how she was remembered. The tabloids focused on her romantic relationships and 'episodes', but Parveen was much more than who she dated or what she said when she was unwell. I feel she never truly got the chance to say her piece." Talking about her achievements, Zeenat said: "She was intelligent and hardworking and creative. She loved reading, and I remember her curled up with a book in between shots on sets. She achieved incredible success as an actor, even featuring on the cover of Time Magazine." The actress further wrote: "Parveen was remarkable in many ways, and I hope she will be remembered for the effervescent person she was."

## Raghav Chandha & Parineeti Chopra rumors about their wedding have been rife



NEW DELHI: Ever since Aam Aadmi Party's Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chandha and actress Parineeti Chopra have been seen together, rumors about their wedding have been rife. However, according to several media reports, a source which could not be verified has claimed that the politician and the actress will soon make their relationship official by an intimate engagement ceremony in the capital in the first week of April. According to the report, Parineeti has already reached New Delhi. The source also shared that the ceremony will be graced by family members including Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Nick Jonas and Meera Chopra and the duo's close friends. Dating rumours between Raghav and Parineeti began last month when the two were pictured together in London and then in Mumbai.

## Actor Jr NTR signed for the spy action-thriller, 'War 2' with Hrithik Roshan

MUMBAI: Actor Jr NTR, who has been swaying the audience — both Indian and international — with 'RRR', has been signed for the spy action-thriller, 'War 2' — a sequel to the 2019 blockbuster. Bollywood star Hrithik Roshan, who played the role of Kabir in 'War', will be seen taking on Jr NTR in a bloody battle that will be an adrenaline-pumping action extravaganza. Recently, it was also revealed that the event film is being directed by Ayan Mukerji, who has a history of delivering some of the biggest blockbusters in Bollywood including his last release 'Brahmastra'. A veteran trade source confirmed on condition of anonymity that Jr NTR will be locking horns with Hrithik in 'War 2', "Their battle of wits and their fierce showdown will definitely be an action spectacle to remember on the big screen. 'War' is now a true-blue pan Indian film. This move by Aditya Chopra enables 'War 2' to have the widest audience appeal for a Hindi film and it also widens the box office potential of the film. South India should come alive and connect at a more emotional level with the film because of the presence of their beloved superstar". The source further mentioned Jr NTR is one of the most respected and followed icons from South India and is said to be extremely choosy about his films. "If he has given the film a nod, it means War 2 is eclipsing the first film in terms of plot as well as scale. Hrithik Roshan vs Jr NTR will be a fight to remember. Jr NTR's inclusion has made this proposition extremely delicious for audiences".



## Are wedding bells ringing for Badshah and Isha Rikhi?

MUMBAI: Rapper Badshah, whose real name is Aditya Prateek Singh Sisodia, is said to await his wedding with his longtime girlfriend and Punjabi actress Isha Rikhi whom he met at a party of a common friend. As per the media reports, the couple



is planning a Gurdwara wedding

in north India this month which will be attended by close family members and friends. However, neither Badshah nor Rikhi has commented anything about their wedding plans. Badshah was rumoured to be dating her since last year

after they met at a party and shared similar interests. Badshah was married to Jasmine Masih in 2012 and in 2017, the two became parents to their daughter Jessemy Grace Masih Singh. However, they separated in 2020.

## Actor Jay Bhanushali and Tina Datta in a new television show 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum'

MUMBAI: Actors Jay Bhanushali, Tina Datta and Kitu Gidwani are coming in a new television show 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum', which explores the human tendency to resist change. The show follows the journeys of Damayanti, the principled traditionalist matriarch of the royal Barot family based in Ranak and Surilii, a modern thinking young girl. 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum' focusses on the human nature to resist change as it tends to create fear and the usual reac-



tions to it are to either fight, or flight. This close-to-life yet inspirational saga sees Kitu Gidwani playing Damayanti Barot, Tina Datta essaying the role of Surilii Ahluwalia and Jay Bhanushali portraying the character of Shivendra Barot. 'Hum Rahe Na Rahe Hum' is a remake of the popular Turkish drama Istanbulu Gelin (Bride of Istanbul) that will air on Sony Entertainment Television from April 10.

## Dimple Kapadia and Radhika Madan soon-to-release series 'Saas, Bahu aur Flamingo'

MUMBAI: The soon-to-release streaming series 'Saas, Bahu aur Flamingo', which aims to redefine the perception of 'saas-bahu' relationship will feature the terrific line-up of Dimple Kapadia, Radhika Madan, Angira Dhar, Isha Talwar, Deepak Dobriyal and Monica Dogra. Talking about the series, Dimple Kapadia said: "Saas Bahu Aur Flamingo is a story of what makes ordinary people extraordinary in a world full of passion and chaos. It's a bunch of bad-ass women telling a narrative which is often played only by male characters and believe me, it's got some of the most colourful characters you'll



ever see. The show is as wild as my crazy Director, Homi Adajania's mind. He has flipped a family drama on its head giving us such a captivating binge-watch." The series will tell the story of a mother-in-law who is unapologetically hardcore, and daughters-in-law who are steadfast and formidable.

“ Women are the evolved half of our messed up species and Saas Bahu aur Flamingo is to date the maddest world that I have created” The world has scorned these women and turned its back on them, they learn to thrive by creating their own system of morality in a bold and lawless place that they inhabit. Women are the evolved half of our messed up species and Saas Bahu aur Flamingo is to date the maddest world that I have created." He further mentioned: "Its characters are so beautifully complex and conflicting, navigating their way through a world of passion, manipulation and chaos. You're going to have to switch on Disney-Hotstar, buckle up tight and be ready for the roller coaster of your life."

# Revolutionizing Healthcare with Modern IT Infrastructure

HARNESSING AI, DATA GROWTH AND DATA PROTECTION IS VITAL FOR ENHANCED PATIENT CARE



**SUDHARSAN ARAVAMUTHAN**  
World Health Day, observed annually on April 7th, is a day of global recognition and appreciation for the priceless worth of good health. Even as we commit to the goal of 'health for all', let us take a moment to reflect on the unprecedented technological transformations and resultant challenges in the healthcare sector. With the pervasive integration of information technology in healthcare the most obvious advantages have been enhanced patient outcomes, diminished expenses, augmented efficacy in service delivery, and superior intercommunication among healthcare providers. The systemic challenge for the sector, in the wake of digital health technologies, telemedicine and electronic health records (to name a few), has been two-fold: an overburdened IT infrastructure and the storage and management of data. Addressing these challenges indeed impacts our journey towards achieving health for all. 'It all starts with data' As the healthcare industry

continues to embrace advanced technologies, the volume of data generated from patient records, medical devices, imaging tests and other sources has increased exponentially. For healthcare service delivery, ensuring sustained advantages of implementing artificial intelligence, machine learning and blockchain technologies necessitates efficient data storage and management. For any of the IT-enabled models to provide desired results, it is essential to be able to constantly feed data — data that is updated, accurate and often life-saving, into these models without loss of time or efficiency. One of the most promising areas for AI in healthcare is diagnostic imaging. Machine learning algorithms can be trained to recognize patterns in medical images, allowing for faster and more accurate diagnoses. AI can also be used to analyze patient data and identify at-risk populations, enabling healthcare providers to deliver proactive care and reduce hospital readmissions. AI can have a significant impact in drug discovery as well. By analyzing vast amounts of data, AI algorithms can identify potential drug candidates more quickly and accurately than traditional methods. Blockchain, while pro-



## Revolutionizing storage infrastructure in a 'flash'

The advent of flash storage has brought about a substantial transformation in healthcare IT. As conventional hard drives, legacy storage solutions and even cloud storage become insufficient to meet storage requirements, flash storage has emerged as a swifter and more efficient solution. Flash storage can dramatically enhance the speed of accessing and retrieving data that is critical in emergency situations where healthcare providers need to make quick yet informed decisions resulting in improved patient outcomes. Highly scalable, dependable and durable, it can easily expand to meet the present, emergent and future storage needs of healthcare organizations. It ensures data integrity and privacy, and is significantly less susceptible to mechanical failures than traditional hard drives, thereby ensuring better data security and recovery, minimizing downtime and increasing data availability. Interoperability is a pressing issue for the healthcare sector, where the facilitation of seamless data exchange between different systems and applications can not only enhance patient outcomes but also reduce costs and augment efficiency. And data storage solutions have the potential to enable interoperability by providing a centralized repository for patient data that is accessible by a multitude of systems and applications. As emerging technologies like AI and blockchain continue to transform healthcare service delivery, advanced data storage solutions are going to be pivotal in supporting these technologies and ensuring that the data they generate can be safely and efficiently stored, processed and analyzed. Therefore, ongoing investment in cutting-edge modern data experience is crucial for us to achieve the goals of improved patient outcomes and a more efficient healthcare system. Sudharsan Aravamuthan - Head, Systems Engineering, Pure Storage India, views are personal

## Multifit opens its doors on account of World Health Day with 'Health for All'

FW DESK  
New Delhi

Multifit which has footprints in UK, India, and UAE was conceived in the UK with the aim of evolving as a community of fitness enthusiasts. Multifit, a fitness club, stands apart from the rest by breaking the monotony of regular workouts and emphasises on holistic fitness. On account of World Health Day on April 7, this year with the theme 'Health for All', Multifit opens its doors to the public between April 1-10. This campaign is currently applicable at Kalyani Nagar, Kharadi, Wadgaon Sheri, Dhanori, Nanded City, Grand Tamanna, Pimple Saudagar Centres in Pune & Indira Nagar centre in Bangalore of Multifit. During this period anyone can walk into these centres, register, and make use of the facilities for the entire campaign period. A free Body Composition Analysis (BCA) will be offered at the Pune centers and a general fitness assessment to be offered at the Indiranagar center. "On account of World Health Day this year themed as 'Health For All', we at Multifit offer a free walk-in, register, and workout at our facilities from April 1- 10. Free BCA and general



fitness assessments are offered at specific branches. We have also tied up with Metropolis and Jehangir hospitals for tests and discounts on health packages. This initiative is in line with WHO's theme for this year and to improving public health." Says Deepti Sharma, Director Multifit. In addition to this Multifit has also tied up with Metropolis and Jehangir hospitals for health Check-ups of the Multifit members and walk-ins during the campaign. Metropolis will offer free blood tests for all the six centres. Also, random blood sugar tests and haemoglobin tests at select metropolis centers will be offered for free. A 20% discount on all regular tests and up to 60% discount for health packages are also being offered. During this 10-day period, there will be various sessions for awareness by doctors at different Multifit branches will also be held. At Jehangir hospital (Kalyani Nagar, Wadgaon Sheri, Dhanori, and Nanded City) also a 10% discount on all health packages are being offered. Multifit, UK's Elite, India's Largest Functional & Strength Training Brand, aims to provide holistic approach towards health. This initiative brings an opportunity for people to learn about the Multifit ways of getting healthier and stronger.