

NEWS 24



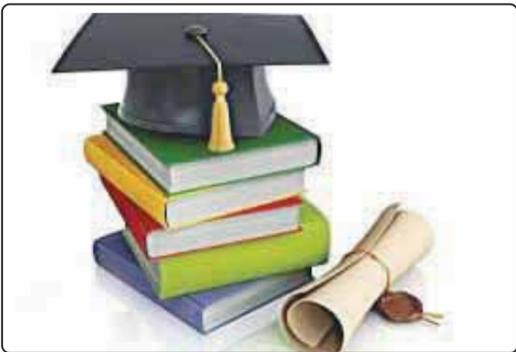
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Govt to raise Rs. 1Lcr from market for research and academic



(G.N.S)New Delhi

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Wednesday approved the proposal to expand the scope of the Higher Education Funding Agency (HEFA) to mobilise Rs. 1 lakh crore for research and academic infrastructure for higher education institutions by 2022. The funds will be raised from a clutch of sources, including education bonds, commercial borrowings and corporate houses. The money shall be given as loans to government-controlled higher educational institutions, including medical colleges, as well

as central government-run school chains such as Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVs) as the Union government explores innovative ways to fund education to reduce the burden on the exchequer. After the announcement, Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar tweeted, "Increase of allocation for education from ₹65,867 crore in 2013-14 to ₹1,10,000 crore in 2018-19 (67 per cent increase) without any raise in fee is a huge push for research and academic infrastructure with social equity". In a first, Kendriya

Vidyalayas/Navodaya Vidyalayas will also get funding from HEFA. IITs, NITs, IISERs and other Central universities as well as AIIMS and other medical colleges will also get funds from HEFA. The funds will be raised through the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA), a recently minted non-banking financial company under the HRD ministry. The cabinet committee on economic affairs on Wednesday approved enhancing HEFA's capital base to Rs. 10,000 crore from the current Rs. 3,300 crore, Mint first reported the proposed plan on 3 June. "The cabinet committee on economic affairs...approved the proposal for expanding the scope of Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) by enhancing its capital base to ₹10,000 crore and tasking it to mobilize Rs. 100,000 crore," law minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said after the cabinet meeting. The Rs. 10,000 crore capital base includes present and subsequent contribution from Canara Bank, a joint venture partner of the HRD ministry for establishing and running HEFA. HRD

minister Prakash Javadekar termed the decision a "landmark" development that will work as a "huge push for research and academic infrastructure with social equity". This move will reduce the budgetary pressure on the exchequer at a time when the government is facing a funds crunch, said an HRD ministry official who asked not to be named. The ministry may effectively save the few thousand crores of rupees it is giving on grant for infrastructure development and bring in fiscal accountability among institutions, as most of these loans will be paid back by institutions, said the official. Technical institutions like Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and National Institutes of Technology (NITs) that are more than 10 years old will repay the whole loan from their internal earnings, while technical schools started between 2008 and 2014 will repay 25% and rest will be paid from government grants, according to the cabinet decision. Central universities established before

2014 will have to repay 10% of the loan they take from internal resources and will receive a grant for the remaining part of the principal. KVs and NVs as well as new medical colleges and central universities established after 2014 will get grants to service HEFA loans. So far, funding proposals worth ₹2,016 crore from some of the older IITs have been approved by HEFA and nearly ₹9,000 crore more of loan proposals are in the pipeline for development of education infrastructure and research capabilities at various IITs, NITs and other technical schools. The Cabinet approved continuance of eight schemes of the Ministry of Home Affairs up to March 2020 for 'Relief and Rehabilitation of Migrants and Repatriates'. In a bid to optimise functioning of the Commission and for fulfilling desired objectives of welfare and development of the target group, the Cabinet gave the green signal for creating one post each of Vice-Chairperson and Member in the National Commission for Safai Karmacharis.

First 'pad abort' test successful by ISRO

(G.N.S) Bengaluru

The first 'pad abort' test critical for a future human space mission was conducted successfully on Thursday morning, the Indian Space Research Organisation has announced. The test was conducted at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. "The Pad Abort Test demonstrated the safe recovery of the crew module in case of any emergency at the launch pad," the space agency said. Describing it as a major technology demonstrator the space agency said the PAT (pad abort test) is the first in a series of tests to qualify a crew escape system technology of a manned mission in the future. The Crew Escape System is an emergency escape measure to quickly pull the crew module — the astronaut cabin — along with astronauts out to a safe distance from the launch vehicle in the event of a launch abort. ISRO Chairman K. Sivan said the teams also tried out at least five new sec-

ondary technologies related to satellite communication, navigation and telemetry during the test. A few more trials related to the safety of astronauts would be taken up later. The countdown began at 2 a.m., five hours ahead of the test. At 7 a.m., the Crew Escape System with a simulated 12.6-tonne crew module lifted off from its pad. It was propelled on its own seven specially made complex in-built rockets. In the next four-odd minutes, it reached a height of 2.7 km and curved down into the Bay of Bengal on parachutes. It landed in sea at a distance of 2.9 km from the launch centre. Three recovery boats were sent out to retrieve the module. First 'pad abort' test successful by ISRO



The rockets are solid-fuel powered and specially designed for quickly ejecting the crew module and astronauts to a safe distance without exceeding the safe G-levels, an ISRO statement said. Nearly 300 sensors recorded various functional aspects of the mission during the test flight.

China Warns US "Opening Fire" On World With Tariff Threats

(G.N.S) BEIJING

The United States is "opening fire" on the world with its threatened tariffs, the Chinese government warned on Thursday, saying Beijing will respond the instant US measures go into effect as the two locked horns in a bitter trade war. The Trump administration's tariffs on \$34 billion of Chinese imports are due to go into effect at 12.01 am eastern time on Friday (0401 GMT Friday), which is just after midday on Friday Beijing time. US



President Donald Trump has threatened to escalate the trade conflict with tariffs on as much as a total of \$450 billion in Chinese goods if Beijing retaliates, with the rowing financial markets including stocks, currencies and global trade of commodities from soy beans to coal. China has said it will not "fire the first shot", but its customs agency said on Thursday in a short statement that Chinese tariffs on US goods will take effect immediately after Washington's tariffs on Chinese goods kick in. Speaking at a weekly news conference, Chinese Commerce Ministry spokesman Gao Feng warned the proposed U.S. tariffs would hit international supply chains, including foreign companies in the world's second-largest economy. "If the US implements tariffs, they will actually be adding tariffs on companies from all countries, including Chinese and U.S. companies," Gao said. "US measures are essentially at-

tacking global supply and value chains. To put it simply, the U.S. is opening fire on the entire world, including itself," he said. "China will not bow down in the face of threats and blackmail and will not falter in its determination to defend free trade and the multilateral system." Asked whether U.S. companies will be targeted with "qualitative measures" in China in a trade war, Gao said the government will protect the legal rights of all foreign companies in the country. "We will continue to

assess the potential impact of the U.S.-initiated trade war on companies and will help companies mitigate possible shocks." Gao said China's foreign trade is expected to continue on a stable path in the second half, though investors fear a full-blown Sino-U.S. trade dispute will deal a body blow to Chinese exports and its economy. He emphasised that US tariffs on Chinese exports will hurt both Chinese and foreign firms. Foreign companies accounted for \$20 billion, or 59 percent, of the \$34 billion of exports from China that will be subject to new tariffs from the US starting from Friday, with US firms accounting for a significant part of that 59 percent, Gao added. European officials have told Reuters that China has put pressure on the European Union to issue a strong joint statement against U.S. President Donald Trump's trade policies, but so far they have insisted on not taking sides.

Delhi bureaucrats return AAP government's 'illegal order' within hours of SC verdict



(G.N.S)New Delhi

In its 535-page judgment, the Supreme Court made at least 12 observations and directions on issues related to the turf war between the AAP and Lieutenant Governor (L-G), but there was no mention of the government's anti-corruption branch (ACB). Hours after the Supreme Court verdict, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government issued an order withdrawing all powers of transfer and posting of IAS officers and other employees from the Lieutenant Governor, the chief secretary and heads of departments. But the order issued by deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia was returned by bureaucrats in the evening on the grounds that it was "legally incorrect". This was the first file

moved by Sisodia after the judgment. The return of the order by officers hints that the tussle between the political executive and the bureaucracy is unlikely to end anytime soon. According to the order issued by Sisodia—who is also minister of the services department—the chief minister will approve transfers of IAS, DANICS, all-India services officers, equivalent officers of the central civil services and provincial civil services. The L-G was earlier approving such orders. The control of the anti-graft unit was the first of many issues on which the AAP government had a face-off with the Centre. The ACB, which is under the state government's vigilance department, gets its officers from Delhi Police. The agency has the

power to register first information reports on alleged corruption cases and make arrests. Commenting on the ACB after the Apex court judgment on Tuesday, deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia said, "The Supreme Court has not given any clarification on ACB and has sent the matter to the regular bench." The transfers and postings of Delhi Administrative Subordinate Services (DASS) Grade-I, II, principal private secretary and private secretary will be approved by the deputy CM. These officers were earlier transferred by the chief secretary. The minister-in-charge (services) will have a say in the transfer and posting of DASS grade-III and IV officers and of stenos, which was earlier being cleared by the principal secretary of the department. Other

employees of cadre and ex-cadre officers within the department will be transferred and posted by the department minister concerned. But uncertainty looms over Sisodia's order as bureaucrats returned the file, saying it was legally untenable. "The services department had come under the L-G after a home ministry notification issued in May 2015. But the notification, addressed to the President, has not been set aside by the Supreme Court," said a government official. An advisor to the government refused to comment on the file being returned. Bureaucrats said the issue of control over transfers and postings will be taken up by the regular bench of the Supreme Court. "So it is the regular bench that will decide. Also, the 'services' still lies with

the L-G because Delhi is a Union territory and does not fall under the concurrent and state lists," an official said on condition of anonymity. Former bureaucrats said the gist of the SC order was that the elected government of Delhi and the lieutenant-governor needed to perform their functions in coordination. "Earlier too, the chief minister could give their recommendations on the matter of transfers and postings but the final call was of the L-G. The government needs to better its relations with the Centre and officers so that work is not affected," said former chief secretary of Delhi Omesh Saigal. Reacting to the judgment, members of the IAS association said the verdict does not completely go in favour of Kejriwal.

'RBI issues license to Bank of China to operate in India amid PM Modi's commitment'

(G.N.S) New Delhi

The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday issued license to Bank of China to operate in India, according to sources. Bank of China will now have operating offices in India after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday issued licenses approving the application, the second Chinese bank to be operating in the country. According to reports, the decision was based on the commitment made

start operations was reached at a meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the SCO summit. Bank of China, which is listed on the Hong Kong and Shanghai stock exchanges and has a market capitalisation of \$158.6 billion, will be the second Chinese bank to secure a licence to open a branch in India. Among those who had applied for permission to open a branch



or office in the country were three banks from Iran, two from South Korea, one each from Malaysia and the Netherlands. Bank of China is one of the four major state-owned banks in China, and is considered the second biggest in the country by assets. It does not have any branches in India yet, despite many of its corporate clients having extensive operations in India. Among the Iranian banks that have sought nods from the RBI were Bank Pasargad, Parsian Bank and Saman Bank. The two Korean banks that have sought to open their first branches are Kookmin Bank and Nonghyup Bank.

by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Chinese leadership. Following this, the 106-year-old Bank of China will open a branch in India. Several foreign banks, including the Bank of China, had earlier in the year sought RBI's permission to set up operations in the country. As on 1 January, 2018 Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd was operating in India along with 45 other foreign banks. The United Kingdom's Standard Chartered has the highest, 100 branches in India as of now. Security clearances for the bank had been given earlier. The decision to allow Bank of China to

Notice to TN govt, state pollution board issued by NGT over closure of Sterlite plant

(G.N.S) New Delhi

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) today sought response from the Tamil Nadu government and the State Pollution Control Board on a plea moved by metals and mining giant Vedanta Ltd challenging the state government's order to permanently close the Sterlite copper plant at Tuticorin. A bench headed by Acting NGT Chairperson Justice Jawad Rahim issued notices to the state government and the pollution board while seeking their responses before July 18. The green panel also permitted the state govt to file a statement questioning the maintainability of Vedanta's plea. The Tamil Nadu government had ordered the pollution board to seal and "permanently" close the group's copper plant following violent protests over pollution concerns. Challenging the pollution control board's May 2018 order that issued closure of the copper unit in

Tamil Nadu, the petition moved by Sterlite Copper's parent company has sought a stay on the orders passed by the TNPCB. "Restrain the government of Tamil Nadu, by as an order of permanent injunction from in any manner preventing or interfering with the functioning and operation of the appellant's unit or in any manner purporting or prohibiting the functioning and operations of the unit" read the plea. The plea has sought permission to operate the unit and also a direction to declare as unlawful and illegal the exercise of powers by the Tamil Nadu government in passing the order dated May 28 purporting to exercise powers under section 18(1)(b) of the Water Act. Seeking interim relief to begin



operations, the plea read, "Permit the appellant to operate the unit and plant pending the consideration of the instant appeal (and) direct TNPCB to restore and provide minimum power supply, water and manpower access for safeguarding the emergency systems of the plant as it houses various chemical and fuels. Due to the sudden closure of the plant, the same poses a threat to the surroundings, the plant and the machinery within the plant." The company has also sought direction to complete its maintenance activities within the premises and permission for the representatives to access the administrative building.

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Editorial....

K'taka CM announces Rs 34k cr loan waiver for state farmers

Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy tables his coalition government's maiden Budget for fiscal 2018-19 at the Vidhan Soudha. The CM holds the Finance portfolio of the state. As agreed by the coordination committee of the alliance partners, the budget will have details of the loan waiver for the distressed farmers reeling under crop losses due to consecutive droughts or floods in the recent years. "Farm loans equivalent to Rs 10,000 crore are likely to be waived along with interest on them, as decided at a special meeting the Chief Minister held with Cooperation Minister Bandeppa Khashempur and Agriculture Minister N.H. Shivashankara Reddy on June 25 here," recalled the official preferring anonymity. The loans were borrowed by farmers across the state from district cooperative banks and state cooperatives. A decision to waive crop loans farmers raised from state-run banks will be taken after the central government responds to the chief minister's letter for its concurrence. Official The proposed write-off will be in addition to a similar waiver the previous Congress government declared on June 21, 2017 for over 22-lakh farmers who borrowed crop loans up to Rs 50,000 each from the cooperative banks. The previous waiver cost the state exchequer Rs 8,165 crore in fiscal 2017-18. To free the distressed farmers from the debt burden, the state government has decided to conduct a survey of agriculture borrowers with details of loans availed from which institutions, including cooperatives, regional and state-run banks. According to the state agriculture department's estimates, of the 74-lakh farmers across the state, 25-lakh of them don't take institutional loans but borrow from private sources, including moneylenders at a high interest rate and get caught into debt trap. In a related development, opposition BJP leader B.S. Yeddyurappa sought a White Paper on the state's finances ahead of the Budget presentation, alleging that loans and bills amounting to Rs 2.38-lakh crore were outstanding.

Sensex gains 267 pts; Nifty ends above 10,750

(G.N.S) Mumbai Global leads are not giving any hope. But local triggers are making the bulls dance. Today, what did the job was a string of MSP hikes, consistent buying by domestic institutional investors and encouraging services PMI data for June. Benchmark indices closed on a strong note with the Sensex rising more than 250 points, backed by banking & financials and Reliance Industries. The rally was also led by the Cabinet Committee's approval to the proposal to raise minimum support price for kharif crops. The 30-share BSE Sensex gained 266.80 points at 35,645.40 and the 50-share NSE Nifty rallied 70 points to 10,769.90 but the market breadth was weak. About 1,338 shares declined against 1,256 advancing shares on the BSE.HDFC, HDFC Bank, Reliance Industries, Maruti Suzuki, HUL, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Auto, Bharti Infratel, IndusInd Bank, Lupin and Indiabulls Housing were top contributors the Nifty's gains, which rallied between 1 percent and 4 percent. Infosys, Grasim, Vedanta, HPCL, TCS, ITC, Tata Motors and HCL Technologies were losers. Rupee Closing: The Indian rupee closed at 68.74 against the dol-



lar, down 17 paise from the previous close on demand for the American currency. The S&P BSE Sensex rallied over 200 points on Wednesday despite negative global cues. The Nifty50 reclaimed 10,700 levels and closed above its short-term moving averages such as 5-EMA, 13-EMA, as well as 50-EMA which is a bullish sign. Yes Bank receives SEBI approval to launch MF business: Yes Bank, India's 4th largest private sector lender announced that it has received the final regulatory approval (Certificate of Registration) from the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to commence its mutual fund business. This approval is subsequent to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval granted to the bank to sponsor a Mutual

Fund followed by SEBI's in-principle approval received subsequently, it said. It is July. The first quarter of the financial year has come to an end and appraisals too are behind for most of salaried employees. Despite negative global cues, the Indian equity benchmark indices showed firmness in Wednesday's session, led by better than expected macro data and cabinet's approval to raise MSP for kharif crops. We expect the Indian equities to remain rangebound in the coming sessions. Domestic macro data and movement of currency & crude oil will dictate the further course of the market in the near term. Market participants would also closely monitor the trade tension between US & China. Under uncertain domestic and global environment, steady re-

form implementation and revival in the corporate earnings is essential for the markets. We advise traders to trade cautiously whereas investors can continue to accumulate fundamentally sound companies. Asian markets ended in the red with China's Shanghai Composite losing a percent after recording gains in the previous session. Trade tensions remained in the spotlight ahead of a looming tariff deadline, reports media. Japan's Nikkei and South Korea's Kospi were down third of a percent while Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell over a percent. European stocks were mixed amid elevated trade tensions between the US and China. France's CAC was up 0.2 percent while Germany's DAX and Britain's FTSE fell 0.2 percent each at the time of writing this article. Management outlook: Kerala-based Muthoot Finance has set a target to disburse Rs 300 crore personal loans during the current financial year, a top company official said today. The company, which had earlier offered gold loans announced its foray into the personal loan category aimed at serving salaried individuals. "We have noticed lot of gold loan customers have the potential to be given a personal loan.

Actress Sonali Bendre: Diagnosed with "high grade cancer"



(G.N.S)

Sonali Bendre to come up with a statement about her ill health on her Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts. In a post she revealed that she had been diagnosed with high grade cancer that had metastasized. The diagnosis came after tests done for "a nagging pain." The 43-year-old actor, stated that there was no better way to tackle this than to take swift and immediate action and that she was currently undergoing treatment in New York. Much loved for her performances in Sarfarosh, Hum Saath Saath Hain and Duplicate and the iconic Humma Humma song in Bombay, Sonali Bendre was last seen as Shah Rukh Khan's doctor in a small role in Kal Ho Naa Ho before taking off for being full-time mother to her young son. She did a cameo in Once Upon A Time In Mumbai Dobaara! and recently stepped down as the judge of popular TV show India's Best Dramebaaz to make way for Humna Qureshi. "Sometimes when you least expect it, life throws you a curveball," Bendre wrote, adding that, "My family and close friends have rallied around me, providing the best support system that anyone can ask for. I am very blessed and thankful for each of them." "We remain optimistic and I am determined to fight every step of the way. What has helped has been the immense outpouring of love and support I've received over the past few days.

Thousands Sign Petition To Save Hindu School From Closure In London

(G.N.S) LONDON Thousands of people have signed a petition to prevent the closure of one of the UK's largest independent Hindu faith schools, the Swaminarayan School in London. The Akshar Educational Trust, which runs the school set up in 1992, had announced its closure last month as part of plans to exit the education sector completely by July 2020. Parents of students associated with the school have now organised a campaign to save the "school of excellence" from closure. "In a letter to parents, a spokesperson for the school blamed 'increasing regulatory requirements, difficulties in recruitment and retention of teachers, ready availability of free state-funded Hindu schools, and declining pupil numbers' for the move.

This is simply not true," notes the Change.org petition, which has attracted nearly 3,500 signatures since last week. "Sensitivity analysis of accounts by experts suggests that with restructuring it is possible for school to run for the foreseeable future," it notes. The parents, who have coordinated into a save-the-school campaign, say that many Indian-origin families have moved, relocated and changed their way of life to enable their children to get an education within the ethos and culture of Hinduism at the respected Swaminarayan School in Neasden, north-west London. "Parents are more than happy to consider taking over the running of the school by appointing new teams who will give due consideration to the communities and families that are being disrupted by this an-

nouncement," the parents said in a statement. The school has been very popular within the large Indian-origin community based in the borough of Brent, many of whom are happy to pay the GBP 4,310 per-term fees to enrol their children. But the trust running it said that mounting pressures in recent years had hampered its ability to invest in the resources required to sustain the improvements needed in the school, both educationally and for its infrastructure. The institution, opened by Pramukh Swami Maharaj

alongside the BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir to "promote Hindu and British culture and values and way of life", has around 400 pupils between the ages of three and 18 currently on its rolls. The trustees had unveiled plans for closure in two phases in order to allow parents time to apply to other schools. However, parents are furious at the lack of consultation before the announcement was made. "The school is not a business, where a decision like this can just be made and announced... the team of governors and trustees just seem to have had enough and this is now the easiest option for them," the parents said. They have received the backing of Indian-origin Labour party MP, Seema Malhotra, who said she is "saddened" by the news of the closure. "The Swaminarayan School has a strong reputation and has been highly valued by parents and the community. I hope that through discussions between parents, teachers, governors and trustees that a solution can be found and the school is able to stay open and continue to flourish,"



Amway bullish on India market; aims to achieve INR 6000crores revenue by 2025

New Delhi, Amway India, the country's no.1 direct selling FMCG company, with ongoing celebrations of successful completion of 20 years of business operations in India, reiterated commitment to the market and announced its 2025 plans. The company is bullish about the growth story of India and aims to rank amongst top 3 markets for Amway globally with the target revenue of INR 6000 crores by 2025. Commenting on the 20 years of success, Mr. Anshu Budhraj - CEO - Amway India, said, "We are excited with the great business opportunity ahead of us in India. Industry reports highlight the immense business potential of the direct selling FMCG industry. The industry is expected to touch INR 65,000 Cr by 2025, clocking an almost six-fold growth from its current size, while providing entrepreneurship opportunities to more than 18 million people of which 50% constitute women. We have registered a CAGR of 20 per cent over the last 20 years which is testimony to the robustness of our business model and importance of the Indian market, which ranks among the top markets for us. We are eyeing a three-fold growth in our business by 2025, fueled by innovations and digital penetration along with our strong direct sellers network and focus on engaging



young consumers." With the increasing demand for the Vitamins and Dietary Supplements (VDS) which has a current market size of INR 8400 crore and is poised to grow at 10% in the next 5 years. Currently the Indian market only comprises of 2-3% share of the global market which offers immense growth potential. Amway shared a clear path towards its target 2025. Nutrition and Wellness being the biggest revenue driver, Amway is aiming to double the revenue of the category by 2025. The company is bullish about the robust growth prospects of the nutraceutical industry. Buoyed by the success of recently launched Nutrilite traditional herbs range, which is expected to cross INR 100 crores mark in sales by end of the year, the company is celebrating the success of its top selling products that are in the INR 100 crores club in India including

Nutrilite All Plant Protein Powder, Nutrilite Daily, Amway Queen cookware and Glister toothpaste. Adding to its innovative and high-quality offerings in India, Amway plans to soon launch its latest innovations with the focus on herbal in the beauty and personal care category. Amway is also making a major push into consumer durables and announced the entry into air purification business category. Amway plans to invest around INR 100 crores over the next 2-3 years in India, which includes INR 70 crores investment in R&D, INR 10 crores in manufacturing and INR 20-30 crores in digital initiatives. While the R&D investments will be focused on building research capabilities to enhance product innovation pipeline across categories, the manufacturing investments will be channeled towards digitization, automation and power optimiza-

tion in the manufacturing facility. Amway India has made significant investments to enhance its digital presence through its online store and mobile app. The company will continue its focus on digital tools to enhance customer experience and benefit its strong sales force of Amway direct sellers. Amway has also invested INR 600 crores in a world-class manufacturing facility in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, as part of the INR 1000 crores investment plan in India. As part of its customer outreach and engagement plan, a significant portion of the investment is committed to launching Amway XPP stores in India. The company will be adding 25 more Xpress Pick and Pay (XPP) stores across India during 2018. Amway India has also been strategically investing on skill development and nurturing entrepreneurship in the country, by offering more than 18,000 free training sessions during an average 12-month period besides the presence of a comprehensive digital learning portal (E-learning). About Amway India Amway India is a wholly owned subsidiary of Amway with headquarters located in Ada, Michigan, USA. Amway is the world's #1 direct selling business in the world with presence in

over 100 countries & territories. The coveted global 100 list benchmarks the performance of top revenue-generating direct selling companies in the world, has ranked Amway #1 for the 6th consecutive year in 2018. Globally, Amway is over 59 years old, US \$ 8.6 billion, manufacturer and direct seller of quality consumer goods. Amway's innovation and industry-leading R&D has seen more than 800 patents granted and another 240 patents pending. Amway has nearly 1000 scientists across 100 research and development and quality assurance laboratories worldwide. Amway India sells more than 140 daily use products across categories like Nutrition, Beauty, Personal Care, Home Care and Consumer durables through Amway Direct Sellers who make personal recommendations regarding the use of distinctive quality products. Amway products are widely recognized and appreciated for their quality and value. These products are backed by a money back guarantee for 100% satisfaction of use. With the aim of increasing consumer outreach Amway has set up 55 Xpress Pick & Pay stores across the country. Amway products are popular not just in India but across the world.

Burari deaths: godmen's role ruled out, police to probe case as suicide caused by 'shared psychosis'

(G.N.S) New Delhi As notes in a diary fuelled a mass suicide-for-salvation theory after the bizarre death of 11 in a Delhi house, surviving members of the family complained today that they were being "painted by the media as a family of maniacs". Two members of the Chundawat family - found hanging on Sunday. The Delhi Police has questioned over 20 relatives of the Burari-based family in connection with the mysterious deaths of its 11 members and is likely to rope in a psychiatrist to assist the investigators in the probe. The police has ruled out the involvement of any self-styled godman. It earlier found that the family had started following a Kondli-based godman, but nothing substantial was found on that front. The police recovered a third register with notes about "salvation", "shunya" and "ap-

peasing God". Some loose sheets of paper were also found containing notings from 2008, which indicated that Lalit Bhatia had turned towards spiritualism after his father's death that year. The policemen questioned 20 family members, including the matriarch's eldest son, her daughter and one of her deceased daughters-in-law's sisters, all of whom denied that the family indulged in "occult", said a senior police officer. There were rumours doing the rounds that 11 rods on top of the gate had something to do with the case, but police ruled it out. The police has more or less ruled out the involvement of any self-styled godman in the case and is probing it as a case of "shared psychosis". A senior officer also spoke to doctors from VIMHANS on Monday who also opined that it was a case of "shared psychosis", in which one

person's delusional beliefs are transmitted to others. Ten of the 11 members of the Bhatia family were found hanging from an iron-mesh in the ceiling on Sunday, while the body of 77-year-old Narayan Devi, the head of the family, was lying on the floor in another room of the house. Devi's daughter Pratibha (57), her two sons Bhavnes (50) and Lalit Bhatia (45) were also among the deceased. Bhavnes's wife Savita (48) and their three children - Meenu (23), Nidhi (25), and Dhruv, aged 15, were also found dead. Lalit Bhatia's wife Tina (42) and their 15-year-old son Shivam were also among those found dead, while Pratibha's daughter Priyanka (33), who

was engaged last month and would have married by the end of this year, was also found hanging. The Crime Branch team again inspected the spot again on Tuesday, and found a register whose earliest entries were from 2011 and had psychological musings and notes about "salvation", "shunya" and "appeasing God". There were some other papers also found which indicated that Lalit had assumed his father's alter ego and would often talk and behave like him. He would also observe maun vrat (vow of silence) sometimes. While family members were clueless about this aspect, neighbours told the police that Dhruv had often mentioned it to kids in the locality that "kaka par dada aate hain" (uncle is of-

ten possessed by grandfather's spirit). The Crime Branch team also spoke to the delivery boy, who was the last person to see them alive and who had delivered 20 rotis to the family on 30 June, a day before they were found hanging. He said that he had delivered 20 butter rotis on 30 June and did not find anything unusual in the behaviour of anyone. The questioning of the family members began from 10 am on Tuesday at the Burari police station. A Crime Branch team, led by a deputy commissioner of police-rank officer, questioned deceased Narayan Devi's eldest son, Dinesh, her daughter Sujata Nagpal, and Priyanka's fiancé at the police station. They also questioned Lalit's wife Tina's sisters since the investigation had revealed that Lalit and Tina were the ones who had convinced the family about performing the rituals to attain "salvation".



Satna rape survivor from MP airlifted to Delhi for treatment



(G.N.S) Bhopal

The four-year old rape survivor of Satna district was airlifted to Delhi for treatment in AIIMS on Tuesday evening. The girl had sustained severe injuries in her privates parts and she also underwent a surgery late on Monday. She was raped by her fathers' acquaintance in a village under Unchhehra police station of the district late. The girl was found unconscious at around 5am on Monday at a distance of around 1km from her house. As per police, accused Mahendra, a resident of the same village had visited the house of the survivor calling for her father, later he returned saying goodbye but remained hidden near the house and when the survivor's father went out to relieve himself late in the night, he abducted the girl and raped her in a nearby farm.

IT firms to benefit from currency, lower visa applications in Q1

(G.N.S) Mumbai The recent currency fluctuation is expected to show some positive gains for the IT sector in their first quarter (Q1FY19) results starting next week. The June quarter results of IT firms usually witness a strong impact of employee costs in the form of visas expenses as well as incremental wages. However, given the lower visa applications this year as well as a slowdown in hiring, these impacts won't be that evident this year, note analysts. The impact of visa issues might also manifest in hiring numbers for these companies. "With USD appreciating 2.3 per cent, 3.0 per cent and 3.7 per cent QoQ against GBP, EUR and AUD, respectively (average rate), we perceive cross currency headwinds of 80-100bps for top-5 IT players. We expect revenue growth of almost all companies to pick up, barring a few company-specific issues, and optimistic commentaries," Sandip Agarwal, research analyst at Edelweiss wrote in a recent report. While TCS is expected to lead the pack with 3.1 per cent QoQ USD revenue growth, HCLT is estimated to grow 2.4 per cent QoQ (2.1 per cent inorganic) and Infosys 2.3 per cent. Wipro and Tech Mahindra are estimated to report a 2.0 dip each in their revenue on quarterly basis, noted Edelweiss. With TCS moving into the \$100 billion (in terms of market cap) club, the next top candidate Infosys is also being re-valued. With Infosys stocks already rallying almost 20 per cent up over the past three months, some good news is expected from both the top



two IT giants. In terms of banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) segment, TCS will be most closely watched as the street is yet to be at ease with TCS' outlook on BFSI although North American banks seem to have stabilised overall. "The cross currency tailwinds would mean better margins for the quarter. However, given the lack of organic growth from the other three, the competition this quarter has really boiled down to TCS and Infosys," said Madhu Babu, research analyst at equity research firm Prabhudas Lilladher. Following a strong revenue guidance, country's fourth largest IT services company HCL Technologies is expected to replace Wipro in the third spot given that in the previous quarter HCLT was barely \$24 million short of Wipro's revenue numbers. Wipro, even though, has been picking up the pieces following client insolvency and a slowdown in key healthcare sector, is expected to report flat revenue growth. "Among mid-caps, growth should stay strong in Mindtree (4.0 per cent QoQ) and recover in Persistent (3.9 per cent) after a weak 4QFY18 but could moderate in others (NIIT Technologies/Cyient/L&T Technologies)," noted Pankaj Kapoor, research analyst, JM Financials. Analysts have also suggested a stronger scrutiny of digital deals to understand the actual deal sizes as well as whether the IT players are playing substantial consultative roles in the digital deals. The street would look out for a clear direction as to where the ticket sizes of these digital deals are headed for.

Forget machines, even humans read your Gmail messages



(G.N.S) According to a report by The Wall Street Journal, third-party app developers can read the e-mails of Gmail users who sign up for these email-based apps and services. They can access recipient addresses, timestamps, and entire messages. This is in complete contrast to Google's claims (it made last year) that it would stop its algorithms to scan the contents of Gmail users. Forget machines, even humans read your emails now. Notably, when you sign up for a separate e-mail based service, you do explicitly give consent to them to access this data. But at the time, you are only told that your e-mails will be monitored. It isn't clear that it would allow humans (and not just machines) to read your emails. In its defense, Google said that this permission is only given to vetted third-party developers. Some of those vetted third-party apps include e-mail managing firms Return Path and Edison Software. They have had access to thousands of e-mail accounts in the past. They also admit that they allow human engineers to view user e-mails so that the latter can train machine algorithms with regards to handling such huge amounts of data. So far, there has been no report of a third-party Gmail add-on developer having misused users' e-mail data.

SMEs raise Rs 8.25 billion through IPOs in 1st quarter of 2018-19

(G.N.S) New Delhi Spurred by investor interest, the number of listed firms on NSE's small and medium enterprise (SME) platform raised a staggering Rs 8.25 billion through initial public offerings in the first quarter of 2018-19, more than a two-fold jump from the preceding financial year. Funds raised through initial public offers (IPOs) were meant for business expansion plans, working capital requirements and other general corporate purposes, according to offer documents. A total of 47 companies got listed with initial shares-sale offers worth Rs 8.25 billion during April-June quarter of 2018-19 as compared to 24 firms which tapped the IPO route to garner Rs 3.1 billion in the same period of the previous year, as per the data provided by merchant banker. This reflects a significant rise in the amount raised through SME platforms of BSE and NSE. Further, average issue size also increased to over Rs 170 million during the period under review from Rs 130 million in the first quarter of 2017-18. "It has been more than six years since SME market opened up and we have witnessed this market evolving gradually with varying trends: high over-sub-



scriptions, widening shareholder base, venture capital exits through this platform, anchor investor participation and the like. "This segment will continue to be of interest and will grow leaps and bounds in time to come," said Mahavir Lunawat, Group Managing Director, at Pantomath Advisory Services Group. Geographically, Gujarat topped the list as a maximum 17 firms from the state listed on SME bourses, followed by Maharashtra (11), Delhi (5) and Madhya Pradesh (3). A gradual shift from heavy over-subscription to low or minimal subscription pattern was seen in SME IPOs. Out of 47 IPOs, only 7 got subscribed more than 10 times, 14 initial share-sale offers witnessed a subscription between 2 and 10 times and 17 public issues subscribed less than 2 times. Further, participation from anchor investors has been increasing in the small and medium enterprises segment too. "Pricing of SME IPOs are generally attractive and due to high demand, post listing the prices rally up to a significant number. Markets have been corrected sharply in 2018 so far and SMEs are no exceptions. Decline in prices of some of the SME scripts was also seen in the quarter," Lunawat added.

Bug in Samsung phones randomly sends users' photos to contacts



(G.N.S) Reddit users have reported a bug in their Samsung smartphones that is sending random pictures from their camera roll to random contacts via SMS without permission. One user complained that 50 photos were sent to the last person he texted while another said his phone sent all his gallery photos to his girlfriend. Users are taking to Samsung's official forum to report the issue. Users are not even coming to know of the issue as the bug doesn't show any sent files from their side. Apparently, they found out about the problem only after the recipient confronted them regarding the random photos they received.

Inter-faith couple passport row

(G.N.S) Lucknow The passport officer for Lucknow said the police's report about her incorrect address did not count according to the new verification rules. The passport of Tanvi Seth, who was allegedly 'harassed' by an official at the Lucknow Passport Seva Kendra last month, was cleared on Monday. As there is no criminal case against the couple, the passport was cleared, reported media. On 20 June, in a series of tweets directed at External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, Tanvi Seth claimed she was ill-treated by a passport officer named Vikas Mishra because she married a Muslim and did not change her name. The officer was transferred after Seth's tweet. Seth claimed that though her documents were complete, her file was stopped. Mishra reportedly insulted Siddiqui and asked him to convert to Hinduism in order to ensure his reissue request was processed.

Not A "Dictator" Who Will Run Away From Courts: Former Pak PM Nawaz Sharif

(G.N.S) LONDON Embattled former Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif said the accountability court should delay its verdict in a corruption case against him till he returns to the country, emphasising that he was not a "dictator" who will run away from the courts. Mr Sharif's statement comes a day after the accountability court in Islamabad reserved its judgment in the Avenfield properties case and said the verdict in the case involving him and his family would be announced on Friday. Talking to reporters in London, the 68-year-old three-time premier said he wants to hear the judgement in

the case while standing in the courtroom where "I have endured more than 100 hearings with my daughter Maryam [Nawaz]". "I am not a dictator who will run away from the courts," he said, taking a dig at former Pakistan President and army chief Pervez Musharraf, who has refused to return to the country from the UAE to face a slew of cases against him. Mr Sharif was speaking to the media outside Harley Clinic in London where his wife, Kulsoom is undergoing treatment for throat cancer. "My wife has been on a ventilator since last 21 days. I want to hear the verdict in the court room where I have pre-

sented myself with my daughter over 100 times," he was quoted as saying by Geo TV. The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz party chief said that irrespective of the decision, whether it is in his favour or not, he will return to Pakistan. "I will return as soon as Kulsoom's health improves," he said. "She (Kulsoom) underwent an operation yesterday." The former prime minister said that the court gave verdict on the eligibility of a politician from Rawalpindi after reserving the decision for as many as three months. "I am not asking for three months but a relief for some days," he said. Mr Sharif said Pakistan has had a history of ver-

dicts remaining "unnecessarily" reserved for months, hence delaying the judgement of the Avenfield case for a few days "considering an extremely sensitive matter" would not violate any requisite of justice or law. "I want to hear this judgement while standing in the courtroom, amidst my people [and] holding them as the witness," he said. He said that the nation's decision on July 25 will change the destiny of the country, referring to the general elections. "The entire nation is aware of one-sided actions against me," he said. Mr Sharif has been disqualified by the Supreme Court in the Panama Papers scandal. The ruling has barred him from holding public office for life. The

Avenfield case was among four cases filed by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) against the former premier and his children on Supreme Court's orders following the Panamagate case which disqualified Mr Sharif. The NAB prosecutor has stated before the accountability court that Nawaz Sharif had acquired four apartments in Avenfield House, Park Lane, London. The Sharif family insists that they had purchased the posh London apartments through 'legitimate' financial resources. The Sharifs have denied any corruption and wrongdoing. The former prime minister has described the corruption charges against him and his family as politically motivated.

What'll happen to your Facebook account after you pass away?

(G.N.S) A deceased user's account on Facebook can be processed in three ways: it can be memorialized, it can be deleted, and someone can request downloading the contents of the account and then have it deleted. While memorializing an account will turn it into a fan page of sorts, deleting an account will permanently remove every information and data originating from that profile. You can yourself request Facebook to memorialize your account when you pass away, or someone else can once a user is no more. Memorialized accounts allow friends and family to post comments and messages of condolences and happy memories on the user's timeline. The account will no longer appear in friend sugges-



tions and its login information will be kept safe with Facebook. Next, verified family members of a deceased user can request Facebook to delete the latter's account. For verification, Facebook will accept the deceased's birth/death certificate and proof of authority stating that you are their lawful representative. If you are not able to verify your relationship with the deceased, your request for account deletion will not be processed. Preemptively, users can also download an app called "If I Die" using which they can preset a last message to be sent to loved ones once they are no more. The only app of its kind, "If I Die" even allows you to create a video. You can add the third-party app to Facebook and make a personalized profile page on the platform.

Donald Trump Trolled For His Tweet On His Writing Skills. It Had Errors

(G.N.S) NEW DELHI Donald Trump has goofed up once again. The US President who gave us the infamous covfefe went on another round of self-praising and boasting about his writing skills in a tweet. But it all backlashed when he made a spelling error in the tweet. Instead of "pore over" he wrote "pour over" and later corrected the tweet making author JK Rowling burst out in fits of laughter. The other error was the word bestselling, which is either one word or hyphenated however Mr Trump made it two words which made his self-praising not only questionable but also laughable. Donald Trump Trolled For His Tweet On His Writing Skills. It Had Errors. The original tweet was edited and the "pour over" spelling changed after around 2 hours but not before everyone had a good laugh at the President's narcissism. Ms Rowling found the original tweet hilarious, repeatedly typing "haha" in three successive replies. In one, the Harry Potter books' author sarcastically called him "The Greatest Writer on earth." She also gave him the correct spelling of the word. After Mr Trump corrected his tweet, JK Rowling tweeted



again saying someone told him the correct meaning of the word. The other error was the word bestselling, which is either one word or hyphenated however Mr Trump made it two words which made his self-praising not only questionable but also laughable. Donald Trump Trolled For His Tweet On His Writing Skills.

Donald Trump's spelling mistakes in tweets have been quite regular, often leading to widespread confusion and trolling of the President. Last year, Mr Trump made it two words which made his self-praising not only questionable but also laughable. Donald Trump Trolled For His Tweet On His Writing Skills.

Thousands Sign Petition To Save Hindu School From Closure In London

(G.N.S) LONDON Thousands of people have signed a petition to prevent the closure of one of the UK's largest independent Hindu faith schools, the Swaminarayan School in London. The Akshar Educational Trust, which runs the school set up in 1992, had announced its closure last month as part of plans to exit the education sector completely by July 2020. Parents of students associated with the school have now organised a campaign to save the "school of excellence" from



closure. "In a letter to parents, a spokesperson for the school blamed 'increasing regulatory requirements, difficulties in recruit-

ment and retention of teachers, ready availability of free state-funded Hindu schools, and declining pupil numbers' for the

move. This is simply not true," notes the Change.org petition, which has attracted nearly 3,500 signatures since last week. "Sensitivity analysis of accounts by experts suggests that with restructuring it is possible for school to run for the foreseeable future," it notes. The parents, who have coordinated into a save-the-school campaign, say that many Indian-origin families have moved, relocated and changed their way of life to enable their children to get an education within the ethos and culture of Hinduism at the respected Swaminarayan School in Neasden, north-west London. "Parents are more than happy to consider taking over the running of the school by appointing new teams who will give due consideration to the communities and families that are being disrupted by this announcement," the parents said in a statement. The

Bhartiya Janata Yuva Morcha leader, Atul Lokhande shoots self to 'prove' love for woman

(G.N.S) Bhopal The incident occurred last night when Bharatiya Janta Yuva Morcha leader, 30 year old, Atul Lokhande went to meet the 27-year-old woman's father at their home. After a heated ar-

gument between the two, Lokhande came out and shot himself in the temple. he was rushed to a nearby hospital where his condition said to be critical. Confirming the incident, Bhopal SP South, Rahul Lodha

said that seriously injured man is undergoing treatment in the hospital. Police has registered a case regarding this incident and further investigation is on. The BJYM leader post on facebook says "I won't be able to live with-

out you, therefore, I am going." Lokhande further said: "Many people fall in love, but no one love you like I do... I can't forget you... Truth is that I don't want to forget you... Because you are mine. I will love you forever... Till I

die and even after that... All lovers give their heart, but only I will give my life." He also posted nearly 40 photos of himself with the woman and claimed that they were in relationship for the last 13 years and had even got married. "