

The Jazzbaat

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'MUSLIMS OFFERING NAMAZ ON STREETS USELESS ISSUE: CHIRAG

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Patna: Union Food Processing Industries Minister and BJP ally Chirag Paswan called Muslims offering namaz on the streets a useless issue, saying that people have been offering namaz on the streets for years.

Speaking to the media, Paswan categorically termed the subject as "meaningless and irrelevant". He said that there are several other major issues that need to be discussed.

"Any discussion on such an irrelevant topic unleashes an atmosphere of tension in society, distracting from more significant national concerns," he said.

Regarding his prominent and major alliance



suggested refraining from making any comment on issues related to religious beliefs.

"If any religious organisation or political parties avoid patronizing each other, the leaders and parties would stop intervening in the religious issues. It will solve 90 percent of the problems that precipitate when the religious disputes are unnecessarily fuelled, creating rifts within the communities and people," he added.

As it is, namaz on the streets and other public places has emerged as a key political issue over the past few years. One section was against practicing religious customs in public places, while the other pleaded that it should not be made an issue unless it created inconvenience to anyone.

partner BJP, taking up this issue, Paswan said that religious issues are a matter of personal belief and the religious values of everyone should be respected.

Referring to the old traditions of the country, Paswan said that following religious beliefs, people were living peacefully and under harmonious

situations, and the issues, either regarding offering Namaz at any place or whether the shops would remain open or closed on the occasion of Navratri, were not required to be discussed anymore.

Branding any such move as politically motivated, the LJP leader said that such an attitude would divide society and

Do not let Jungle Raj return in Bihar: Amit Shah

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Gopalganj/Patna: Union Home Minister and senior BJP leader Amit Shah on Sunday said that Bihar should not allow the return of "Jungle Raj" in the state and vote for formation of the NDA government again in the assembly elections later this year.

Addressing a rally organised by his party here, Shah said people of Bihar had not forgotten the "Jungle Raj" during the RJD regime for 15 long years.

He further asked them not to allow the return of that era and instead ensure the NDA government retained power in the October-November polls.

"RJD regime was marred by a series of scams including flood relief scam, coal tar scam and fodder scam", the BJP stalwart said, mentioning that incidents of loot, kidnapping, murder and crimes were the order

of the day during the RJD regime.

RJD chief Lalu Prasad had no concern for the people of Bihar and he remained engaged only in settling his own family members including wife, sons and daughters, he said.

"Both sons of Lalu were Ministers in Bihar and now they are MLAs, wife Rabri Devi was Chief Minister of Bihar, a daughter is Rajya Sabha MP while another daughter had contested Lok Sabha elections last year", Shah said.

Continuing his attack on Lalu, he said the RJD supremo was himself a Minister in the Sonia-Manmohan government but did nothing for Bihar. Only 2.80 lakh crore was given by the Centre to Bihar when Lalu was Minister in the Sonia-Manmohan Singh government which was in power for ten years, he pointed out.

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi was voted to power in the 2014 Lok

Sabha elections, his government had given Rs 9.23 lakh crores to Bihar in ten years since 2014, he stated.

The former BJP chief said the RJD regime in Bihar was also infamous for incidents of booth capturing by its leaders. Complete "Jungle Raj" had prevailed as there was no freedom for the people to cast their votes freely and fearlessly, he added.

Shah said Lalu used to say, "What is IT YT" making a mockery of changes taking place in science and technology. Lalu also used to ridicule, whether computers could give milk, he recalled.

Earlier addressing a function organised by the cooperative department in Patna to launch several government schemes, Shah said, "During the RJD regime, all sugar mills were closed down due to mismanagement and corruption."

He said a closed sugar mill was re-opened and it started functioning prop-

erly after intervention and support from Narendra Modi government. If NDA was voted to power again after next Bihar Assembly elections, the Narendra Modi government would ensure opening of many other sugar mills in the state, he added.

Shah said Bihar was number one in the production of mushroom, makhana and litchi. Bihar stood second in the cultivation of maize which would get a further boost with fresh assistance of the Centre, he stressed.

The powerful minister said Bihar had a share of more than 30 percent in sugar production of the country which got reduced to less than 6 percent due to corruption and mismanagement of RJD regime.

The Modi government was providing all assistance to Bihar to tap its vast agriculture potential and increase the agro produce benefiting farmers of the state, he added.

PM Modi gives ode to RSS, said Sangh ideals saved Indian culture



THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Nagpur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday credited the Bhakti movement and ideals of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) for the protection of Indian culture despite many foreign invasions.

Speaking after performing the 'bhoomi puja' of the Madhav Netralaya of the Sangh Parivar here, he said that India was under foreign invasion for hundreds of years.

"Many cruel invaders tried to shake the civilisation and culture of the country, but no one could shake the basic sense of Indianness. But many movements worked in the country to protect the Indian culture and keep its flame alive," he added.

He further said that during the time, the Bhakti movement played a big role, with the Bhakti Andolan working to keep people's sentiments alive

forever. The Prime Minister further said after the foreign invasions, Swami Vivekananda awakened the youth to a sense of nationalism.

Dr Keshav Hedgegar founded the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh in the country when the Indian freedom movement was gaining momentum, he recalled and said that the seed planted by Dr Hedgegar and Guruji a hundred years ago has turned into a banyan tree today.

While highlighting the works of RSS, Modi pointed out how the Sangh has worked to protect the country and society as well as in preserving Indian culture since its inception.

The Sangh's principles and ideals work to strengthen the original spirit of our country, he said, adding that the Sangh is not only a banyan tree but also an evergreen tree of Indian culture.

Govt extends AFSPA to entire Manipur, excludes 13 police stations

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

New Delhi: The Central Government on Sunday extended Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) to entire state of Manipur, except 13 police stations of five districts, for six months with effect from April 1.

The government also extended AFSPA to eight districts of Nagaland and three districts of Arunachal Pradesh for six more months with effect from April 1.

A Gazette notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) dated March 30, said, "After review of the law and order situation in Manipur, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3 of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, declares

the entire state of Manipur, excluding the areas falling under the jurisdiction of the 13 police stations of the five districts, as 'disturbed area' for a period of six months with effect from April one, unless withdrawn earlier."

The eight districts of Nagaland, where AFSPA has been extended are Dimapur, Nuland, Chumoukedima, Mon, Kiphire, Noklak, Phek and Peren.

Meanwhile, the three districts of Arunachal Pradesh where AFSPA has been extended are Tirap, Changlang and Longding.

The MHA also declared the areas falling within the jurisdictions of Namsai, Mahadevpur and Chowkham police stations in Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh bordering Assam as 'disturbed area'.

عيد مبارك

KHYBER CEMENT
Dil se banao

+91 1943501600

info@khybercement.com

www.khybercement.com

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বাংলা

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উজ্জ্বল হোক ঈদের দিন!

ঈদ মোবারক!

PM Modi Pays Tribute to RSS Founder Keshav Baliram Hedgewar in Nagpur

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

March 30, 2025: PM Modi's Nagpur Visit: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday reached Nagpur, Maharashtra, where he paid floral tributes to RSS founder Keshav Baliram Hedgewar at Smruti Mandir in Reshimbagh.

Along with him, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, and other leaders also paid their tributes. Mohan Bhagwat also offered his respects.

PM Modi arrived at Nagpur approximately at 9 am and was received at the airport by Nitin Gadkari, Devendra Fadnavis, and other cabinet members of the Maharashtra government. RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat had arrived at Smruti Mandir prior to PM Modi. The Prime Minister also plans to visit Deekshabhoomi, the loca-



tion where Ambedkar embraced Buddhism along with thousands of his supporters in 1956, to pay his respects to Babasaheb Ambedkar.

Following a visit to Smruti Mandir, PM Modi will proceed to Deekshabhoomi. At around 10 am, he will lay the foundation stone for the Madhav Netralaya

Premium Centre in Nagpur and address a public meeting.

Subsequently, at around 12:30 pm, he will inaugurate the Loitering Munition Testing Range and the UAV runway facility at Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited in Nagpur.

The PMO states, "Prime Minister Modi will perform the foundation

laying ceremony of the Madhav Netralaya Premium Centre, an extension of the Madhav Netralaya Eye Institute & Research Centre, a premium super-specialty eye care hospital set up in 2014 at Nagpur."

As part of his visit, the Prime Minister will also visit the ammunition plant at Solar Defence and Aerospace Limited to inaugurate a new 1250-meter-long and 25-meter-wide airstrip for Unarmed Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and a testing ground for live munition for Loitering Munitions and other guided weapons. Prime Minister Modi will proceed later today to Chhattisgarh in order to inaugurate a number of development projects. "In Chhattisgarh, Prime Minister Modi will lay the foundation, initiate the work, and dedicate various development initiatives in power, oil and gas, railways, roads, education, and housing sectors worth over Rs 33,700 crore in Bilaspur," the statement read.

Blast at Beed Mosque Triggered by Gelatin Sticks; No Casualties, Two Arrested

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

A blast due to gelatin sticks rattled a mosque in Beed district, Maharashtra, early yesterday morning. Luckily, no injuries were reported, but the blast damaged the interior of the mosque, police officials said.

The incident took place at around 2:30 am in the village of Ardha Masla, falling under Georai tehsil. Preliminary investigations show that a person entered the mosque from the rear and planted the gelatin sticks, which detonated.

Following the explosion, the head of the village immediately alerted the Talawada police at around 4 am, which resulted in an immediate police response. Heavy security was deployed in the region to prevent any escalation of tensions within the village. Two individuals involved in the incident have been arrested by the authorities.



Police (SP) Navneet Kanwat said that a case has been registered against the suspects. "We are investigating the incident thoroughly. We will take strict legal action against the culprits," he said.

Senior officials, including SP Kanwat, rushed to the spot when the police heard about the blast. A Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) and a forensic team were also dispatched to probe and collect crucial evidence. The blast resulted in significant destruction to the interior of the mosque, but fortunately, no injuries were reported. Authorities requested the public to remain calm and not spread rumors that would lead to destabilization.

SP Kanwat also appealed to the people to assist the police in maintaining peace and order, stating, "We are asking everyone to cooperate with us to maintain harmony. Any move to destroy this through misinformation will be dealt with in accordance with the law."

The police are also pursuing the matter and attempting to establish what could have led to the incident. They are interviewing those arrested in an attempt to know how they relate and whether or not there is a grand design at play. Security in the area has also been boosted, with additional officers stationed at key points to prevent further issues from occurring, as reported.

Nagpur Welcomes Marathi New Year with Joyous Gudi Padwa Celebrations

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Gudi Padwa, the Marathi New Year, has commenced in Nagpur on March 30, 2025. The vibrant festival initiates the Hindu lunisolar calendar and is celebrated far and wide in Maharashtra and parts of Goa, Karnataka, and Kerala.

Gudi Padwa, literally "Gudi" (victory flag) and "Padwa" (first day of the lunar fortnight), signifies new beginnings, prosperity, and the victory of good over evil. On this auspicious day, individuals in Nagpur get up early, perform a ritual bath, and dress in new clothes, women typically in traditional Maharashtrian sarees and men in kurta-pajamas and turbans.

houses are adorned with the Gudis, which are colorful cloth-colored flags of



green or yellow color tied to a bamboo stick. These consist of flowers, mango leaves, and on top of the arrangement there is a pot, which signifies prosperity. This Gudi is displayed openly near houses or in windows to proclaim good fortune.

The festivities of Nagpur include cultural activities with traditional music and dance like Lezim and Dandiya Raas.

The festival is commemorated with specific foods like Puran Poli, Shrikhand, and Neem Pachadi. The festival not only marks the arrival of spring but also cele-

brates the rabi harvest seasons. As family and friends gather to celebrate Gudi Padwa, messages of love, happiness, and prosperity are sent.

The festival serves as a reminder of Maharashtra's rich cultural background and encourages people to unite through collective celebrations. The current year's Gudi Padwa celebrations are particularly special as they occur on the same date as some of the biggest Hindu festivals like Ugadi and Chaitra Navratri, which further augment the festive atmosphere across the region.

PM Modi Highlights Textile Waste Crisis, Praises Recycling Initiatives : Mann ki Baat

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted the 120th installment of his radio program, Mann ki Baat, on Sunday. He wished all people well for the Navratri and Gudi Padwa celebrations. He also launched a new calendar named "MY-Bharat" that would assist students in utilizing their summer vacation to the fullest.

"Despite our festivals being celebrated across various places in the country, they strengthen the oneness amidst India's diversity. We have to keep building this spirit of unity as we go ahead," he said.

Addressing students who were going to start a new school session heading

into summer breaks, PM Modi asked them to remain productive.

"I urge children and parents to post their holiday experiences using #HolidayMemories," he said.

"I also want to speak about the special MY-Bharat calendar for this summer break. I am looking forward to sharing some interesting activities incorporated in this calendar," he continued. Some important quotes from the program are below:

"Today is the Pratipada date of the Shukla Paksha of the month of Chaitra. Chaitra Navratri starts today, and today also the Indian New Year begins. There will be many festivities in the country from April 13 to 15, so this month is a festival-filled month. I wish all of you a very warm

happy Navratri." "Dear young friends, I would like to give you information about the MY-Bharat calendar prepared for your summer break. It has some special opportunities. Through the study tour of MY-Bharat, you can gain knowledge about how our 'Jan Aushadhi Kendras' work. You can also get a taste of life in border villages by joining the active village campaign." Our classical games are getting to be a major aspect of contemporary popular culture these days. You may already know of the famous rapper Hanumankind. His new song, "Run It Up," is making waves. It has our classic Martial Arts such as Kalaripayadu, Gatka, and Thang-Ta. India ranks third in the world for generating the most textile waste, which

presents a significant challenge for us. However, I'm glad to see that many great initiatives are being launched in our country to tackle this issue. Numerous Indian start-ups are focusing on textile recovery, and there are teams dedicated to supporting our brothers and sisters who work as waste pickers. By conserving raindrops, we can ensure that a tremendous amount of water is not lost. In recent years, water conservation has improved dramatically in a large number of areas of the country as part of this drive. Interesting fact: in the last 7-8 years, we have conserved more than 11 billion cubic meters of water through the installation of new tanks, ponds, and other water recharging systems. An

amazing event in Delhi has actually inspired people and made them energetic. The Fit India Carnival was organized for the first time as an innovative concept, and about 25,000 individuals from different regions participated. They all had the same intention: to remain healthy and spread awareness of fitness. Just the other day, at the Khelo India Para Games, the sports persons stunned everyone with their dedication and abilities. Here, more sportspersons participated than ever before, demonstrating the popularity Para Sports is gaining. I wish to congratulate all the sportspersons who had participated in the Khelo India Para Games for their extraordinary efforts.

16-Year-Old Dies After Being Hit by Vehicle in Sempora, Srinagar

Danishwar Hameed
THE JAZZBAAT

Srinagar, Mar 30: A 16-year-old boy tragically lost his life after being hit by a vehicle in the Sempora area of Srinagar on late Saturday night.

According to an official, the incident involved a scooty rider, Faizan Ahmad Nanda, aged 16, who was riding a scooty with registration number JK-



01BA-4312.

He was a resident of Zaffron Colony, Pantha Chowk. The boy

was critically injured when struck by the vehicle at Sempora.

He was rushed to SMHS hospital for immediate medical attention, but despite efforts to save him, Faizan succumbed to his injuries at the hospital. Faizan is the son of Mohd Rafiq Nanda from Zaffron Colony, Srinagar.

Authorities have taken cognizance of the incident, and an investigation is underway.

J&K to Increase E-Bus Fares by 7% Starting April 1

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Jammu: Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) has announced that the bus fares will be increased by 7% from April 1, 2025. The hike is imperative to meet growing operational expenses and maintain smooth public transport operations. The new fare structures will hit bus routes all around Jammu city and the surrounding areas such as Kathua, Jatra, and Udhampur. JSCL clarified that the fare hike comes after directives from the Finance Department and takes into account the latest costs of operating the buses but maintains high-standard service. In addition to this, under the Chief Minister's agenda, JSCL is also implementing the provision of free travel for women on eBuses. The department said additional information and details regarding



the scheme will be revealed shortly, based on a Ziraat Times statement. JSCL underscored its commitment to offering comfortable, affordable, and reliable public transportation for residents and travelers alike in the region. The revised fares are meant to ensure quality of service while at the same time supporting the financial well-being of public transport services.

Morning Aarti at Jhandewalan Temple Marks Start of Chaitra Navratri Festival in Delhi

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

New Delhi [India], March 30: The Chaitra Navratri festival began on Sunday with a morning aarti at the popular Jhandewalan Temple, where Goddess Durga was worshipped as Mata Shailputri on the first day. Neetu, a devotee who attended the morning aarti at the temple, said she reached at 4 am and had a great darshan. "We reached at 4 am for the aarti. It was a very good 'Darshan'. May Goddess bless everyone," she said.

Jhandewalan Temple priest Ambika Prasad Pant clarified that Goddess Durga is revered in her incarnation as Shailputri on the first day of Chaitra Navratri. "Today is the first day of Chaitra Navratri. Goddess Durga is revered as Shailputri today. She is referred to as Shailputri because she is believed to be the daughter of the Himalayas," he said. Ravindra Goel, one of the trustees of the Jhandewalan Temple, wished people on Navratri and Hindu New Year, ensuring arrangements had been made for a comfortable darshan experience. "Happy Navratri and new year

to all! Several devotees come to the Jhandewalan Temple during the Navratri festival. We have arranged different facilities so that everyone can have a good darshan here," he said. Navratri, which literally means 'nine nights' in Sanskrit, is a period that is spent worshipping Goddess Durga and her nine incarnations, referred to as Navdurga. Hindus celebrate four Navratris a year, but just two of them—Chaitra Navratri and Shardiya Navratri—are popular, since they fall around seasonal transitions. Navratri is celebrated differently and in many different traditions in India.

This nine-day celebration, also known as Ram Navratri, concludes on Ram Navami, which is the birthday of Lord Ram. All nine days are spent worshipping the nine avatars of goddess 'Shakti.' The festival is celebrated with utmost devotion throughout India, with rituals and prayers honoring the goddess in her different forms. Akashvani's Aradhana YouTube Channel will present a series of special programs from March 30 to April 6 in celebration of Navratri. To commemorate the significance of every day, the channel will broadcast

a specially chosen series from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. In addition, Shakti Aradhana will be telecast daily from 8:30 AM to 8:40 AM, providing the audience with lovely spiritual performances, according to a release by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. One of the main attractions during the celebrations will be Navratri Bhajans sung by renowned singers such as Anup Jalota, Narinder Chanchal, Jagjit Singh, Hari Om Sharan, Mahendra Kapoor, and Anuradha Paudwal. The songs will be aired daily between 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. In addition, "Devi Maa Ke Anek Swaroop," a special show featuring motivating stories associated with Navratri, will be broadcast every day from 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM. The channel will also focus on different Shakti Peeths in the nation, providing listeners with a closer insight into the divine sites dedicated to Goddess Durga, as per the release. The Navratri celebrations will be wrapped up with a massive live show on Ram Jannotsav, directed from Shri Ram Jannabhoomi Mandir in Ayodhya. This unique show will telecast on April 6 from 11:45 AM to 12:15 PM so that viewers across the country can participate in the sacred celebrations.

Mother dies after hearing son suffer heart attack, son dies in Srinagar hospital



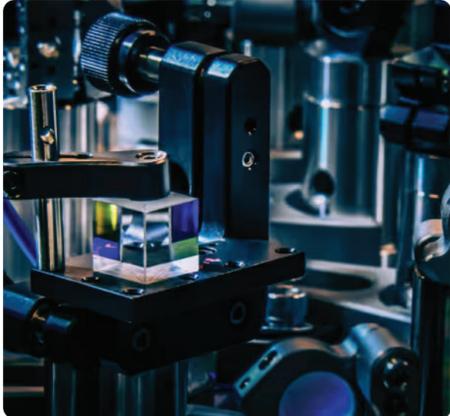
Danishwar Hameed
THE JAZZBAAT

In a heart-wrenching incident, a mother and her son died within hours of each other in Kulangam, Handwara, leaving the entire area in shock. According to reports, 27-year-old Mushtaq Ahmad Wani suffered a sudden heart attack while at the market. He was immediately rushed to the hospital for treatment. Upon hearing the distressing news of her son's condition, his mother, Mala Begum, collapsed on the

spot and died instantly. Mushtaq was later referred to a hospital in Srinagar for advanced treatment, but despite efforts, doctors declared him dead due to cardiac arrest. The grief-stricken family and residents bid farewell to the mother and son in separate funerals—Mala Begum was laid to rest at 1 PM, while Mushtaq's funeral took place at 4 PM. Tragically, this incident comes just a month after the death of Mushtaq's father, further deepening the sorrow of the bereaved family.

“Eid al-Fitr—
a celebration of faith,
joy, and togetherness.”

Honeywell to Take Quantinuum Public



Honeywell International has announced plans to take its quantum computing subsidiary, Quantinuum, public by late 2026 or early 2027. The move will depend on market conditions, but the company aims for a valuation of around \$10 billion. Quantinuum was formed in 2021 from the merger of Honeywell Quantum Solutions and Cambridge Quantum. It has since made significant advancements in quantum computing, including breakthroughs in random number generation, which experts believe could surpass classical computing capabilities. Honeywell currently holds a 52% stake in Quantinuum and recently raised \$300 million in funding, valuing the company at \$5

billion before the raise. The company plans to launch a 100-qubit system by 2027, a major milestone in quantum computing development. Despite the uncertainties surrounding the quantum sector, Quantinuum's innovations position it as a strong player in the industry. If successful, its public offering could mark a major shift in the commercialization of quantum computing, attracting more investors and accelerating technological progress. With increasing global interest in quantum technology, Honeywell's decision could signal a new era where quantum computing becomes a mainstream commercial reality, impacting industries like cybersecurity, pharmaceuticals, and artificial intelligence.

The Digital Shift: Online Shopping Takes a Toll on Kashmir's Eid Markets



Himanshu Sharma

The advent of e-shopping has brought a new simplicity and convenience that is transforming the consumption patterns of consumers towards buying commodities and services. Today, with a mere click of the mouse, the customers can surf through the whole range of products, compare prices, and get the products delivered at the doorstep. Even as beneficial to customers as this transition has been, it has brought catastrophic ruin to the bottom lines of store owners, particularly the small ones. Its impact on them has been phenomenal, a mixed bag of hope and peril. There are numerous reasons why online shopping is preferred so. Its convenience can't be surpassed; shoppers no longer need to haunt shops or plan work to store time. Web sites on the web provide a vast selection of products, frequently cheaper, and value-added such as reductions, points, and delivery free. Technology has been what has made it possible, payment protection, live streaming, and personal recommendations making the shopping as efficient and trustworthy as possible. Apart from this, e-commerce also enhances the global component, so foreign products can be bought that are not possible to be shipped by any individual employed at the neighborhood stores. The outright expense incurred for such ease of availability by owners of retail stores is most evident. It is perhaps most evident with

fewer visits to retail stores.

As increasingly more individuals do their shopping over the internet, the majority of store owners have discovered that they are making less and fewer consumers. This is a trend which is mostly being experienced by youth who prefer the convenience and comfort of purchasing items over the web to the personalized experience of purchasing items in person. Its effect on their revenues is ginormous, especially those which are relying on the locals. The cutthroat competition of the large web players is not healthy for the owners of the small stores either. The large sites are able to sell their merchandise at pennies because they purchase in bulk and have enormous advertising budgets. The small stores cannot do that on the backs of their already thin profit margins. Secondly, as buying and selling online is that easy to compare prices online, it is one such sector where offline stores don't get any competition. Maintaining an offline store also has its own drawbacks.

Rent, electricity bill, and wages of the employees can sap the profit of a shopkeeper to a great extent. Placing it online is a good thought, but there's trouble there too. Dollars to stay alive on the net come in the form of tech dollars and a monthly fee for keeping the site operational, promoting it, and sending stuff. It takes getting enormous for people who are totally unaware of the electronics game, however. Doom and gloom isn't the province of antique shopkeepers in the world of the net, either. Scams on how to make money on net buying have been conceived by others. With an online presence, they are able to extend beyond their local geographical location. This further exposure can translate into other income streams and scales of clients. Web portals give us useful information about what exactly consumers actually do. They understand what their customers prefer, how their customers shop, and what is trending in the marketplace so they can make better decisions on what to stock, how much to charge, and what offers to create. It makes products more personalized so that they're competitive within a very competitive market.

Others survived by existing alongside a mix of physical stores and online shopping. They are hence placed in a position to cater to both the offline consumers and the online con-



sumers, making money from multiple sources. For instance, social media is used heavily for promoting products, engaging with customers, and driving people to their stores, whether offline or online. These activities help facilitate the merging of new and old business models as a support system to people willing to adapt. Specialty markets are another path to success. Rather than competing with behemoth virtual shopping malls, retailers can specialize as special or unique. Locally produced products, made-to-order products, and made-to-order services are something that can be niched into by traditional stores for those customers who prefer quality and one-of-a-kind rather than quantity and reproducibility. By establishing their difference, shopkeepers can differentiate and gain customer loyalty. Partnership and neighborhood support truly become the secret to shop owners during this time. Neighborhoods can organize and with each other to share information, coordinate specials, and develop a common identity that resonates with their neighborhood. Fairs, markets, and cooperative promotions, besides attracting clients, foster community in the neighborhood commercial environment. Apart from this, government and corporate sectors also need to help shopkeepers by providing them with infrastruc-

ture and training to shift their business to the online space. Government incentives to enhance digital literacy, money for technological upgradation, and protection against exploitative operations by big e-commerce companies can place them on an equal footing. If they address these more fundamental issues, then they can ensure benefits accrue to all from the digital economy. Finally, the ultimate gain of store owners during the age of internet shopping is one of survival and adjustment. There are challenges, of course, but they can be beaten. The key is to survive by adjusting wisely to transformation, embracing technology, and learning new ways of coping with consumers. Store owners who are able to adjust will have a good shot at success in the new world, while those who cling to the past will be rendered useless. The computer's age changed the world of retailing, rewriting the manner in which human beings shop and developing the new business function as it is known today.

Little but grand hope for storekeepers in the future. By clinging to their heritage in the guise of some synthesis of more recent thinking, they may survive, but thrive as well, in the age of e-commerce. A quantum leap of boldness, vision, and coalition, but its payoff is colossus-sized for anyone who has the courage to risk it.

Veolia Accused of Polluting Colombian Wetlands



A landfill operated by the French company Veolia is under scrutiny for allegedly polluting Colombia's San Silvestre wetlands. Since 2019, the landfill, located in an environmentally protected area, has been accused of dumping toxic leachate into local water sources, leading to environmental and health crises. Residents and environmental organizations claim that pollution from the landfill has resulted in mass fish deaths, foul-smelling water, and severe health problems, including skin conditions and birth defects. The contamination threatens both biodiversity and the livelihoods of people who depend on the wetland's resources. Veolia, a multinational waste management company, denies re-

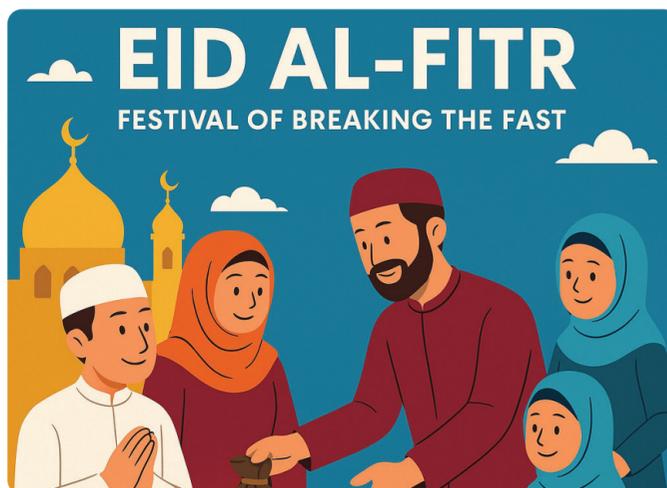
sponsibility, arguing that the pollution originates from other sources. However, environmental groups, including San Silvestre Green and Source International, have provided evidence linking the landfill's operations to the ecological damage. The case highlights concerns about corporate accountability in waste management and the enforcement of environmental laws in Colombia. As protests grow, activists are urging the government to take stronger action to protect natural ecosystems and hold polluters accountable. The San Silvestre case serves as a warning about the impact of poor waste management and the urgent need for sustainable solutions that balance economic activities with environmental protection.

Eid and Charity:

Spreading Joy Beyond Giving

Rakshita Singhal

Eid al-Fitr, also known as the “Festival of Breaking the Fast,” is perhaps one of the greatest festivals on the Islamic calendar. It celebrates the conclusion of Ramadan, the divine month of fasting, praying, and remembrance. Though Eid is a festival of celebration, feasting, and coming together with individuals, its purpose goes far beyond these celebrations. At its essence is the ethic of charity, articulated in the practice of Zakat al-Fitr, which values compassion, generosity, and social responsibility. Charity is an integral element of Islamic philosophy based on the morality of kindness and public welfare. Muslims undertake self-restraint and contemplation during Ramadan by fasting from sunrise to sunset to become closer to Allah and empathetic towards the suffering of the poor. This spiritual sojourn ends in Eid al-Fitr, a holiday focused on thankfulness for Allah's favors and devotion to sharing them with others. Zakat al-Fitr, or “charity breaking the fast,” is a compulsory act that must be performed by every Muslim prior to the Eid prayer. It also fulfills two functions: to cleanse one's fast of any deficiency in Ramadan and to allow even the poor to participate in the pleasure of Eid. It is also an internal reflection of social justice, reminding the believers that pleasure comes from bringing joy to others. This Zakat al-Fitr is an old tradition, which goes back to the days of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) when he included it in Eid al-Fitr. Given in the usual manner in the form of essential food items or its value, this charity helps no one to remain behind on special days. The head of each family is bound to donate on behalf of all dependents, including kids. The amount given is minor—typically a



day's food expenses—but the impact is profound. Through providing to others, Zakat al-Fitr creates a sense of unity and joy. It takes the Eid as a personal celebration and makes it communal so that all can rejoice together. While Zakat al-Fitr is obligatory, Muslims like to go beyond their hospitality to this on Eid. Muslims offer voluntary donations (sadaqah) during this time as the people want to gain from their good deeds as much as they can. Most of these contributions feed and clothe the poor families or sponsor school programs or collaborate in relief programs for disasters. Technology has also been a key factor in philanthropic donations the last few years during the Eid celebration. Mobile apps and online platforms have made it easy for people to donate to credible organizations or donate directly to needy people. The role played by technology has increased the coverage and effectiveness of charity activities, enabling Muslims

across the globe to play a positive role irrespective of distance. The focus on charity during Eid al-Fitr has social implications which transcend short-term needs. It not only serves to meet short-term needs but also gains long-term social integration through bringing together different economic classes. Giving gives rise to understanding and respect between individuals, fostering a sense of belonging that unites people. In addition, charitable work during Eid tends to inspire collective action. Mosques and community centers organize regular food drives, clothing giveaways, and fundraising efforts in the name of local and international causes. These activities unite the people for the sake of humanity, proclaiming compassion and solidarity, the pillars Islamic teachings revolve around. To most Muslims, engaging in good works during Eid is not just an obliga-

tion of theirs to carry out their religious mandate; it is a very individualistic activity that changes their mindset. By donating their blessings to others, they become humble and thankful and identify themselves as the trustees of Allah's wealth. This change-making element is not limited to material donations. Charity on Eid also includes non-material work like contributing time, providing emotional support to the needy, or just spreading joy through good words and deeds. These acts connect with an understanding that wealth is not measured in material terms but in the ability to make others happy and provide relief to them as well. Charity's role within Eid celebrations is one of timeless importance not merely for Muslims worldwide but for mankind as a whole. In an increasingly divided globe by inequality and conflict, lessons in humanity can be learned well from the ethos contained within Zakat al-Fitr. Lessons are taught of prosperity coming from more than the self but rather from raising all and building connections for collective success. As we mark Eid al-Fitr in 2025 in these continuing world battles of economic imbalances and crises of humanity, all these values become even more pronounced. Charity is a beacon of hope—a discovery that even minute donations can greatly change a person's life. Eid al-Fitr is more than a holiday; it is a celebration of religion, thanksgiving, and the goodness to which human beings aspire. Backed by this is the spirit of charity—a tradition that converts individual joy to collective welfare. Through Zakat al-Fitr and spontaneous acts of charity, Muslims reiterate their trust in social justice and liberality and bridge their people together. As we reflect on the role of charity in Eid festivities, let us adopt its eternal message: that happiness lies not in what we possess but in what we give to others. In adopting this, we fulfill the essence of Eid and help build a fairer and kinder world for everyone.

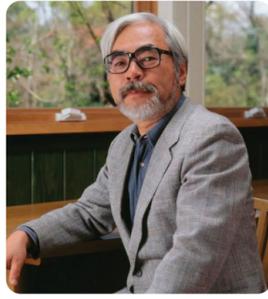
Everyone is looking for eight to eighty, the world is infected with Ghibli fever, why is this trend all over social media?

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

The whole world is now infected with a fever of a special animation film. When you open social media, everyone is now familiar with the same style of pictures, whose name is Ghibli. Everyone is looking for this Ghibli art. From pictures of Bollywood heroes and heroines to their own pictures, everyone is now obsessed with Ghibli. Any memorable moment or terrible event in the world, its Ghibli version appears on Facebook-Instagram or other social media. Even celebrities are swimming in the Ghibli trend. Where did Ghibli come from? Studio Ghibli is a Japanese animation company. It was born in Tokyo, Japan in 1985. It is founded by Hayao Miyazaki. All the animations of that studio are hand-painted with acrylic paints, keeping its own style. Just by looking at all those animations, you can understand that the film was made by Studio Ghibli. The popularity of that Japanese



animation gradually spread to the world. Later, the famous animation company Walt Disney joined it. In the last 38 years, Studio Ghibli has made 22 animated films. It has made 3 films for television. The interesting thing is that the reputation and demand for those films is also huge. The films made by this Ghibli studio have received awards like Oscar, Golden Bear, BAFTA, Golden Globe. Recently, 'The Boy and the Heron' won the title of the best animated film of 2024. Therefore, Studio Ghibli's popularity was already



there. Why is there this sudden craze about Ghibli? The reason behind the sudden start of this Ghibli trend across social media is the new feature of OpenAI's ChatGPT 4.0. If you give this AI any picture, it will start creating that picture in the Japanese Ghibli animation style within a short time. However, now, thanks to various AIs, the internet is flooded with Ghibli style pictures. Currently, sharing your own pictures in the Ghibli style is trending on social media.

You can also make Ghibli pictures. In addition to OpenAI, you can create Ghibli pictures from the Gemini AI platform and the Grock website. You can also create Ghibli pictures using third-party platforms like DeepAI, Crayon, and Playground AI. If you want to create Ghibli with ChatGPT, first open the ChatGPT website. Then, look for the plus sign and upload your picture from there. Then write Ghibli This or Turn This Image Into Studio Ghibli Theme. Then see that in a short time, your own Ghibli image has appeared on the screen very easily. Download it and use it as you wish. However, AI companies have lost sleep over this Ghibli craze of people. For example, Open AI CEO Sam Altman posted on social media and clearly wrote that the rush to create this AI-generated image has reached a level of madness. He asked everyone to calm down and wrote that his team needs some sleep. Because the Ghibli craze has made the employees lose sleep. Although he said that they have never received such a response before.

Cambodia to provide 100,000 USD in initial emergency aid to quake-devastated Myanmar

UNI

Phnom Penh, Mar 30 (UNI) Cambodian Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn said on Sunday that the kingdom would provide 100,000 US dollars in initial emergency assistance to earthquake-devastated Myanmar. Sokhonn, who is also a deputy prime minister, made the remarks during the Special Emergency Meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers in the Aftermath of the Earthquake in Myanmar held via videoconference. About 1,700 people died, 3,400 were injured, and 300 remained missing in the massive earthquake in Myanmar, according to the country's State Administration Council on Sunday. "We are working on the possibility to further contribute to the regional relief efforts, including through the



provision of medical and other essential supplies where appropriate," Sokhonn said. He added that Cambodia stood in full solidarity with other ASEAN member states to assist Myanmar and Thailand in the aftermath of Friday's earthquake. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Malaysia assumed the annually rotating ASEAN chairmanship in January.

message that Myanmar and Thailand are not facing this crisis alone," he said. "Given that many people are still trapped under collapsed buildings and are in need of medical assistance, we must continue to work swiftly to save as many lives as possible. Every minute counts," he said. The online meeting was initiated by Malaysian Foreign Minister Mohamad Hasan to discuss the assistance that ASEAN member states could provide to help Myanmar and Thailand in the aftermath of Friday's earthquake. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Malaysia assumed the annually rotating ASEAN chairmanship in January.

Virtual World, Ghibli Trend and My Changing You

Nabarun Majumdar
NEWS DESK

The whole world is now in a state of change. Everyone from eight to eighty is now infected with Ghibli fever. All over social media, only pictures of changes are being shared and shared everywhere. The little boy standing at the corner of the neighborhood is changing in an instant without telling anyone. The Kalpana woman next door, wearing a low-cut blouse and smeared with snow powder on her face, who is trying to hide her age and love, is also changing herself in this virtual world in an instant.

Sudeshna and the handsome young man Krishna, who have just fallen in love in college, are changing in an instant like magic. This change is really good. Amidst the sorrow, pain, anguish and jealousy of our lives, pictures of smiling faces are appearing on the Facebook screen. Actually, this is a very good thing happening all over the world. Trying to change yourself at this fast pace in the era of capitalism. Dreaming of socialism, the world is now running at a fast pace in line with the rhythm of capitalism. From Tokyo to Manhattan, from Germany to Great Britain, the whole world is now the open air of liberal econo-



my. What else is there to try to change yourself a little by applying light plaster on the wrinkles on your face while floating in the air. Well, what a change, this is the 21st century for you and me. We

have just started playing the game of changing ourselves in this virtual world anew. No, it seems that I have changed as much as I did in my adolescence and youth. While studying in that college, I fell in

love with an unknown girl with long eyes and dreamed of leaving home. I have changed as much as I did and forgotten the past, myself today. Being a member of that close-knit family, I have changed as much as I did and now live alone as I do. In my own world and in my own small world of seven hundred and fifty square feet. The one who lives hidden in the living, the one who lives by overcoming each other. The one who lives in this changing life has a lifeless life. The one who lives in the bright picture of living that is only shown to people. And the one who lives by immersing oneself in this virtual world.

And so, perhaps, living by immersing oneself in this virtual world. And so, perhaps, the changed person should examine himself a little. After all this time, I want to see what the picture of changing really looks like. The one who has changed, the one who has changed like the neighbor's Kalpana Bhabhi, Sudeshna and Krishna, and now discovering himself in a new form. This changing life and the love of life are truly extraordinary. The life that is now only affected by Ghibli fever. It is burning and becoming rotten. It is changing itself at a rapid rate. And standing in front of the AI's mirror, I am smiling faintly at that changed form.

BUSINESS

Govt to raise its stake in Vodafone Idea to 49 percent

UNI

New Delhi, Mar 30 (UNI) Having failed to pay up dues, the government has asked private telecom company Vodafone Idea (Vi) to issue shares worth Rs 36,950 crore which will result in government's stake going up to 48.99 percent from 22.60 percent now.

The promoters of Vi will, however, continue to have operational control on day-to-day operations of the telecom firm. The total amount to be converted into equity shares is Rs 36,950 crore. The company has been directed to issue 3,695 crore equity shares of the face value of Rs 10 each at an issue price of Rs 10 each within a period of 30 days after issuance of necessary order from relevant authorities, including from Securities and Exchange Board of India, Vi said in a regulatory filing with the stock exchanges. The pricing of shares to be allotted has been arrived basis the higher of the volume weighted price of equity shares during last 90 trading days preceding the Relevant Date or 10 days preceding the Relevant Date (the Relevant Date being February 26, 2025), subject to provision of Section 53 of the Companies Act, 2013 (that is shares cannot be issued at less than the par value). Post the aforesaid issuance of equity shares, the Government of India shareholding in the company will increase from the existing 22.60 percent to approximately 48.99 percent. The promoters



will continue to have operational control of the company. The company will take all necessary actions to undertake the aforesaid issuance, upon receipt of the requisite approvals. According to Vi, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) issued an order to this effect on Saturday as per Regulation 30 of the SEBI Listing Regulations. The DoT informed that the Ministry of Communications in line with the September 2021 Reforms and Support

Package for the Telecom Sector, has decided to convert the outstanding spectrum auction dues, including deferred dues repayable after the expiry of the moratorium period, into equity shares to be issued to the Government of India under Section 62(4) of the Companies Act, 2013. This was communicated to the company via an order dated March 29, 2025, received by the company today, that is March 30, 2025, the company said in the filing.

EY Report: India Projected to Grow at 6.5% in FY26

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

The Indian economy will expand by 6.5% in the financial year 2025-26, according to the just-released March 30, 2025 EY Economy Watch report. 6.4% growth for FY 2024-25 had been projected after the latest National Statistical Office data on revised national accounts. The report emphasizes the requirement of appropriately calibrated fiscal policy that encourages the development of human capital while maintaining fiscal prudence. It highlights that investment in the fields of health and education is critical to ensuring long-term sustained growth and overall improvement in human capital outcomes. For the achievement of these goals, the report says that India will need to increase general government expenditure on education and health to levels comparable with those of



high-income economies over time. In addition, the report indicates that it will require gigantic rises in private consumption and

investment expenditures, particularly in government capital expenditures, to realize the anticipated growth. As India is experiencing its eco-

nomical cycle, the focus on building infrastructure and human capital will be vital to realizing its potential as a rapidly emerging economy.

E-commerce platforms turn eye of Tripura's organic produces

UNI

Agartala, Mar 30 (UNI) The leading e-commerce platform for processed food manufacturing companies like Big Basket and Mother Dairy have begun procurement of organic agricultural produce from Tripura, said Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Ratan Lal Nath. Besides, National Cooperative Organics Ltd (NCOL), a national organisation for promoting the aggregation,

branding, and marketing of organic products, has also turned its eyes on Tripura and purchased organic products at a lucrative price. Addressing the opening ceremony of a newly licensed Farmers Producer Company (FPC), Nath said, "After the BJP came to power, as many as 40 FPCs were established in different parts of the state. These entities have exclusive rights for trading, storing and exporting goods directly from the farmers." Nath stated, "We have set a

target to bring around 5,000 hectares of land under natural farming, and for the first time, GI Tag for the state's Sobri Banana and Scented Lemon has been under process. If you use chemical fertilizers in the agricultural field, it will badly harm the future." Before 2018, only 2,000 hectares of land were used for organic cultivation, and from 2018 till now, around 20,160 hectares and 19,916 farmers are engaged in it, he pointed out, adding, "We are focusing

on increasing production, we must also stress natural and organic farming. We must keep the soil and land healthy by providing soil health cards, and now we are also stressing scientific agriculture." The Minister said that India is now self-sufficient in crops, milk, and fish but is facing a shortage of edible oil, which needs to be procured from outside the country and added, "Therefore, we are also stressing on cultivation of oil seeds, besides other crops."

Can a healthy diet help alleviate chronic pain?



Katharine Lang

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) affects around 5 million people around the world. It results in a number of gastrointestinal and other symptoms, which may be alleviated by medications and dietary changes.

Several studies have suggested that IBD may increase a person's risk of developing Parkinson's disease. Trusted Source, a neurodegenerative disorder. One meta-analysis of studies Trusted Source found that the risk of Parkinson's was 41% higher in people with IBD than in those without the condition.

Gut inflammation is common in both IBD and Parkinson's disease. And experts believe that one of the factors in this gut inflammation is dysbiosis, or disruption of the gut microbiome — the huge population of microorganisms that live in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract.

A new study analyzing the gut microbiomes of people with IBD and Parkinson's has found that they share several differences from the microbiomes of healthy people. Most noticeably, people with IBD or Parkinson's had greatly depleted numbers of bacteria that produce short-chain fatty acids — molecules that modulate the activity of the immune system.

The research, by scientists from the University of Florida, is published in *npj Parkinson's disease*. Trusted Source. The gut microbiome's role in IBD and Parkinson's

Michael S. Okun, MD, medical advisor at the Parkinson's Foundation and director at the Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases at UF Health, one

"This work highlights the importance of being able to pinpoint changes in the gut that might lead to Parkinson's and finding ways to intervene. The results also show the importance of research into diet and supplements for Parkinson's."

— **Katherine Fletcher**

of the study authors, told Medical News Today:

"This study identified potential unique features of the human Parkinson's and inflammatory bowel disease microbiome and also used the gut 'metagenomes' to shed light on what may be going on in the GI tract."

To identify whether the microbiome might help explain epidemiological links between the two diseases, they recruited 54 people with Parkinson's disease, 26 with IBD, and 16 healthy control individuals. All were ages between 40 and 80 years, although those with Parkinson's were, on average, older.

All study participants provided stool samples for analysis. The researchers identified the bacteria present in these stool samples using metagenomic- Trusted Source. For comparison, the



researchers also analyzed large open-access metagenomic datasets from 490 Parkinson's disease and 234 control samples.

Fewer short-chain fatty acid-producing bacteria in Parkinson's, IBD. In people with both Parkinson's disease and IBD, several prominent short-chain fatty acid-producing species were depleted. They also had reduced SCFA synthesis pathways.

Many of the depleted bacteria are producers of butyrate, a SCFA that is thought to provide protection against neurodegeneration. In previous work, some of the same researchers have shown that people with higher levels of butyrate in their stool have a later age of onset of Parkinson's, suggesting that it may help protect against the disease. Fletcher highlighted discovering the depletion of these bacteria may be important:

"SCFA-producing bacteria release factors that are anti-inflammatory, and gut inflammation is seen in both IBD and PD and is associated with an increased risk of PD. One of the factors that SCFA-bacteria produce is butyrate which

prevents epigenetic modification of the genes and this has been associated with neuroprotection in animal models of PD."

Gut dysbiosis may be a cause or consequence

Because this was an observational study, it cannot determine whether the alterations in the microbiomes of people with Parkinson's disease and IBD are causing the disease, or are a result of the conditions.

The researchers suggest that inflammation may result in a dysbiotic microbiome, which favours pathogenic microbes that are able to tolerate more extreme conditions. However, it is possible that the pathogenic bacteria cause the inflammation.

Possible treatment options for Parkinson's and IBD

Previous research has found that anti-TNF therapies, which are commonly used to combat inflammation in IBD, may reduce the risk of developing Parkinson's disease. However, while their study supported the role of inflammation as a risk factor, Okun urged caution:

"The data from this study should not become a rationale for clinicians to reflexively treat already diagnosed or at-risk folks with anti-TNF therapies. These drugs have risks, and although there may be future clinical trials, we are not there yet."

However, Fletcher highlighted research into the effects of the drugs in people with a similar condition:

"This hypothesis is already being tested clinically. People with a sleep disorder called REM sleep behavior disorder (RBD), who have a very high risk of developing PD within 10 years and also an altered gut microbiome similar to PD, are being tested with anti-TNF therapy to see whether it slows down or prevents their conversion from RBD to PD."

While Okun advised against the widespread use of pre- and probiotics as their effects may highly depend on a person's gut microbiome, Fletcher told us that a healthy diet could be helpful. She emphasized that the Mediterranean diet, which modifies gut bacteria in a beneficial way, is associated with a reduced risk of Parkinson's disease.

Could a low-calorie keto diet help reverse biological aging?



Erika Watts

Obesity affects more than 40% of adults. Trusted Source in the United States, and one of the health concerns related to obesity is how it affects different systems in the body.

When a person's body age is higher than their chronological age, this can put them at a higher risk of developing chronic diseases. It is also linked to a shorter lifespan.

The scientists who conducted the new study further explored obesity and epigenetic aging. Trusted Source.

They found that people with obesity who were on a very low-calorie ketogenic diet for 180 days had an epigenetic age of more than 6 years lower than when they started.

The study findings appear in *Nutrients*. Biological aging could shorten lifespan. Ketogenic diets, once primarily used by people with epilepsy to reduce seizures, are popular for weight loss. The thinking behind ketogenic diets Trusted Source is that by consuming a reduced amount of carbs — typically under 50 grams (g) of carbs per day — people can put their bodies into metabolic ketosis and shed fat more quickly.

This approach is somewhat controversial. Trusted Source since a food group is restricted, and some evidence suggests it may cause low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol to rise, which is linked to a higher risk of developing heart disease or having a stroke.

Obesity is linked to a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or higher, and it can accelerate biological aging by altering DNA methylation patterns, which are measured using epigenetic clocks.

When someone's biological age is higher than their chronological age, they are susceptible to premature aging. Trusted Source and a shorter lifespan. The researchers in the new study ex-

plored accelerated epigenetic aging, obesity, and whether a very low-calorie ketogenic diet could impact this aging measurement.

They tested this using Horvath, Hannum, and Levine age clocks in a cross-sectional cohort of two groups and in a longitudinal cohort:

- group one of the cross-sectional cohort consisted of 20 people at a normal weight
- group two of the cross-sectional cohort included 28 people with obesity
- the longitudinal cohort consisted of 10 people with obesity.

For the cross-sectional cohort, the researchers focused on determining biological age. With the longitudinal cohort, they put the group on a very low-calorie ketogenic diet for 180 days and took blood samples baseline, after 30 days on the very low-calorie ketogenic diet, and at the 180-day endpoint to assess biological age.

Very low-calorie ketogenic diet may scale back aging by 6 years

When comparing the normal weight and obesity weight age groups, the researchers found that people in the obesity group had higher biological age.

People with obesity had an accelerated epigenetic age of 4.4 years, while people in the normal-weight group exhibited a deceleration of 3.1 years.

While this discrepancy in aging between normal-weight and obesity groups was concerning, the researchers established with their longitudinal cohort that it is possible to reverse the aging process through nutritional choices.

When analyzing blood samples taken at 30 days on nutritional ketosis — when the body is thought to be in the process of burning fat — the participants had an age deceleration of 6.1 years.

At the 180-day endpoint, this participants sustained age deceleration, with an average age deceleration of 6.2 years. The researchers suspect that being in nutritional ketosis is responsible for decelerated aging.

They noted that levels of beta-hydroxybutyrate, a ketone body produced during ketosis, were linked to slower biological aging.

In addition to experiencing an age deceleration, people on the very low-calorie ketogenic diet saw improvements in glucose and insulin levels, which is significant since people with obesity are at a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

Overall, the scientists established that obesity and biological aging are connected and that it can potentially be reversed. The researchers noted that larger studies should be conducted to "reinforce and consolidate the role of ketone bodies in the epigenetic regulation of aging."



"Very low-calorie ketogenic diet involves severe calorie restriction (typically [under] 800 kcal/day [kilocalories per day]) and high fat intake, which may pose risks like nutrient deficiencies, electrolyte imbalances, or ketoacidosis if not properly monitored. The study does not report adverse events in detail, but long-term safety data are lacking, especially for vulnerable populations (e.g., elderly, those with kidney issues)."

Are there health or safety concerns with very low-calorie keto?

Mir Ali, MD, a board-certified general surgeon, bariatric surgeon, and medical director of MemorialCare Surgical Weight Loss Center at Orange Coast Medical Center in Fountain Valley, California, spoke with Medical News Today about the study.

"The key factors through which obesity affects aging is by inducing greater inflammation, oxidative stress, and mitochondrial dysfunction," Ali, who was not involved in this research, said when explaining how obesity can accelerate biological age.

"Stress and inflammation cause increased breakdown of critical cellular functions in the body, leading to accelerated aging," he continued.

As for the study results, Ali found them interesting but was not convinced that the very low-calorie ketogenic diet alone was responsible for the age deceleration.

"A very low-calorie ketogenic diet does show benefits, but any weight loss leading to a patient achieving a healthy weight has been shown to improve all medical conditions and prolong the life span; it is difficult to definitively conclude that the type of diet is indepen-

dent of the weight loss," noted Ali. Tiffany Marie Hendricks, MD, double-board certified in family and lifestyle medicine, also weighed in on the study for MNT.

Hendricks, who was not involved in the study, is affiliated with Full Health and Wellness in Athens, AL. She addressed the very low-calorie ketogenic diet from a clinical perspective. Hendricks had some concerns about the safety and sustainability of this approach.

"Translating very low-calorie ketogenic diet findings into clinical guidelines faces several challenges," she told us.

Lakme Fashion Week 2025: Kalki's Magic on the Ramp, A Touch of New Trends!

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Bollywood actress Kalki Kaechlin wowed the crowd with her stunning ramp walk on the fifth day of Lakme Fashion Week 2025. She brought a new touch of fashion trend by appearing as a showstopper at the 'Max Presents Sicilian Summer & Amalfi Escape' show. Her beauty, expression and spontaneous walking style gave a new dimension to the entire fashion week. Kalki wore a stunning white printed frock-style dress that perfectly suited her personality. Curled hair, gold pendants and bracelets made her look more attractive. Light yet glamorous makeup added extra glow to her beauty. Talking about the clothes for the show, Kalki said, "This collection is basically a reflection of Italian culture, holidays and free life. It gives a kind of travel feel, where there is a touch of sunny days and light breeze. The clothes are very comfortable, especially for the summer. Made of cotton and linen, this collection is perfect for any summer trip." Talking about Max's new venture, she added, "Max will present new looks every week, due to which the customers will find



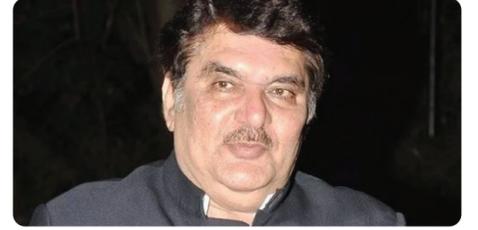
something new every time. It is really exciting, because fashion lovers are always looking for something new." Talking about the experience of walking the ramp, Kalki said, "It was a completely different kind of ramp walk. Normally, we walk in a linear path, but here we had the opportunity to walk using stairs as well as interact directly with the audience. It was a new experience for me and very enjoyable." Kalki also shared an interesting aspect of her personal life. She says with a sense of humor, "As a mother, choosing what to wear with a baby in her arms is

a challenge. Because whenever I hold a baby in my arms, there is a risk of something falling off. So the clothes have to be comfortable and flexible." Talking about Kalki's recent work in the acting world, she recently made her debut in the South film industry with her Tamil film 'Nesippaya'. She played the role of a lawyer in this romantic action thriller directed by Vishnuvardhan. The music of the film was composed by Yuvan Shankar Raja. It was released on 14 January 2025 and received a good response from the audience. Her last work in Bollywood was

'Kho Gaye Hum Kahan' released on Netflix. In this film directed by Arjun Barain Singh, she shared the screen with Siddhant Chaturvedi, Ananya Pandey and Adarsh Gaurav. The film, which focuses on the struggles of young people under the pressure of social media, was released in December 2023 and has received critical acclaim. Kalki has not announced any new projects at the moment, but her fans are eagerly waiting for her next work. This talented actress from Bollywood and the South industry is excited about her future journey.

Hilarious childhood memories of Raza Murad and an unusual love story

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK



Bollywood renowned actor Raza Murad has created a niche in the heart of cinema enthusiasts for his marvelous acting talent. The talented actor, who has worked in a series of successful movies, revealed some childhood memories and wedded life memories recently in an interview. Anyone can be surprised hearing a childhood amusing incident and choosing to get wedded. The first experience of love in childhood! Raza Murad remembered a funny childhood story and said, "I was only five years old. I liked a girl from our neighbor very much, I wanted to be friends with her. But perhaps she didn't take it well. One day when I went to visit her, she suddenly became angry and bit my nose! At once, blood began flowing, I cried hysterically. My family members came and nursed me. This was my first love affair in life, although it was quite hard!" The largest life decision

made on basis of superstition. The choice that Raza Murad makes with regards to marriage is also very unusual. In 1982, she married Shahrukh Murad, whom she had not met previously before marriage, even viewed his photograph! She replied, "I always dreamed of marrying early. I used to dream of marrying at the age of 25-26, but I could not find a life partner whom I liked. I saw lots of them, but all of them had some shortcomings. But I knew that I needed a life partner who would be kind to me. She also added, "My mother once told me, 'You have seen a lot of girls, but you have not liked any of them. Now I will get a girl for you.' She then went to Bhopal and found a girl

of my choice for me." When my mother returned, she told me, 'I have found a girl for you, you should meet her.' But I told her, 'No, mother, I have complete faith in your choice. You can't go wrong.' I had that much faith in my mother that I agreed to marry without even seeing any pictures.' A Happy and Love-filled Married Life Raza Murad and Shahrukh Murad are now happily married. Their family is now complete with the birth of their two children, daughter Ayesha and son Ali. Raza Murad's story demonstrates that when there is love and trust side by side, the relationship turns deep and long-lasting. This chapter of her life is indeed remarkable and inspiring.

Mythri Movie Makers announces new poster of 'Jai Hanuman' on Gudi Porba festival

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

On the eve of holy Gudi Porba festival, Mythri Movie Makers unveiled a new poster of their most awaited film 'Jai Hanuman'. With the release of this interesting poster, the eagerness of the film lovers has increased even further.



'Jai Hanuman' is an epic film, which involves the creativity of skilled artists and directors. Rishabh Shetty of the 'Kantara' household is playing the lead role, and it's being directed by Prasanth Varma, who has also earned huge gratitude in the past by directing 'Hanuman' film. Mythri Movie Makers, renowned for blockbuster movies such as 'Pushpa', are now bringing a new experience to the people.

Ever since the official announcement of the movie, the excitement among the fans has reached an all-time high. 'Jai Hanuman' is going to be the sequel of Prasanth Varma's world, which is being made on a grand scale. With the massive success of 'Hanuman', the new movie is all set to take it to an even bigger level. With state-of-the-art graphics, excellent story and artistic presentation, this film will provide the viewer with an experience that they will never forget. To be precise, by using the latest technology, a Hanuman will appear on screen, something that has never been seen before.

On the Gudi Padwa festival, Mythri Movie Makers has released a greeting message on their official social media, which states, 'Heartiest greetings to all of you on Gudi Padwa. On this holy day, may the boundless devotion of Lord Hanuman instill

courage, compassion and balance in our hearts.' The film is being produced by Naveen Yerneni and Y Ravi Shankar. They guarantee that 'Jai Hanuman' will open new paths for Indian epic cinema. It will be a new era with the combination of the film's story, the visual production and modern technology. This outstanding film will be out very soon, which will finally break the wait for the audience. With 'Jai Hanuman', Indian cinema is going to create another page, wherein an unusual aspect of divinity, devotion and extraordinary power will be showcased. The writing has been framed more precisely and written in complete Bengali language only excluding the Hindi words. If you want any further refinements or corrections, please inform me!

I'm here to stay as a designer, film producer: Manish Malhotra

THE JAZZBAAT
NEWS DESK

Lakme Fashion week with Manish Malhotra, sneakpeek:- "When I want to work on something, which has nothing to do with clothes, what could it be? In my case, it would be movies. So I'm here to stay as a producer, as a designer, and I will work hard to curate and create some interesting stories," Malhotra told PTI on the sidelines of the Lakme Fashion Week X FDCI. Malhotra said that his fascination with cinema began at the age of six and it continues till date. "It's been 35 years. So I've closely watched producers, directors, I've also been friends with a lot of directors. I'm very interested in the



screenplay. And so for me, films seem home," he added. On Sunday, Malhotra was in conversation

with actor and influencer Kusha Kapila as part of Meta Fashion Talks X Manish Malhotra organ-

ised parallelly to LFW X FDCI. The ace designer announced the launch of his production banner in September 2023 and its first project is the suspense drama "Saali Mohabbat", which marks the directorial debut of seasoned actor Tisca Chopra. "For me, it's my passion. It's not about profit or money-making, but it is as much as about backing the story, which many top producers won't probably do because maybe it's too intimate or it's small for them. "But for me, it's about the story that should be told. So I'm enjoying doing that, looking into and curating the entire film, whether it's costume, art, dialogues, casting, all of it. We are now working on our next three projects, and so it's an interesting journey," he added.

'Shogun' star Richard Chamberlain dies at 90

ANI



Washington [US], March 30 (ANI): Actor Richard Chamberlain, who was best known for his role in the 1960s TV show 'Dr. Kildare' hit miniseries, 'Shogun' and 'The Thorn Birds', has passed away at the age of 90, his publicist, Harlan Boll, confirmed the news to Variety.

Chamberlain died on March 29 in Waimanalo, Hawaii, due to complications from a stroke. Martin Rabbett, Chamberlain's longtime partner, shared a statement as per Variety.

"Our beloved Richard is with the angels now. He is free and soaring to those loved ones before us. How

blessed we were to have known such an amazing and loving soul. Love never dies. And our love is under his wings, lifting him to his next great adventure," read the statement. Chamberlain became popular for his role in 'Dr. Kildare', where he played a young doctor. The show made him a household name.

"The audience has really loved me...": Laapataa Ladies' actor Pratibha Ranta on her journey

ANI



Mumbai (Maharashtra) [India], March 30 (ANI): Actor Pratibha Ranta, who gained a lot of praise for her performance in the film 'Laapataa Ladies', says she feels grateful for the love she has received from the audience. The film, which was released last year, was a turning point in her career.

While speaking to ANI at the Lakme Fashion Week, the actress shared how much love and support she received from the audience in her very first movie. "The audience has loved me, and even today, if anyone is supporting me, it is my audience," she said.

The actor also shared that she believes, as an actor, if one is part of a strong story, it can help them carve their path in the industry. "I believe that at the end of the day, if you are part of a good story, you will find your way. Hardships exist in everyone's life," she added. Talking about Laapataa Ladies, she also expressed her gratitude toward director Kiran Rao, who trusted her despite her being a newcomer. "Laapataa Ladies has come as a blessing in my life. The opportunities I received after this film

are very important to me. If Laapataa Ladies hadn't happened, I don't think I would be here today. I am very grateful to Kiran ma'am for believing in me. When someone believes in a newcomer so much, it is the most beautiful and powerful thing," she added. She made an appearance at the Magnum Lounge at the Lakme Fashion Week in collaboration with

FDCI at Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. Directed by Kiran Rao and produced under the banners of Aamir Khan Productions, Kindling Pictures, and Jio Studios, Laapataa Ladies was released in theatres on March 1, 2024. It starred Nitanishi Goel, Pratibha Ranta, Sparsh Shrivastava, Ravi Kishan, and Chhaya Kadam. (ANI)

Prithviraj Sukumaran's mother Mallika speaks out in support of son amid 'Empuraan' controversy

ANI

Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala) [India], March 30 (ANI): Actor Prithviraj Sukumaran's mother, Mallika Sukumaran, has publicly defended her son amidst the ongoing controversies surrounding the recently released film 'L2: Empuraan'. Mallika, on Sunday, took to her Facebook account to share her disappointment over the criticism her son has been facing, particularly the claims that Prithviraj had allegedly misled

superstar Mohanlal and the film's producers. "This is a mother's pain. There is no point in someone making fun of me for speaking openly about it. Neither Mohanlal nor the producers have said that Prithviraj cheated them. I don't think they will ever say that. Mohanlal is like my younger brother. I have known Lal since childhood. Mohanlal has praised my son on many occasions. But it is very sad that some people are trying to make my son a scapegoat without the knowledge of Lal or the producers. Director Prithvi-

raj has not cheated anyone associated with this film or any film. He will never do so," she wrote. In her post, Mallika also clarified that Prithviraj, who directed Empuraan, did not deceive anyone and that all key members of the project, including writer Murali Gopy, were involved in script approvals and revisions. "If you feel that there is any problem with the film Empuraan, then everyone in this group is responsible for it. They all read the script together. They all saw the scenes being shot together, and everyone agreed. If

scenes needed to be edited during shooting, writer Murali Gopy was always willing to do so... then how can Prithviraj be solely responsible for it when everything was finalized and the film was released?" read a part of her post.

"I want to make it clear that there is not a single shot in Empuraan that neither of them (Mohanlal or the producers) knew about. There is nothing in this film that Mohanlal does not know. Neither of them would say that they were unaware of anything in the film," she added.

عید Eid Ul Fitr Mubarak

JAZZBAAT

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On behalf of the entire Jazzbaat 24 team, we would like to extend our heartfelt Eid Mubarak wishes to you and your loved ones. May this blessed occasion bring peace, joy, and prosperity into your life.

We are thrilled to welcome you to the Jazzbaat family, and we look forward to building stronger bonds and creating meaningful connections together. Thank you for being a part of our journey!

Editor in Chief: Nilanjan DasGupta | **Consulting Editor:** Nabarun Majumdar **Contact No:** +91 9674740000 **EMAIL :** editor@jazzbaat24.com
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