

Yogi Government's Landmark Anti-Conversion Bill

The Yogi Adityanath government has taken a historic step by presenting a new bill in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly to curb forced religious conversions and Love Jihad, which was passed on Tuesday. The bill, titled the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion (Amendment) Bill-2024, aims to protect the cultural and religious integrity of the state.

Since taking office, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has been committed to safeguarding Indian culture. This new legislation marks another significant move in his efforts. The bill stipulates severe penalties, including life imprisonment and a fine of up to one lakh rupees for the abduction and selling of minor girls for Love Jihad. Forced conversions of minors, differently-abled individuals, women, and members of Scheduled Castes and Tribes will also attract

Editorial

similar penalties.

The bill also addresses the issue of foreign funding for religious conversions, imposing stringent measures to prevent it. Receiving funds from foreign or unregistered entities for conversions can result in up to 14 years of imprisonment and a fine of 10 lakh rupees. Additionally, anyone using threats, force, or deceit to convert individuals will face a minimum of 20 years in prison.

Previously, only victims or their families could file complaints, but the new law allows any person to register a First Information Report (FIR). The bill will next be sent to the Legislative Council, the Governor, and finally to the President for approval.

This law strengthens the previous 2021 ordinance and aims to provide better protection against forced conversions. It is noteworthy that several other states in India have similar laws in place to combat forced conversions. The Yogi government's new bill is a robust measure to ensure the safety and dignity of individuals against coercive religious practices, promoting harmony and respect for all religions.

Akshay Kumar Starrer 'Khel Khel Mein' to Release on August 15

The comedy-drama 'Khel Khel Mein,' starring Akshay Kumar, is set to release on August 15. Presented by Gulshan Kumar, T-Series, KKM Film Production, and Wakao Films, the film is produced by Bhushan Kumar, Krishna Kumar, Vipul D. Shah, Ashwin Varde, Rajesh Behl, Shashikant Sinha, and Ajay Rai, and directed by Mudassar Aziz. The movie features Akshay Kumar alongside Vaani Kapoor, Amy Virk with Taapsee Pannu, and Aditya Seal with Pragya Jaiswal. The latest track from the film, "Hauli Hauli....," is a Punjabi fun track sung by Guru Randhawa, Yo Yo Honey Singh, and Neha Kakkar. This August 15 weekend will see a clash of four films, including Shradha Kapoor's 'Stree 2,' 'Khel Khel Mein,' 'Veda,' and 'Double iSmart.'

Presented by: Kali Das Pandey

"Soniye" by Qaseem Haider Qaseem and Xishmiya Brown

"Soniye," featuring Xishmiya Brown and Qaseem Haider Qaseem, is a sensational track released by Panorama Music. Directed by Harsh Gurg and produced by NK Moosvi, the song combines soulful music, engaging lyrics, and stunning visuals. The track, composed by Beatbar Studio, features Parth Sharma's heartfelt lyrics and Trishul Naiytrami's melodious voice. Sachin Gupta's cinematography and Nitish Chandra's editing add visual depth, while Dinesh Sahani's choreography enhances the storytelling. "Soniye" is a testament to the collaborative efforts of talented artists, capturing the essence of love and longing, making it a memorable hit.

Ganesh from Udaipur Receives Kalidas Award

Renowned painter Ganesh Lal Gaur from Udaipur has been honored with the National Kalidas Award for his artwork "Gaurishankar Ka Abhinandan" at the National Kalidas Painting and Sculpture Exhibition-2023, organized by the Kalidas Sanskrit Academy, Madhya Pradesh Cultural Council. This recognition has brought immense joy to Udaipur's art community.

A miniature artist from Viratnagar, Sector 14, Gaur has been immersed in art since childhood. His award-winning piece depicts Lord Shiva and Goddess Gauri's salutation. Gaur, skilled in Nathdwara's Pichwai art and the Mewar School



of Art, has a 32-year-long dedication to the field. He has showcased his talent in numerous exhibitions and workshops, leaving a significant mark as an artist and art teacher.

Udaipur Animal Feed Partners with Miraj Group for a Green Future

Udaipur: Nathdwara, and Udaipur Animal Feed has partnered with Miraj Group to promote a greener future. Miraj Group, a renowned industrial conglomerate, has launched an ambitious tree plantation campaign aimed at enhancing greenery and maintaining environmental balance in the arid regions between Udaipur and Nathdwara, with a pledge to plant 10 million trees. Out of the 50 million seeds and plants acquired, 27 million seeds and 65,000 plants have already been planted.

In this green journey, Udaipur Animal Feed, an NGO based in Udaipur, has joined hands with Miraj Group. Eight cyclists from the NGO are embarking on a remarkable

journey from Udaipur to Delhi to spread awareness about the plantation campaign and against animal cruelty.

Miraj Group is supporting the NGO by providing 20,000 seeds and plants and offering a car to assist the cyclists in their plantation efforts. The group is expected to reach Delhi on August 15, concluding their 15-day journey at India Gate, Delhi.

These cyclists will collaborate with approximately 50 schools to involve students in the plantation activities and educate them about animal cruelty.

Miraj Group's founder, Mr. Madan Paliwal, expressed his enthusiasm for this initiative, stating, "We are delighted to



see people join us in this noble cause.

The collaboration with Udaipur Animal Feed is par-

ticularly exciting, and we encourage other corporates and communities to join us in this green journey. Together,

we can create a healthier and more sustainable future for our generations."

Miraj Group has a long-standing commitment to tree plantation, with a dedicated team and extensive infrastructure to ensure the successful growth and maintenance of these plantations. Notable projects include the Nakshatra Vatika in Udaipur's Gulab Bagh and the Tri-Netra Circle Garden in Nathdwara. The group has also provided thousands of trees and tree guards to various institutions in Udaipur.

About Miraj Group

Founded in 1987 by Mr. Madan Paliwal and headquartered in Nathdwara, Udaipur, Miraj Group com-

prises over 20 companies operating in diverse sectors such as printing and packaging, food, pipes and fittings, real estate, film production, engineering, hospitality, and retail. Miraj Group played a significant role in developing the Statue of Belief or Vishwas Swaroopam in collaboration with the Rajasthan government. Its entertainment wing, Miraj Cinemas, manages 66 properties with 219 screens across 46 cities in 16 states in India. Miraj Group envisions becoming a trusted and preferred brand for customers, partners, and employees, enhancing the quality of life for all, inspiring creativity, and fostering a culture of ownership to create a happy workplace.

Captivating Performance of Ashadh Ka Ek Din

Mohan Rakesh's iconic Hindi play, Ashadh Ka Ek Din, derives its thematic material from Kalidas's drama Meghdootam. The play narrates the unconventional romance between Mallika and Kalidas. Kalidas, a gifted poet, lives a peaceful yet insignificant life in a village at the foothills of the Himalayas. Mallika, blinded by her Platonic love for Kalidas, lives in a utopian world where she believes her marriage to him would diminish his poetic brilliance. Despite her mother's warnings against their socially unacceptable relationship, Mallika sees no harm in Kalidas's neglect of her following his rise to prestige and power.

One day, Kalidas receives a royal offer to become the poet laureate at the King's court in Ujjayini. Though initially reluctant due to his love for Mallika and his village, he eventually agrees, persuaded by Mallika. Over time, Kalidas's royal duties distance him from Mallika, leading him to marry a princess. Mallika continues to live a lonely life in her dilapidated house. Disillusioned with his material life, Kalidas returns to Mallika, only to leave again upon discovering she has become someone else's mistress and has a child. The play ends tragically with the irrevocable separation of Kalidas and Mallika.

Performance Review:

Harshita Sharma faced the greatest artistic challenge as

Mallika, occupying the stage for most of the play and interacting with nearly all characters. She delivered a well-rehearsed performance with commendable verbal and non-verbal communication. Her timing and self-control in dialogue delivery and gestures were praiseworthy. However, occasional lapses in sharply defining transitions between moods slightly diluted the impact of her performance. Her makeup and costumes effectively portrayed Mallika's simplicity, enhancing her stage presence.

Agastya Hardik Nagda, as Kalidas, convincingly presented himself as a serious-minded literary artist, maintaining sober expressions. However, his consistent facial

stiffness and thick beard hindered the full expression of his inner conflicts. He compensated with well-delivered dialogues, though the poor audio system and acoustics attenuated his performance.

Urvashi Kanwarani, portraying Ambika, succeeded in depicting a traditional mother worried about her daughter's welfare. Her performance was flawless, maintaining a consistent tone and gestures characteristic of a poor, sickly, and worrying mother.

Umang Soni, playing Matul, exhibited the impulsiveness and dull-wittedness of his character but frequent movements and fast-paced dialogues affected the clarity of his voice, making him occasionally incomprehensible.

Arshad Qureshi, as Vilom, aimed to be an antithesis to Kalidas with a talkative and unsophisticated demeanor. However, his heightened pitch and excitement sometimes jarred the audience's ears.

Ria Nagdev, as Queen Priyangumanjari, retained the dignity and decorum of a royal figure with firm voice and sophisticated gestures. Yet, her tone needed variation when she offered Mallika to marry one of her attendants, requiring a feigned politeness.

Supporting actors, including Yash Jain as Nikshap, Divyansh Dabi and Parth Singh Chundawat as Anuswar and Anunasi, Neha Shirmali and Khushi Negi as Rangini and Sangini, and Divyansh Dabias Dantul, fulfilled their roles ade-



quately, contributing to the play's successful enactment.

Overall, the Natyansh Society's performance of Ashadh Ka Ek Din was a commendable effort, showcasing the depth and complexity of Mohan Rakesh's characters and themes.

Olympic Festival Kicks Off at Third Space with Marathon

Udaipur: The Olympic Festival at Third Space, organized in collaboration with the French Embassy's cultural wing Alliance Française, kicked off on Friday with a 5-kilometer marathon. Udaipur Olympic Association President Sudhir Bakshi flagged off the marathon, which saw participation from over 260 runners of various age groups.

Children from Rockwoods, CPS, Maharana Mewar, Abhilasha Deaf and Dumb Institute, Sukher Government Higher Secondary School, members of Mewari Runner Club, and Udaipur's Iron Man Rishabh Jain were among the participants. The event also received support from Decathlon, Celebration Bakery, and Secure Meters. All participants were awarded certificates and medals.

Festival to Continue Until August 11:

The festival will run until August 11, featuring numerous sports-related workshops, three panel discussions, and a table tennis tournament. CEO Ketan Bhatt mentioned that discussions on various topics with renowned athletes from the country and city will be organized. These discussions will take place every Saturday with athletes who have represented India in the Olympics, honored coaches from Udaipur, and national-level athletes from Udaipur.

Fan Zone Created:

Rohit Jani, Partnership Head of Dhara Heritage, announced the creation of a Fan Zone at Third Space to cheer for the Indian athletes participating in the Olympics. A large screen will be set up for visitors to enjoy the Olympic games. Additionally, an engaging exhibition on the history of the Olympics will be displayed.

Free Screening of Sports Films for Schools:

Alexander Gillardo, a representative from the French Embassy, shared that various famous sports films will be screened at Third Space Cinema at very low rates for the general public, courtesy of the French Embassy. These films will also be shown to schools for free. The aim of this Olympic Festival is to raise awareness and interest in Olympic sports among the people.



Amit Shah Launches 'MANAS' Helpline

Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the 7th Narco Coordination Center (NCORD) meeting, launching the 'MANAS' helpline, which includes a toll-free number 1933, a web portal, a mobile app, and the UMANG app. MANAS allows citizens to anonymously report drug trafficking and seek advice on drug abuse



and rehabilitation. Shah emphasized collective efforts for a drug-free India, highlighting unprecedented government action against drug trafficking. Criticizing the Congress for inaction, he noted that over 5,43,000 kg of drugs worth ₹22,000 crore were seized between 2014 and 2024. Shah stressed that India is adopting a "Duty to Share" principle against drug trafficking.

Music Video 'Patna Ki Pari' Released

Popular Bhojpuri actress and singer Akshara Singh's music video 'Patna Ki Pari' has been released on Saregama Hum Bhojpuri and leading OTT music apps. The song, featuring Akshara alongside Sanjay Kadyan, is a hit with

catchy lyrics by Chhotu Rawat and choreography by Amit Music

Airtel Reallocates Mid-Band Spectrum

Udaipur: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), one of India's leading telecommunications services providers, announced that it has started re-farming its existing mid-band spectrum to accommodate the growing traffic demand on its 5G network. With more customers moving to the 5G network, Airtel is re-farming its mid-band spectrum to expand 5G services on its 1800, 2100, 2300 MHz bands across the country. As a result of the use of the mid-band spectrum, customers can enjoy enhanced browsing speeds in addition to improved indoor coverage. As data demand grows, Airtel is re-farming its existing spectrum at a faster pace to provide its customers with a brilliant 5G experience.

"Randeep Sekhon, CTO, Bharti Airtel said, "As more customers pivot to our 5G services, we have re-farmed our mid band spectrum which was being used for 4G services. With this we are also ready to launch Stand-alone technology. This will mean that the Airtel network will be the first network in India to run on both stand-alone and non-standalone modes allowing us to deliver the best experience in the market."

Naira Pal to Make Bollywood Debut

After success in South Indian cinema, actress Naira Pal is set for her Bollywood debut. Known for her classical dance and modeling accolades, she has upcoming music videos

with Zee Music and T-Series, and a South Indian film ready for release. Originally from Hata



Gambhirpur, Uttar Pradesh, she's now focused on Bollywood projects.

Eknath Shinde and Salman Khan Unveil 'Dharmaveer 2' Trailer

Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde and Salman Khan unveiled the trailer of 'Dharmaveer 2: Mukkam Post Thane' at a star-studded event in Mumbai. Directed by Pravin Tarde, the film features Prasad Oak as Anand Dighe, highlighting his impactful legacy. The film releas-

Nirmala Sitharaman Displays Confidence in Budget Debate

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman confidently addressed the budget discussion in Lok Sabha, emphasizing the significance of the "halwa ceremony" and defending allocations against opposition claims. She highlighted funds for Andhra Pradesh, refuted neglect allegations, and criticized Karnataka's Congress government for corruption. Sitharaman underscored increased post-COVID social sector spending and fiscal deficit targets. Allocations for Jammu and Kashmir, agriculture, and education were noted.

Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi reaffirmed his commitment to marginalized communities, likening his focus to Arjuna's in the Mahabharata. Sitharaman made no new announcements, leaving further declarations pending.



Udaipur's Vibhuti Hoists Flag in England

Udaipur: Vibhuti Bhatt, daughter of Ramesh Chandra Bhatt, has completed her Master's in Fashion Communication Design from Northumbria University, Newcastle, England. Post-graduation, she was selected by the international fashion brand, Zara. A NEFT Jodhpur graduate, Vibhuti's research focused on bringing Indian products to the global stage, covering branding, user experience, information technology, and design exercises.

Her father, Ramesh Chandra Bhatt, a senior LIC official, shared that Vibhuti studied on a scholarship and now plans to pursue a doctorate. Vibhuti emphasizes "Jugaad" tech-



nology for efficient problem-solving and sustainable systems, which is implemented systematically in the UK. Known for her humility and confidence, she hails from Mandal and is spiritually awakened.