



मनचले ऑटो रिक्शा चालकों पर लगेगी लगाम

People in joyful mood on the eve of Eid

Eid in the month of Inflation!



People buying sewai for the Eid celebration

Abhishek Awasthi
New Delhi: The greatest strength of India probably lies in the confidence of people who may be poor but welcome the costly affairs of annual fairs with courage, conviction and a smiling face. Thus when rising prices of commodities are burning hole in the pocket of common man but this too could not demean the spirit of Eid-ul-Fitr. And, when the fest is merely few days ahead, the people are in full festive mood and the preparations for the festival of joy are in full gear inspite of soaring prices of basic commodities. Despite the rise in the price of an

essential commodity like sugar by Rs 3/kg and of almost 20% in the price of *sewai* and *khajur*, people are buying it without any hesitation. Zenab, a shopper at Jama Masjid said "Eid is our main festival. We work hard the whole year and earn money to celebrate this festival in the best way possible." Eid-ul-Fitr is a unique festival, it has no connection with any historical event as are the other festivals. Its significance is purely spiritual. It is the day when the Muslims thank the almighty Allah for having given them the will, the strength and the endurance to



Markets at Jama Masjid telling a different story all together

observe fast and obey his commandment during the holy month of Ramadhan. India is a country well known all over the world for its rich culture and associated with its numerous festivals. On the occasion of Eid they buy new clothes for every family member. They donate a certain percentage of their income as *zakat*. "Definitely the price hike is affecting our lives but this is festival time and it does not matter if we go a little over budget at this time, but the children and wife should feel satisfied and happy." said Abdullah, a

father of two children. From the street markets in Jama Masjid to malls, Muslims are busy in buying new curtains, fresh sewai and *khoya*, latest dining sets and fashionable clothes. When asked about the sales, Syed Ahmed, a garment shop owner at Jama Masjid, proudly said "Sales are fantastic like every year. People are buying clothes for them and their families. I have yet not noticed any kind of effect of inflation on people's festive drive. After all we have a rich culture, Celebrations and festivals have always been at the top of our priority list."

Riots in saharanpur, 3 killed and 20 injured

Abhishek Awasthi
Saharanpur: Two persons were killed and 18 others injured in violent clashes in Saharanpur in western UP on Saturday over a land dispute as groups of Muslims and Sikhs clashed on the streets in broad daylight. The authorities imposed curfew in the region to bring the situation under control. The clashes broke out at 5 AM in the morning in which 5 policemen were also reportedly injured as the two indulged in Brick batting. Even after the curfew was imposed, around 18 people including 5 policemen injured in the heavy violence between the two communities. The mob also burnt shops and vehicles. Police registered 9 FIRs and arrested 20 people. The riots in Saharanpur once again raised question poor administration and failure of the state government to take precautionary measures. It looks like that the Akhilesh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party Government has not learnt any lessons from the Muzzafarpur riots last year.



An Authority that rarely works!



unnamed bus stop at Sec 11

Fallen tree telling the story of this bus stop at sec 12

SaimaAzim
Noida: Scorching heat is not the only problem that people of Noida have to face these days. Unnamed bus stands- buses having broken seats too often operated by rule breaking drivers are very common. Many bus stops of Noida are marked by missing boards carrying names of the bus depot. In fact some bus stands are in such a shabby state that they cannot provide relief to the waiting passengers from soaring temperature. The tragedy is that most of these un named, damaged bus stops are located at crucial places from where a large number of commuters travel almost everyday. When the concerned officoial of Noida Authority was contacted regarding this, the issue was referred to Noida Traffic Cell (NTC) who kept on tossing the question

- Noida Traffic Cell is totally indifferent towards the problem of people
- No action is taken by the authority when complaints are made
- Commuters suffer all the time because of un named bus stops

from one department to another without any concrete answer. Paramjeet Singh the (Booking Clerk posted) at the NTC bus counter finally dismissed the question by blaming the Noida Authority and making them responsible for all the maintenance related issues, thus bringing the question back to the square one. The daily commuters have shown patience by making adjustment with the limited resources available, but first time travellers find it very difficult. One of them,

Nahid said, "This is just brizzare, I took a bus for Sector 11 and I couldn't find the bus stop where I was suppose to get down. I am fasting and in this heat I had to walk for almost an hour before I could finally find my destination. I don't think I will ever take a bus to Noida again." A regular traveler to sector 12, Ranjeet said, "Noida Authority is never bothered about public, no sincere work is ever done by authority on time. It is such a disgrace to the city." The casual officers of Noida authority and citizens of the metro hardly see eye to eye because of the laid back attitude of the Authority officials. The only possible way for the Authority to win over people's trust is by seriously addressing the problem of un named and damaged bus stops in the satellite city.