

Sirsakhurd gaining popularity as Murti Kala Gaon

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: Sirsakhurd is a small village in Durg district where women are making idols from cow dung. The women not only prepare these special idols but are also making them available in the markets as per the demand. The women of Sirsakhurd village are associated with Jai Bajrang Self Help Group.

Gautam Buddha, logo of Chhattisgarh, Radha Krishna, Ganapati and tribal artwork are being made by cow dung by a women group. This group of twelve women has become popular because of these idols. Sirsakhurd



village of Durg district is now known as Murti Kala Gaon. The women work together to prepare

these idols.

Along with making idols from cow dung, these women associated

with women's self-help groups are also making many materials like idols of gods and goddesses, diyas, etc for the festival. When asked how these idols are made, Hemlata Saven of the Jai Bajrang Self-Help Group said that they first make lumps from cow dung, then dry them and pound them.

After that, it is put in the grinding machine. After grinding, a mixture of smooth multani mitti is added to it and kneaded with water. Thereafter, the idols are prepared with the help of moulds. It takes 15 days to make the idol out of cow dung. She said that the Jai Bajrang self-help group members have received

training in making idols in Nagpur. After getting the training, the women of the group are earning income by preparing idols and selling them in the local market, which is their means of livelihood.

She further informed that during the Bhet Mulaqat in Purai, an idol made of cow dung was presented to the Chief Minister on behalf of the self-help group. Being made of cow dung, it is eco-friendly. The remains of the idol can be put in a pot or garden. This will not harm the environment and will also work as manure. Collector Pushpendra Kumar Meena also appreciated the skill of these women.

Major achievement of the district hospital

● **Ophthalmologist performs surgery to remove dermoid cyst**

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: District Hospital of Durg made another big achievement. Earlier due to non-availability of dermoid cyst surgery facility in District Hospital, the patients were referred to Medical College, Raipur. But now this facility is available at Durg District Hospital also. In the cases of dermoid cyst, there are problems of swelling, pain and blurred vision in the patient.

According to the infor-

mation received from the Civil Surgeon cum Chief Hospital Superintendent, the dermoid cyst was successfully operated by the Ophthalmologist of Durg District Hospital and her team. The patient Chandras, aged 9 years, a resident of Village Gatapar, came for treatment in the Ophthalmology Department of District Hospital Durg for his eye problem. After the eye checkup, the ophthalmologist found that he has a dermoid cyst problem. He was admitted to the



hospital for treatment and a successful dermoid cyst surgery was performed by ophthalmologist Dr Kalpana Zeph and her team.

5784 youth of the district benefited from unemployment allowance

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: Unemployment allowance transfer program was organized at the Chief Minister's residence in Raipur the other day. 32 beneficiaries from Durg district participated in this program. Also, 10 youth beneficiaries of the district participated in this program through video conferencing from NIC Durg. As soon as the amount was transferred by the Chief Minister, a message was received that Rs 2500 has been deposited in the accounts of Dharmesh Thakur and Aishwarya Sahu. The Chief Minister interacted with Durg resident Aishwarya Sahu and inquired about



the unemployment allowance amount. Aishwarya said that she will use this amount for MA studies and competitive exams. Till date 9393 youth of the district have applied online for the unemployment allowance scheme. Out of which applications of 5784 people have been approved. Rs 14460000 (One Crore 44 lakh Sixty

Thousand Rupees) was transferred to all the approved beneficiaries. The process of application verification of remaining applicants is going on. Durg City MLA Arun Vora, Chief Executive Officer District Panchayat Ashwini Dewangan and Deputy Director Employment Rajkumar Kurre were present in the programme.

People complain of air pollution due to crusher

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: The villagers of Gram Panchayat Mudpar reached the Collector Jandarshan with a complaint of air pollution caused by the crusher machine installed in Nitya Mines. The villagers said that heavy air pollution is being caused by the crusher machine installed in Nitya Mines operated in Mudpar village.

It is becoming difficult to breathe due to the dust coming out of the crusher machine. Along with this, due to the accumulation of stone and dust particles in the surrounding fields, farmers are facing difficulties in cultivation.

They said that a verbal complaint was also made through the Gram Panchayat. Despite that,



heavy crusher machines are being installed instead of small crusher machines.

Keeping in view the health and problems of the villagers, the Collector directed the officials of the Mineral Department to take immediate action. A resident of Bhilai submitted an application for providing the fourth install-

ment of Prime Minister Awas Yojna before the monsoon.

The applicant stated that he has received three installations for the house, but the fourth installment is pending due to which he is unable to complete the construction work of the house. He submitted an application in the con-

cerned department, but no information is being provided by the department. The Collector asked the Commissioner Municipal Corporation Bhilai to take necessary action.

A Corporator of Bhilai Municipal Corporation requested to construct two passenger waiting halls near Shri Shankaracharya

Medical College and Shri Shankaracharya College in Junwani in view of the hot and rainy season. The concerned officer was directed to take necessary action.

A resident of Ruabandha Bhilai made a complaint about pending wages. The applicant is working under Jeevandeep Samiti. He said that due to non-payment of salary for the last two months, he is facing financial difficulties. The Collector instructed the CMHO to take action on this application.

100 applications were received in Collector Jandarshan, in which applications related to admission in SAGES, encroachment, drain construction, illegal hoarding, revenue were received.

SMS 2 fulfils ASP's requirement of Special Grade Blooms for use in Automobile Sector

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Steel Melting Shop 2 (SMS 2) has cast blooms of 20MNCR5 degassed Steel Grade for Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur for the first time, thereby fulfilling long pending requirement from ASP.

SMS 2 was commissioned as part of the Plant's 4 million tonne (MT) expansion. Production of crude steel in SMS 2 started in the year 1985. SMS 2 produces cast blooms and cast slabs from the casters in its Continuous Casting Shop. Cast Slabs from SMS 2 are used for rolling plates in Plate Mill and cast blooms are rolled into rails in the Plant's Rail & Structural Mill.



Bloom Caster No 5 had been an integral part of SMS 2 right from the beginning with the first bloom cast on February 03, 1985. Since then there has been no looking back, with Caster 5 having always met the stringent quality requirement of Indian Railways. This caster has

always been premium amongst all the casters and the caster utilization always been over 95 per cent. Once the casting process is started, the caster is continued for long sequences by flying tundish and stopped only in case of any problem. There has been gradual upgradation

in the caster as per the requirement of Indian Railways which includes EMS system, slag detection system and AMLC.

SMS 2 that has continuously striven for excellence in all fronts has now added another feather to its cap by casting blooms of 20MNCR5 degassed

Steel Grade for Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur for the first time, thereby fulfilling long pending requirements of ASP.

This was made possible due to diligent efforts by all the sections including Operations, Mechanical and Electrical of Continuous Casting Shop (CCS) under the leadership of Susanta Kumar Ghosal CGM (SMS2), Instrumentation group, the Plant's Research & Control Lab (RCL), Converter Shop in SMS 2, SBS, Secondary Refining Units, KMC group and Protective Group. These blooms of 20MNCR5 degassed Steel Grade will be further rolled at the ASP special steel plant of SAIL for different applications in automobile sector.

Maitri Vidya Niketan students excel in JEE-Mains 2023



Bhavya

Hrishi

Jasleen

Deepak

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: Maitri Vidya Niketan, Risali, proudly announced the remarkable achievements of its students in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Mains 2023. Ten students have qualified for the JEE-Advance after clearing the JEE mains 2023, thereby bringing laurels to the school.

The successful students have demonstrated exceptional aptitude and aca-

demic prowess, with Bhavya Jain achieving an impressive 99.67 percentile, followed closely by Hrishi Nahata with 96.9 percentile, Jasleen Kaur Dhanjal with 93.91 percentile, Deepak with 92.14 percentile, Pranjal Sahu with 89.56 percentile, Aayush Dewangan with 89.16 percentile, Chandan Das Sahu with 87.95 percentile, Sana Sanjana with 85 percentile, Isha Chandrakar with 75 percentile and Shashwat

Thakur with 42.62 percentile.

Rajam Sudhakaran, President MECA along with Directors MECA S Sajeev and S Sajjan, Dr Sajitha Thambi, Principal MVN, Dr Beena Sajeev, Vice Principal, Nishi Sajjan, Head Mistress, School's faculty and staff congratulated these exceptional students on their tremendous success and wished them all the very best for their bright and future endeavours.

New Records created in Oven Pushing & Wagon Unloading

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Coke Ovens & Coal Chemicals Dept (CO & CCD) has achieved its best ever unloading of 486 wagons in a day on April 29, 2023 as against previous best of unloading 444 wagons on February 27, 2023.

Together with the Plant's Transport & Diesel Dept, a new record of wagon tipping was also set on April 29, 2023. The team of CO & CCD and T&D has set a new record of wagon tipping in a day with an average shift tipping of 162 wagons.

On April 30, 2023, the Plant's Coke Ovens & Coal Chemicals Dept set another record with pushing of 825 ovens as against previous best of 824 ovens on



February 28, 2023. Director In-charge, Bhilai Steel Plant Anirban Dasgupta, ED (Works) Anjani Kumar and other senior officers of the Plant visited Coke Ovens on May 01, 2023 and congratulated the leadership and collective of Coke Ovens and associated shops and departments for their achievements.

The Plant's Merchant Mill that has been setting new records in rolling of Angle 75 profile, created a new shift record of rolling 1675 billets into 817 Tonnes of Angle 75 on April 29, 2023 as against previous best of rolling 1650 billets into 804 Tonnes of same profile a day earlier on April 28, 2023.

Free health camp organised at village Khapri Siloda

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department (CSR) of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, organised a free health camp on April 29, 2023 at Village, Khapri Siloda. The team for the one-day health camp comprised of health experts, Dr Nishi Minj, Pharmacist, Khlawan Kumbhakar, Farida Joseph for blood-sugar and BP examination, Shambhu for registration and Soni, from the CSR department conducted the camp. Village Sarpanch Rajkumar Sahu was also present at the Camp. A

total of 40 villagers were examined at the Medical Camp including 09 men, 19 women and 12 children, and free medicines were distributed to them.



'Pali Shiromani and Karm Shiromani Awards' to employees of SMS-3



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, May 02: Employees of SMS-3 Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant were awarded with the Pali and Karm Shiromani awards for their exemplary work performance under the 'Shiromani Puraskar Yojana' of Bhilai Steel Plant.

The Award ceremony was organised on April 29, 2023. Addressing the employees, the Chief Guest of the program, Sandeep Kumar Kar, CGM (SMS-3)

praised the awardees and said that these awards are given not only for outstanding work, but also for following Safety guidelines. He congratulated all the award winners and said that they will continue to do excellent work in the future as well.

Ravi Kumar Srivastava, AGM was honoured with the 'Pali Shiromani Award'. Similarly, Hariom, RK Mahamalla, Ashish Gaurav, Rakesh Kumar Thakur, Vandana Soni, Shek Mola, and Ghanashyam Sahu of SMS-

3, were also honoured with the 'Karm Shiromani Award'. Letters of appreciation were presented for the spouses of the award-winning employees as a form of encouragement.

General Manager's AB Srinivas, Pramod Kumar Singh, P Satpathy, Yatendra Kumar, and Tribhuvan Baitha, were present on the occasion. All the guests present praised the work style and safety awareness of the winners, congratulating them and inspiring them to continue their excellent work in the future.

BRIEF



A porter carrying bundles of plastic pipes at a wholesale market in Kolkata, Tuesday.

New CJ

New Delhi: Justice T S Sivagnanam was on Monday appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court. The Department of Justice in the Union Law Ministry issued a notification announcing the appointment.

Probe

Gopeshwar: Boards displaying QR codes seeking donations from pilgrims were put up outside the gates of Badrinath and Kedarnath without the knowledge of the authorities, officials said on Tuesday.

Mishap

Maharajanj: A 30-year-old woman and her seven-year-old son were crushed to death after the motorcycle on which they were travelling was run over by a speeding truck in this Uttar Pradesh district, police here said on Tuesday.

NBW

Prayagraj: A non-bailable warrant has been issued against a professor and two former professors of the Allahabad University following a complaint from an assistant professor, police said here on Monday.

Suicide

Kottayam: A woman committed suicide in this central Kerala district following alleged cyber bullying by her ex-boyfriend. The woman was found dead on Monday at her home in Manjoor village of Kaduthuruthy area of Kottayam district and police have lodged a case in connection with the incident and initiated a probe.

Seized

Bulandshahr: Police have arrested a man and seized illegal fire-crackers worth Rs 12 lakh from a godown in the Dibai area of this Uttar Pradesh district, an official said on Tuesday.

Murdered

Thane: A transgender person, aged about 30 years, was bludgeoned to death by another person of the third gender in Maharashtra's Thane district, police said on Tuesday.

Rescue

Gangtok: The Border Roads Organization (BRO) rescued 40 tourists who were stranded near Nathula in Sikkim due to heavy rainfall in the region, a BRO release said on Tuesday. The rescued tourists were taken to BRO detachments on Monday where they were served hot meals, the release said. The 40 tourists were brought back to the state capital Gangtok after the weather conditions improved and the Jawahar Lal Nehru road was cleared by the BRO, it added.

Question mark over fate of Indira Canteens

As BJP promises Atal Aahara Kendras

Bengaluru, May 02 (PTI):

The BJP's promise in its manifesto that it will set up 'Atal Aahara Kendra' in each ward of every municipal corporation in Karnataka has put a question mark over the fate of the 'Indira Canteens', which the then Siddaramaiah government launched in August 2017.

The BJP national president J P Nadda released on Monday the 'Praja Pranalike' (Citizens' Manifesto) in the run-up to the May 10 Assembly elections.

"We will set up an 'Atal Aahara Kendra' in every ward of every municipal corporation in the state to provide affordable, quality and healthy food across the state with special focus for delivery boys, cab, auto drivers and unorganised

workers," the party said in its manifesto.

"I don't know about the Indira Canteen 'Yojana' but I know that this (Atal Aahara Kendra) is going to take care of the common man," Nadda said in response to a question on the fate of Indira Canteens.

Senior Congress leader and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said, "It is ridiculous that the BJP government is promising to open 'Atal Aahara Kendra' after vindictively shutting down 600 Indira Canteens set up by the Congress across the state during its tenure."

In Bengaluru, the Indira Canteens were set up by the then Congress government in about 200 places with an investment of Rs 94 crore, according to Congress leaders. The Congress had earlier re-

peatedly accused the current BJP government of shutting down Indira Canteens or changing the name and making it redundant.

"Is your tummy so full that you are ignorant about poor man's hunger? Or does your party cater to only elites' appetite? We shall never tolerate any attempt to axe down Indira Canteen," Siddaramaiah had tweeted on August 28, 2019. The Congress stalwart made his fear public a month after BJP's B S Yediyurappa became the Chief Minister for a fourth time.

Yediyurappa had then clarified that there were no plans to shut or rename the Indira Canteens.

The Congress government launched the Indira Canteen scheme in August 2017 on the lines of 'Amma Canteen' in Tamil Nadu.

Meghalaya's VPP gets EC recognition

As state party

Shillong, May 02 (PTI):

The Voice of the People Party (VPP), which has four MLAs in the Meghalaya Assembly, has got recognition as a state party, a senior official of the Election Commission said.

The recognition was based on a review of the VPP's poll performance in the recently concluded assembly election, he said.

"I am directed to state that on the basis of a review of poll performance, the Commission vide its letter dated April 10, 2023, granted recognition to the Voice of the People Party as a state party in

Meghalaya under the provisions of the Election Symbols (Reservation & Allotment) Order, 1968," EC Under Secretary Manish Kumar said on Monday.

As requested, a reserved symbol of the winner (a device used for separating chaff from the grain) was allotted, he said.

A notification in this regard will be issued in due course, Kumar added.

VPP president Ardent Basaiawmoit welcomed the decision, saying, "We are happy with the EC recognition, and we will keep on working for welfare of the people of the state."

'Yoga can simplify complexities of life'

Jaipur, May 02 (PTI):

Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra on Tuesday highlighted the importance of Yoga in mental and physical wellness and asserted that the modern generation should adopt the practice.

Mishra was addressing the Yoga Mahotsav - 2023, organised here by the Union Ayush Ministry to mark 50 days to the International Day of Yoga.

The Rajasthan governor said the modern generation can achieve many important things if it joins the Yogic routine.

He said, "In such a time when the mind wanders in the blind race of materialism, Yoga is very important for mental peace.

"If time is spared for



Students celebrate after receiving their degrees and medals during the 36th convocation ceremony of Ranchi University, at Dikshant Mandap near Morhabadi grounds in Ranchi, Tuesday.

JOY OF SUCCESS

Rare melanistic tiger found dead

Baripada (Odisha), May 02 (PTI):

The carcass of a rare melanistic tiger was found in the core area of Similipal National Park in Odisha, a senior forest official said.

It was spotted by the Similipal south division staff at Badamakabadi-II beat area in Nawana, said Sushil Kumar Popli, the principal chief conservator of forests.

The exact reason for the death of the three-and-half-year-old male tiger is yet to be known, but it is suspected that the animal died during a fight with another big cat, he said on Monday.

The tiger's carcass bore scratch marks, which is indicative of a fatal fight, a forest official said.

Popli said that tigers after attaining three years of age mark out their own territory in the forest for which they often fight with other tigers.

"The exact cause of the death can be known after submission of the autopsy report," he added.

The post-mortem examination of the animal was conducted on Monday in the presence of a representative of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, among others.

"The samples will be sent to the Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology and the Wildlife Institute of India for analysis," Popli said.

The carcass was burnt after the post-mortem as per law.

'DNA fingerprinting of defence personnel helped in 12 cases'

Including chopper crash that killed Gen Rawat

Pune, May 02 (PTI):

Blood samples are being collected in a graded manner as part of DNA fingerprinting of armed forces personnel and this process has so far helped identify mortal remains in 12 cases, including the helicopter crash that killed then Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat, said Lieutenant General Daljit Singh, Director General - Armed Forces Medical Service (DGAFMS), on Monday.

Singh was addressing the press on the sidelines of the Pune-based Armed Forces Medical College's (AFMC)'s Platinum Jubilee celebrations.



Lieutenant General Daljit Singh

It is an ongoing process in which blood samples are being collected in a graded manner for archiving in the repository that is maintained at AFMC's Department of Forensic Medicine, he said.

"What does DNA profiling mean? You take a drop of the blood of an individ-

ual, put it on a special filter paper, and store it in a repository. Later, if you want to identify that individual for some reason, such as an unfortunate accident, we can retrieve his sample from the repository and match it with the DNA recovered from the mortal remains," Lt General Singh explained.

"Dried blood spots on specialized filter paper of individuals (armed forces personnel) are stored in the Forensic Department at AFMC. So far, in 12 cases, mortal remains have been identified using this technology, including those who died in the crash of a helicopter carrying (CDS) General Bipin Rawat," he said.

TRIBUTE TO SATYAJIT RAY

The village where Satyajit Ray met 'Pather Panchali'

Boral, May 02 (PTI):

Just on the outskirts of the old city limits of the megapolis of Kolkata stands the semi-urban hamlet of Boral, where a young art director with the advertisement agency D J Keymer shot his classic debut film Pather Panchali (Song of the Road), some 70 years ago, to metamorphose into the celebrated movie maestro Satyajit Ray. Ray or Manick-da as his close associates called him, whose 102nd birthday is being celebrated Tuesday with aplomb across the globe, chose the village as it "was only four miles from the city limits and this meant that we could make daily trips" as also because with his shoe-string budget to



shoot the movie, he could hardly afford on-location shoots in faraway rural idles. "He used to come to this field between our house and the ancient twin Shiva temple and stand for hours under a tree staring and chewing a handkerchief. "My father asked him what was he really doing. Ray told him that this was his way of

composing shots in his head," said Tushar Kanti Ghosh, 80, a scion of the Zamindar family which used to own most of the land in this village turned part of the city at one time, adding with a wrinkled grin: "He told dad he wasted around a dozen handkerchiefs a day thinking about shots!" Ghosh met Ray at age eight, and

played a small part as a student at the village school in Pather Panchali, shot over from 1952 to 1955. "He (Ray) asked my father if he could borrow some young boys for the movie I had two small parts in the film and naturally at that age I was thrilled," chuckled the octogenarian, who along with other fellow villagers never realised that their non-descript village would be thrust into international fame once the movie was released and showcased at Cannes as India's official entry. Opposite the pond where Ray had shot some of his scenes for Pather Panchali lives Abhishek Paul, 31, a young artist who said he heard stories of the film's shooting from his grandmother.

YOGA MAHOTSAV



Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and others perform yoga during 'Yoga Mahotsav', a programme organised as part of the countdown for International Day of Yoga 2023, in Jaipur, Tuesday.

'90% of crimes due to migrant labourers'

Panaji, May 02 (PTI):

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has said that about 90 per cent of the crimes in the coastal state are committed by migrant labourers from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and other areas, urging contractors to obtain "labour cards" before employing them. Sawant made the claim at a Labour Day function on May 1 in Panaji. The chief minister said that every migrant labourer working in the state should have a labour card given by the state government. The Goa government issues labour cards to those working in the private, unorganised and industrial sectors to keep



Pramod Sawant

a record of employment as well as extend welfare measures to this category.

Sawant said that it is necessary to track the details of labourers as "after committing a crime in Goa, migrant labourers often return to their state and it becomes difficult to

locate them". The chief minister said that "about 90 per cent of the crimes in Goa are committed by migrant labourers from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and other areas".

Sawant said that the state government has roped in two NGOs to ensure that all labourers are issued the cards. The chief minister announced that the facility to enrol the labourers for the card would be made online soon.

He said that once the cards are issued to all the labourers, it would be easier to access the database. "It will also help the police investigate the cases and track them," Sawant added.

BRIEF

Highest GST



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the highest ever monthly GST collection of Rs 1.87 lakh crore in April is a "great news" for the Indian economy. Gross Goods and Services (GST) collection in April rose 12 per cent on an annual basis to touch the all-time high level. The collection in April was Rs 19,495 crore more than the previous highest collection of Rs 1,67,540 lakh crore recorded in April 2022.

Output rises

New Delhi: State-owned NMDC Ltd on Tuesday reported an 11.42 per cent rise in its iron ore production of 3.51 million tonne (MT) in April 2023. It produced 3.15 MT of iron ore in the same month last year. NMDC said in a BSE filing. Last month, the company's sales rose by around 10 per cent to 3.43 MT from 3.12 MT in April 2022. Besides iron ore, Hyderabad-based NMDC is also involved in the exploration of a wide range of minerals like copper, rock phosphate, limestone, dolomite and gypsum.

Appointment



New Delhi: Airports Authority of India (AAI) on Monday said Sharad Kumar has taken charge as Member (Operations). Prior to the appointment, he was serving as Airport Director at Chennai International Airport. "Kumar will be responsible for airport management, airport facilitation and IT services, up-keep and maintenance of airport infrastructure, for safety and rescue services, including logistic support, security, liaison and co-ordination activities, promoting indigenisation under Aatmanirbhar scheme of the government," AAI said in a release. He has more than 30 years of experience and expertise in the construction, maintenance and modification of airports in the country.

Net profit

Mumbai: Public sector UCO Bank on Tuesday reported an 86.2 per cent rise in net profit to Rs 581.24 crore for the March 2023 quarter on the back of a reduction in bad loans. The bank reported a profit of Rs 312.18 crore in the January-March quarter of 2021-22. UCO Bank has posted its highest-ever annual net profit of Rs 1,862.34 crore in 2022-23 against Rs 929.76 crore in the preceding fiscal, registering a nearly 100 per cent year-on-year growth, the Kolkata head-quartered lender said in a stock exchange filing.

Essential for emerging economies to become engines of growth: Sitharaman

Seoul, May 02:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said it is essential for emerging economies to become growth engines and help in resolving challenges facing the world. She further said the G20 Presidency has come at a crucial stage to the emerging economies, stressing that three years are critical for the global economy, which is going through a reset. India currently holds the presidency of G20, which is a grouping of developing and developed countries. India has taken over the presidency from Indonesia and will hand it over to Brazil later in the year. Addressing the Indian diaspora in Seoul, the minister said India is being noticed worldwide



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman being received by Ambassador of India to the Republic of Korea Amit Kumar upon her arrival in Incheon, South Korea, Tuesday, May 2.

not just because it is the fastest-growing large economy - this year as well as the coming year - but also because of the way in which it has handled the

pandemic and economic revival. The minister is in Seoul to attend the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

She said while the advanced economies today are looking at a long-drawn recession, central banks in those countries are raising interest rates and dealing with inflation. "In such a situation globally, how can economies, particularly emerging market economies, who are all showing good signs of growth...is it possible for us to sustain that growth, is it possible for us to give greater energy to that growth momentum so that emerging markets can literally be the engines of growth and help the global crisis be solved," Sitharaman said. The minister said the G20 troika - Indonesia, India and Brazil - are all emerging economies, and hence it is important that the voice of the global

south be heard. The 'Global South' largely refers to countries in Asia, Africa and South America. "The three years are going to be important for the global economy to reset itself and readjust to the global realities," she said, adding there is a recession on one hand and economic revival from COVID on the other. Also, artificial intelligence, deep data analytics and the Internet of Things are being used extensively, she added. India, Sitharaman said, has already adopted a digital payment system, faceless tax assessment and digital ID, and is scaling up technology at a very fast pace. Companies in India are also resetting themselves, using artificial intelligence and adapting to the requirements of the 21st century.

Daimler India rolls out BharatBenz Simulated Driver trainer initiative

Chennai, May 02:

Daimler India, the subsidiary of Stuttgart-based truck maker Daimler has rolled out 'BharatBenz Simulated driver trainer' initiative aimed at enhancing driving skills and adapting drivers to digital technology, the company said on Tuesday. Daimler India produces commercial vehicles under brand 'BharatBenz' at its facility in Oragadam about 45 km from here. BharatBenz Simulated driver trainer offers an immersive multi-sensory digital experience and provides an inclusive training programme in five languages and 27 driving modules, the company said. It

would enhance driver skills, help them learn and adapt to modern technology in BharatBenz trucks, better their logistical efficiency, drive safer than before and strengthen driving capability for interstate, intra-city, hilly and mining terrain applications. In its initial phase, the Simulated Driver Trainer would cater to drivers of heavy duty trucks. The Simulated Driver Trainer is a combination of a computerised and digital experience for any BharatBenz driver who trains on it. The set-up comprises a multi-screen display positioned up-front on the driver's line of sight, the company said in a statement.

Rupee falls 6 paise to 81.88 against US dollar

Mumbai, May 02:

The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled 6 paise lower at 81.88 (provisional) against the American currency on Tuesday as investors preferred to stay on the sidelines ahead of the US Fed meeting outcome. At the interbank foreign exchange, the local unit opened on a positive note at 81.75 but pared early gains to settle 6 paise lower at 81.88 against the US dollar despite a firm trend in domestic equities. During the day, the rupee touched a high of 81.72 and a low of 81.95 against the American currency. On Friday, the rupee closed at 81.82 against the US currency. Forex and equity markets were closed on Monday on account of 'Maharashtra Day'. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.15 per cent to 102.30. Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, declined 0.55 per cent to USD 78.87 per barrel.

FM asks ADB to support India with more concessional climate finance

Incheon (South Korea), May 02:

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday met ADB president Masatsugu Asakawa and urged the multilateral funding agency to support India with more concessional climate finance, as the country's economic progress can have huge positive impact regionally and globally. During the bilateral meeting with the president here, Sitharaman said India continues to be the most significant country for ADB's sovereign and non-sovereign operations. She also expressed support to Asian Development Bank (ADB) for innovative financing mechanisms to enhance the lending capacity of the bank. She advised ADB to introspect and assess how



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with Asian Development Bank President Masatsugu Asakawa during a meeting on the sidelines of 56th ADB's annual meeting of its Board of Governors, in Incheon, South Korea, Tuesday, May 2.

the bank can effectively support developing member countries. "FM Smt. @nitharaman urged @ADB_HQ to support India with more concessional climate finance, as India's economic and developmental progress can

have huge positive impact regionally and globally," a tweet from the finance ministry said. Asakawa during the meeting reiterated ADB's commitment of providing USD 100 billion climate finance to its member countries and also thanked India for support

we are delighted to bring the all-new Monster SP to India and look forward to the response from the riders who appreciate attention to detail when it comes to their motorcycles," Ducati India Managing Director Bipul Chandra said. The company currently sells bikes from dealerships in New Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Chandigarh, Ahmedabad and Kolkata.

Ducati drives in Monster SP priced at Rs 15.95 lakh



New Delhi, May 02:

Italian superbike maker Ducati on Tuesday said it has launched Monster SP in India priced at Rs 15.95 lakh (ex-showroom). The bookings are open for the 937-cc bike across all the company dealerships in the country with deliveries starting immediately, Ducati said in a statement. "Created for the most passionate Ducatisti who love the thrill of sporty riding,

HDFC Bank launches Digital Distribution Platform for its agents and partners

Mumbai, May 02:

HDFC Bank, India's leading private sector bank, has introduced a Digital Distribution Platform (DDP) - 'HDFC Bank Smart Saathi', a state-of-the-art solution which is built on a robust and digitally-enabled technology architecture that provides a secure and user-friendly experience to all its users. This launch marks a significant milestone in HDFC Bank's mission to provide innovative solutions that cater to the evolving needs of its customers. This platform will use advanced technology solutions to connect Business Correspondents (BCs) and Business Facilitators (BFs) to the bank. This network of



Business Correspondents and Business Facilitators will boost financial inclusion by taking banking products and services to the last mile. The bank's deep learning of semi urban and rural ecosystem has been utilised to develop this user-friendly platform. 'HDFC Bank Smart Saathi' was launched in Delhi by Mr Vivek Joshi, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, and Ms Smita Bhagat, Group Head, Government and Institutional Business, Alternate Banking Channels and Partnerships, Inclusive Banking Group and Start-Ups, HDFC Bank. Also present on the occasion

were Mr Mukesh Bansal, Joint Secretary, Department of Financial Services, and senior executives Mr Dinesh Luthra and Mr Ajay Sharma from HDFC Bank. "Digital Platforms such as these will contribute towards fulfilling India's vision of a cashless economy and true digital financial inclusion. HDFC Bank Smart Saathi will contribute by making banking products and services available, especially credit for rural customers, which will help in the development of our country. However, there are still behavioural changes that are required across some customer segments like farmers transacting at mandis, to make cashless India a bigger success."

Amazon announces Great Summer Sale from May 4

Mumbai, May 02:

Summer has set in with all its might, leaving consumers yearning for breezy distractions. Amazon.in has come in with a much-required respite - by announcing the Great Summer Sale. This year, Amazon.in's Summer Sale, starting from May 4 - May 8, 2023 will provide customers with offers on millions of products by sellers including artisans & weavers, women entrepreneurs, start-ups, brands, and local neighbourhood stores across categories including Smartphones, Consumer Electronics, Grocery, Fashion & Beauty essentials, Home &

Large Appliances, TVs and more. Customers can enjoy summer vibes by saving more with great offers from brands like Samsung, Mamypoko, Loreal, TCL, V Guard, Godrej, Zydus, LG among others. All the exciting offers will be made available to Prime members 12 hours prior allowing them to exclusively shop, avail great deals and best offers ahead of others. The Prime Early Access will be active from midnight of May 4, 2023. Customers will also get the chance to win up to Rs 5000 as rewards during the Pay & Shop Rewards Festival by making daily payments such as sending

or receiving money, paying bills and more. In addition to this, avail instant credit up to INR 60,000 with Amazon Pay Later along with welcome rewards worth INR 600. What's more is that customers can also get up to 5% cashback on shopping, coupled with welcome rewards up to INR 2,000 with Amazon Pay ICICI Bank credit card. There are also interesting Live streams planned for the Great Summer sale. These will feature some of the famous content creators like Trackin tech, Tech burner, Rajiv Makhni, Technoruhez, Aly goni, Vineet Malhotra unveiling top deals for the event and reviewing products.

Airtel Payments Bank collaborates with the National Payments Corporation of India

To roll out Face Authentication for Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS)
New Delhi, May 02:

Taking one more step to drive digital and financial inclusion in the country, Airtel Payments Bank collaborated with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to roll out Face Authentication for AePS (Aadhaar-enabled Payment System) at its 500,000 banking points. Airtel Payments Bank is amongst the first four banks to offer Face Authentication for AePS in the country. NPCI's AePS allows customers to carry out financial and non-financial transactions at any banking point using their Aadhaar number or virtual

ID to access their Aadhaar-linked bank account. Until now, transactions were being authenticated using the customer's Aadhaar number and fingerprint or Iris match in the UIDAI records. The new facility will enable customers to validate the transaction by undertaking face authentication along with the Aadhaar number. The authentication is processed using the Face Authentication RD Application by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). In the first phase, the facility is made available for non-financial transactions - Balance enquiry and mini-statements - for the Bank's customers. Soon the Bank will make it available for financial transactions.

Go First to suspend flights on May 3, 4

Files for voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings
Mumbai, May 02:

Wadia group-owned Go First will temporarily suspend flights on May 3 and 4 amid severe fund crunch, the airline's chief Kaushik Khona said on Tuesday. The budget carrier has also filed an application for voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Delhi. Speaking to PTI, Khona said the airline has grounded 28 planes, more than half of its fleet, due to non-supply of engines by Pratt & Whitney (P&W). This has resulted in a fund crunch. "It is an unfortunate decision (filing for voluntary insolvency



resolution proceedings) but it had to be done to protect the interests of the company," he said. The airline has informed the government about the developments and will also be submitting a detailed report to aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Flights will be suspended on May 3 and 4. Once the NCLT admits the application, then the flights will be restarted, Khona said. Go First has more than 5,000 employees.

Meanwhile the civil aviation ministry is keeping a close watch on the developments at crisis-hit Go First and the proceedings that are expected at the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) this week, a senior official has said. Faced with a severe financial crunch as more than half of its fleet is grounded due to the non-availability of Pratt & Whitney engines, Go First on Tuesday filed for voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings before the NCLT and has also decided to cancel all flights for May 3 and 4. Against this backdrop, the senior government official said the ministry is keeping a close watch on the developments related to Go First, including the admission of the airline's application by the NCLT.

Sensex, Nifty finish higher on foreign fund inflows

Record GST collection in April; log 8th day of rally
Mumbai, May 02:

Equity benchmarks ended higher on Tuesday mainly due to buying in index heavyweights Infosys and Reliance Industries amid foreign fund inflows. Also, firm trend in Asian gauges and record GST collection in April added to the optimism. Rallying for the eighth straight day, the 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 242.27 points or 0.40 per cent to settle at 61,354.71. During the day, it jumped 373.8 points or 0.61 per cent to 61,486.24. The broader NSE Nifty went up 82.65 points or 0.46 per cent to finish at 18,147.65. From the Sensex

firms, Tech Mahindra, NTPC, Tata Steel, Maruti, Infosys, Power Grid, Larsen & Toubro, Axis Bank, Titan, Reliance Industries, Wipro and Mahindra & Mahindra were the biggest gainers. Sun Pharma, UltraTech Cement, Tata Motors, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bajaj Finance, State Bank of India and Nestle were among the laggards. In Asian markets, Seoul, Japan, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended in the green. Equity markets in Europe were trading mostly lower. The US markets had ended marginally lower on Monday. GST collection in April rose by 12 per cent annually to over Rs 1.87 lakh crore, touching an all-time monthly high, showed finance ministry data released on Monday.

Salman Khan: My love stories will go with me to the grave



Bollywood's famous actor Salman Khan has recently opened up about his love life in an interview on the chat show 'Aap Ki Adalat'. The actor admitted that he has been "unlucky in love" and that the fault lies with him.

When asked if he intended to write an autobiography on his love affairs, Salman replied: "My love stories will go with me to the grave." He also stated that he has been unlucky in love and that all his previous girlfriends were good.

The actor also spoke about his marriage plans, saying that when the time is right, it will happen. "Jab aisa koi aayega, toh ho jayega, Sir (when somebody will

come, it will happen). In the first case, marriage did not happen. When I said yes, somebody said, no. When somebody said yes, I said no. Now there is 'no' from both sides. When both sides say 'yes', the marriage will take place," he said.

When asked about how many children he wants, Salman replied, "As many as possible. Many. If I have one, and another after 5-6 years, I can play with them for 20-25 years. This is called dedication, consistency, persistence."

Salman Khan has always been a private person when it comes to his personal life, but his recent interview gave a rare insight into his love life and marriage plans.

Child actor Azinkya and Adnan share a great bond offscreen as well!

Having successfully completed 100 episodes and counting, Sony Entertainment Television's Katha Ankahee has captivated audiences with its mesmerizing plot and lovable characters. Starring Adnan Khan and Aditi Dev Sharma in the lead roles, the show offers viewers a heartwarming love story born out of repentance as Viaan and Katha face and overcome life's challenges. In the current track, audiences have enjoyed watching the affectionate interaction of Viaan and Katha's son Aarav (played by Ajinkya Mishra) while Katha is unaware that Viaan is in fact the Robin to Aarav's Batman.

Adnan Khan and Azinkya Mishra are the coolest on-screen duo, and their endearing bond has the audience rooting for them every step of the way. Unknowing of each other's



connection with Katha, Aarav and Viaan met in a karate class and quickly formed a strong connection. We have seen multiple instances of Viaan sharing everything about his life with Aarav, and Aarav giving him tips to help him connect with his mystery girl, while Viaan selflessly helps Aarav on multiple occasions. Just like their on-screen bond, Adnan and Azinkya share the same Robin and Batman vibe in real life too. Recently, Adnan praised Azinkya's

talent and work ethic, saying, "I love how Azinkya emotes while acting. His grasping power is remarkable, and he gives very quick reactions to things, which is wonderful to see for someone so young. I do not perceive him as a child actor because he is such a brilliant performer, and at times he even teaches me something new about acting. He is a child prodigy who often provides me with a fresh perspective to better comprehend things."

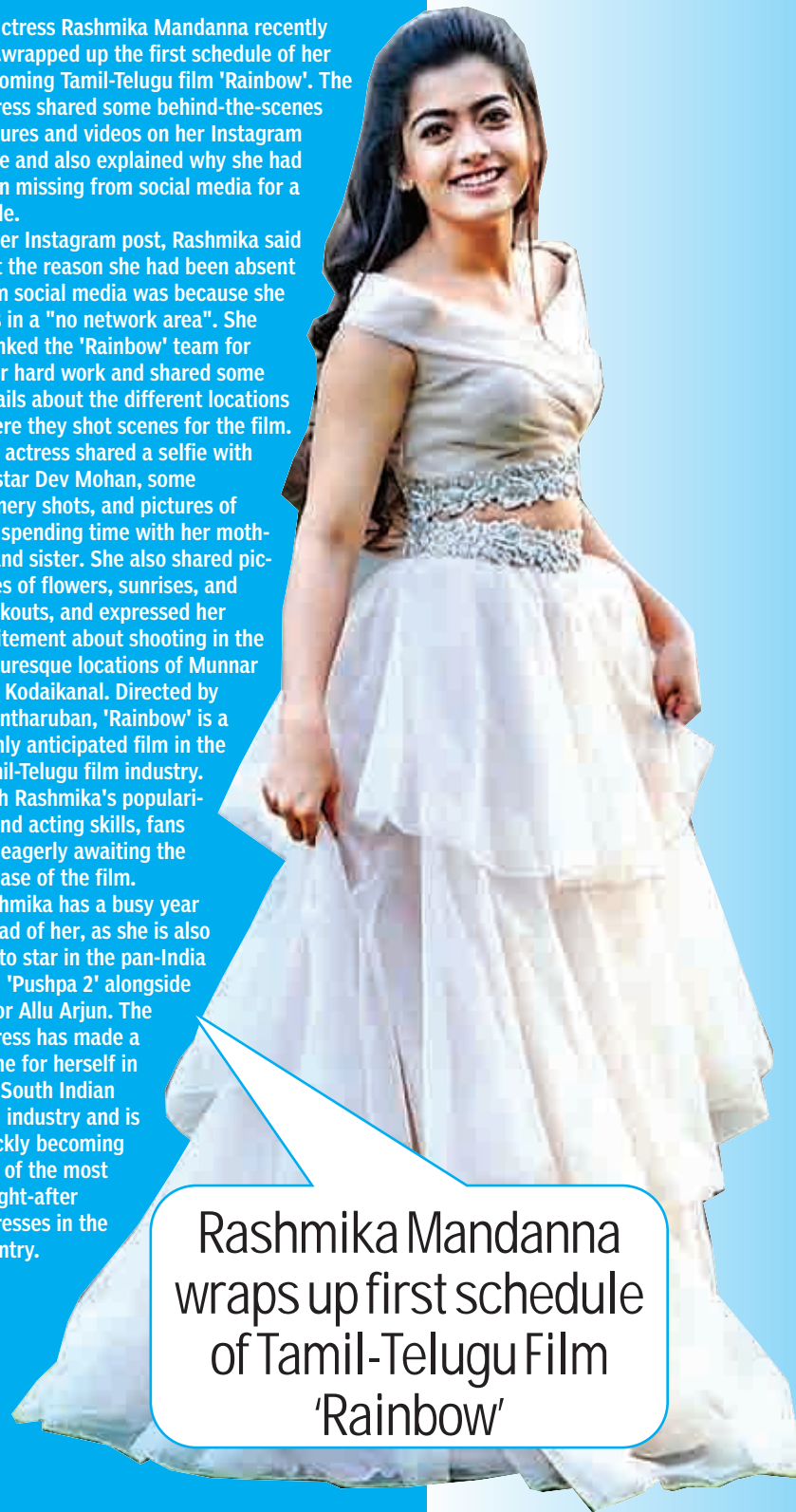
Actress Rashmika Mandanna recently wrapped up the first schedule of her upcoming Tamil-Telugu film 'Rainbow'. The actress shared some behind-the-scenes pictures and videos on her Instagram page and also explained why she had been missing from social media for a while.

In her Instagram post, Rashmika said that the reason she had been absent from social media was because she was in a "no network area". She thanked the 'Rainbow' team for their hard work and shared some details about the different locations where they shot scenes for the film.

The actress shared a selfie with co-star Dev Mohan, some scenery shots, and pictures of her spending time with her mother and sister. She also shared pictures of flowers, sunrises, and workouts, and expressed her excitement about shooting in the picturesque locations of Munnar and Kodaikanal. Directed by Shantharuban, 'Rainbow' is a highly anticipated film in the Tamil-Telugu film industry.

With Rashmika's popularity and acting skills, fans are eagerly awaiting the release of the film. Rashmika has a busy year ahead of her, as she is also set to star in the pan-India film 'Pushpa 2' alongside actor Allu Arjun. The actress has made a name for herself in the South Indian film industry and is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after actresses in the country.

Rashmika Mandanna wraps up first schedule of Tamil-Telugu Film 'Rainbow'



Here's how Riya Sharma beat the heat

The sweltering summer heat is here, and temperatures are soaring high all across India. Actors are often seen shooting outdoors for long hours in the heat and extreme conditions. Staying hydrated is crucial to ensure they give their best performance on screen. Riya Sharma (who plays the character of Tara) from Sony SAB's Dhruv Tara - Samay Sadi Se makes her health a priority during these intensive outdoor schedules. In a candid conversation, Riya Sharma, shares her experience of shooting outdoor, staying hydrated during the summers and much more.

Riya Sharma, who plays the character of Tara, said, "Summers in Mumbai are known to be humid and terribly hot, so I make it a point to have certain essentials by my side at all times. Recently, when we were filming a sequence for the show, we had to face the harsh temperature. During such times, I ensure to drink a lot of water, juices, and other beverages to stay hydrated. Fruits and



coconut water are my best friends in the summers as they help me stay energized." She further added, "I try to start my day early and pack in as much work earlier in the day, avoiding the hot summer sun that takes over. I ensure I always have sunscreen on me and try to keep my skin feeling fresh and supple throughout the season with simple routines using basic and fresh ingredients available at home. These simple hacks help me put my best foot forward and give every sequence my all, despite the sweltering weather."

Sara Ali Khan is a 'Guardians of the Galaxy' fan



"Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 3," directed by James Gunn. A self-proclaimed fan of the franchise, Sara admires the gang's "amazing sense of humour" and is eagerly anticipating the third volume's release. Despite the film marking a goodbye for the moment, the actress remains hopeful for a possible comeback. Starring Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Karen Gillan, Pom Klementieff, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper, Sean Gunn, Chukwudi Iwujui, Will Poulter, and Maria Bakalova, "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3" is set to release in India on May 5th in English, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu. Marvel Studios is producing the film.

Tiger Shroff celebrates seven years of 'Baaghi'

Actor Tiger Shroff recently marked the seventh anniversary of his debut film 'Baaghi' by expressing his gratitude for the opportunity it gave him in the film industry. Taking to his Instagram stories, Tiger shared a photo of himself and extended his thanks to his fans and his mentor, Sajid Nadiadwala.

In his post, Tiger wrote, "7 years of a film that gave me an identity and a life in the industry. Thank you to all the audience and my fans who are like my family for accepting me. This franchise takes all my blood, sweat and tears but all worthwhile #baaghi." Tiger also expressed his appreciation for Nadiadwala, who gave him the platform to showcase himself, saying, "Forever grateful to my godfather/mentor #sajidnadiadwala... For giving me a platform to showcase myself best I can. And my first director and one of my favs...this wouldn't have been possible without you paaji Iv u." The actor is currently busy shooting for his upcoming action-thriller film 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' with the rest of the team in the UK. He is also gearing up for a string of films, including 'Ganapath' and several others that are yet to be announced. Tiger has become one of the most sought-after actors in Bollywood, thanks to his impressive performances and his agility in performing high-octane action sequences.



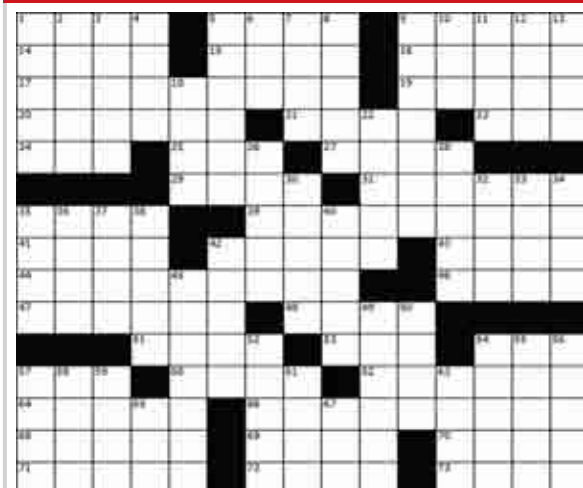
When actors burst out laughing during serious situations!

This World Laughter Day, &TV's artists spill the beans on their most hilarious moments. From uncontrollable laughter during serious situations to bursting out at inappropriate times, these actors share hysterical stories that will leave you in splits.

These include RJ Mohit (Manoj, Doosri Maa), Yogesh Tripathi (Daroga Hattu Singh, Hattu Ki Ultan Paltan), and Rohitashv Gour (Manmohan Tiwari, Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai), shares, "I've got a confession to make - I have a bit of a giggling problem. It's been with me since I was young, and my daughter, Ashi, has inherited the same quirk. But it just means we're best

buds with an unbreakable bond! I may be a strict mom, but I also know how to bring laughs. One time, Ashi had a school assignment due the next day, but she hadn't finished it yet. I was a little taken aback, but then I realized - she was pulling a prank on me! I was on her case, giving her the "importance of time" talk, and suddenly she started smiling and laughing. That incident taught me that humour can be an amazing tool for parenting. It can diffuse tense situations and make even the grumpiest person smile. So let's keep laughing, my friends! Happy World Laughter Day, everyone! Laughter is the best medicine and a great way to bond with your loved ones. Humesha Haste Rahiye Aur Haaste Rahiye!"

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- Circle segments
- Guess
- Fable collector
- Ring loudly
- Andes light
- Blinding light
- Boundary
- Pseudonym
- Small landmass
- Andean animals
- Arrange

- Wind direction (abbr.)
- Washington, DC time zone
- School org.
- Close
- Norse tale
- Relaxed (2 wds.)
- Dummy
- Wowed
- English river
- Pseudonym
- Docile
- Most sore

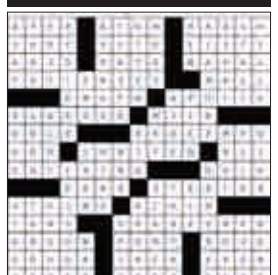
- Revolve
- Unspecified person
- King's title
- Subside
- Atop, poetically
- Vital statistic
- Time past
- Soothing salve
- Hear
- Fray
- Devoted
- Roadside warning
- Toledo's lake
- Ascend
- Lettuce dish
- Coral formation
- Frozen

DOWN

- Eve's fruit
- Staggered
- Gem weight
- Slender
- Midday nap
- Explosive letters
- Top pilots
- Red (fighter pilot)
- Stir up
- City trains
- Bargain bonanza
- Mined minerals
- Singer Seeger
- Tourists' aids
- Brings up
- Nimble
- Takes a break

- Off killer
- Kind of PDD
- Large truck
- Eve's home
- Computer fodder
- Baking place
- Small horse
- Bestow
- Barbecue site
- Fight site
- Made possible
- Easing of pain
- Rocker Clapton
- Church leader
- Storage spot
- Barnyard fowl
- Stopped
- Canine comments
- Festive occasion
- Egg-shaped
- Nothing more than
- Indian attire
- Period in history
- Spotted cube

SOLUTION 632



Punjab Kings to test Mumbai Indians' class

Mohali, May 02 (PTI):

Five-time champions Mumbai Indians' class and pedigree will once again be tested when they take on an unpredictable Punjab Kings in a crucial Indian Premier League match here on Wednesday.

A win will give MI the much-needed push on the points table, while a loss will see them slip further and chart a familiar course like the previous edition. MI had finished 10th and last in the previous edition.

The Mumbai team is currently placed seventh with eight points from eight matches and things are not looking great for Rohit Sharma's side.



Captain Rohit Sharma with teammates during a practice session.

Match Starts at 7:30pm

The win against Rajasthan Royals at the Wankhede Stadium on April 30, though, would have instilled a fair bit of confidence in the MI team after it chased down a massive 212 with three balls to spare to earn two valuable points. The win was crafted by Singapore-born Australian cricketer Tim David, who smashed three sixes on the trot in the final over during his 14-ball unbeaten 45 to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. While there were vital contributions from India's T20 specialist bat-

ter Suryakumar Yadav (55), tall Australian all-rounder Cameron Green (44), Ishan Kishan (28) and Tilak Varma (29 not out), none could match the ferocity of David's strokes.

The 27-year-old middle-order batter smashed five sixes and two boundaries at a strike rate in excess of 300 as Mumbai Indians won on home turf.

A similar commitment would be required against Punjab Kings, who are known to play aggressive cricket, though their biggest drawback is an unreliable top order.

Barring Shikhar Dhawan and to an extent his opening partner Prabhsimran Singh, very few PBKS batters have contributed enough to their overall totals, though all that changed in their previous game against Chennai Super Kings at Chepauk on April 30.

Set a stiff 200-run target by MS Dhoni's side, the entire top and middle-order came to the party to win a last-ball thriller by four wickets.

With Prabhsimran and Dhawan laying a good foundation in powerplay, England all-rounder Liam Livingstone, Sam Curran

and wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma all chipped in to make it a memorable chase.

The team, though, will likely have to face the fiery pace of Mumbai Indians' Jofra Archer, who was back in the game against Rajasthan Royals, bowling his quota of overs and taking a wicket as well.

MI skipper Rohit's form, though, is the biggest concern for the five-time IPL champions and much would depend on the India captain on Wednesday to shore up his side, after contributing just three runs in the match against the Royals.

CSK aim to get back to winning ways vs LSG

Lucknow, May 02 (PTI):

Hit by injuries to skipper KL Rahul and seamer Jaydev Unadkat, Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) would be wary of Chennai Super Kings' ability to bounce back when the two sides face each other in an Indian Premier League match here on Wednesday.

LSG would also be facing the heat after failing to chase down a meagre total of 126 in their own den, getting bundled out for just 108 in 19.5 overs by Royal Challengers Bangalore on Monday.

Rahul sustained injury on his right thigh during the match against RCB here on Monday, while Unadkat slipped badly while bowling at the nets, resulting to a nasty fall on Sunday.



Chennai Super Kings skipper MS Dhoni with teammates during a practice session.

Match Starts at 3:30pm

The extent of both the injuries is yet to be ascertained but Rahul came out to bat at No. 11 in LSG's unsuccessful run chase, facing three balls without opening account. His inclusion in the LSG team for Wednesday's match is doubtful.

Players like Kyle Mayers, Nicholas Pooran, Marcus Stoinis and Krunal Pandya have chipped in individually as well as collectively in previous games to keep the Lucknow franchise afloat while skipper Rahul has not been at his best after the two half centuries (74 against Punjab Kings and

68 against Gujarat Titans).

LSG's performance this season has swung wildly. While on the one hand, they have given commanding performances that have become the envy of other sides, they also have a self-destruction button hidden somewhere, which goes off automatically.

Though CSK are coming off consecutive losses to Rajasthan Royals and Punjab Kings, their ability to bounce back can never

be underestimated. With the tactical acumen of Dhoni playing a vital role in most of their victories this season, the former India captain could exploit the situation, especially if Rahul does not play on Wednesday. CSK will once again lean heavily on their New Zealand opener Devon Conway, who has been in the form of his life, scoring 414 runs from nine matches at an average of 59.14 and strike rate of 144.25. It was bad luck that CSK lost to Punjab despite

Conway smashing an unbeaten 92 at Chepauk to guide his team to 200 for four, only to see the total being overhauled off the last ball. Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ravindra Jadeja and Ajinkya Rahane are players with big-match temperament and can fire on any given day, while the Sri Lankan duo of Maheesh Theekshana and Matheesha Pathirana have been potent weapons in CSK's bowling arsenal, not to forget Moeen Ali and Jadeja.

India overtake Australia to become No. 1 Test side



Dubai, May 02 (PTI):

India have overtaken Australia to regain the number one position in the ICC men's Test team rankings following the annual update that drops results from the 2019-20 season and reflects all series completed since May 2020.

India's rating points have moved up from 119 to 121 as their 2-0 defeat to New Zealand in March 2020 no longer figures in the rankings, which assesses series completed prior to May 2022 at 50 per cent and subsequent series at 100 per cent.

India were last at the top for a month in December 2021. Australia have slipped from 122 to 116 rating points as their home series wins over Pakistan (2-0) and New Zealand (3-0) in 2019-20 no longer figure in the rankings, while their 4-0 win over England in 2021-22 has its weight-

ing halved to 50 per cent. Australia, who take on India in the final of the ICC World Test Championship 2023 at The Oval from June 7, were the top-ranked Test side since January 2022. They grabbed the position with the 4-0 series win over England that helped them overtake New Zealand.

England remain in third position but the gap between them and the second placed side is reduced from 13 to two rating points owing to some consistent performances in recent months as well as reduced weightage of their 4-0 Ashes defeat and a 1-0 defeat in the West Indies. The other rankings too remain unchanged though 10th-placed Zimbabwe have gained five rating points.

Afghanistan and Ireland have yet to play enough Tests to earn a place in the rankings table.

Archers confirm four medals in Asia Cup Stage 2

Tashkent, May 02 (PTI):



Indian archers made a flying start to their campaign in the Asia Cup Stage 2 World Ranking Tournament, advancing to the finals of all four team events in the recurve and compound sections, here on Tuesday.

The top-seeded Indian men's recurve team of Mrinal Chauhan, Tushar Shelke and Jayanta Talukdar eliminated hosts' Uzbekistan's Chen Yao Yuy, Mirjalol Karorov and Amir Khan Sadikov 6-0 (56-54, 57-54, 56-53) in the semifinal.

They started off with a 6-0 (54-49, 58-48, 53-45) win over Kyrgyzstan. The men's recurve team will take on their rivals from China in the gold medal clash on Friday. Recurve women's team of Sangeeta, Prachi Singh and

Tanisha Verma overcame Uzbekistan in a nail-biting tiebreaker finish to emerge 5-4 (53-54, 56-49, 52-50, 52-54, 26*-26) winners.

In the semi-final, the Indian women's recurve team defeated Saudi Arabia

6-0 (50-40, 54-47, 49-45) in the quarters. India will face China in the women's recurve team final too. Having got a bye into semi-final, the top-seeded compound men's team of Abhishek Verma, Kushal Dalal and Amit got the better of Saudi Arabia 236-221 to make the final. They will take on Hong Kong in the gold medal clash on Friday. The compound women's team of Parneet Kaur, Pragati and Raginee Markoo are already in the final after topping the qualification round and they will also take on Hong Kong in the gold medal clash.

India U-17s gear up for preparatory game against Real Madrid U-17

New Delhi, May 02 (PTI):

The India U-17 men's team is set to face Real Madrid U-17s at the Ciudad Deportiva del Real Madrid in Madrid on Wednesday, their fourth preparatory game in Spain. The India U-17s are currently preparing for the AFC U-17 Asian Cup, which is set to be held in Thailand in June 2023, where they have been placed in Group D alongside Japan, Vietnam and Uzbekistan. Under the

stewardship of head coach Bibiano Fernandes, the Blue Cubs have played three preparatory matches against Atletico de Madrid U-17 (4-1), CD Leganes U-18 (0-2), and Atletico Madrileno (2-1). Fernandes feels that it would be a very good opportunity for Indian youngsters to play against skilful opponents. "It is a massive opportunity for these boys to square up against well trained players from a top club like Real Madrid," he said.

Another ugly face-off between Kohli and Gambhir during IPL game



Lucknow, May 02 (PTI):

Star India batter Virat Kohli and former opener Gautam Gambhir added another chapter to their bitter rivalry as they got involved in an ugly face-off after the Indian Premier League match between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Lucknow Super Giants here.

Kohli, one of RCB's batting mainstays, and Gambhir, the LSG mentor,

Both fined 100% of match fees

were seen having a heated argument after the Bengaluru-based side won the match by 18 runs on Monday night. Both were on Tuesday fined 100 per cent of their match fees for breaching Article 2.21 of IPL code of conduct, which relates to public acts of misconduct, unruly public behaviour and inappropriate comments detrimental to the interest of the game.

Kohli seemed to be referring to the spat with his former India and Delhi state team-mate when he said "you got to take it, otherwise don't give it", after the match.

Tsitsipas outlasts Baez at Madrid Open; Swiatek advances

Madrid, May 02 (AP):



Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas returns the ball to Argentina's Sebastian Baez during their 2023 ATP Tour Madrid Open tennis tournament singles match at the Caja Magica in Madrid.

Stefanos Tsitsipas felt like his rival was as fast as a cheetah on center court at the Madrid Open.

Point after point, his opponent Sebastian Baez kept chasing down balls to stay in contention in the third-round match.

The third-seeded Tsitsipas came through in the clutch moments, though, earning a 7-5, 3-6, 6-3 win over the 31st-ranked Baez on Monday to secure a spot in the last 16 of the clay-court tournament.

Tsitsipas won the last four games of the opening set and the last three of

the third to advance. "I had to bring the best out of my game," Tsitsipas said. "He

wasn't missing much. Of course he's someone that covers and runs around

the court pretty well. He definitely utilized that pretty well against me, being able to navigate himself throughout the entire court with ease, just gliding through the court like a cheetah." Tsitsipas broke for 5-3 in the third set and saved two break points before serving it out. "He really fought for every single point," Tsitsipas said, "and I'm glad obviously that I overcame this." Tsitsipas, seeking his first title of the season, improved to 8-2 on clay. He was a finalist in the Australian Open and last week in Barcelona. He also was a finalist at Madrid in 2019, and a semifinalist again in 2022.

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