

### BRIEF



Naturally-formed ice lingam inside the Shri Amarnath Cave Shrine ahead of the beginning of Amarnath Yatra from July 1, Sunday.

### Fire

**Thane:** A major fire in Bhiwandi in Maharashtra's Thane district destroyed four godowns storing electrical and electronic items though there was no report of injuries to anyone, a civic official said on Sunday. The blaze started at 9:40pm on Saturday and was doused in the afternoon during the day almost 15 hours later, the Bhiwandi Naizampura Municipal Corporation fire brigade official said.

### Road crash

**Bhadoli:** A sub-inspector posted at the Aurai police station here was killed when his motorcycle was hit by an unidentified vehicle in Varanasi, a police official said on Sunday. The 55-year-old sub-inspector Sushil Tripathi was in Varanasi in connection with a probe when the accident took place on Saturday, Circle officer of Aurai, Umeshwar Pratap Singh, said.

### Collapse

**Mumbai:** A 70-year-old man and a 65-year-old woman died and two persons were injured after a part of the balcony of a building collapsed in Vile Parle in Mumbai on Sunday, a civic official said. The incident took place on St Braz Road near Nanavati Hospital at 2:27pm and the deceased have been identified as Priscila Misquita (65) and Robbie Misquita (70), the fire brigade official said.

### Collision

**Tikamgarh:** Two persons were killed and as many injured in a collision between motorcycles in Madhya Pradesh's Tikamgarh district on Sunday, police said. The accident occurred at Rampura trisection under Kudila police station limits, some 50 km from the district headquarters, this afternoon, an official said.

### Suicide

**Bhadoli:** A 24-year-old woman allegedly hanged herself at her home in the district's Aurai area on Sunday, police said. The police have registered a dowry death case against four people and three accused, including the woman's husband, have been arrested. Aurai Circle Officer Umeshwar Prabhakar Singh said Swati Jaiswal married 25-year-old Pradeep Jaiswal of Dakshin Mohalla last November. She hanged herself from the ceiling fan on Sunday.

### Emergency landing

**Kalaburagi:** A two-seater trainer aircraft operated by a private flight training academy made an emergency landing on agricultural land at a village in Chittapur taluk of Kalaburagi district in Karnataka on Sunday, police said. There are no casualties in the incident, nor is there any major damage to the aircraft, they said.

**Weather**  
High 28 Low 24

### 'Order of the Nile'

# Egypt's highest honour conferred on Modi

Cairo, Jun 25 (PTD):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Sunday conferred with the 'Order of the Nile', Egypt's highest honour, by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi here.

Instituted in 1915, the 'Order of the Nile' is conferred upon heads of states, crown princes, and vice presidents who offer Egypt or humanity invaluable services. This is the 13th highest state honour conferred upon Prime Minister Modi. The 'Order of the Nile' is a pure gold collar consisting of three-square gold units comprising Pharaonic symbols.

The first unit resembles the idea of protecting the state against the evils, the second one resembles prosperity and happiness brought by the Nile and



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi confers Prime Minister Narendra Modi with 'Order of the Nile' award - Egypt's highest state honour, during their meeting in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday.

### Other honours for PM.....

Over the past nine years, the Prime Minister has been conferred the Companion of the Order of Logohu, the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea; the Companion of the Order of Fiji; the Ebaki Award by the Republic of Palau; the Order of the Druk Gyalpo, the highest civilian decoration by Bhutan. Modi has also been conferred with the Legion of Merit by the US Government; the King Hamad Order of the Renaissance by Bahrain; the Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddin, the highest honour of the Maldives; the Order of St. Andrew award, the highest civilian honour of Russia.

### PM visits pyramid of Giza



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday toured the great pyramids of Giza on the outskirts of the Egyptian capital, which were included in the Seven Wonders of the World. Escorted by Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly, Modi visited the three pyramids of the 4th-dynasty erected on a rocky plateau on the west bank of the Nile River near Al-Jizah (Giza) in northern Egypt.

the third one refers to wealth and endurance.

### Internet ban

Imphal, Jun 25:

The Manipur government on Sunday extended the ban on internet services in the state for five more days to prevent any disturbances of peace and public order. According to an official release, the ban on internet services in the Northeast state, which has been racked by ethnic clashes and violence, has been extended till 3 pm on June 30 to "prevent any disturbances of peace and public order in the jurisdiction of the state of Manipur".

Jashpur, Jun 25:

Two members of a family were killed and an elderly woman sustained injuries after being struck by lightning in tribal-dominated Jashpur district, police said on Sunday. The incident occurred on Saturday at Rajpur village under Bagicha development block when the victims

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## US drone deal pending, price reports misleading: Govt

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

India is yet to finalise the cost and specific terms of purchase of 31 MQ-9B long endurance drones from the US and it will examine the "best price" offered by the manufacturer to other nations before concluding the procurement, the defence ministry said on Sunday while trashing reports in a section of social media on the price as well as the acquisition process.

It said the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) accorded to the procurement by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) noted the

estimated cost of USD 3,072 million (one million=10 lakh) as provided by the US government, adding the price will be negotiated once policy approval from Washington is received. The DAC headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on June 15 accorded the AoN or initial approval for acquisition of 31 MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) drones from the US under the foreign military sale (FMS) route.

The AoN included the number of unmanned aerial vehicles to be procured along with associated equipment.

## 'Dark days of Emergency unforgettable period in India's history'

New Delhi, June 25 (PTD):

On the anniversary of the 1975 Emergency, BJP leaders on Sunday went on a tweeting spree to turn the table on the Congress which has been accusing the Narendra Modi government of suppressing dissent, stifling democracy, and curbing freedom of speech in the country.

On June 25, 1975, the Indira Gandhi-led Congress government imposed Emergency, which lasted for the next 21 months, during which fundamental rights of the people were provisionally

suspended and curbs were put on the press.

"I pay homage to all those courageous people who resisted the Emergency and worked to strengthen our democratic spirit. The dark days of Emergency remain an unforgettable period in our history, totally opposite to the values our Constitution celebrates," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a tweet.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah alleged that the imposition of Emergency was a "selfish" power struggle and continues to remain a symbol of

Congress' "dictatorial mentality." "On this day in 1975, a family imposed an Emergency in the country, taking away the rights of the people and killing democracy, fearing losing power from their hands," Shah said in a tweet in Hindi.

"Imposition of Emergency for selfish power struggle is a symbol of Congress' dictatorial mentality and an indelible taint on the party," he said.

Shah said that lakhs of people struggled to revive democracy facing many tortures. "I heartily salute all those patriots."

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NH MMI Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Lalpur, Raipur

## Two killed, another injured in lightning strike

About the mishap

The incident occurred on Saturday at Rajpur village under Bagicha development block when the victims were repairing the thatch of their house. They were taking a rest at a room adjacent to their house after it started raining in the afternoon when the lightning struck them. Ratiyaram (68) and his daughter-in-law Dinamati were killed, while the latter's mother Manjhani Bai was severely injured.

They were repairing the thatch of their house, an official said. "They were taking a rest at a room adjacent to their house after it started raining in the afternoon when the lightning struck them," he said.

Ratiyaram (68) and his daughter-in-law Dinamati were killed, while the latter's mother Manjhani Bai was severely injured, he added.

## After 62 years, monsoon covers Delhi, Mumbai together

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

The monsoon on Sunday covered both Delhi and Mumbai together for the first time since June 21, 1961, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

While it hit the national capital two days before schedule, its entry into the financial capital is two weeks late, the Met office said.

"It is the first time since June 21, 1961, that the monsoon arrived in Delhi and Mumbai at the same time," said DS Pai, a senior scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The Sadfarjung Observatory, Delhi's pri-

mary weather station, logged 48.3 mm rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 am on Sunday. The Dhansa weather station logged around 80 mm, Jafarpur and Lodi Road around 60 mm each, Ayanagar and Mungeshpur around 50 mm each and SPS Mayur Vihar 40 mm, according to the IMD. The Met office termed the monsoon activity over Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi as 'vigorous'.

According to the IMD, monsoon activity is considered 'vigorous' if the recorded rainfall is more than four times the normal or it is fairly widespread or widespread.

## EID-AL-ADHA PREPARATIONS



View of goats lined up for sale at a livestock market ahead of Eid-al-Adha, in Kolkata, Sunday.

## Chef Lakhan Singh wins maiden edition

### Of 'Biryani Champions League'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Chef Lakhan Singh from Marketplace restaurant has emerged as the winner of the debut edition of the 'Daawat Biryani Champions League' in the national capital here.

The competition, held here at ITC Sheraton on Saturday, saw five well-known professional chefs - including Laxman Singh (YBiryani), Mohammad Shaan (Khan Chacha), Chef Moinuddin (Impresario Resto) and Raphe Azam (Biryani by CTJ) - battle it out in a 90-minute live cooking challenge to win the coveted prize. "I feel incredibly privileged and deeply thankful for being be-



Chef Lakhan Singh from Marketplace restaurant wins the debut edition of 'Daawat Biryani Champions League', in New Delhi.

stowed with the prestigious title of 'Daawat Biryani Champion' of Delhi. "This remarkable competition provided me with a platform to express my profound affection and dedication towards crafting delectable biryanis," said Singh, who walked away with a cash prize of Rs 51,000 along with the

'Daawat Biryani Champion' trophy and a chef coat. The winner was selected by a panel of judges comprising celebrity chef Manjit Gill, chef-restaurateur Vanshika Bhatia and well-known food critic Vir Sanghvi. As part of the selection process, chefs were required to submit a video of

their recipe of the mixed-rice delicacy. Five chefs, out of the total 200 entries received from the local chefs in Delhi, were ultimately shortlisted for the grand finale. "Chef Lakhan's victory exemplifies the exquisite flavors and artistry that biryani represents. I must also acknowledge the hard work and talent of all the participating contestants who prepared some delectable biryanis today. Thanks to the remarkable chefs and the rich heritage of biryani that unites us all," said Ritesh Arora, CEO (India business & Far East) of LT Foods Ltd - the company behind the event. Chef Sarfaraz Hossain from Al - Faiz Family Restaurant & Caterers was adjudged winner of the competition held in Kolkata on June 19.

## India to remove retaliatory customs duties

### On eight US products

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

India will remove additional duties on eight US products, including chickpeas, lentils and apples, which were imposed in 2019 in response to America's measure to increase tariffs on certain steel and aluminium products, government sources said.

During the recent state visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US, both countries decided the termination of six WTO (World Trade Organisation) disputes and the removal of these retaliatory tariffs on certain US products.

### Add duties to be removed.....

As part of the agreement, India will be removing additional duty on chickpeas (10 per cent), lentils (20 per cent), almonds fresh or dried (Rs 7 per kg), almonds shelled (Rs 20 per kg), walnuts (20 per cent), apples fresh (20 per cent), boric acid (20 per cent), and Diagnostic Regents (20 per cent), the sources added.

In 2018, the US imposed an import duty of 25 per cent on steel products and 10 per cent on certain aluminium products on grounds of national security. In retaliation, India in June 2019 imposed customs duties on 28 American products.

## MATTER OF CONCERN

## 'China helps Pak army build defence infra along LoC'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

China has been helping the Pakistan Army build its defence infrastructure besides providing Unmanned Aerial and Combat Aerial Vehicles, setting up communication towers and laying underground cables along the Line of Control, officials said.

This, according to the officials, is part of efforts to further shore up China's position as an all-weather friend of Pakistan while ensuring the safety of the growing Chinese enclaves on P a k i s t a n - o c c u p i e d

Kashmir (PoK) set up on the pretext of securing the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) road and hydel projects built in the occupied territory.

The officials said that the recently developed SH-15, a 155 mm truck-mounted howitzer gun, has also been spotted at some places along the Line of Control (LoC) after it was displayed on Pakistan Day last year.

Known as a 'shoot and scoot' artillery weapon, Pakistan had signed a contract with Chinese firm North Industries Group Corporation Limited (Norinco) for the supply of

236 SH-15s and, according to London-based Janes Defence magazine, the first batch was delivered in January 2022.

Though the presence of senior PLA officials at forward posts, as was detected in 2014, was not found, some intercepts suggested that Chinese troops and engineers were setting up infrastructure along the LoC, including building underground bunkers, the officials said.

The Army has officially maintained silence on the issue but has been constantly updating the intelligence agencies, sources said.

## CONSENSUAL SEX

## '16-year-old girl can decide on consensual sex'

### Meghalaya HC's big judgement in boy's favour

Shillong, Jun 25:

The Meghalaya High Court has made a significant ruling by quashing a First Information Report (FIR) filed in a case involving alleged sexual assault on a minor. The court emphasized that a 16-year-old is capable of making conscious decisions about engaging in sexual intercourse.

A plea seeking the quashing of an FIR filed under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) was presented be-

fore the bench of Justice W. Diengdoh. The petitioner argued that the incident in question was not a case of sexual assault but rather a consensual act. It was claimed that the petitioner and the alleged victim were in a loving relationship.

The bench stated that considering the physical and mental development of an adolescent around the age of 16, it is logical to assume their capability to make conscious decisions about their well-being, including engaging in sexual intercourse. The court acknowledged the ability of a person in this age group to make informed choices regarding such acts.



## Mahadev Book and Reddy Anna branches busted in Bilaspur

## Police conducts combing patrol; 215 warrants executed

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Durg Police continued its operation against online cricket betting and busted two branches of Mahadev Book and Reddy Anna in Bilaspur. The accused were doing transactions through various bank accounts. 04 laptops, 23 mobiles, ATM Card, Cheque Book etc were recovered from the possession of seven accused.

Police are going to conduct micro analysis of obtained bank accounts and mobile numbers. The accused are being quizzed to collect information in respect of persons conducting this illegal activity in



other states.

Superintendent of Police (Durg) Shalabh Kumar Sinha informed that the joint team of Anti Crime and Cyber Unit and Jamul Police Station had busted a branch of online cricket betting in Jamul.

They collected evidence in relation to other persons associated with the online

betting. In this sequel, the joint team got information about some people who were operating two panels of Mahadev Book 128 and Reddy Book 421 branches in Rajkishore Nagar area of Bilaspur.

Acting on this tip off, a team of Durg Police conducted a raid at a rented house in Bilaspur and ar-

rested seven persons red handed while operating the online betting racket.

The accused are Shailendra Singh (27) son of Nirmal Singh r/o Shanti Nagar Street 21 Supela Bhilai; Jaswant Singh (32) son of Harbhajan Singh r/o Shanti Nagar Supela Bhilai; Roshan Singh (28) son of Devendra Singh r/o

Qr No 18 G, Sector 04, Street 32, Bhilai; Nilesh Kumar (19) son of Om Prakash Sahu r/o village Sonhat, district Korea; Manish Taron (34) s/o Jagdish Taron MIG 1/125 Bhilai; Bhupendra Kumar (22) s/o Indal Singh r/o Qr no 21, Street 01, Block 2, Sector 05, Bhilai and Deepak Singh (27) son of Devendra Singh r/o village Idrishpur, district Baghat, Uttar Pradesh.

ASI Purna Bahadur, Constables Anup Sharma, Jugnu Singh, Samim Khan, Shiv Mishra, ASI Emmanuel Khalkho, Head Constable Vijay Sahu, Constable Arvind Yadav played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Durg Police conducted a special combing patrol on the intervening night of Sunday and executed a total of 215 warrants within 17 hours. More than 100 jawans including 5 gazetted officers, 17 police station in-charge were deployed in the combing patrol. Police teams succeeded in nabbing long-absconding warrants including a condemned person who was absconding for the last 31 years.

On Saturday, SP Shalabh Sinha chaired a meeting of all the gazetted officers and SHOs of police stations / chowkis at the Police Control Room. He instruct-



ed them to arrest the absconding warrantees and conduct a combing patrol under the guidance of ASP (city) Sanjay Kumar Dhruv. The operation began at 22:00 hrs and the police teams managed to find 215 accused and execute the pending warrants. Apart from this, they

also checked the goons and anti-social elements. It needs to be mentioned here that the pendency of cases had increased in all the police stations due to the pending warrants and absconding accused. With the execution of the warrant, the victims will get justice.

## BSP's Caster-6 of SMS-2 makes new record

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Yet another milestone was achieved by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's SMS-2, with the Caster No 6 casting 62 heats in a single Tundish, surpassing the previous best record of 60 heats, made on April 17, 2023. The Casting started at 13:51 hrs on, June 22, 2023 and continued for a duration of 44 hours, and finally got over at 09:40 hrs on June 24, 2023. Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), and SK Ghoshal, CGM (SMS-2), along with other Senior Officials of the Plant congratulated the Caster-6 Team for this achievement. The record number of 62 heats in a sin-



gle Tundish was achieved by making some modifications in the SEN, impact pad, slide gate plates and the tundish lining. The feat was achieved by strictly adhering to the technical norms and operational excellence. Highest number of hot charging heats (58) was

also achieved directly to the Plate Mill, thereby increasing the rolling rate of Plate Mill. The Operations team of Caster No 6 was led by Alok Mathur GM, while Mechanical and Electrical teams were led by Yogesh Shastri, GM and Saurabh Jain, GM, respectively.

## Odissi dance performances enthral audiences

Cultural eve organized at Gundicha Mandap in Sector 10

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Under the aegis of Shree Jagannath Samiti, Sector 4, a nine-day festival of Mahaprabhu Shree Jagannath Swami ji's 54th Rath Yatra is being celebrated. In this episode, various cultural programs are being organized daily in the grand pandal of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami Ji at Gundicha Mandap in Sector 10. In this sequence, the Odissi dance performances by the artists of Odissi Nritya Kala Kendra got a huge applause from the audience. Artists paid obeisance to Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami ji with their various presentations.



On this occasion, Additional Superintendent of Police UBS Chauhan was present as chief guest and former City Superintendent of Police Rakesh Joshi was present as special guest. Chairman of the committee Virendra Satpathy and

General Secretary Satyawar Nayak were also specially present. Trinath Sahu and Ranjan Mahapatra, office bearers of Jagannath Committee made special contributions in successfully organizing this musical event.

Additional Superintendent of Police UBS Chauhan, Chairman of the Committee Virendra Satpathy and General Secretary Satyawar Nayak honoured the 22 artists by presenting them mementos and citations.

Chief Guest UBS Chauhan congratulated the artists for their excellent performance and wished them a bright future. On this occasion, Committee Chairman Virendra Satpathy delivered the welcome address. The program was conducted and the vote of thanks was done by the General Secretary Satyawar Nayak.

OBITUARY

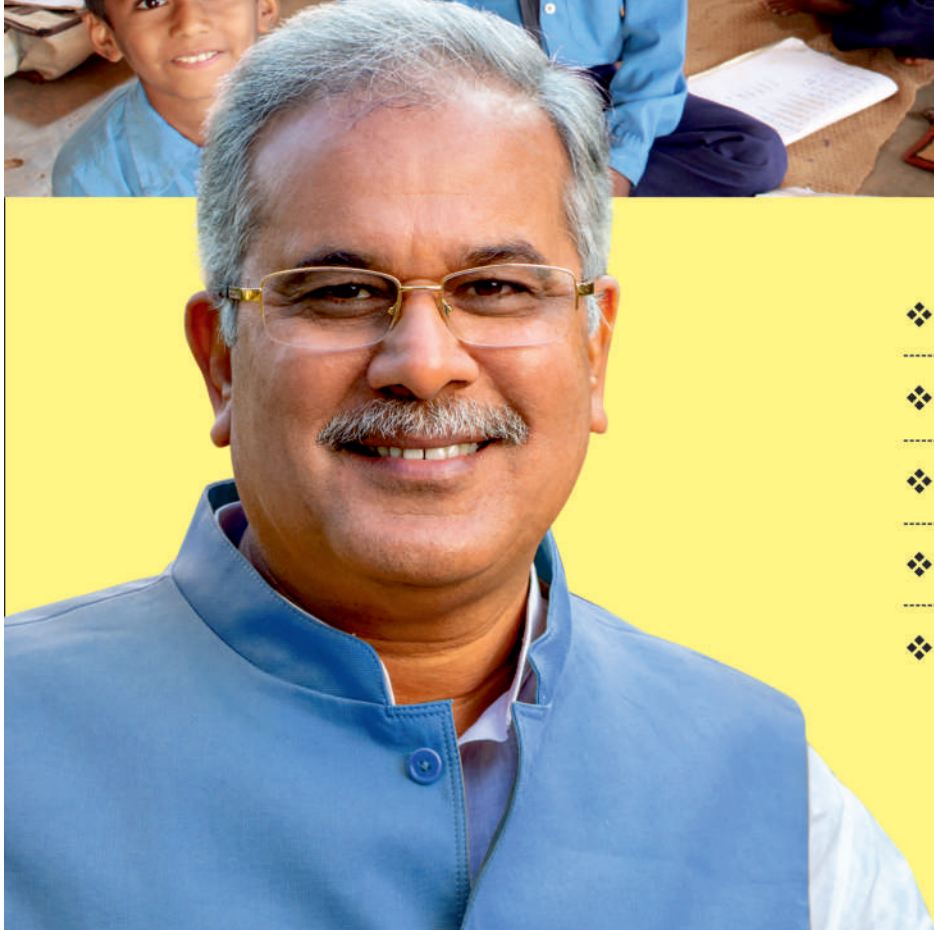
Umashankar Gupta



**Bhilai:** Kasaudhan Vaishya Samaj Patron Umashankar Gupta left for heavenly abode at the age of 65 years on Saturday. Funeral procession was taken out from his residence situated at Vrinda Nagar and last rites of the mortal remains were performed at Ramnagar Muktidham. He was the father of Advocate Neeraj Gupta and Pankaj Gupta.



# कोई न छूटे अबकी बार - हर बच्चा स्कूल के द्वार



26 जून  
मुख्यमंत्री श्री भूपेश बघेल  
द्वारा  
शाला प्रवेश उत्सव-2023  
शुभारंभ

- ❖ अप्रवेशी, प्रवेश योग्य और अनियमित बच्चों को प्रवेश के लिए किया जायेगा प्रेरित
- ❖ निःशुल्क गणवेश और किताबों के साथ स्कूलों में बच्चों का प्रवेश
- ❖ बच्चों में स्कूल जाने की रुचि बढ़ाने लगभग 50 हजार स्कूलों में होंगे विभिन्न कार्यक्रम
- ❖ स्कूल आकर्षक और सीखने के प्रभावी केंद्र के रूप में होंगे विकसित
- ❖ शिक्षकों की सतत क्षमता विकास से नई, रोचक और प्रभावी शिक्षण प्रक्रियाएं होंगी लागू

बस्तर में नक्सल हिंसा से प्रभावित

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**लगभग 15,000**

बच्चे लाभान्वित

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार - भरोसे की सरकार



## BJP did business in the name of religion: Acharya Pramod Krishnan

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party of playing with the faith of the people, Congress leader Acharya Pramod Krishnan said that the BJP did business in the name of religion and adopted Hindutva to gain power in politics. Only BJP does not have the right on Hindutva; rather Congress has always been on the path of Hindutva, he said while talking to the reporters at 'Rajiv Bhawan' here with Rajya Sabha MP Vivek Tankha. According to him no one is a bigger Hindu



than Mahatma Gandhi. In Chhattisgarh, Congress is following the path of Mahatma Gandhi, he said, adding that Hindutva is not the name of abusing Muslims. RSS, Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal are BJP's supporter parties whereas

ED-CBI are hidden organizations of BJP, said Acharya. The work which is not in the public domain is done by ED and CBI, he added.

To form or not to form a government at any time depends on the discretion of the public, he said adding that we have full faith in the people of Chhattisgarh, Acharya said. Congress government in Chhattisgarh is working for public welfare, Acharya said.

Praising the work of the Congress government in Chhattisgarh, Rajya

Sabha MP Vivek Tankha said that he was happy to note that progress was being made in the state. Chhattisgarh is ahead in every field, he said. Bhupesh Baghel's team is expanding the state, he added. People are happy in the state and are saying that Baghel is coming back to the government, said Tankha. According to him there is no anti-incumbency in Chhattisgarh. A big change will come after a few months, he said and added that Congress will become powerful.

## Rains lashing Raipur since late night

● **Monsoon active in entire Chhattisgarh, causing dip in temperature**

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Monsoon has become active in Raipur and entire Chhattisgarh. Rains started at most places from Bastar to Bilaspur and Surguja divisions. Raipur is experiencing intermittent rains since late Saturday night that caused a drop in temperature and made the weather pleasant. The IMD Raipur has forecast fall in maximum temperature by 2 to 4 degree Celsius over Chhattisgarh. The IMD has warned heavy to very heavy rainfall and thun-



derstorm at isolated places over Chhattisgarh during the next two days.

Monsoon wind has reduced by about 71 per cent in June. By June 24,

On the other hand, due to the delayed arrival of monsoon in Chhattisgarh this year, the quota rainfall has been reduced by about 71 per cent in June. By June 24,

the state should receive 126.9 mm of rain. So far only 37.2 mm of rainfall has occurred. The delay in monsoon arrival has affected agriculture in the state. Sowing activities usually begin in the fields in Chhattisgarh with the onset of monsoon rains from 10 to 15 June, but this year there has been a delay of 15 days.

The south-west monsoon wind has reached Bilaspur and Surguja divisions of North Chhattisgarh from Bastar via Raipur. Many parts of the state received good rainfall. The Meteorological Department has warned of heavy to very heavy rain in some parts of Raipur division on Sunday.

## Police bust sex racket operating under the guise of spa centers

● **Seven including transgender arrested**

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Busting a sex racket operating under the guise of spa centres in Raipur police have arrested six men and eight women in this connection. According to information available police raided Spa Centres in Katora Talab and Shankar Nagar area and arrested six men and eight women.

The raid was carried out following complaints raised repeatedly about prostitution in the spa centers. Taking note of the complaint seriously Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal instructed Additional Superintendent of Police City/Crime Abhishek Maheshwari to take necessary action. Following the

instructions of the senior police officials the Deputy Superintendent of Police Crime Dinesh Sinha, City Superintendent of Police Civil Line Manoj Dhruv, Deputy Superintendent of Police IUCAW Lalita Mehar, Police Station Incharge Civil Line Archana Dhurandhar along with Joint Team of Anti Crime and Cyber Unit and Women Defense Team Raipur raided Blue Moon Spa Center located in Shankar Nagar under Police Station Civil Line area and arrested landlord Ashok Barat and manager Akash Sahu and assistant manager Vivek Sahu. Three mobile phones were recovered from their possession. Kunal Rathi, the operator of Blue Moon Spa Center is absconding and all possible efforts are being made to trace and arrest

him. Similarly, the team members raided the Mind Wellness Spa Center located in Shankar Nagar under Police Station Civil Line area and arrested spa manager Ashiana Yadav (third gender) and assistant manager Rakesh Mahanand besides seizing 02 mobile phones related to the incident from their possession.

Pintu Jaiswal, the operator of The Mind Wellness Spa Center, is absconding and every possible effort is being made to trace and arrest him. On checking the mobile phones seized from the arrested persons, it has been found that they were involved in operation of prostitution by sending photos of different women from their mobile phones to the mobile phones of different customers.

## No child should be left out of school: Minister

'Shala Pravesh Utsav'

**Raipur, Jun 25:** School Education Minister Dr Prensai Singh Tekam has extended greetings and best wishes for the beginning of new academic session and 'Shala Pravesh Utsav' (school admission fest). The new academic session for school going children is beginning on June 26. Dr Tekam called upon ministers, parliamentary secretaries, MPs, MLAs and representatives of civic bodies and panchayat raj institutions to work together for betterment of schools.

Dr Tekam asked the public representatives to make sure that no child is left out of school education. He asked the parents and school monitoring committee to encourage children for regular attendance in schools and guide the villagers to continue education of their children.

## BJP MM members deserve credit: Sao

● **For continuing campaign even during peak of summer and promoting central's schemes**

**Raipur, Jun 25:** An important meeting of BJP Mahila Mandal (BJPMM) was held at party's Kushabhau Thakre premises here on Sunday. It was attended by BJP State President Arun Sao, Mahila Morcha working committee member Puja Vidhani, ex-Mahila Aayog President Vibha Rao, State President BJPMM Shalini Rajput, BJPMM state in-charge Sarla Kosaria and other office bearers of BJPMM. It was informed that BJPMM national working committee member and State President of BJPMM of different states and national working committee members will be arriving



here on two-day tour to Chhattisgarh on July 5-6. Under the Maha-Jansampark Abhiyan, all the BJ PMM National working committee members, BJPMM State Presidents and other office bearers would go to each district and inform people about the central government's schemes and meeting the beneficiaries of the central schemes, would felicitate them as well. On this detailed discussions were held in the BJPMM meeting today and a work plan was prepared.

BJP State president Arun Sao said that members of BJPMM carried out public campaign and contact even during high temperature of 43-44 deg.celsius and apprised people about central government schemes. Meeting the beneficiaries of central government schemes, they felicitated them. They staged chakka-jam against the liquor scam worth crore and on which the police even took action against them and still they did not backed out and for which they are

worth applaud. He said that the BJP National working committee office bearers along with BJPMM state presidents and others would go to each district and promote central government schemes going door-to-door.

BJPMM National working committee member Puja Vidhani said that to make the visit of BJPMM National President historic in Chhattisgarh, we all will have to work hard and had to inform the local people of the state about the promises not fulfilled by the Baghel's government. BJPMM national working committee member Vibha Rao said that the Mahila Morcha members are fulfilled the household responsibilities and that of the organisation's equally well and in the coming VS polls days are not far off they have to work likewise.

## Bar & Rod Mill marks new daily production record

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Bar & Rod Mill has once again created a new day production record. The Mill that rolls out TMT Bars achieved record production on June 21, 2023 by rolling out 3700 Tonnes (1779 Billets) in 16 mm TMT bar.

Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (Bhilai Steel Plant) along with Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) and Plant's other Senior Officials reached the shop floor and congratulated BRM's personnel on this achievement and motivated them to work with the same spirit to achieve all the goals of this year and create many more such records. The General Managers of the department, including SK Behera, KK Thakur, S Tripathi, Ashish, Shashwat Mahanty, Sameer Pandey, and Shikhar Tiwari were also present on the occasion, along with other sen-

ior officials and personnel of BRM. Congratulating the entire mill fraternity on this achievement, HOD Mukesh Gupta, CGM (BRM) said that the feat of substantially increased production was made possible by continuous monitoring and hard-work of the mill personnel and full cooperation of the concerned departments. Gupta also assured the Plant Management that BRM's Tejas team will continue to achieve all the forthcoming targets and will create more such records. BRM aims at 100% customer satisfaction by giving utmost priority to product quality. Products manufactured at BSP's Bar & Rod Mill have played an important role in the country's prestigious infrastructural projects such as Central Vista, Bullet Train Project, Ram Mandir Ayodhya, Border Road Organization.

## Minimum wage violators to face the music: Mishra

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Action will be taken against the factories and contractors who do not pay minimum wages to the labourers. In the meeting organized at Provident Fund Office Raipur, HMS Acting President and Senior Member of Provident Fund Regional Committee Board HS Mishra raised this issue prominently after which Labour Secretary Amrit Khalkho assured to take action against those who violate the labour laws. Mishra also spoke about the exploitation of labourers.

It needs to be mentioned here that a meeting of the Regional Committee of the Provident Fund was held at the Provident Fund Office Raipur on June 22. Company representatives also participated in the meeting along with labour representatives. In the presence of Regional Provident Fund Commissioner Abhishek Kumar, all the attendees



shared their point of view. HMS Acting President HS Mishra said that the deduction of provident fund of organized and unorganized sector employees is not being done according to the full attendance. He said that deductions are made for low attendance.

Most of the factory owners, agencies, institutions and contractors do not deduct provident funds at all. Many people have not even taken the registration and code number of the provident fund. Mishra

and other labour representatives emphasized that the employee / labourers are being exploited and requested the Labour Secretary to take strict action in case of minimum wages violation and irregularities in provident fund. Khalkho asked the labour leaders to provide the names of establishments wherever the minimum wage is not being paid. He assured to take immediate action against such establishments. The Labour Secretary also said that the

minimum wage must be paid as per the government order.

RPF Commissioner Abhishek Kumar said that earlier the employees had to travel long distances in case of EPF related problems. But now, on behalf of EPFO, in every industrial area of every district, officers organize camps on the 27th of every month, train everyone and solve their problems immediately. He said that earlier the employees and labourers used to visit our office, but now our officers are going and solving the problems.

He also emphasized that when the employees become alert and aware, the number of members will also increase. Some people do not even know the benefits of provident fund. It is certain that the membership will increase if the workers are aware about the benefits. In the end, all the attendees gave detailed information about their respective areas.

## KK Jha appointed member of 'National MSME Award - 2023' committee

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** President of MSME District Industries Association, KK Jha has been appointed as a member of the National MSME Award - 2023 Selection Committee. This appointment has been made by the Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of Chhattisgarh. Expressing his happiness over his appointment, Jha said that he is grateful to State Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Industry Minister Kawasi Lakhma for reposing faith in him. He will live up to this belief and discharge the responsibility given to him with utmost sincerity.

Jha informed that in the upcoming meeting of the National MSME Award 2023 Selection Committee, he has been invited by Damodar Behera, Assistant Director, MSME Development Office,

Raipur. This meeting will be held on June 27 at 12 noon in room number 5-1/13 of the Ministry of Industry. The meeting will be presided over by the Secretary, Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of Chhattisgarh. Director, Directorate of Industries and Pramod Gharde, President, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Raipur will also be present in the meeting. Jha said that applications are invited from MSME units of Chhattisgarh for this award and this award is announced on the basis of achievements of their last year's tenure. This award is very respectable which motivates the MSME units to do better every year. The MSME industry of the state has expressed happiness over the selection of KK Jha.

## 'Nayee Chetna' workshop organised for women contract workers

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** A one-day awareness program titled "Nayee Chetna" Nai Chetna was organised for the women contract workers of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Sinter Plants-2 & 3 on June 20, 2023 from 10:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs. Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM (SPs) was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Vikas Kulkarni, GM (SP-2) and MRK Sharif, GM (SP-3) were also present on this occasion.



on Health, SA-8000, rules and regulations for the safety of women at the workplace. Discussions on Psychological Challenges faced by women also took place during the seminar.

Sinter Plant management has been continuously organising such programmes to boost the

morale of its personnel. Such motivational programmes play a significant role in the strategic and economic development of women at the work-place.

Sushmita Patla, AM (SPs & OHP) conducted the programme and proposed the Vote of Thanks.

## SAIL Green Tiles Plant inaugurated at LDCP RMP-1

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** 'SAIL Green Tiles Plant' was inaugurated at Bhilai Steel Plant's LDCP of Refractory Material Plant-1. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) inaugurated the Green Tiles Plant on June 24, 2023, in presence of EDs, CGM I/CS, CGMs, GMs and other Senior Officials and Personnel of the Plant.

Under the green environment initiative and as a step towards achieving 100% Solid waste utilisation, along with reducing CO2 emissions, Paver Blocks will be manufactured from BOF Slag by a fuel-free process at the 'SAIL Green Tiles Plant'.

Congratulating the RMP-1 collective, Chief Guest Anirban Dasgupta appreciated the team led by Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron) for commission-



ing the facility by utilising Plant's in-house resources. Disposal of the BOF Slag is a challenge and has not yet been streamlined. Besides a judicious disposal of BOF Slag, the Paver Blocks manufactured at this facility will also add to further beautification of the Plant & Township and also generate revenue. Paver Blocks made in the SAIL Green Tiles Plant are not only more cost-effective but also better in quality as compared to the

ones available in market, Shri Dasgupta said. The Director I/c (BSP) has also given the target of producing 1000 tiles per day and subsequently increase the target as-per demand.

Among the Senior Officers present on the occasion were, Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects) with Additional Charge of ED(P&A), AK Chakraborty, ED (MM), Dr AK Panda, ED (Finance), Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c

(Iron), PK Sarkar, CGM I/c (Services), Asit Saha, CGM I/c (M&U), and Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS), along with other Senior Officials and Plant personnel.

Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) appreciated the facility and said that Waste management is a challenge for BSP, but this project will not only lead to waste-utilisation but also will generate revenue from it. Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron), thanked the Plant Management and said that BSP is blessed with the very energetic Inter-departmental team which has led to the fulfilment of the dream of utilising the BOF slag using Plant's in-house resources, in a very short time. Under the guidance of Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron), an inter-depart-

mental team from BSP had visited RDCIS Ranchi for studying the pilot project of making Paver Block from (5-12mm) BOF Slag.

Paver block made in the newly-commissioned 'SAIL Green Tiles Plant' has a compressive strength of M-40 (specified compressive strength of 40 N/mm<sup>2</sup>) as per IS 15658: 2006. These paver blocks can be used in a range of infrastructural purposes including pedestrian plazas, shopping complex ramps, car parks, office driveways, housing colonies, office complexes, rural roads with low volume traffic, farm houses, beach sites, tourist resorts local authority footways, residential roads, etc.

The inauguration programme was conducted by B Anuradha, AGM (Environment).



# Vivek Sahu takes charge as Commanding Officer

# AIMWF successfully organises introductory meet

For marriageable youths from Muslim community



Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** All India Muslim Welfare Foundation (AIMWF) created a history by successfully organising an introductory meet of marriageable youths from the Muslim community in a simple programme held at local Shaheed Smarak Bhavan last on June 17.

**Central Chronicle News** Raipur, Jun 25: All India Muslim Welfare Foundation (AIMWF) created a history by successfully organising an introductory meet of marriageable youths from the Muslim community in a simple programme held at local Shaheed Smarak Bhavan last on June 17. It was for the first time in the history of Chhattisgarh that hundreds of families from Muslim community gathered and in this total of 233 youth (both men and women) gave their introduction and out of which decision was taken to tie nuptial knots through marriage ceremonies of few. This massive introductory meet materialized due to initiatives under leadership of the State Patron AIMWF Faizal Rizvi, State President Moh. Siraj Saheb and head of 'Jaria-e-Rishta' unit Irfan Sultan.

It was hard work and best management and team-work of the Youth brigade of Foundation and Hamshira Group that this programme attained grand success. In this meet, the youths from Muslim community from neighbouring states of Chhattisgarh viz. Odisha, Maharashtra, Kerala, UP, Andhra Pradesh took part, informs a press release.

● Of the only Air NCC unit of Chh'garh

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** It is a historic glorious time for 3 Chhattisgarh Air NCC, when Vivek Sahu, a cadet of Air Wing NCC, has taken over as the Commanding Officer of the only Air NCC unit of Chhattisgarh, Wing Commander Vivek Kumar Sahu, the only such officer who was a cadet of the same unit in the year 2005, participated in the National Republic Day Parade New Delhi 2005, in 2005 he got the opportunity to go abroad on behalf of NCC under the Youth Exchange Program, and also in the year 2008 in Hyderabad Received commission in Air Force from Air Force Academy, after that he took his basic flight



er aircraft training in Bidar (Karnataka). The Wing Commander has the experience of flying fighter aircraft like MiG-21, Jaguar etc. He also held the post of Joint Director in the Ministry of Defence, Delhi after completing in-

structor training. Associate NCC Officer Durga Mahavidyalaya Squadron Leader Dr. Vijay Kumar Choubey said that our current Chief Wing Commander Vivek Sahu had his primary education in his native village Pirda

Lakhoul, from Navodaya Vidyalaya Mana he completed his studies from 6th to 12th and joined NCC Junior Division and passed with 'A' certificate. After doing B.Sc from Shankaracharya College Bhillai, took Air NCC from

Raipur and got opportunity to be part of RDC in year 2005 and also go abroad in year 2005 itself, further Dr. Choubey told that this unit it is a historic proud moment in the last 60 years of Chhattisgarh Air NCC that Chief Wing Commander Vivek Sahu become a fighter pilot from a NCC cadet of Chhattisgarh and become a Commanding Officer in the same parent unit.

Today, on this occasion, in the presence of all the Physical Training Instructors, civilian staff and other employees of NCC Air Wing, Wing Commander Vivek Sahu said that it is a matter of great fortune for me that the unit of which I was a cadet 18 years ago has I got the opportunity to become the head of the unit only because of the discipline, hard work and personality development taught by NCC.

# 9th Int'nl Yoga Day organized in CU

# Talents receive honours at GEMS

Central Chronicle News

**Bilaspur, Jun 25:** The Ninth International Day of Yoga was organized by the Department of Physical Education at Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) from 6.30 a.m. on June 21, 2023. The theme of Yoga Day 2023 is 'Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. The program started with the welcome address by the Convener, Professor Sanjit Sardar.



increases the immunity of the body and it should be made a part of life for everyone to stay healthy. While congratulating the Department of Physical Education for organizing the event, the Registrar, Professor Manish Srivastava said that yoga is not just a physical exercise but an important means of keeping the body and mind healthy. He

said that only when the body remains healthy, the family, society, state and nation will become healthy. This practice of celebrating Yoga Utsav started from 2015 and is continuously moving forward. Yoga was practiced from 7 to 7.45 am as per the Common Yoga Protocol received from the Ministry. Under the direction of Dr.

Tilak Raj Meena, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education, research scholars Mr. Avinash and Ms. Shweta performed all the yoganams.

Yoga mats were presented to the guests on the occasion. Prof. Sanjit Sardar, the Head of the Department of Physical Education, was the Convener of 9th International Yoga Day. The program was conducted by Dr. Shalini Menon, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education and the vote of thanks was given by Prof. Ratnesh Singh.

Deans, heads of departments, officers, teachers, non-teaching staff, researchers and students of various schools of the university participated on this occasion.



Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** It was a proud moment for Shri Gujrati English Medium School family when three of its students cracked NEET examination 2023 and secured their seats in

medical college. These three talented students are Chitransh Sahu, Vishwambhar Pandey and Vaj Kumar Tandan. Shri Gujrati Shikshan Sangh took a decision to honour these talents and in presence of Om Mathur BJP

Chhattisgarh in-charge, Arun Sao BJP President, Jayanti Bhai Patel District BJP President and Vice President of GSS, Narayan Bhai Patel Executive President of GSS, Secretary duo Tulsi Das Patel, Ashok Bhai

Patel and other dignitaries all three of them were honoured with memento and floral bouquet. The ceremony was joined by Shri Gujrati English Medium School Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma and other faculty members.

# Monsoon reaches Bastar, Orange alert issued

# Certificate course on 'Applied Data Analytics: A Practical Approach' concludes in NIT

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Jun 25:** Monsoon has knocked in Chhattisgarh via Bastar. The Meteorological Department has issued this information bulletin. Along with this, the Meteorological Department has appealed to the administration as well as the people to be alert. There was heavy monsoon rain in Jagdalpur late on Wednesday night.

संकेत / WARNING	संभावित प्रभाव / EXPECTED IMPACT
जुलाई 24 तक के लिए	राज्य के उत्तर, उत्तर-पूर्व, पूर्व और दक्षिण-पूर्व हिस्सों में भारी बारिश का संभावित प्रभाव है।
जुलाई 40 तक के लिए	राज्य के उत्तर, उत्तर-पूर्व और दक्षिण-पूर्व हिस्सों में भारी बारिश का संभावित प्रभाव है।

ed in Bastar. According to the Meteorological Department, there is a strong possibility of thunder and lightning at some places in Chhattisgarh in the coming 72 hours. In view of this, Orange Alert has been issued. In the next 24 hours, there is a possibility of heavy rain

with thunder and lightning at one or two places in the southern part of the state, Bastar, Dantewada, Sukma and Bijapur. On the other hand, there may be heavy rain with thunder and lightning at one or two places in Kondagaon, Kanker and Narayanpur along with some places in Chhattisgarh in 48 hours.

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur had organized a thirty days long certificate course on "Applied Data Analytics: A Practical Approach" from 22nd May to 20th June 2023. The course was conducted under the able guidance of Dr. S. Ghosh, Chairman, Continuing Education Cell, Dr. Rakesh Tripathi, Head of Department, Information Technology and Dr. Govind P. Gupta, Assistant Professor, Information Technology, Dr Mridu Sahu, Assistant

Professor, Information Technology. A valedictory session was held on 20th June 2023 marking the accomplishment of the course. Dr. N. V. Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Raipur, presided over the session as Chief Guest. He congratulated the organizing committee and the participants for the huge success of the event. Dr. S. Ghosh elaborated upon the importance of the course and took live feedback from the participants and Dr. Rakesh Tripathi explained the impact of the course and also congratulated the win-

ners. Dr. Govind P. Gupta delivered the vote of thanks to successfully conclude the session. The course began with the inaugural ceremony followed by an introductory session by Dr. S Ghosh. The introduction of the field, its applications, and the importance of the course were covered in the session. Eminent speakers from computer science and core engineering domains shared their knowledge throughout the sessions. Hands-on training using Python/R and discussion on data analytics-based case studies were

done. The course was conducted in two different batches keeping in mind the busy schedule of the working professionals. There were 179 participants from across the country (MNIT Jaipur, NIT Hamirpur, IIIT Allahabad, Andhra University, Jadavpur University, Manipal University, Osmania University etc.) among which 75 were B. Tech students, 60 M. Tech/M. Sc and 23 Ph.D. scholars, whereas 8 industry personnel and 13 faculties from various institutes were present. Evaluation of the appli-

cants was based upon attendance, weekly MCQ test, and mini projects. Three MCQ tests were conducted to evaluate the performance of the participants. These projects were assigned to the group of participants. 57 Projects were submitted in Google Classroom and were scrutinized by the experts and the best 12 projects were selected for presentation. The presentation of the projects was done on 18th June 2023. The best 6 presentations, 3 from the morning and 3 from the evening batch, were declared as the best mini projects.

# BJP cheats people in the name of religion: Lakhma

# Excellent performance of district schools

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Jun 25:** Excise and Industries Minister Kawasi Lakhma has charged that BJP is doing a political gimmick under the garb of the film Adipurush. BJP cheats the public in the name of religion and faith. During elections BJP seeks votes in the name of Lord Ram, Hanuman, but Karnataka elections have shown that even Lord Ram and Hanuman are not with BJP.



Shri Ram only at the time of elections. He said that there is a BJP government at the Centre, the Censor Board is theirs, the Censor Board has given the certificate to the film. At one place where they prefer to oppose the film here and on

the other is passed by their Censor board. Such double standards cannot go on. Kavasi Lakhma said that the Prime Minister of the country was seeking votes for the BJP in the name of Hanumanji from the public

in the Karnataka assembly elections. The election result has told that there is no Ram, Hanuman with the BJP. He said that this kind of propaganda does not last long. Hanuman supported the Congress in Karnataka. In the context of the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya, Minister Lakhma said that the temple is being built on the orders of the Supreme Court and not on the instructions of the Central Government. The people of the country have faith in the

Supreme Court. The credit for the construction of the temple does not go to the BJP. Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had opened the lock of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. The temple is being built on the orders of the Supreme Court. That's why there is no role of BJP in this. Kawasi Lakhma said that what should be true faith towards religion. This has been shown by our Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and our Congress government. By constructing the temple of Mata Kaushalya in Chandkhuri, by constructing Shri Ram Vanagaman Path, our government has shown a mirror to the BJP which cheats in the name of religion.

- In class X-XII results
- Principals of excellent performing schools to be felicitated
- A review by Collector Dr Bhure

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Government schools of Raipur district have performed brilliantly in class X and class XII results this year because of Collector Dr Sarveshwar Bhure's plan to focus on every student, monthly test and subject-wise and student-wise review. About 73 percent students have passed in class X and 82 percent students have passed in class XII examinations. Compared to the year 2021-22, this year the result of class X has increased by about 13 percent and the result of class XII

has increased by 7 percent. Collector Dr Sarveshwar Bhure recently reviewed the quality of education, facilities and infrastructure available in government schools in the meeting of district level officers of School Education Department. District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Abinash Mishra, Municipal Corporation Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi, Assistant Collector Jayant Nahata, District Education Officer RL Thakur and all Block Education Officers, Assistant Block Education Officers also participated in the meeting. The Collector asked to honor the principals of the schools achieving more than 90 percent results in class X and 95 percent results in class XII. The felicitation ceremony will soon be held in the capital Raipur. Principals will be felicitated

with shawl, shreefal and citation in the ceremony. The suggestions and experiences of all those principals will also be shared regarding the plan and strategy prepared for excellent performance. Compared to the year 2021-22, this year 13 percent more students have passed in the 10th class examination. Last year, 19 thousand 199 students appeared in the class X examination in the district and 11 thousand 455 students passed. This year 18 thousand 391 students of the district appeared for the class X examination and 13 thousand 360 of them have passed. This year the pass percentage of girl students in class X is 72.64. This year 5 students of the district are included in the merit list of class X and 3 of them belong to government schools.



# Main drain canal fails to withstand first rain

# Birth of emerging India is through the new generation: Dr Gupta

**Dongargaon, Jun 25:** Main drain under construction for the last two years in the city could not withstand the first monsoon rains and the main drain falling into the canal drain of the irrigation department from the main road has been in the circle of questions since the beginning of the construction of the drain. Now since this construction is nearing completion, the eyes of the city dwellers are fixed on this drain and this drain built with millions of rupees could not withstand the first rain.

The construction of this channel is being done to take the dirty water of the city which was reaching the pond out of the city, but this plan of lakhs of rupees seems to be a com-



plete failure as in this construction work, is being carried out in an arbitrary manner, ignoring all the rules. In the construction works of Dongargaon Nagar Panchayat, the construction of drains is always done above the road level which is a marvel of engineering and a high-

level investigation should be conducted on this main drain channel, which has become irregular in many places, so that the misuse of the government money coming from the taxes of the common people can be exposed. Naturally, if the level is raised from the road, the road water will not reach the drain, and as the city received its first rain of the season on June 22, a pond was formed on the road itself, causing water logging.

In the big cities of the country, the road is built by building a bridge over the road, but in Nagar Panchayat Dongargaon, a drain has been built under the drain.

The construction of the main drain channel is being done to prevent dirty water from going into the pond, but the entire dirty water of the Durga temple area reaches the same pond through the channel made under main drain channel and in this case, this entire project to prevent dirty water from going into the pond has failed.

**Korea, Jun 25:**

Member of the National Child Rights Protection Commission, Dr Divya Gupta, here attended the divisional bench of Child Protection Commission in the district panchayat assembly hall about connecting the vulnerable families and highly sensitive children of the district with the government schemes and children and families living in difficult conditions, child rights. A bench was organized by the division bench of the Commission for the investigation, hearing and resolution of violations and cases related to their violation.

On this occasion, Asha Santosh Yadav, Member of State Child Protection Commission, Zilla



Panchayat CEO Ashutosh Chaturvedi, Additional Superintendent of Police Rohit Kumar, Joint Collector Anil Sidar and officers and employees of various departments were present. Meanwhile, Dr. Divya Gupta while addressing the officials said

said. The bench mainly heard cases related to children's health, education, financial assistance, children's swaraj, creation of Ayushman card, creation of Aadhaar card, creation of bank account and etc.

Around 300 applications were received and the cases of children with special needs were also presented in the hearing, and instructions were given to provide them with necessary equipment and health check-up facilities. Stalls related to various departments, including Police Department, District Legal Service Authority, Health Department, Social Welfare Department, Education Department, Tribal Welfare Department were set up.

## Parliamentary secretary addresses public grievance



**Mahasamund, Jun 25:**

As part of the meet-and-greet program, Parliamentary Secretary and MLA Vinod Sevenal Chandrakar reached here at Ward No. 5 Sanjay Nagar and discussed with the citizens their grievances. Mr. Chandrakar resolved many problems on the spot and assured to

take appropriate steps towards the demands. The citizens mainly demanded the need for borehole mining to solve the problem of drinking water, on which Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Chandrakar assured appropriate initiatives.

Similarly, the citizens drew attention to the installation of electricity poles, three-phase lines

and the construction of drains for water drainage, on which Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Chandrakar assured to take proper initiative in this direction. Prominently present were Awez Khan, Dilawar Surya, Shoaib Naqvi, Sabir Bhai, Aslam Khan, Md. Rasheed, Pradeep Dhruv, Mo Jamal, Ganesh Patel and others.

## Ganiari Shriram Manas Mandali demands ban on alcohol

**Kharora, Jun 25:**

The members of the nearby village Ganiari Shriram Manas Mandali, while demanding a complete ban on alcohol in the province, said that the province is currently in the grip of rampant alcoholism and due to the rapid spread of this social evil, the economic condition of the poor farmers is ruined. The physical condition is also on the verge of becoming hollow, especially the young people, and their energy is slowly getting poisoned in the form of alcohol.

The members of Manas Mandali have said that banning alcohol is the only way to

get rid of alcoholism, which is a breaker of the overall development of the province. The Mandali members also said that banning alcohol is necessary for the poor farmers economically and physically and the situation will be strengthened, the atmosphere of the home and village will be clean and peaceful, the youth will be inclined towards education.

Aunkar Sahu, Girdhari Yadav, Bhagarathi Verma, Chandrasekhar Verma, Chintanand Verma, Kirtanlal Verma, Khemchand Sahu Ishwari Verma, Aas Kumar Gaikwad etc. were among those who demanded prohibition of alcohol.

## Recovery of Rs 10900 mitigation fee from seven buses

- Fitness checking of vehicles of private schools run in the district before the start of the education session
- 21 auto drivers got health test done

**Bijapur, Jun 25:**

Before the start of the education session, checking of fitness, registration, permit, insurance, PUC, road tax, CCTV camera, driver's license, fire extinguisher, emergency door, indicator and necessary documents of vehicles of private schools operated under the district at Indra Stadium Bijapur here on Saturday.

Rs 10,900/- was recovered from 7 buses under the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) when the fitness test and documents were not found complete during the vehicle checking. Medical examination of 21 auto drivers was conducted by organizing a medical camp for auto drivers. The team of the district hospital gave necessary advice and medicines for the treatment of auto drivers after conducting BP, sugar



and eye tests. Deputy Superintendent of Police Vineet Sahu, Inspector Sanjay Suryavanshi, Kishanlal Mahore from Transport Department, Medical Team from District Hospital and other employees were present during the vehicle test and health test.

## Baghel govt has fulfilled 90% of promises: Singh



**Churikala, Jun 25:**

The work done by the Congress Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel government in the last four years is much above than any other state Chief Minister, and the government has fulfilled almost 90 percent of the promises made to the people in 4 years. The above were told by grandson of ex-MLA late Yagyaseni Devi, Kuwar Rajyavardhan Pratap Singh in a public interaction. Singh is State President of Chhattisgarh Adivasi Congress.

than 65 forest products are worth praise. Congress Province Secretary Kunwar further said that the government of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel is teaching English medium free of charge to the children of farmers and poor workers of the province by opening English medium schools and announced to open about 450 English medium schools in the new education session. He also said that the state government is providing assistance amounting to lakhs of rupees for the treatment of serious diseases under Mukhyamantri Suposhan Abhiyan, Mukhyamantri Hat Bazar Clinic, Mukhyamantri Urban Slum Health Yojana, Noni Dai Clinic, Khubchand Baghel Health Yojana.

## 7 nabbed with 20.960 kg 'Ganja' worth lakh



**Jagdulpur, Jun 25:**

Police Station Nagarnar received information from the informer that a white colored scooter was coming from Orissa towards Jagdulpur via village Tiriya. The serial number of this Scooty is CG 17 X 8748, in which a man and a woman are carrying illegal intoxicant marijuana

in a bag. On information, Mohammad Asif S/o late Nafees, R/o District Shamli Uttar Pradesh and Baby Tabassum W/o Mohd. Bilal Ansari, R/o District Bardhaman Calcutta (Pt. Bengal) were arrested from near market square of village Tiriya. A total of 20.960 kg Ganja was recovered from their possession.

The arrested accused informed that, on the behalf of Nafedin of Jagdulpur, both of us had gone to Odisha to collect ganja. There they met Md Hasan and Khalil Khan, together with them went to Manjur Ahmed and Subendu Chinara of Orissa to buy Ganja.

It was on tip from an informer, a team was formed by the police station Nagarnar to nab the accused involved in the incident. Taking quick action by the police, all the accused involved in the incident were arrested.

Rs 86,500 in cash was seized from the possession of the arrested accused. All the 7 arrested accused were presented before the court on judicial remand after proceedings in police station Nagarnar.

**ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL** | **ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**  
 Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat - 362266  
 Branch Office- G Corporation Tech Park, Kasarvadavali, Ghodbunder Road, Thane -400607 (MH)

**DEMAND NOTICE**  
 (under Rule 3 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

**SUBSTITUTED SERVICE OF NOTICE U/s.13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002**

Notice is hereby given to the borrowers as mentioned below that since they have defaulted in repayment of the credit facility availed by them from Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL), their loan accounts have been classified as Non-Performing Assets in the books of the Company as per RBI guidelines thereto. Thereafter, ABHFL has issued demand notices under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on the last known addresses of the said borrowers thereby calling upon and demanding from them to repay the entire outstanding amount together with further interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. as stated in the said demand notices. However, the demand notice is also being served by way of publication, as per Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Rules):

Sr. No.	Name and Address Borrower/ Co-Borrower and Guarantor / Co-Guarantor & Loan A/C No.	NPA Date	Date of Demand Notice	Amount due as per Demand Notice / as on Date
1.	Navjot Rao, 2. Mukesh Rao, Block No. E Flat No. 403 4th Floor, Rda Kamal Vihar Sec-4, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001.			Rs. 4,60,638.30/- (Rupees Four Lakh Sixty Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Eight and Three Paise Only) with of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 09.06.2023.
3.	Navjot Rao, 4. Mukesh Rao, House No. 268, Professor Colony, Street No 5, Sector 1, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492010.	08-06-2023	19-06-2023	
5.	Navjot Rao, Clo VLCC Health Care Limited MIG-27 Shankar-Nagar Laxmi Medical Ke Baaju Me Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492007, 6. Mukesh Raomakan, No. 99 ward No.04 ekalavya Nagar, Pani Ki Tanki Ke Pass, District- Balod Dondi, Dallirajhara Sanjaratol Durg, Chhattisgarh- 491228. Loan Account No. LNRAIHL-0718009226 and LNRAIHL-0718009229.			

All that piece and parcel of Plot No. 403, Block No. E, 4th Floor, EWS, Rda Kamal Vihar, Sector-4, Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492001.

We hereby call upon the borrower stated herein to pay us within 60 days from the date of this notice, the outstanding amount (s) together with further interest thereon plus cost, charges, expenses, etc. thereto failing which we shall be at liberty to enforce the security interest including but not limited to taking possession of and selling the secured asset entirely at your risk as to the cost and consequences. Please note that as per section 13(1) of the SARFAESI Act, all of you are prohibited from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise, the aforesaid secured assets without prior written consent of the Company. Any contravention of the said section by you shall invoke the penal provisions as laid down under section 29 of the SARFAESI Act and / or any other legal provision in this regard. Please note that as per sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, if the dues of ABHFL together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by ABHFL are tendered to ABHFL at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by ABHFL, and no further step shall be taken by ABHFL or transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 26.06.2023  
 Place: Raipur

Sd/- Authorised Officer  
 (Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited)

He further also said that, today the people of Chhattisgarh are happy and the government has waived the loans of 11 thousand crores and irrigation tax of 350 crores of 20 lakh farmers of the state, which has not happened in BJP-ruled states. The farmers of Chhattisgarh were given the price of paddy at Rs 2660 this year. It is not given by the BJP government of any state, he said. He also said that the state is giving Rs 7000 financial assistance to the Lohar Mochi Baiga Gunia caste people living in the village of rural landless agricultural laborers in the state. 24 hour electricity is also available and the purchase of cow dung and cow other

**ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL** | **ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED**  
 Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat - 362266  
 Branch Office- Stry Park, unit Nos 402 & 403, 4th Floor, Adjacent G E Road, Ravi Nagar, Opp. Rani Sati Mandir, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001.

**APPENDIX IV (See Rule 6 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)**  
**Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)**

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a Demand notice dated 17-04-2023 calling upon the borrowers Indal Kumar Sahu, Tomin Sahu, seeking repayment of the amount mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 16,35,468.62/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Eight and Sixty Two Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and to the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 23rd Day of June of the year, 2023.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited for an amount of Rs. 16,35,468.62/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Eight and Sixty Two Paise Only) and interest thereon. Borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section 8 of Section 13 of the Act., in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**Description Of The Immovable Property**

All That Piece And Parcel Of Plot No. B-4-310, Third Floor, Admeasuring Super Built-Up Area 625 Sq. Ft., On 3rd Floor, Constructed On Khasra No. 65/3, 65/4, 65/5, Admeasuring 71,438 Sq. Ft., P.H. No. 101/29, Situated At D.M. Towers, Rawabhata, R.N.M. Dharsiva-1, P.C. No. 100, Ward No. 20, Pt. Sundar Lal Sharma Ward (Old Ward No. 18), Raipur, Chhattisgarh 493221. And Bounded As: East: Flat No. 311 & 312, West: Flat No. 308 & 309, North: Others Plot, South: Flat No. 306 & 307.

Date: 23/06/2023  
 Place: Raipur

Authorised Officer  
 Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited

**JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK** | **Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. Branch Office: Krishna Complex, Opp. Aurobindo Netralaya, Main Road, Sadar Bazar, Raipur-492001.**

**E-AUCTION NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISIO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.**

The undersigned as authorised officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited has taken possession of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction) of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 17.06.2023	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date, Time & Place for Submission of Bid
1	45119420000071	1) Ms. Parwati Nishad, D/o. Ganga Ram Nishad, 2) Mr. Ganga Ram Nishad, S/o. Chamru Ram Nishad, 3) Mr. Harpreet Singh Bhatiya, S/o. Mahendar Singh Bhatiya	17.11.2022	16.02.2023	Rs.14,30,245.50 (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Two Hundred Forty Five and Fifty Paise Only)	28.06.2023 09.00 AM to 05.30 PM	Rs.15,00,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Only)	Rs.1,50,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Fifty Thousand Only)	28.07.2023 @ 11.00 AM to 02.00 PM	27.07.2023 before 05.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, Krishna Complex, Opp. Aurobindo Netralaya, Main Road, Sadar Bazar, Raipur-492001

**Property Description/ Schedule:** All that piece and parcel of land bearing part of Khasra No.475/122K (New), 475/1 (Old), total admeasuring area 1000 Sq.ft., Situated at Village Mova, P.H. No.109, R.N.M. Raipur-1, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward-27, Raipur, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.). Bounded By: East by: Road, West by: Others Land, North by: Others Land and South by: Remaining Land of Mr. Sukhdev.

The properties are being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and the E-Auction will be conducted "On Line". All payments relating to purchase of above said property to be made in favour of Jana Small Finance Bank. The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider M/s. 4 Closure at the web portal https://bankauctions.in & www.foreclosureindia.com. For more information and For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact M/s. 4 Closure; Contact Mr. Bhaskar Naidu, Contact Number: 8142000809/ 8142000061, email id: info@bankauctions.in / subbarao@bankauctions.in For further details on terms and conditions to take part in e-auction proceedings and any for any query relating to property please contact Jana Small Finance Bank officers Mr. Ajay Naik (Mob No.9960948687) & Mr. Prashant Yadav (Mob. No.9200010006) To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on prior to submitting their bid. No conditional bid will be accepted. This is also a notice to the above named Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagees about e-auction scheduled for the mortgaged properties. The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagee are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Date: 26.06.2023, Place: Raipur

Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited



## BRIEF



People cross a road amid rain as the southwest monsoon advances over Delhi, Sunday.

## Honour

**Guwahati:** As the Assam government on Sunday honoured those who had resisted the Emergency imposed by then prime minister Indira Gandhi in 1975, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma rued that the president, who had signed the ordinance, and the then Congress national chief were from the state. He also said that the resistance by opposition political leaders, media, lawyers and other sections of society has "ensured that no regime can ever think of imposing such restrictions again".

## Electrocution

**New Delhi:** A 34-year-old woman died of electrocution after accidentally coming in contact with a live wire at the New Delhi Railway Station complex on Sunday morning amid rainfall, police said. The incident took place near exit gate number 1 of the station when victim Sakshi Ahuja was going to board a train to Chandigarh, they said. She was with her sister at the time.

## Collapse

**Mumbai:** A portion of a ground-plus-three floor residential building collapsed in Ghatkopar area of Mumbai on Sunday morning, a fire brigade official said. Two persons were rescued from the third floor, he said, adding two persons were still trapped on the building's first floor and efforts were on to bring them out.

## Mishap

**Jamshedpur:** Two persons were crushed to death by a speeding tanker in Jharkhand's East Singhbhum district on Sunday, police said. The accident occurred on National Highway 49 at Khandamouda, around 80 km from here, under the Barsol Police Station limits when the tanker rammied into a roadside restroom where the two persons were standing at that time, Sub-Divisional Police Officer Kulldeep Toppo told PTI.

## Arrested

**Meerut:** Police have arrested two cattle smugglers following an encounter in the district's Kharkhauda area, officials said on Sunday. Their three companions, however, managed to escape and efforts are underway to arrest them, they said.

## Disrupt

**Hisar:** Rail traffic on the Hisar-Jakhal section was disrupted after a cement girder fell on the track near the Surya Nagar area between Hisar and Raipur, officials here said on Sunday.

# Nagpur police unearth 'task fraud'

Trace money trail to China

**Nagpur, Jun 25 (PTI):**

The Nagpur cyber police probing a "task fraud" have unearthed a transaction involving the transfer of crime money to a Chinese individual through cryptocurrency and arrested six men from Mumbai, Gujarat and Rajasthan, a senior official said. Three of the six arrested men hail from Mumbai and suburban Nallasopara and the others from Rajasthan and Surat in Gujarat.

The police seized 19 debit and credit cards, nine mobile phones, a laptop, and cash worth Rs 7.87 lakh. Additionally, the police have frozen Rs 37.26 lakh from the bank accounts of the accused individuals, the official said on Saturday. On the modus operandi of such a crime, Deputy Commissioner of Police (cyber) Archit Chandak at a press conference said fraudsters em-

ploy different teams to handle various tasks, including an IT team to monitor transactions and a banking team to facilitate their activities. The fraud involves promise of money for performing tasks like liking videos and giving reviews for products. Later, the fraudsters lure the targeted individuals with "prepaid" tasks. They keep on increasing the fees and the victims keep paying the amounts expecting higher returns till they realise they have been cheated.

"The task fraud involves a systematic process consisting of three key steps-trust building, laying trap and treachery. Cyber criminals first entice individuals with tasks promising lucrative monetary rewards.

"In the second stage, they set a trap wherein they win the victims' trust over a month and persuade them with prospects

of an elevated profile in exchange for various fees. This ultimately leads to the third step-treachery-wherein the accused absconds with the money and cuts off all communication with the victim," said Chandak.

He said the modus operandi resembles the operations of corporate entities. "These criminals employ different teams to handle various tasks, including an IT team to monitor transactions and a banking team to facilitate their activities," the official said.

While conducting probe into a complaint lodged by a Nagpur-based chemical engineer, the police got a breakthrough when they traced the money trail to Meet Vyas, one of the arrested men, who had transferred the funds to a Chinese individual using cryptocurrency, Chandak said.

## Tripura to rechristen 75 border villages after names of freedom fighters

**Agartala, Jun 25 (PTI):**

The Tripura government has decided to rechristen 75 border villages in the state after the names of freedom fighters who had sacrificed their lives during the country's independence movement, a senior official said on Sunday. The project to rename 75 border villages will be taken up as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', an initiative to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of the country's independence and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. "The programme to recall the contribution of freedom fight-

ers to the country's independence will commence in July and is scheduled to be completed by August 15 this year.

"Seventy-five border villages spreading across all the eight districts will be identified by the district-level committees. The administration had already prepared a list of freedom fighters from the state and their contribution to the country's freedom struggle," Information and Cultural Affairs Secretary PK Chakravorty told PTI.

Statutes of the 75 freedom fighters will be erected in these villages and their family members will be felicitated by the government, he said.

## Emergency trauma still haunts those who were jailed

**Lucknow, Jun 25 (PTI):** It has been nearly 50 years but Lucknow-resident Tej Narayan Gupta vividly remembers the evening a police team knocked on his door and picked him up.

A nationwide crackdown had begun on June 26 in 1975, a day after the Emergency was imposed in the country, with scores of opposition leaders and activists put behind bars. "Around 9 pm I had just returned home when a police team raided my house and arrested me," Gupta, who was then an activist and lawyer, said.

A policeman took him on a bicycle to Bazar Khala police station, two km away from his home. He was then taken to



Union Minister Darshana Jardosh with women who offered 1001 meters 'chunddi' to the Tapi river at the celebration of the river's birthday, in Surat, Sunday.

Kaisarbagh police station and finally lodged in the Lucknow district jail along with other arrested persons. "The policemen was riding the bicycle, which was taken from a labourer, and I sat on the rod in front of him. He was riding the cycle very slowly. The motive was to create terror in the minds of the residents of my locality," Gupta, 83, told PTI.

Equating the imposition of the Emergency with dacoity, he said, "Generally, dacoity is carried out around midnight. Similarly, this dacoity of democracy in the country also took place around midnight." The Indira Gandhi government imposed the Emergency on

June 25 night, suspending civil liberties and censoring the press. The morning after a crackdown began on opposition leaders and activists with scores of them being jailed across the country. "In jail, we were not sure about the future and whether we will ever walk out of it," Gupta said. Months later the situation changed and the Emergency was lifted on March 21, 1977.

In his 'Mann Ki Baat' radio broadcast on June 18, Prime Minister Narendra Modi described the Emergency as a "dark period" in India's history and said those who supported democracy at that time were tortured.

## Three children who lost way reunited with families

**Palghar, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Three minor boys from Maharashtra's Palghar district who lost their way after venturing out of their homes in the excitement of going to see a train have been traced and reunited with their parents, police said on Sunday. The boys, including two siblings aged 6 and 7 and another five-year-old from their neighbourhood, left their homes in Boisar area here on Friday. At around 6.30 pm, a farmer at Asangaon village in Vangaon area, located about 15 km from Boisar, spotted the three children crying on a street and immediately alerted Vangaon police station, inspector Sandeep Kahale told PTI.

The children, who had also walked on the railway tracks and appeared tired, were brought to the police station and provided food, he said. When the police enquired with them, the boys informed they were from Ganesh Nagar locality in Mumbai, he said. The police, who suspected the boys were from a locality with the same name in Boisar area of Palghar, posted pictures of the three minors in a WhatsApp group created for community policing, the official said.

An alert citizen from Boisar who saw the WhatsApp message contacted the Vangaon police and also coordinated with parents of the three children.

## WATERLOGGED UNDERPASS



Waterlogged Shani Mandir railway underpass after heavy rainfall in Sonapat, Sunday.

## 'Air connectivity to Bikaner, Kishangarh airport likely to enhance soon'

**Jaipur, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Air connectivity to Rajasthan's Bikaner and Kishangarh airports from other parts of the country is likely to enhance as the Airport Authority of India along with the Ministry of civil aviation has put up both the airports for bidding in order to start new flights. The development came after the Rajasthan government's resident commissioner in New Delhi held a meeting with the secretary of the union ministry sometime back regarding the expansion and development of airports in the state, an official said here.

Commissioner of Rajasthan Foundation Dhiraj Srivastava said Bikaner and Kishangarh airports have been included in the bidding process for starting new flight services. Rajasthan Foundation is a body of the

state government to address the needs and concerns of non-resident Rajasthanis (NRR). "The bidding process will go on till July 15. By August 15, it is expected that airlines will come up to operate more flights from these two airports," Srivastava said while referring to the outcome of the meeting of the resident commissioner in Delhi with the secretary of the union minister of civil aviation. He said the foundation has requested the chief minister to expedite efforts to enhance air connectivity to the cities of Rajasthan, following which the meeting in Delhi took place.

At present, one flight is being operated at Kishangarh and Bikaner airports each, which, too, is irregular, he said, adding that in view of the high footfall of tourists and celebrities, international flights should be operated from Udaipur Airport.

## YSRC, Oppn lock horns over AP law and order situation

**Amaravati, Jun 25 (PTI):**

The political temperature in Andhra Pradesh is on rise with the main opposition party TDP gunning for ruling YSR Congress over the death of a minor boy and a prominent Kapu leader's strongly worded letter to Jena Sena Chief Pawan Kalyan on the latter's commitment to the community. Maintaining the political tempo, the Jagan Mohan Reddy government on June 23 launched 'Jagananna Suraksha', a month-long programme to reach out to all 1.6 crore households in the state to check for their unresolved grievances and

solve them. Scheduled across all the 15,004 village and ward secretariats, 'Jagananna Suraksha' will entail volunteers, village and ward secretariat employees visiting all the 5.3 crore people in the state in the next 10 days to identify unfulfilled eligible beneficiaries. TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu tore into Reddy and the state government on June 19 following an incident in which a 15-year old boy was allegedly found burnt to death at Cherukupalli village in Bapatla district, and alleged deterioration of law and order situation in the state. After visiting the boy's home, Naidu sought

to know why the Chief Minister did not visit the victim's family and announced any financial aid, besides raking up the recent acid attack on a woman in Eluru town. Reacting to Pawan Kalyan's appeal to people to give him a chance as Chief Minister for the betterment of the state, former minister and influential Kapu community leader Mudragada Padhmanabham in a letter on June 20 questioned how the Jana Sena chief could unilaterally ask people to make him the CM when he is apparently keen to contest the 2024 Assembly elections in a coalition with the TDP and the BJP.

## Goods train hits stationary freight coaches

● None hurt

**Kolkata, Jun 25 (PTI):**

A goods train collided with another stationary freight train at Onda in Bankura district of West Bengal on Sunday morning, a senior South Eastern Railway official said.

No one was injured in the accident, which affected train services in the Adra division of SER for over four hours, he said.

At least eight wagons derailed due to the collision, which happened around 4 am, the official said.

Train movement at Onda in the Midnapore-Adra section of Adra division was restored at 8.30 am, after urgent repair work was carried out, he said. The derailed wagons



Several boggies derailed after two goods trains collided with each other near West Bengal's Bankura, in the wee hours of Sunday.

were removed from the tracks on war footing, and the first passenger train to pass was the 18011 Howrah-Chakradharpur express at 8.35 am, he said.

The incident comes weeks after the train disaster at Bahanaga Bazar station in Odisha's Balasore district on June 2 in which 288 people were killed and hundreds injured. Onda is around 250

km away from Bahanaga Bazar. The SER official said the likely cause of Sunday's accident was that the driver of the moving goods train had overshot the home signal at Onda, which was red.

The train then went into the loop line, for which the point was likely to have been set on the tracks, and hit the stationary freight wagons, he said.

## Flood situation remains grim

**Guwahati, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Over 4 lakh hit

The flood condition in Assam remained grim on Sunday, with over four lakh people hit by the deluge across nine districts, even though water levels started to recede, an official said.

So far, three persons have lost their lives in this year's first wave of flood in different parts of the state, the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) official said.

According to an ASDMA report, over 4,07,700 people are impacted by the deluge in Baksa, Barpeta, Darrang, Dhubri, Goalpara, Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Nalbari and Udalguri districts. The water levels have

begun to recede in some areas, the official said.

The administration has been operating 101 relief camps in these districts, where 81,352 persons have taken shelter, and running 119 relief distribution centres in five districts.

At present, 1,118 villages are under water and 8,469.56 hectare of crop area has been damaged across Assam, ASDMA said.

Massive erosion was witnessed in Baksa, Barpeta, Sonitpur, Dhubri, Kamrup, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, South Salmara and Udalguri, it said.

Places in Karimganj have also reported incidents of landslides due to heavy rainfall.



## FESTIVAL OF CYCLING



UK Minister of Tourism John Whittingdale poses at the festival of cycling 'RideLondon', in Maldon.

# Modi visits Egypt's historic 11th century Al-Hakim Mosque

Cairo, Jun 25 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday visited Egypt's historic 11th century Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo, restored with the help of India's Dawoodi Bohra community.

On the second day of his state visit to Egypt, Modi visited the Fatimid era Shia mosque where he was received by Minister of Tourism and Antiquities of Egypt, Dr. Mostafa Waziri.

Modi was shown around the mosque whose latest restoration was completed about three months ago. He appreciated the intricate carved inscriptions on the walls and doorways of the mosque which was built in 1012.

"Honoured to visit the historic Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo. It's a profound testament to Egypt's rich heritage and culture," he tweeted in both Arabic and English.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Al-Hakim mosque in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, June 25.

Prime Minister Modi also met the leaders of Bohra community, who are actively involved in the upkeep of this Fatimid era Shia mosque and highlighted the strong people-to-people ties between India and Egypt, the MEA said in a press release.

The mosque mainly performs Friday prayers and all five obligatory prayers. Over a thousand years

old, al-Hakim is the fourth oldest mosque in Cairo, and the second Fatimid mosque to be built in the city. The mosque covers an area of 13,560 square metres, with the iconic central courtyard occupying 5,000 square metres.

The Bohra community, which is settled in India, originated from the Fatimids. They renovated the mosque from 1970 on-

wards and have been maintaining it since then, he told PTI.

"The Prime Minister has a very close attachment to the Bohra community who have also been in Gujarat for many years and it will be an occasion for him to again visit a very important religious site for the Bohra community," India's Ambassador to Egypt Ajit Gupte earlier said.

The historic Mosque has been named after Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah, the 16th Fatimid caliph and is an important religious and cultural site for the Dawoodi Bohra community.

The Dawoodi Bohra Muslims are a sect of followers of Islam who adhere to the Fatimi Ismaili Tayyibi school of thought. They are known to have originated from Egypt and later shifted to Yemen, before establishing a presence in India in the 11th century.

## Pak court acquits former PM Nawaz Sharif in 37-year-old 'bribe' case

Lahore, Jun 25 (PTI):

A Pakistani accountability court has acquitted former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in a 37-year-old case alleging that he transferred a "precious state land" here in the capital of Punjab province to one of the country's leading media barons as a "bribe".

Saturday's ruling came days after the federal government led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the younger brother of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif, made crucial amendments to laws to lift the life-long ban on politicians.

The 73-year-old three-time former prime minister's acquittal may allow him to contest and lead PML-N in the next general



election scheduled later this year.

Nawaz Sharif was disqualified in 2017 by the Supreme Court. In 2018, he became ineligible to hold public office for life after a Supreme Court verdict in the Panama Papers case.

"An Accountability Court in Lahore acquitted three-time premier Nawaz Sharif in a case related to illegal transfer of 54-kanal (6.75 acres) precious state land to Jang/Geo media group owner Mir Shakil-ur-Rehman in Lahore while he was the chief

minister of Punjab 37 years ago," a court official told PTI.

"Judge Rao Abdul Jabbar acquitted him after the country's anti-graft body (National Accountability Bureau) informed the court that after recent amendments to its law (by the Shehbaz Sharif-led coalition government), the case does not fall in its preview," the official said.

The former prime minister's lawyer contended that NAB had malicious intentions while filing the case against his client, who had no involvement in plot allotment.

The court has already acquitted Shakil-ur-Rehman in this case.

He said the acquittal of the principal accused proved that no offence was committed.

## Russian mercenary leader's exile ends revolt

Moscow, Jun 25 (AP):

The greatest challenge to Russian President Vladimir Putin in his more than two decades in power fizzled out after the rebellious mercenary commander who ordered his troops to march on Moscow abruptly reached a deal with the Kremlin to go into exile and sounded the retreat.

The brief revolt, though, exposed vulnerabilities among Russian government forces, with Wagner Group soldiers under the command of Yevgeny Prigozhin able to move unimpeded into the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don and advance hundreds of kilometres toward Moscow.

The Russian military scrambled to defend Russia's capital. Under the deal announced Saturday by Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, Prigozhin will go to neighboring Belarus, which has supported Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Charges against him of mounting an armed rebellion will be dropped.

The government also said it would not prosecute Wagner fighters who took part, while those who did not join in were to be offered contracts by the Defence Ministry.

Prigozhin ordered his troops back to their field camps in Ukraine, where they have been fighting alongside Russian regular soldiers. Putin had vowed earlier to punish those behind the armed uprising led by his one-time protege.

## Pak to raise Rs 215 billion through taxes to fulfil IMF loan conditions: FM Dar

Islamabad, Jun 24 (PTI):

Pakistan will raise Rs 215 billion through taxes to meet the stringent conditions set by the IMF, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said on Saturday, as the cash-strapped government tried to meet the conditions set by the IMF for a much-needed loan.

Speaking at the closing of a three-day-long general discussion with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the budget for the financial year 2023-24 held in the National Assembly, Dar said that Pakistan is trying to fulfil all the formalities the global lender wants them to complete prior to availing the loan. "As a result of the talks with IMF for the fiscal year 2023-24, the final taxes of only Rs 215 billion (approximately USD



750,400,000) have been agreed, ensuring that it will not burden the poor and middle segments of the society," he said.

The announcement was made by Dar two days after IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva urged Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to resolve policy differences at the global lender's staff level prior to getting a much-needed loan to stabilise the country's economy.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) signed a deal in 2019 to provide USD 6 billion to

Pakistan on the fulfilment of certain conditions.

The plan was derailed several times and the full reimbursement is still pending due to insistence by the donor that Pakistan should complete all formalities.

A member of the federal cabinet joined from Paris the technical round of talks, which took place in Islamabad after the meeting between the IMF MD and Prime Minister Sharif. Both sides again discussed all the outstanding issues and the government appeared to accept the IMF's views on a few budgetary numbers. On Saturday, Dar said that Pakistan would bring down the running expenditure by Rs 85 billion, which would have no impact on the proposed development budget, the raise in salaries and pensions of the federal government employees.

## You are India's hero, Indian community members tell Modi

Cairo, Jun 25 (PTI):

Members of the Indian community in Egypt showered fulsome praise on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, hailing him as India's hero, as he began his two-day visit here. Modi, the first prime minister to undertake a bilateral visit to Egypt in 26 years, was given a rousing welcome at the Ritz Carlton hotel, where he interacted with the Indian diaspora in separate groups. Most of the members appreciated the Prime Minister's address to the US Congress and the economic progress of the country under his leadership. "You are India's hero," a member of the Indian diaspora told Modi, who responded by saying



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with members of the Indian Community, in Cairo.

that efforts by every Indian, including those living overseas, have contributed to the country's success. "Saara Hindustan sabka hero hai. Desh ke log mehnat karte, desh ki taraqqi hoti hai (Entire

India is everyone's hero. The people of the country work hard and the nation progresses)," the prime minister said.

"This is a result of your hard work. Your devotion is paying off (Yeh aapki

mehnat ka natija hai. Aapki tapasya kaam kar rahi hai," Modi said. Modi also met the members of the Bohra community, who have strong linkages with his home state of Gujarat. Earlier, waving the Indian tricolour, members of the Indian community welcomed the Prime Minister to chants of 'Modi, Modi', 'Vande Mataram' when he reached the hotel here. An Egyptian woman, Jena, dressed in a saree, greeted Modi with the popular song 'Yeh Dosti Hum Nahil Chhodenge' from the movie 'Sholay'. Impressed by the rendition of the Kishore Kumar-Manna Dey number, the Prime Minister expressed surprise when Jena said she knew very little Hindi and had never visited India.

## Sikh man shot dead by unknown gunmen in Pakistan's Peshawar city

Peshawar, Jun 25 (PTI):

A Sikh man was shot dead by unidentified gunmen here on Saturday, in the latest incident of targeted attacks against minority communities in Pakistan.

Mannohan Singh was on his way to the interior city area of Peshawar from Rasheed Garhi, a suburban locality of Peshawar, when some armed men attacked him near Guldara Chowk Kakshal, which comes under the jurisdiction of Yakka Toot police station. Singh was shifted to a

hospital where he was pronounced dead by the doctors, police said.

This is the second incident of armed attack on a Sikh man in the Yakka Toot area in the last 48 hours. A Sikh man was injured after he sustained bullet wounds on his legs on Friday.

A Sikh businessman was shot dead in the city by unknown assailants in March.

About 15,000 Sikhs live in Peshawar, mostly in the Jogan Shah neighbourhood of the provincial capital Peshawar.

Most of the members of the Sikh community

in Peshawar are involved in business, while some also have pharmacies.

In September last year, a well-known Sikh haikem' (Unani medicine practitioner) was shot dead by unidentified gunmen inside his clinic in Peshawar.

In 2018, Charanjit Singh, a prominent Sikh community member, was killed by unknown men in Peshawar. Similarly, news channel anchor Ravinder Singh was killed in 2020 in the city.

In 2016, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf National Assembly member Soren Singh was also

killed in Peshawar. Hindus form the biggest minority community in Pakistan. According to official estimates, 75 lakh Hindus live in the Muslim-majority country. Muslims account for about 96 per cent of Pakistan's 207 million population, Hindus 2.1 per cent and Christians about 1.6 per cent according to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan estimates. The majority of Pakistan's Hindu population is settled in Sindh province where they share culture, traditions and language with their Muslim residents.

## One killed, another injured in Pak suicide attack: Police

Islamabad, Jun 25 (PTI):

One policeman was killed and another was injured on Saturday in a attack by a suicide bomber in Pakistan's Balochistan province, police said.

The attack happened in Balochistan's Turbat when the female suicide bomber targeted a vehicle of the Paramilitary Frontiers Corps (FC). "A policeman was killed and a lady police constable was wounded in the attack who was immediately rushed to the hospital for medical

treatment," police said.

Officials of law enforcing agencies reached at the scene and initiated the collection of evidence to investigate the incident. The banned Baloch Liberation Army accepted the responsibility for the attack. It said in a statement that the attack was carried out by Samia Qalandrani Baloch of the Majeed Brigade of the group. Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Qudoos Bizenjo condemned the blast and expressed regret at the at-

tack and extended his condolences to the families of killed and injured officials. "The aim of terrorism is to halt the development process and intimidate the security forces. The evil intentions of terrorists will never be successful," the chief minister said in a statement. The province has been grappling with a wave of terrorism and insurgency for several years, with various militant groups carrying out attacks targeting security forces and civilians alike.

## Women are provided with a 'comfortable and prosperous life' in Afghanistan: Taliban leader

Islamabad, Jun 25 (AP):

The supreme leader of the Taliban released a message on Sunday claiming that his government has taken the necessary steps for the betterment of women's lives in Afghanistan, where women are banned from public life and work and girls' education is severely curtailed.

The statement from Hibatullah Akhundzada was made public ahead of the Eid al-Adha holiday, which will be celebrated

later this week in Afghanistan and other Islamic countries.

Akhundzada, an Islamic scholar, rarely appears in public or leaves the Taliban heartland in Afghanistan's southern Kandahar province. He surrounds himself with other religious scholars and allies who oppose education and work for women. In his Eid message Akhundzada said that under the rule of the Islamic Emirate, concrete measures have been taken to save women from many

traditional oppressions, including forced marriages, "and their Shariah rights have been protected".

Moreover, "necessary steps have been taken for the betterment of women as half of society in order to provide them with a comfortable and prosperous life according to the Islamic Shariah", the message continued.

Lately, Akhundzada appears to have taken a stronger hand in directing domestic policy, banning girls' education after the

sixth grade and barring Afghan women from public life and work, especially for nongovernmental organisations and the United Nations.

The message was distributed in five languages: Arabic, Dari, English, Pashto and Urdu. Akhundzada said the negative aspects of the previous 20-year occupation related to women's wearing of the hijab and "misguidance" will end soon.

"The status of women as a free and dignified human being has been re-

stored and all institutions have been obliged to help women in securing marriage, inheritance and other rights," he added.

Despite initial promises of a more moderate rule than during their previous stint in power in the 1990s, the Taliban have imposed harsh measures since seizing Afghanistan in August 2021 as US and NATO forces were pulling out.

They have barred women from public spaces, like parks and gyms, and cracked down on media freedoms.





## CENTRAL Chronicle

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### Modi's US Visit

#### Subtly Signaling Strength to China

In the realm of international diplomacy, messages are often conveyed not through explicit statements, but rather through nuanced gestures and actions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the United States exemplified this approach, sending a strong signal to China without uttering its name. The visit showcased the deepening strategic partnership between the United States and India, emphasizing shared interests and highlighting India's emergence as a rising power. The implications for China are clear, despite the absence of direct references during the visit. China has emerged as India's primary security threat in recent years, overshadowing its historical rival, Pakistan. Border clashes and growing tensions between the two populous nations have revived a long-standing rivalry in the Indo-Pacific region. Recognizing this shift, the United States has found common ground with India, aligning their strategic interests and fostering a convergence between the world's largest democracy and the global superpower. Although President Joe Biden referred to Chinese President Xi Jinping as a "dictator" prior to the visit, both leaders refrained from framing their engagement as a direct response to the China challenge. However, it is evident that the issue of China's role in various domains, including the military, technology, and economy, loomed large throughout the discussions. National security adviser Jake Sullivan clarified that the visit was not explicitly about China, but the question of China's influence was undeniably on the agenda. The visit witnessed several significant agreements, including the manufacturing of General Electric fighter-jet engines in India and the procurement of General Atomics armed drones. These deals hold immense importance for India, as they enhance its defense capabilities and equip it to counter China's military maneuvers effectively. The provision of sensitive jet engine technology, previously unrevealed even to treaty allies, signifies a long-term commitment between the United States and India in the defense sector. It opens avenues for future collaborations and paves the way for India's defense innovation advancements over the next few decades. India's recognition of the need to compete with China's military modernization campaign is evident in its efforts to foster technological advancements. By facilitating tech and defense collaboration, PM Modi's visit aims to break down barriers and promote cooperation between the two countries. An example of this is the partnership between Micron Technology Inc., the largest US memory chipmaker, and India. This agreement not only represents a significant investment but also contributes to the rebalancing of global supply chains away from China. India's objectives in pursuing these initiatives go beyond countering China. The deals serve to reduce its reliance on Russian military equipment and revitalize its manufacturing sector. By attracting foreign investment, India aims to become an alternative manufacturing destination, a prospect that gained momentum as investors sought alternatives to China during the pandemic. India's ambitions extend beyond regional influence. As the host of the upcoming G-20 summit, India aspires to assert itself as a great power with its unique approach to alliances and partnerships. While the United States and China vie for influence in the Pacific, India positions itself as a champion of the developing world. Its recent interactions with Pacific Island nations, warmly received by leaders in the region, reinforce India's standing as a prominent global player. The United States recognizes India's strategic autonomy and does not expect it to become a formal treaty ally like Japan or Australia. India's refusal to condemn Russia's actions in Ukraine or join in sanctions underscores its independent foreign policy approach. However, India's perception of China as a threat has significantly evolved in recent years. The border conflict and China's aggressive actions have strained relations and led to public sentiment against China in India. Bans on Chinese apps, restrictions on Chinese telecom giants, and other measures reflect India's growing concerns. While the visit was not framed as a direct response to China, the subtext is clear: the United States and India are aligned in their pursuit of a free and open Indo-Pacific. The message to China is unmistakable - India's emergence and partnership with the United States serve as a counterweight to its regional aspirations. As the geopolitical landscape continues to evolve, the United States and India's strategic partnership will play a pivotal role in shaping a future that promotes peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

### Semiconductor Boost

#### Micron's Investment Strengthens India's Plans

The announcement of American chipmaker Micron Technology investing up to \$825 million in a new assembly and test facility in Gujarat is a significant development for both India and the United States. The investment aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious \$10-billion incentive plan for chip manufacturing, while also supporting the US goal of diversifying business risks away from China and strengthening economic ties with India. Micron's decision comes at a crucial time, as the global chips market is projected to reach \$1 trillion by 2030. With support from the Central and state governments, the total investment in the facility is expected to reach \$2.75 billion. This investment, along with Micron's commitment, boosts India's vision of becoming a semiconductor manufacturing hub. While the facility will focus on testing and packaging semiconductor chips rather than their production, it is a crucial step towards building a robust semiconductor ecosystem in the country. Additionally, other companies like Applied Materials and Lam Research are also investing in India's semiconductor sector, further strengthening the country's position. For years, India has excelled in software-related know-how, resulting in significant advancements in digital technologies. However, entering the hardware sector poses new challenges. Merely offering subsidies will not be enough to attract chip supply chains. The establishment of larger clusters capable of supporting manufacturing, ensuring long-term operations, and facilitating technology transfer is essential. These clusters will provide the necessary infrastructure and ecosystem for the semiconductor industry to thrive in India. As India embarks on its silicon journey, it presents an opportunity for the country's talent pool to shine. The semiconductor sector is resource-intensive and demands highly-skilled workers. India needs to leverage this opportunity by providing hands-on and industry-relevant training to engineering students. Taking inspiration from Taiwan's success in the semiconductor industry, India can focus on fostering public-private partnerships that prioritize training and certification programs. By doing so, India can bridge the competence gap and create a skilled workforce capable of meeting the demands of the semiconductor industry. The growth potential of the global chips market, coupled with Micron's investment and India's emphasis on semiconductor manufacturing, opens up numerous job opportunities. To fully capitalize on this potential, India must nurture its talent pool and ensure that engineering students receive practical training that aligns with industry requirements. This approach will not only address the competence gap but also position India as a global player in the semiconductor sector. Micron's investment in a new assembly and test facility in Gujarat is a significant boost to India's plans of becoming a semiconductor base. The support from the US and the Indian government, coupled with other investments in the sector, sets the stage for India's entry into the global semiconductor market. By focusing on building larger clusters, nurturing talent, and providing industry-relevant training, India can capitalize on the growing demand for semiconductors and establish itself as a key player in this critical industry.

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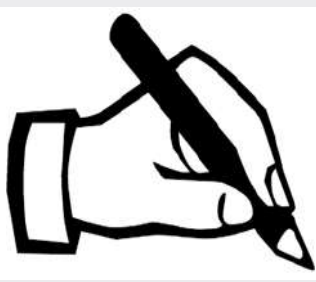
### SURREAL MONSOON JOURNEY



A bus moves through the waterlogged service road of Delhi-Gurugram Expressway after heavy rains, in Gurugram, Sunday, June 25.

## The Impact of Language: Promoting Respect and Culture in Society

DR. MANMOHAN PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA



The word is Brahmah, which means it is the creator of rituals, culture, thinking and behaviour. Once a word is spoken, it cannot be taken back, similar to an arrow released from a bow. Words make up language. Language can be both positive and negative. In my view, a civilised and good language is that which is acceptable to all, arouses a sense of respect and esteem towards the speaker, which is liked to be heard again and again.

On the contrary, bad and uncivilised language is one that arouses hatred towards the speaker, who does not like to listen. Even in literature, good literature is that which has the sweetness of language, decency and purity from the point of view of grammar. These qualities are also considered important in colloquial language. It is also a measure of the identity of a good person in society.

A person with good language, whether he is a minister or a sentry, a leader or an actor, a king or a subject, an officer or an employee, a religious teacher or a disciple, a writer or a reader, all have their own unique name and identity in the society. They are always the

centre of attraction. The public likes to hear them again and again. The list of such people in India is huge. In Indian politics, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Jaiprakash Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Lohia, George Fernandes, Sushma Swaraj, LK Advani, Narendra Modi etc. have influenced everyone with their speech. In Indian literature there is a desire to read the literature of Kabir, Tulsidas, Surdas, Jaishankar Prasad, Nirala, Pant etc. again and again. In the same way, among the religious leaders Swami Vivekananda, Mahamandaleshwar Satyamitranand ji, Avdheshanand ji, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji, Acharya Shri Ram Sharma etc., have made a large population as their followers by their speech, language and knowledge.

It is believed that language also evolves with time and civilization. It is proven that language reflects the mental level of the user. Nowadays, it is not known why the use of indecent, uncivilised words in the language of some of the people of India is increasing. It is shameful when it is known that educated people take pride in using

these words.

Many times film stars and co-stars are often expected to engage in inappropriate behavior, writers are writing what they should not be writing, and so-called religious teachers and storytellers are saying things that should not be said and politicians are using language that should not be used. No doubt the number of such people is less today, but when a person who has the ability to influence a large number of people uses such words, it is sure it becomes a matter of concern. Therefore, people's leaders, writers and influential persons should use words after careful consideration. Our saint poets have said - "Baatun hathi paaye, Baatun hathi paun..." and say such words, "Aisi Vani boliye, man ka aapa khoye..."

In an Indian parliament and vidhan sabha there is already a ban on use of indecent words, even if they were used, they would have been removed from the records saying they were unparliamentary. There is a well defined process of identification of unparliamentary words in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Vidhan Sabha. The Dictionary of unparliamentary words was first released in 1954 and from time to time other words were added to it.

It is a welcome and appreciated process to issue a list of unparliamentary words by the Parliament from time to time. However, once these words become part of public discourse, they are not easily forgotten. It is also incomprehensible that when these words are unparliamentary in the Parliament

then why not unparliamentary in the election campaign? Why doesn't the Election Commission ban the use of such words?

We all know that Indian cinema has a different identity in the world, it makes films on every subject and that too in large numbers. But from time to time it has to face criticism, sometimes for rude scenes, sometimes for rude subject matter, sometimes for rude dialogue or language. Currently released film 'Adi Purush' is also facing criticism for its vulgar dialogues. This is not the first time; in the past, objectionable and double-meaning words have been used in films and removed following protests.

The question is why all this happens despite the presence of the censor board? What message does the film writer want to convey to the society through such language? Why isn't there a regulated vocabulary for the language used in cinema, dialogues, songs, etc.? Why does not the people of India unanimously oppose rude, uncultured, invalid, unparliamentary words?

What mistakes were made by those who approved this film for general public viewing? Are they given permission knowingly, or do they not have the power to delete indecent words? Or is there a conspiracy behind this? All these questions are subject of investigation and subject of improvement in future. As good and decent citizens of India, we should use words that create a positive impression and culture in our society.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Tragic Tourism

The loss of 5 lives and the submersible Titan is undeniably heartbreaking. Yet, let's confront an uncomfortable truth. We've witnessed a similar tragedy before, etched in world history—the sinking of the Titanic. Over 1500 souls met a chilling demise, but now it seems the commercial expedition industry and tourists are callously exploiting this sorrowful event in the name of "adventure" and "fun." How can seemingly rational individuals engage in such morbid pursuits? The convergence of profit and grief is deeply troubling. Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata, raises a poignant question, reminding us that humanity has not learned from its past mistakes.

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata

#### Betrayal by Doctors

The Shopian Case reveals a disheartening reality of doctors misusing their positions of trust and authority to instigate panic and unrest in the Valley. These medical professionals, who should be upholding the principles of healthcare, instead pursued their vested interests, causing extensive burden on security and investigating agencies. Their actions wasted valuable time and resources. In an era of advanced techniques for truth verification, it is astonishing that they believed their malicious acts would go unnoticed. The betrayal by these individuals tarnishes the reputation of a noble profession, bringing shame upon their colleagues and the healthcare community as a whole.

Rajeev Das, Shopian

#### Infrastructure Crisis

Shimla, once a serene hill town, is now grappling with the consequences of rapid urbanization, tourism, and rural migration. The city's infrastructure and resources are strained as a result. The already existing parking woes are worsened by haphazard construction and inadequate parking space to accommodate the rising number of cars. The town also suffers from a severe water shortage during summers. The local municipal authorities lack the necessary infrastructure to handle emergencies such as fires and landslides effectively. Furthermore, extensive illegal constructions have encroached upon the once lush green belts, exacerbating the situation. Shimla is in dire need of comprehensive planning and investment to address these pressing challenges.

Faizal Ahmed, Shimla

## Titanic Expedition Tragedy: Unveiling the Deep-Sea Dangers



Yash Pal Raihan

In a tragic turn of events, an adventure to explore the wreckage of the RMS Titanic claimed the lives of five individuals, raising concerns and demanding answers to prevent such devastating accidents in the future. The submersible Titan, carrying a team of explorers, met a

catastrophic fate with a fatal implosion, shattering the hopes of a successful expedition. The allure of the Titanic, which sank in 1912 after striking an iceberg, continues to captivate nautical experts and underwater tourists alike. Resting 900 nautical miles east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, the ship's wreckage remains a testament to its historical significance.

The search for the missing Titan grew increasingly desperate as the submersible's estimated 96-hour air supply dwindled. Among the individuals on board were Stockton Rush, the founder and CEO of OceanGate, the company owning the Titan, and four others. The team included British billionaire and explorer Hamish Harding, Pakistani-born businessman Shahzada Daand and his son Suleman, both British citizens, and French oceanographer and renowned Titanic expert Paul-Henri,

fondly known as 'Mr. Titanic.' The undersea expedition, operated by OceanGate since 2021, carried a price tag of \$250,000 per person.

The tragic loss of these "true explorers" has triggered widespread shock and grief globally, highlighting concerns about potential safety compromises made by OceanGate. While the cause of the Titan's destruction remains unclear, the US Navy reportedly detected an acoustic anomaly consistent with an implosion shortly after the submersible lost contact with the surface. An extensive international search involving US, Canadian, British, and French teams led to the discovery of debris, confirming it to be from the Titan. However, the bodies of the victims are yet to be recovered.

The legal ramifications surrounding this disaster are complex. OceanGate, as the responsible company, may

face accountability for the fate of the passengers, including their CEO. However, the presence of waiver forms, in which passengers released the company from liability, complicates the situation. Families could potentially pursue legal action against OceanGate if negligence on the part of the crew is proven. Additionally, liability extends to the operator of the parent vessel, Polar Prince, as it is Canadian-flagged and based.

Deep-sea exploration inherently carries risks, and while waivers acknowledge this fact, companies involved must prioritize employee and passenger safety. Certification of vessels and adherence to rigorous safety protocols are paramount. The tragedy involving the Titan stands out as an outlier, as its maker chose not to certify the vessel, defying industry conventions. Previous concerns about the Titan's safety were raised in 2018 during a symposium of

submersible industry experts and in a subsequent lawsuit, which was later settled.

As we navigate the realm of deep-sea tourism, it is essential to acknowledge that accidents may occur even with the most reliable technology. The recent rail accident in Orissa, along with incidents on ropeways in Uttarakhand, Kashmir, and Himachal Pradesh, serve as reminders of this reality. It is crucial to address the liability, improve safety measures, and ensure that companies exceed expectations in safeguarding the lives of those involved in deep-sea expeditions.

In the aftermath of this tragedy, lessons must be learned, questions answered, and protocols strengthened to protect future adventurers. The Titan expedition serves as a stark reminder that the pursuit of discovery must always be accompanied by an unwavering commitment to safety and responsibility.



**BRIEF**

**REC**

**New Delhi:** State-owned REC Ltd will provide finance of Rs 3,045 crore to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation to develop Phase-II project in Bengaluru. REC approved a proposal in this regard at a board meeting held on Saturday, a company statement said. Phase-II project comprises extension of two corridors of Phase-I and establishing 2 new lines from RV Road to Bommasandra and Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara. The project will enhance connectivity and ease traffic in the city.

**Dunzo4Business**

**New Delhi:** Reliance Retail backed Dunzo's logistics arm Dunzo4Business plans to expand the business to 10-15 cities in the next 12-18 months, a senior company official has said. Dunzo co-founder and Dunzo4Business (D4B) head Dalvir Suri told PTI that the logistics aggregator firm is working, along with the government-supported Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), to cater to intricacy last mile delivery of products.

**Vedanta**

**New Delhi:** Billionaire Anil Agarwal's mining conglomerate Vedanta Ltd donated Rs 155 crore to political parties through electoral bonds in the fiscal ended March 2023, according to the company's latest annual report. The donation was higher than Rs 123 crore the firm gave in 2021-22 (April 2021 to March 2022), the annual report for 2022-23 said. It did not give the names of the beneficiary political parties. The Modi government had, in 2017-18, introduced the system of electoral bonds for electoral funding. This was to provide an alternative to the cash donations.

**Himalayan Airlines**

**Kathmandu:** The Himalayan Airlines, a joint venture between Nepal and China, on Saturday resumed its direct flight between Kathmandu and Beijing after a three-year interval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an official statement. Bishnu Pukar Shrestha, Ambassador of Nepal to the People's Republic of China, flew to Beijing in the resumed first direct flight of the Himalayan Airlines, according to a press release issued by the Nepal Embassy in Beijing.

**NHPC**

**New Delhi:** State-owned NHPC Ltd has inked an initial pact with an Odisha state utility to develop 2,000 MW of pumped storage projects and 1,000 MW renewable energy in the state. The MoU signed with GRIDCO Ltd envisages setting up self-identified pumped storage projects of at least 2,000 MW and renewable energy projects (Ground-Mounted Solar Projects / Floating Solar Projects) of at least 1,000 MW in the state, a power ministry release said.

## Will strive to get CPI down to 4 pc: Shaktikanta Das

● **El Nino a challenge for food inflation**

**Mumbai, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Governor Shaktikanta Das has said the Reserve Bank will strive to get headline inflation to its 4 per cent target but flagged El Nino as a challenge to its efforts.

In an exclusive interview with PTI Bhasha at his office here, Das exuded confidence that the economy will grow at 6.5 per cent in FY24, as estimated by the RBI earlier. The central bank's rate hikes by a cumulative 2.50 per cent since May last year, coupled with supply-side



measures from the government, have helped get the inflation down to 4.25 per cent in May from a peak of 7.8 per cent in April last year, Das said.

"We continue to be watchful on the inflation front. We expect inflation to be at 5.1 per cent in FY24, and we will continue to strive and get it down to 4 per cent," he added.

On the high borrowing costs, Das said interest rates on loans may have a

### More than two-thirds of Rs 2,000 notes returned within a month of withdrawal

**Mumbai:** Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das has said that within a month of the recall order, more than two-thirds of the Rs 2,000 currency notes have returned to the system. In a surprise move, but as part of the clean note policy, the Reserve Bank had on May 19 ordered the recall of the Rs 2,000 banknotes worth around Rs 3.62 lakh crore. On June 8, announcing the second monetary policy review of the fiscal, Das had said around Rs 1.8 lakh crore worth of the Rs 2,000 notes have been returned, accounting for approximately 50 per cent of the notes in circulation as of March 31, of which 85 per cent were in deposits and the rest in exchange.

direct relation with inflation, and if inflation cools down on a durable basis, people can expect lower interest rates on loans.

The governor explained that the Russia-Ukraine war, which led to a shoot-

up in the commodity prices, led to a surge in inflation, but added that crude prices are not a concern from an inflation perspective now as they've come down to USD 76-76 a barrel.

## Mercedes-Benz eyes 20 pc sales from pre-owned segment this year

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

German luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz is looking at around 20 per cent of its total sales this year to come from pre-owned cars sales despite sourcing of used vehicles remaining a challenge, according to a senior company official.

The company's arm Mercedes-Benz India had sold over 3,000 pre-owned cars last year and is witnessing robust demand for such vehicles with the holding period coming down to around 10 days as compared to 30 to 45 days earlier.

"Still 18 to 20 per cent of our total car sales will come from used cars. So last year, if we did 16,000-odd cars, I will say 3,000 plus cars were used cars, about 20 per cent. Similar



ratios will continue, I would say at 20-odd per cent." Mercedes-Benz India Managing Director & CEO Santosh Iyer told PTI.

He was responding to a query on the sales of the company's pre-owned cars.

The company sells its pre-owned cars through the "Mercedes-Benz

Certified" channel which are located at all dealers' locations and are actively selling and trading-in cars.

The Mercedes-Benz Certified business witnessed steady traction growing by 20 per cent in Q1 2023, owing to growing aspirations and also supported by increased supplies of pre-owned cars, Iyer added.

## Goyal holds interaction with over 50 top-performing Youtubers in India

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has held an interaction with over 50 top-performing Youtubers in India on various issues like popularising handicrafts, benefits of millets and consumer awareness, an official said. The interaction was held on June 23.

Youtubers who participated in the discussions include Vivek Bindra, Gaurav Chaudhary (Technical Guruji), Viraj Sheth (Co-founder Monk Entertainment), Ganesh Prasad (Think School), Shlok Srivastava (Tech burner), Prafull Billore



(MBA Chai Wala), and Anushka Rathod (Anushka Rathod Finance), among others, the commerce and industry ministry official said.

"Minister Piyush Goyal held a fruitful interaction 'SAMPARK SE SAMVAD' with an interesting group of top-performing

Youtubers in India, from diverse genres who are experts at demystifying content of any nature," the official said.

The issues discussed during the interaction included consumer awareness and protection (with a special focus on fake websites), cyber security, ways to boost tourism, popularising handlooms and handicrafts, and creating more content on the benefits of millets, among others.

The minister also invited the content creators to further propagate the five resolutions, including making India a developed nation in the next 25 years.

## FASHION SHOW



Models present creations by Pakistani designer My Apparels during a Fashion Show in Karachi, Pakistan, Sunday, June 25.

## 'Meesho' earns coveted spot among most influential companies

**Mumbai, Jun 25:**

Meesho, has made it to TIME's prestigious list of the 100 Most Influential Companies in the world for 2023. Meesho was recognized as one of the 'Pioneers' on the list for the extraordinary impact it has made on India's e-commerce landscape.

In its third edition this year, TIME100 Most Influential Companies list honours organizations - across sectors including health care, entertainment, technology, retail and energy - that have made substantial contributions towards shaping industries and redefining the way we live and work. To assemble the list,



Visit Aatrey, CEO & Sanjeev Barnwal, CTO.

TIME solicited nominations across sectors, and polled its global network

of contributors and correspondents, as well as outside experts. Then TIME

editors evaluated each on key factors, including impact, innovation, ambition, and success. The result is a diverse group of 100 businesses helping chart an essential path forward.

This recognition validates Meesho's trailblazing achievements and its commitment to democratizing internet commerce for everyone through an inclusive and egalitarian platform.

The company has empowered millions of small businesses to come online and create digital storefronts, which has not only boosted their earning potential but also helped generate employment at scale.

## Adani eyes Rs 90,000 cr EBITDA in 2-3 yrs

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Embattled Adani group is eyeing a 20 per cent year-on-year growth in pre-tax profits to reach Rs 90,000 crore EBITDA in 2-3 years on the back of robust growth in businesses ranging from airports to energy, according to a company note.

Earlier this month, the group repaid loans aggregating USD 2.65 billion to complete a prepayment programme to cut overall leverage in an attempt to win back investor trust post a damning report of a US short seller.

The ports-to-energy conglomerate is now looking at robust growth in sectors such as airports, cement,

renewables, solar panels, transportation and logistics, and power and transmission, it said adding several of Adani's new infrastructure investments will also begin to fructify and generate cash in the coming years. Adani is expected to see an increase of more than 20 per cent in EBITDA on a consolidated basis in the coming years as it drives robust and sustainable growth across its business portfolio. Its target EBITDA of over Rs 90,000 crore is expected by FY23, the note said.

In recent years, the group has made substantial investments in ports and completed significant projects across renewables, transportation and

ports. Businesses such as airports and renewables are also exhibiting improved cash flows. Its solid asset base, built over three decades, supports resilient critical infrastructure and ensures high asset performance throughout their life cycles.

The group's listed portfolio EBITDA increased 36 per cent yoy to Rs 57,219 crore in FY23 (April 2022 to March 2023 fiscal). Core infrastructure businesses, which constitute 82.8 per cent of the portfolio including energy, transport, logistics, and flagship Adani Enterprise Ltd's infrastructure ventures, registered a robust 23 per cent yoy growth in EBITDA to Rs 47,386 crore.

# War of billionaire: Musk, Tata, Mittal & Amazon on one side, Ambani on other for satellite spectrum

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Elon Musk wants his Starlink to beam down wireless internet in India from satellites orbiting the earth, but the licensing regime his group favours has put him at odds with Mukesh Ambani's Reliance.

After meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New York last week, Musk on June 21 said he was keen to launch Starlink in India that "can be incredibly helpful" in bringing the internet to remote villages that lack on-ground infrastructure.

But Starlink wants India to just assign a license for the service and not insist on auctioning the signal-carrying spectrum or airwaves. This stand finds Musk on the side of Tatas, Sunil Bharti Mittal's firm, and Amazon, who too prefer the same route. But Ambani's Reliance says there must be an auction of spectrum for foreign satellite service providers to offer voice and data services to provide a level playing field to

traditional telecom players who offer the same services using airwaves bought in government auctions.

"India's space-based communication services (SS) spectrum decision is key. Mobile spectrum has been auctioned since 2010 with the government's cumulative sale of USD 77 billion and several players are keen on SS," brokerage CLSA said in a note on 'Satellite Spectrum Battle Ahead'.

Based on comments provided by various companies to the sector regulator TRAI's consultations on the issue, CLSA said several players, including Starlink are keen on India SS.

Amazon's Kuiper, Tata, Bharti Airtel-backed OneWeb, and Larsen & Toubro are against the auction while Reliance Jio and Vodafone-Idea support an India SS auction, it said.

Sources said some in the government believe an auction is the best route as it would get the foreign companies to commit in-



vestment in the country. Also, it will allow some kind of regulation over content that can be streamed on OTT platforms using the SS.

At a global level, ITU manages spectrum, satellite orbit resources and coordinates the planning of new satellite networks to ensure interference-free SS.

ITU coordinates orbit slots and frequency bands, but India will assign spectrum to licensees for gate-

way links to satellites and user links (terminal and satellite).

The Department of Telecom has granted licences to OneWeb India and Jio Satellite Comm (in partnership with SES) but final SS policies are awaited. "A key decision for SS will be what method should be used to assign spectrum for user links (L-band & S-band): auction or administrative. This includes higher bands (C, Ku & Ka) and if

this will be at national or circle level (like mobile)," it said.

Internationally, spectrum for SS and orbital slots were auctioned in key markets of the US and Brazil, but both then reverted to the administrative assignment.

Of the 64 responses from companies, industry groups and others to the public consultation on satellite spectrum, 48 favoured licensing, 12 voted for an auction, and

the rest were neutral.

CLSA said OneWeb's view is that SS should be assigned administratively, on a shared basis, and harmonised internationally. Through Starlink, Musk's SpaceX, which is authorised in 84 administrations (1.5 million users) sees the best approach for SS spectrum is a shared model with administrative assignment.

The Kuiper project of Amazon, which plans to launch its first set of satellites in 2024, recommends administrative assignment and also says spectrum-sharing obligations after auctions would create inefficiencies.

As per Reliance Jio (RJio), which is the market leader in India with close to 440 million telecom users and 8 million wired broadband subscribers, satellite operators are planning networks to compete with terrestrial service providers and auctioning SS is the sole viable strategy. Vodafone-Idea, too, has urged the regulator for auction to uphold a level

playing field.

Bharti Airtel believes auctioning SS spectrum will create barriers for competition as some may block access by winning the spectrum in spite of having no global allocation.

Reliance Jio and Bharti are currently rolling out 5G services in the country. SS, when integrated with existing 5G coverage, will extend capabilities of 5G networks to where cell coverage is not expected to reach and will also boost enterprise offering, CLSA said.

"However, in India, low mobile tariffs in 5G of USD 0.17 per GB (vs USD 6 in US and USD 0.4 in China) will be a challenge for providing SS," it said. "SS spectrum allocation via auction or administrative allotment will also be key to telecom's competitive landscape, including in 5G and access to the under-served."

Deloitte expects India's satellite broadband service market to grow by 36 per cent a year to reach USD 1.9 billion by 2030.



## Rhea Chakraborty opens up about her challenging times, being labelled

Actress Rhea Chakraborty, who serves as the Gang Leader on the youth adventure reality show 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand', has spoken up on the tough times she faced in life when she was labelled by people.

In the upcoming episode of 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand', Rhea will be seen sympathising with contestant Shuly Nada during the auditions over the subject of body positivity.

Rhea will be seen recalling her experience where she chose to rise above and combat all the hatred, rather than succumb to it. She will mention: "A lot of people will say a lot of things. I have been labelled with many names, and many things have been said about me. But will I accept those labels? Kya main unke wajah se apne life me rukungi? Bilkul bhi nahi. Let them go. Kaun hai woh? (Will that stop me from living the life I want, certainly not. Let them go. Who are those people to comment on me?) The upcoming episode will see Shuly Nadar, a gifted calisthenics athlete, sharing her traumatic experience of an abusive boyfriend and various discriminatory labels she fought owing to her skin colour. Her story will leave all the gang leaders emotional.

Gang Leader Rhea will be seen sympathising with her strongly and saying: "Nothing is wrong with your colour, you are absolutely beautiful and strong. You deserve the best in life and jo bhi aapke sath hua, woh aapki galti nahi hai, unki galti hai." 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand' airs Saturday and Sunday on MTV India and Jio Cinema.

## Aniket Chauhan leaves Kumar Sanu mesmerized

Sony Entertainment Television's homegrown dance reality show 'India's Best Dancer 3' is raised the bar for entertainment with a '3 hour special' episode this Sunday! As the competition gets intense, the talented contestants were to a new test in this 'naya daur', where they showcased their magic of dance. Making the grand evening extra special, the show celebrated the legendary singer and king of romantic melodies, Kumar Sanu in the 'Superhit Sunday With Sanu Da' special.

The episode showcased extraordinary performances by the contestants who recreated the magic of Kumar Sanu's timeless songs, infusing romance, love, and laughter in their acts. Not only will the episode showcase exceptional dance talent, but also featured Indian Idol contestants Rishi Singh & Debosmita Roy, comedian Jai Vijay & Nitesh Pandey, along with the talented dancers - Sanam Johar, Sushant Khatri, and the winner of India's Best Dancer season 1, Tiger Pop; making for a perfect entertainment bonanza. Leaving everybody in awe mind blowing act on the song 'Laal Dupatten Wali' by contestant Aniket Chauhan and choreographer Gourav Sarwan. Their quirky



performance will not only entertain the judges but will also leave them in splits. Kumar Sanu, thoroughly impressed by their performance, will go on to say, "Thank you so much for this beautiful tribute. I truly enjoyed watching you perform. I think this stage is Aniket's gurukul. He didn't learn dance from any institute or guru, but still, his dance is amazing. I hope he continues to follow his passion for dance as he is fantastic."

Reflecting on his own journey, Kumar Sanu shared, "When I was 8

years old, I used to play the tabla at home. In 1979, during one show, I accompanied the musicians and unexpectedly had to sing. I was scared, but I sang 'Dunya Mein Logo Ko' from the movie Apna Desh. People were clapping and praising me. I was shivering on stage, and people thought I was dancing, but in reality, I was scared."

Tune in to watch an entertainment bonanza like none other with India's Best Dancer 3's every Sunday from 8 - 11 pm only on Sony Entertainment!

## 'Babasaheb's graduation made him a beacon of hope for the community'



Dr B.R. Ambedkar was a great proponent of equality in education and made history by becoming the first graduate in the community. This accomplishment made him a beacon of hope for the community, paving the way for education and empowerment. The current track in &TV's Ek Mahanayak - Dr B.R. Ambedkar presents this milestone journey. In a candid interview, Atharva, who essays the role of young Bhimrao Ambedkar in the show, sheds light on this significant track.

**Excerpts of interview:**

**Can you provide details about the track on the historical moment when Babasaheb became the first graduate in his community?**

The ongoing story track showcases the incredible journey of Babasaheb as he completes his graduation. Despite numerous obstacles, Babasaheb advocat-

ed for education as a catalyst for societal and economic advancement motivating others to pursue higher education and attain graduate status. His enduring legacy spurred individuals to fight for the right to education and strive for a more equitable society. His journey as a graduate exemplifies his relentless dedication and unwavering determination to overcome social barriers and prejudice. This achievement transformed him into a beacon of hope for the community, forging a path toward education and empowerment. It is quite a significant track, and we are confident the viewers will be deeply inspired by it.

**What role did Babasaheb's educational accomplishments play in his fight for social justice and equality?**

Babasaheb was one of the most prominent voices in Indian history. Whether it was his unwa-

vering fight for equality, his championing of women's empowerment, his instrumental role in education reform, or his efforts to uplift the oppressed, his impact on the lives of all Indians has been profound. His remarkable ability to challenge and mobilise a revolution that reshaped democracy within India served as a beacon of inspiration for millions.

**Apart from his education, any teaching that has inspired you?**

The influence of Babasaheb's ideologies on me has been profound, particularly as I delved deeper into his remarkable journey for my role. However, one aspect that has truly inspired me is his unwavering commitment to women's rights and empowerment. As men, we often overlook the rightful respect and status that the opposite gender deserves. Despite our nation's progress, women face inequality, which deeply affects me. I have always supported women's rights and studying Babasaheb's diligent fight for gender equality has further ignited my motivation for this cause.

Watch this significant and inspiring story track on Dr Ambedkar's Graduation at 8:30 pm in &TV's Ek Mahanayak Dr B.R Ambedkar, airing every Monday to Friday.

## Supriya Pathak: I felt a sense of belonging on 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' set



Veteran actress Supriya Pathak spoke about working with new faces on the sets of 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' and shared that she felt a sense of belonging. Supriya will be seen on 'The Kapil Sharma Show' along with 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' cast Kartik Aryan, Kiara Advani, Gajraj Rao, Shikha Talsania, Siddharth Randeria, and Anuradha Patel.

In the midst of fun conversations, Supriya will be seen talking about her experience working on Satyaprem Ki Katha. She said: "At the beginning of a film, when new faces come together, there's a slight awkwardness, but with time, they connect with each other and they become like a family." "And when the shooting concludes, it's truly a heartfelt moment. I genuinely felt a sense of belonging and comfort, as if I was at home while on the set." Additionally, Anuradha shared her deep affection for portraying the role of a mother. Anuradha said: "To be honest, the most fulfilling role I have ever undertaken in my life is that of a mother. "So, if someone asks me to portray a mother's character, I don't even consider the age of the hero or heroine. I have a profound love for playing the role of a mother, and it has been a desire of mine since childhood."

## Kangana: 'Emergency is one of darkest chapters of India'



Actress-filmmaker Kangana Ranaut's 'Emergency' will be releasing in theatres on November 24, this year. The announcement video also marks 48 years since Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared Emergency in India.

Talking about the film, Kangana said: "Emergency is one of the most significant and darkest chapters in our history that young India needs to know. It is a crucial story and I want to thank my super-talented actors like late Satish ji, Anupam ji, Shreyas, Mahima, and Milind for embarking on this cre-

ative journey together."

"I am excited to bring this extraordinary episode from India's history to the big screen. Jaihind!" Manikarnika Films presents Emergency Directed and Produced by Kangana Ranaut from a screenplay by Ritesh Shah and story by Kangana. It stars Kangana as former Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi. The film also features late Satish Kaushik, Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry and Milind Soman in pivotal roles. Emergency is scheduled to release on November 24.

## &TV characters will be seen in a state of astonishment



In &TV's Doosri Maa, Happu Ki Ultan Palatan and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, characters will be seen in a state of astonishment. About &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai track, Angoori shares, "Tiware (Rohitashv Gour) receives a notice from a lawyer indicating that he must leave his house and shop because they belong to his elder brother. Ammaji (Soma Rathod) asks Tiware and Angoori (Shubhangi Atre) to accompany her to the village. But Tiware is furious because he doesn't

want to miss out on seeing Anita (Vidisha Srivastava), and Vibhuti (Aasif Sheikh) worries about Angoori. As a result, he asks them to stay at his house without alerting Anita, which irritates her. Anita then misbehaves with both and accuses them of stealing items, which shocks and upsets them."

Tune in to Doosri Maa at 8:00 pm, Happu Ki Ultan Palatan at 10:00 pm, and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!

## Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3' has an 'Avengers: Endgame' connection

The makers of Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif-starrer upcoming offering 'Tiger 3' have onboarded top Hollywood action coordinator Chris Barnes, who has worked on Marvel's historic hit 'Avengers: Endgame'.

Chris Barnes is a veteran in creating action spectacles and his bio suggests that he specialises in marine action.

Chris has also worked in huge Hollywood blockbusters like The Bourne Ultimatum, I Am Legend, Joker, Doctor Strange, Spider-Man: Far From Home, Avengers: Infinity War, etc. A source said: "YRF Spy Universe is the



mainstay for these action entertainers and of course YRF and Maneesh Sharma are going to go all out to give audiences a film that they won't forget! Such moves only indicate their intention to give people a never seen before theatrical experience."

'Tiger 3' is part of the fabled blockbuster generating YRF Spy Universe and is the third film from the Tiger franchise after two humongous hits Ek Tha Tiger and Tiger Zinda Hai. Tiger 3 also stars Katrina Kaif as super-spy Zoya and Emraan Hashmi as the villain. It is set to release this Diwali.

coolest film franchise that we have in India today and Tiger 3 will bring its own, unique flavour to

the spy franchise that will be remarkably distinct from Pathaan or War franchises." "Action is the

## CROSSWORD

684



### ACROSS

- Come ashore
- Bullets, for short
- Pester
- Woodwind
- Yuletide
- Roger \_\_\_\_\_ (007 actor)
- Carbonated drink
- Supplementary
- At all times
- Throw
- Seaweed
- Inhabit
- Carson's successor
- Albany's canal
- Certain steaks (hyph.)
- Wooden nail
- Implant
- Perspire
- Goodbye (Sp.)
- Watering hole
- Stop
- Coins from Mexico
- Boutique
- D.C. VIP

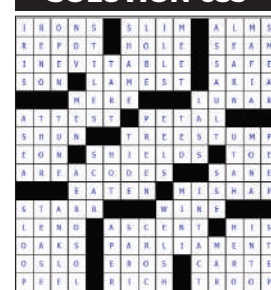
- Song of praise
- Coops
- Affluent
- Roundabout route
- Glen
- Loop of rope
- Actress \_\_\_\_\_ Bancroft
- Excessive
- Singer \_\_\_\_\_ Seeger
- Solemn
- Percussion instrument
- Put down
- Therefore
- \_\_\_\_\_ and ends
- Building wings

### DOWN

- Defeated candidate
- Over
- Lymph \_\_\_\_\_
- Sweetie
- Disneyland site
- A la \_\_\_\_\_
- Hero's award
- Martini garnish
- French pal
- Cranny's kin
- Zilch
- Spoken
- Dog's cry
- Camper's home
- Bureau
- Vulgar
- Flows back
- Have creditors
- Advance upon

- Soften
- Tread
- Dad
- Genesis site
- Essence
- Enjoy a buffet
- Let fall
- Impressed utterance
- Restores the honor of
- Short skirt
- Paper fastener
- Owned apartment
- Stash
- Basketball's Shaquille \_\_\_\_\_
- Up to the time of
- Marsh grasses
- Platter
- Initial bet
- Borrowed money
- Rock's \_\_\_\_\_ Clapton
- Wall support
- Ike's monogram

### SOLUTION 683





# Sahal, Mahesh make mark in SAFF Championship

Bengaluru, Jun 25 (PTD):

Amid the loud cheers that have often been reserved for talismanic Sunil Chhetri, two young footballers were quietly making their mark during India's SAFF Championship campaign so far.

It's not that Sahal Abdul Samad and Mahesh Singh are unfamiliar names to Indian football aficionados, but they validated their potential to carry forward a rich legacy in Indian football.

The duo were particularly impressive against a gritty Nepal whom India beat 2-0 Saturday night at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium to book a semi-final berth.

Nepal had erected a defensive hurdle in front of India for a good one hour and the home side needed a moment of inspiration to break free. It came in the 61st minute.

Mahesh made a run through the left flank and made a pass to Sahal, who pushed the ball back to the



India's Sahal Abdul Samad (Orange) in action against Nepal during a 2023 SAFF Championship football match at Sree Kanteerava Stadium, in Bengaluru.

former around a Nepalese defender, setting him free.

With oodles of space to work with, Mahesh sent the ball to an unmarked Chhetri inside the box with a laser-guided cross and the Indian captain was never going to miss a simple tap past Nepal goal-

keeper Kiran Limbu.

India's assistant coach Mahesh Gawli was effusive in his praise for the 24-year-old Mahesh.

"I think Mahesh's cross was the turning point. He is an excellent talent and a future star for India. He is a quality player and very

passionate about his game. I think he'll become a very good player in the future," said Gawli in the post-match press conference.

Before showing more purpose and precision in the second half, Sahal was banking on his dribbling skills to tear through

Nepal defence without much avail.

Sahal drew the inevitable 'oohs and aahs' from the crowd when he evaded three markers with some brilliant close control. But he held on to the ball a touch longer to eventually lose possession just outside the box, infuriating Gawli at the touchline. Gawli said a half-time chat with the 26-year-old from Kerala prompted him to change the individualistic approach.

"Sahal was instructed to release the ball sooner and not give it away so cheaply by dribbling excessively. He did exactly that in the second half," said the former India defender.

The transformation fruited in the 70th minute. Sahal won the ball from a Nepal defender to dash through the centre before passing the ball at the first opportunity to Chhetri.

Chhetri, for once, could not go past Limbu but Mahesh was in right position to head in a deflection off the Nepal custodian.

## Indian team crosses 150-medal mark ■ Special Olympics World Games

Berlin, Jun 25 (PTD):

Roller skaters continued to impress as they grabbed two gold and three silvers on the penultimate day to help India go past 150-medal mark at the Special Olympics World Games here.

India now have a whopping 157 medals (66 gold, 50 silver, 41 bronze) with a day left in the Games. Arayan (300m) and Deepen (1000m) were the gold medal winner roller skaters.

The Indian men mixed 5x5 basketball team beat Portugal 6-3 to claim gold. The women's 5x5 team settled for a silver after losing to Sweden in the final on Saturday. In volleyball, India beat Korea 2-0 in the men's/mixed bronze medal match. In the women's unified team event, India won gold, beating UAE in a topsy-turvy contest. In tennis, Swaraj Singh lost to Tamas Torok to win silver in the men's singles level 5 event. India also won a silver in women's handball after losing to Azerbaijan in the final.

The final day's action on Sunday will see India vie for medals in athletics, lawn tennis and cycling. The Indian contingent is made up of 198 athletes and unified partners and 57 coaches to compete in 16 sports. The Special Olympics World Games is an event held to promote recognition and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

## Ponting offers technical advice to Labuschagne, Head

London, Jun 25 (PTD):

Former captain Ricky Ponting has offered technical advice to Australia batters Marnus Labuschagne and Travis Head to counter England's bowling attack ahead of the second Ashes Test starting Wednesday at the Lord's.

Australia won the opening Test at Edgbaston, Birmingham by two wickets in what was the first match of the new ICC World Test Championship cycle.

There were a number of impressive individual performances, but Labuschagne and Head struggled in the Ashes opener.

Ponting wants Labuschagne to go back to basics to find success, and has offered one-on-one time to the 28-year-old right-hander.

"I'll wait for them to come and ask me. It's not my place, I'm not one of the coaches, I'm just a past player that's sitting back and analysing what a lot of these guys are doing," Ponting said in the ICC Review.

"But I would like to catch up with him (Labuschagne) and have a



chat about his batting, because I think what I've seen over the last couple of weeks, as far as I'm concerned, I think he's over complicating things a little bit.

"I think he has to trust and believe in what's made him the No.2-ranked Test batsman for the last couple of years and go back to trusting that. I would actually tell him to watch some video of when he's actually played his best, and remember those things and do that all over again."

Ponting also believes Head needs to work out a plan to get through that initial phase of bouncy attacks from England bowlers.

"Firstly, he's now going to be aware that it's going to happen. He's going to expect that," said the legendary batter.

## Hockey India names senior men's team core group ahead of ACT

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Hockey India on Sunday named a 39-member senior men's core group for the national camp to be held from June 26 to July 19 at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre in Bengaluru.

After the camp, the team will travel to Terrassa, Spain, where it will compete against England, the Netherlands and the home side in the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation International Tournament from July 25 to 30. The four-nation tournament will be followed by the Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai from August 3, in which India will face Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan, and China for the title. The core group includes goalkeepers Krishan Bahadur Pathak, PR Sreejesh,

Suraj Karkera, Pawan Malik and Prashant Kumar Chauhan, and defenders Harmanpreet Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, Surender Kumar, Varun Kumar, Amit Rohidas, Gurinder Singh, Jugraj Singh, Mandeep Mor, Nilam Sanjeev Xess, Sanjay, Yashdeep Siwach, Dipsan Tirkey and Manjeet. The midfielders called up for the camp include Manpreet Singh, Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh, Shamsher Singh, Nilakanta Sharma, Rajkumar Pal, Sumit, Akashdeep Singh, Gurjant Singh, Mohd. Raheel Mousen and Maninder Singh. S Karthi, Mandeep Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Abhishek, Dilpreet Singh, Sukhjeet Singh, Simranjeet Singh, Shilananand Lakra and Pawan Rajbhar were named among forwards.

## Shooters Ganemat, Darsha make cut for Asian Games, World Championships

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Ganemat Sekhon, the 22-year-old shotgun exponent to win India's first skeet medal at a World Cup, and Darsha Rathore have been included in the proposed list of shooters for the ISSF World Championships in Azerbaijan and the Asian Games scheduled in Hangzhou, China from September 23.

The third skeet shooter in the women's category for both major events is Parinaaz Dhaliwal.

Ganemat, the first Indian woman skeet shooter to win a medal in the junior World Championships and the



first to win a World Cup bronze, had last month added a World Cup silver in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Darsha has made the outing even more memo-

orable, clinching bronze in Almaty, which meant that India had two senior individual medals in women's skeet at the World Cup for the first time. The men's

## Women's doubles pair of Sutirtha and Ayhika in final

■ WTT Contender tournament in Tunis  
New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Indian women's doubles pair of Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee advanced to the final of the WTT Contender tournament in Tunis after beating Korean duo of Shin Yubin and Jeon Jihi on Saturday.

The Indian duo won 3-2 (7-11 11-9 11-9 7-11 11-9) in a hard-fought semifinal. They face Japanese pair of Miyuu Kihara and Miwa Harimoto in the final on Sunday. But the Indian mixed doubles pair of Manika Batra and G Sathiyam as well as the men's doubles duo of Manav Vikash Thakkar and



Manush Utpalbhair Shah lost their respective semi-final matches.

Batra-Sathiyam lost to Koreans Shin Yubin and Lim Jonghoon 0-3 (7-11 8-11 9-11) while Thakkar-Shah combine suffered an identical 0-3 (3-11 12-14 7-11) defeat to the duo of Cho Daeseong and Cho Seungmin, also of Korea.

## Top seeds Krejckova and Ostapenko will contest the Birmingham Classic final

Birmingham, Jun 25 (AP):

Top-seeded Barbora Krejckova and No. 2-seeded Jelena Ostapenko will contest the Birmingham Classic final after taking contrasting paths.

Krejckova hasn't dropped a set all week after dispatching Zhu Lin of China 6-3, 6-2 in the semifinals on Saturday.

Ostapenko played her fourth consecutive three-set match when she beat fourth-seeded Anastasia Potapova 5-7, 6-2, 6-4. In a matchup of former French Open champions, Ostapenko leads the head-to-head against Krejckova 4-2, including winning their most recent match last month in the Italian



Czech Republic's Barbora Krejckova celebrates after beating China's Lin Zhu in straight sets in their women's singles semifinal match at the Rotheray WTA Birmingham Classic tennis tournament at Edgbaston Priory Club in Birmingham, central England.

Open third round. But they have never met on grass. By beating Zhu, the 12th-ranked Krejckova

will return to the top 10. She will be playing for her seventh singles title on Sunday and second of the

year, after the Czech won Dubai in February.

Ostapenko took more than two hours to put down Potapova. Potapova needed six set points to clinch the first set. Ostapenko built a 4-0 lead in the second to even the set score.

The Latvian snatched the decisive break in the decider when she made four return winners to take Potapova's service game at 3-3. "It's important to win these kind of matches when you're sometimes not playing your best, and you just fight for every point," the 17th-ranked Ostapenko said. In her first final in almost a year, she will be aiming for her sixth singles title.

## Mohun Bagan sign Albanian forward Sadiku

Kolkata, Jun 25 (PTD):

Indian Super League champions Mohun Bagan's attacking line got a huge boost with the arrival of premier Albanian centre forward Armando Sadiku.

The 32-year-old, who grabbed the headlines by scoring the solitary goal in Albania's historic win over Romania in Euro 2016, penned a two-year contract, the Mariners announced on Sunday.

With the addition of Sadiku, Mohun Bagan will now have a lethal attacking lineup with Hugo Boumous and Dimitri



Petratos already in their ranks. The club is also likely to rope in A-League's (Australia's top-tier) Central Coast forward Jason Cummings. "We now have good idea

about Indian football in Spain. So when they approached me, I looked for the league and the club, and it just took me seven days to give my consent," Sadiku said. "Mohun

Bagan have a huge legacy in Indian football and I'm looking forward to play for them and play a role in their success."

A known name in the Spanish League, Sadiku last played for La Liga 2 side FC Cartagena and has a current market value of Rs 5.6 crore, according to 'transfermarkt'. Sadiku is believed to be a replacement for Mohun Bagan's Finnish midfielder maestro Joni Kauko who sustained an ACL injury in their match against FC Goa and was subsequently ruled out for the remainder of the season.

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## 'Telangana model of development holistic'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K T Rama Rao on Sunday said the Telangana model of development is one which is "inclusive, holistic, integrated and balanced" and exuded confidence it will pay rich dividends for the party to come to power for the third consecutive term this year.

The Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS), which won the two previous assembly polls, was rechristened as the BRS last October. The next Assembly polls in the state are due by the end of this year.

In an interview to PTI, Rao, who is a state minister and son of Chief Minister K



K T Rama Rao

Chandrashekar Rao, said people in the state are familiar with the governance model of Telangana.

"People in the state are aware who can provide better administration and there is nobody in the opposition (in the state) who can match what Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) can deliver for the state," Rao said the BJP and Congress are vying for

power in Telangana but claimed they have nowhere showcased a governance model similar or better than the southern state even though they are in power in 20-odd states across the country.

"Secondly, people will compare and contrast. If Congress and BJP are vying for Telangana state then they should also showcase. They have 20 plus states under their belt and should showcase a better model of governance than Telangana," he said, when asked how the elections will be different under the BRS banner.

Asked how the Telangana model is different from the Gujarat model, he said, "I would rather not comment on the Gujarat model because it

is now done and dusted. People have seen the reality." "I am very confident that this good governance model will pay rich dividends and help the BRS handsomely and KCR will become a hat-trick CM. No south CM has been able to pull off a hat-trick so far. He will be the first CM to do that, mark my word," he said. "Last time, the TRS had won 88 seats. In the coming Assembly elections, the party will win anywhere between 90 and 100 seats out of 119," he said, adding that "good work" is the key mantra for winning the coming polls. "There is no substitute for good work."

Rao said able leadership and a stable government have done the magic for the party in Telangana.

## PROTEST RALLY



Government employees hold placards during a protest rally against the state government while refusing to join election duty without the Central Force ahead of the upcoming Panchayat polls, in Kolkata, Sunday.

## KACHORI WALI AMMA

### A woman's tale of beating odds with courage and perseverance

Shahjahanpur (UP), Jun 25 (PTI):



Anju Verma, 60, runs a small kachori shop in the night to earn a living, in Shahjahanpur.

With steely courage and determination to provide for her family, Anju Verma sets up her humble shop every night to dole out mouth-watering 'kachoris', thus earning the moniker "Kachori wali Amma".

Her husband Vinod Verma, the sole earning member of the family, died of heart attack five years ago, leaving her distraught and with no means to raise her four children.

Not one to accept failure, Anju (60) decided to march on and continued with her husband's 'kachori' (snack) business.

At 10 every night, she sets up her shop on the empty platforms in front of closed shops and serves hot 'kachoris' with potato stuffing, soyabean along

Kotwali of Shahjahanpur, says the main reason was the unavailability of a proper shop or the means to rent one. The woman says she has three daughters and a son. She says she managed to get one of her daughters married with the earnings of her kachori business. Her youngest child is 20-years-old and he is a college student.

## 'Govt kept same rules for Indian, foreign firms while procuring Covid vaccines'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):

Foreign-made vaccines were not procured during the Covid pandemic as the firms were demanding indemnity, which was not made available to Indian vaccine manufacturers, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has said, asserting that the "same rule applies for all".

He also said that it was wrong to suggest that India stopped foreign made vaccines like that made by Moderna and Pfizer from coming to India.

"We may have certain requirements and strengths and other countries may have some other strengths and needs. It is wrong to say that India stopped any country from coming to India. When they applied with required data, we gave them emergency use approvals just like we gave to Indian companies," Mandaviya said in an exclusive interview to PTI recently.

for indemnification and sovereign immunity waivers were a major impediment and eventually the government did not go ahead with it, the minister stated.

"At that time, Sputnik vaccine was also there and so were Indian vaccines. Whichever global company wants to come to India, they can come and sell their products, whether they are medicines or vaccines, we have no problem with that. But all need to follow India's rules and regulations. Our own companies did not ask for an indemnity. Sputnik did not ask for it," Mandaviya said.

"If our own companies are not seeking such relaxations and following our rules and regulations, then it is natural that global companies also do the same," he said.

The minister stressed that countries need to cooperate with each other in the health sector in times of globalisation. Highlighting that India



Mansukh Mandaviya

wants to expand its relationship with the world in the pharma and health sectors, Mandaviya said, "We are not against anyone or in favour of anyone". India is such a country that applies the same rules and regulations for Indian and foreign companies with equal rights.

"Not many countries give such equal rights, but India does. The world also appreciates this position of our country," Mandaviya stated.

Recounting the fight against the pandemic, Mandaviya, who took charge of the health ministry in the middle of the

coronavirus crisis in July 2021, said Covid management was a big challenge for a vast and diverse country like India, but its success story has now become an example for the entire world.

The minister also dismissed suggestions that approvals for vaccines were rushed without taking into account long-term side effects and that the recent spate of heart attacks was linked to it, saying the entire process from vaccine research to its administration followed all established international standards. He said vaccine development and approvals used to take much longer earlier due to various physical and manual processes but the authorities and scientists made full use of the latest technology, including artificial intelligence, this time and, therefore, the entire process could be fast-tracked. Mandaviya, a BJP leader from Gujarat known to enjoy the trust of Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, said, "Let me tell you that PM Modi followed scientific ways for all procedures from the very beginning, from Covid management to vaccine research to approvals to the vaccination drive."

"It was the PM's direction because of which INSACOG (Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium) and several other taskforce and empowered groups were set up for vaccine approvals and other protocols. In the entire Covid journey, we followed scientific ways to fight this pandemic."

"Scientists told us when the vaccines should be approved, and the entire data and data analysis was done as per international standards. India followed the same international standards that were followed by global companies," he said.

The minister said it all indeed happened very fast in India but those questioning the speed must understand why the approvals came early.

## 'The Babu and The Bazaar'

### Exhibition celebrates rich Bengali tradition of Kalighat pat, oil paintings

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):

Iconic Kalighat pat paintings depicting Hindu gods and goddesses, the privileged castes and classes the bhadrakalok of Bengal, and sex workers at The Babu and The Bazaar at DAG here attempt to unravel parts of the 19th-century Calcutta's history, culture and gendered hierarchies.

While at its centre are the Kalighat pats, the exhibition, curated by historian and scholar Aditi Nath Sarkar, features oil paintings, reverse paintings on glass, and early printmaking depicting the city of Calcutta which stood at the crossroads of



tradition and modernity in the 18th- and early-19th century.

According to Sarkar, the Kali temple at Kalighat in then-Calcutta aided the growth of an adjoining market that sold memorabilia to tourists, including drawings in watercolours on mass-produced mill paper, which

came to be known as Kalighat pats.

"In its heyday, the watercolour paintings mostly depicted divine iconography, such as the Kalighat Kali, Durga, Jagadhatri, Annapurna, Shiva, Ganesha, Kartikeya, and a host of other gods," Sarkar writes in a book accompanying

the exhibition. The exhibition showcases paintings depicting scenes from Hindu scriptures, including Narsimha disemboweling Hiranyakashipu, Krishna vanquishing Bakasura, Durga killing Mahishasur, Shiva riding Nandi, Ram darbar, and Jatayu battling Ravana.

While a large part of the exhibition is devoted to the watercolour paintings of Hindu gods, goddesses and scenes of religious importance, a section also explores secular themes, "such as erotica depicting sex workers, caricatures of the privileged castes and classes, and social commentary".

Among the more "secular" works are a collection of paintings depicting the quintessential Bengali 'babu', a man from the elite class, who is often a subject of satire or domestic ridicule being chastised by a woman, seemingly his wife. Talking about the Early Bengal oil paintings at the exhibition, Sarkar said the style emerged from the Calcutta elite wanting something that better fitted their elevated status. "We witness a hybridised genre of oil painting coming into existence as artists were commissioned to create art by Bengali aristocrats and wealthy merchants."

## SP expert in 'Chipko Movement': Adityanath on anti-BJP Oppn meet

Noida, Jun 25 (PTI):

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday took a jibe at the Samajwadi Party joining a meeting of Opposition parties at Patna to forge unity against the BJP for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, saying the Akhilesh Yadav-led party is an "expert in Chipko Andolan".

BJP leader Adityanath was addressing a public rally in Gautam Buddha Nagar's Noida during which he inaugurated over 124 development projects worth more than

Rs 1,719 crore across Noida and Greater Noida.

When the Samajwadi Party, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, the Janata Dal (United) and others who are called followers of JP (socialist icon Jayaprakash Narayan) collude with those (Congress) who trampled the democracy, the public also begins to see how they tried to hide their misdeeds and corruption," he said.

"The Samajwadi Party has a long history. Like in 2004, they had extended support to the Congress without even being asked

for it. Although the Congress did not want their support the Samajwadi Party forced it. This party is an expert in 'Chipko Andolan'," Adityanath said.

"The Samajwadi Party has done it in the past and they have done it once again this time. But brothers and sisters, we should not deviate from the positive approach and continue our development journey," he told the event.

The Chipko Movement refers to a non-violent agitation in 1973 by local communities in present-day Uttarakhand for the

protection and conservation of trees in response to increasing deforestation. The locals, including women, hugged trees in their effort to save them.

"Today, I have come with that message only. In the last six years in Gautam Buddha Nagar, the perception has changed. Major works are being done in infrastructure development, investments are coming in and Noida and Greater Noida are poised to dominate the world. This district has given Uttar Pradesh a

new identity in the last six years," he said.

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### BRIEF



Naturally-formed ice lingam inside the Shri Amarnath Cave Shrine ahead of the beginning of Amarnath Yatra from July 1, Sunday.

### Fire

**Thane:** A major fire in Bhiwandi in Maharashtra's Thane district destroyed four godowns storing electrical and electronic items though there was no report of injuries to anyone, a civic official said on Sunday. The blaze started at 9:40pm on Saturday and was doused in the afternoon during the day almost 15 hours later, the Bhiwandi Naizampura Municipal Corporation fire brigade official said.

### Road crash

**Bhadoli:** A sub-inspector posted at the Aurai police station here was killed when his motorcycle was hit by an unidentified vehicle in Varanasi, a police official said on Sunday. The 55-year-old sub-inspector Sushil Tripathi was in Varanasi in connection with a probe when the accident took place on Saturday, Circle officer of Aurai, Umeshwar Pratap Singh, said.

### Collapse

**Mumbai:** A 70-year-old man and a 65-year-old woman died and two persons were injured after a part of the balcony of a building collapsed in Vile Parle in Mumbai on Sunday, a civic official said. The incident took place on St Braz Road near Nanavati Hospital at 2:27pm and the deceased have been identified as Priscila Misquita (65) and Robbie Misquita (70), the fire brigade official said.

### Collision

**Tikamgarh:** Two persons were killed and as many injured in a collision between motorcycles in Madhya Pradesh's Tikamgarh district on Sunday, police said. The accident occurred at Rampura trisection under Kudila police station limits, some 50 km from the district headquarters, this afternoon, an official said.

### Suicide

**Bhadoli:** A 24-year-old woman allegedly hanged herself at her home in the district's Aurai area on Sunday, police said. The police have registered a dowry death case against four people and three accused, including the woman's husband, have been arrested. Aurai Circle Officer Umeshwar Prabhath Singh said Swati Jaiswal married 25-year-old Pradeep Jaiswal of Dakshin Mohalla last November. She hanged herself from the ceiling fan on Sunday.

### Emergency landing

**Kalaburagi:** A two-seater trainer aircraft operated by a private flight training academy made an emergency landing on agricultural land at a village in Chittapur taluk of Kalaburagi district in Karnataka on Sunday, police said. There are no casualties in the incident, nor is there any major damage to the aircraft, they said.

**Weather**  
High 28 Low 24

### 'Order of the Nile'

# Egypt's highest honour conferred on Modi

Cairo, Jun 25 (PTD):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on Sunday conferred with the 'Order of the Nile', Egypt's highest honour, by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi here.

Instituted in 1915, the 'Order of the Nile' is conferred upon heads of states, crown princes, and vice presidents who offer Egypt or humanity invaluable services. This is the 13th highest state honour conferred upon Prime Minister Modi. The 'Order of the Nile' is a pure gold collar consisting of three-square gold units comprising Pharaonic symbols.

The first unit resembles the idea of protecting the state against the evils, the second one resembles prosperity and happiness brought by the Nile and



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi confers Prime Minister Narendra Modi with 'Order of the Nile' award - Egypt's highest state honour, during their meeting in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday.

### Other honours for PM.....

Over the past nine years, the Prime Minister has been conferred the Companion of the Order of Logohu, the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea; the Companion of the Order of Fiji; the Ebaki Award by the Republic of Palau; the Order of the Druk Gyalpo, the highest civilian decoration by Bhutan. Modi has also been conferred with the Legion of Merit by the US Government; the King Hamad Order of the Renaissance by Bahrain; the Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddin, the highest honour of the Maldives; the Order of St. Andrew award, the highest civilian honour of Russia.

### PM visits pyramid of Giza



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday toured the great pyramids of Giza on the outskirts of the Egyptian capital, which were included in the Seven Wonders of the World. Escorted by Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly, Modi visited the three pyramids of the 4th-dynasty erected on a rocky plateau on the west bank of the Nile River near Al-Jizah (Giza) in northern Egypt.

the third one refers to wealth and endurance.

### Internet ban

Imphal, Jun 25:

The Manipur government on Sunday extended the ban on internet services in the state for five more days to prevent any disturbances of peace and public order. According to an official release, the ban on internet services in the Northeast state, which has been racked by ethnic clashes and violence, has been extended till 3 pm on June 30 to "prevent any disturbances of peace and public order in the jurisdiction of the state of Manipur".

Jashpur, Jun 25:

Two members of a family were killed and an elderly woman sustained injuries after being struck by lightning in tribal-dominated Jashpur district, police said on Sunday. The incident occurred on Saturday at Rajpur village under Bagicha development block when the victims

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# Two killed, another injured in lightning strike

### About the mishap

The incident occurred on Saturday at Rajpur village under Bagicha development block when the victims were repairing the thatch of their house. They were taking a rest at a room adjacent to their house after it started raining in the afternoon when the lightning struck them. Ratiyaram (68) and his daughter-in-law Dinamati were killed, while the latter's mother Manjhani Bai was severely injured.

were repairing the thatch of their house, an official said. "They were taking a rest at a room adjacent to their house after it started raining in the afternoon when the lightning struck them," he said. Ratiyaram (68) and his daughter-in-law Dinamati were killed, while the latter's mother Manjhani Bai was severely injured, he added.

# US drone deal pending, price reports misleading: Govt

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

India is yet to finalise the cost and specific terms of purchase of 31 MQ-9B long endurance drones from the US and it will examine the "best price" offered by the manufacturer to other nations before concluding the procurement, the defence ministry said on Sunday while trashing reports in a section of social media on the price as well as the acquisition process.

It said the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) accorded to the procurement by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) noted the

estimated cost of USD 3,072 million (one million=10 lakh) as provided by the US government, adding the price will be negotiated once policy approval from Washington is received. The DAC headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on June 15 accorded the AoN or initial approval for acquisition of 31 MQ-9B High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) drones from the US under the foreign military sale (FMS) route.

The AoN included the number of unmanned aerial vehicles to be procured along with associated equipment.

# 'Dark days of Emergency unforgettable period in India's history'

New Delhi, June 25 (PTD):

On the anniversary of the 1975 Emergency, BJP leaders on Sunday went on a tweeting spree to turn the table on the Congress which has been accusing the Narendra Modi government of suppressing dissent, stifling democracy, and curbing freedom of speech in the country.

On June 25, 1975, the Indira Gandhi-led Congress government imposed Emergency, which lasted for the next 21 months, during which fundamental rights of the people were provisionally

suspended and curbs were put on the press.

"I pay homage to all those courageous people who resisted the Emergency and worked to strengthen our democratic spirit. The dark days of Emergency remain an unforgettable period in our history, totally opposite to the values our Constitution celebrates," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a tweet.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah alleged that the imposition of Emergency was a "selfish" power struggle and continues to remain a symbol of

Congress' "dictatorial mentality." "On this day in 1975, a family imposed an Emergency in the country, taking away the rights of the people and killing democracy, fearing losing power from their hands," Shah said in a tweet in Hindi.

"Imposition of Emergency for selfish power struggle is a symbol of Congress' dictatorial mentality and an indelible taint on the party," he said.

Shah said that lakhs of people struggled to revive democracy facing many tortures. "I heartily salute all those patriots."

# After 62 years, monsoon covers Delhi, Mumbai together

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

The monsoon on Sunday covered both Delhi and Mumbai together for the first time since June 21, 1961, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

While it hit the national capital two days before schedule, its entry into the financial capital is two weeks late, the Met office said.

"It is the first time since June 21, 1961, that the monsoon arrived in Delhi and Mumbai at the same time," said DS Pai, a senior scientist at the India Meteorological Department (IMD). The Sadfarjung Observatory, Delhi's pri-

mary weather station, logged 48.3 mm rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 am on Sunday. The Dhansa weather station logged around 80 mm, Jafarpur and Lodi Road around 60 mm each, Ayanagar and Mungeshpur around 50 mm each and SPS Mayur Vihar 40 mm, according to the IMD. The Met office termed the monsoon activity over Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi as 'vigorous'.

According to the IMD, monsoon activity is considered 'vigorous' if the recorded rainfall is more than four times the normal or it is fairly widespread or widespread.

## EID-AL-ADHA PREPARATIONS



View of goats lined up for sale at a livestock market ahead of Eid-al-Adha, in Kolkata, Sunday.

# Chef Lakhan Singh wins maiden edition

### Of 'Biryani Champions League'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Chef Lakhan Singh from Marketplace restaurant has emerged as the winner of the debut edition of the 'Daawat Biryani Champions League' in the national capital here.

The competition, held here at ITC Sheraton on Saturday, saw five well-known professional chefs - including Laxman Singh (YBiryani), Mohammad Shaan (Khan Chacha), Chef Moinuddin (Impresario Resto) and Raphe Azam (Biryani by CTJ) - battle it out in a 90-minute live cooking challenge to win the coveted prize. "I feel incredibly privileged and deeply thankful for being be-



Chef Lakhan Singh from Marketplace restaurant wins the debut edition of 'Daawat Biryani Champions League', in New Delhi.

stowed with the prestigious title of 'Daawat Biryani Champion' of Delhi. "This remarkable competition provided me with a platform to express my profound affection and dedication towards crafting delectable biryanis," said Singh, who walked away with a cash prize of Rs 51,000 along with the

'Daawat Biryani Champion' trophy and a chef coat. The winner was selected by a panel of judges comprising celebrity chef Manjit Gill, chef-restaurateur Vanshika Bhatia and well-known food critic Vir Sanghvi. As part of the selection process, chefs were required to submit a video of

their recipe of the mixed-rice delicacy. Five chefs, out of the total 200 entries received from the local chefs in Delhi, were ultimately shortlisted for the grand finale. "Chef Lakhan's victory exemplifies the exquisite flavors and artistry that biryani represents. I must also acknowledge the hard work and talent of all the participating contestants who prepared some delectable biryanis today. Thanks to the remarkable chefs and the rich heritage of biryani that unites us all," said Ritesh Arora, CEO (India business & Far East) of LT Foods Ltd - the company behind the event. Chef Sarfaraz Hossain from Al - Faiz Family Restaurant & Caterers was adjudged winner of the competition held in Kolkata on June 19.

# India to remove retaliatory customs duties

On eight US products

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

India will remove additional duties on eight US products, including chickpeas, lentils and apples, which were imposed in 2019 in response to America's measure to increase tariffs on certain steel and aluminium products, government sources said.

During the recent state visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the US, both countries decided the termination of six WTO (World Trade Organisation) disputes and the removal of these retaliatory tariffs on certain US products.

### Add duties to be removed.....

As part of the agreement, India will be removing additional duty on chickpeas (10 per cent), lentils (20 per cent), almonds fresh or dried (Rs 7 per kg), almonds shelled (Rs 20 per kg), walnuts (20 per cent), apples fresh (20 per cent), boric acid (20 per cent), and Diagnostic Regents (20 per cent), the sources added.

In 2018, the US imposed an import duty of 25 per cent on steel products and 10 per cent on certain aluminium products on grounds of national security. In retaliation, India in June 2019 imposed customs duties on 28 American products.

## MATTER OF CONCERN

# 'China helps Pak army build defence infra along LoC'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

China has been helping the Pakistan Army build its defence infrastructure besides providing Unmanned Aerial and Combat Aerial Vehicles, setting up communication towers and laying underground cables along the Line of Control, officials said.

This, according to the officials, is part of efforts to further shore up China's position as an all-weather friend of Pakistan while ensuring the safety of the growing Chinese enclaves on Pakistan-occupied

Kashmir (PoK) set up on the pretext of securing the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) road and hydel projects built in the occupied territory.

The officials said that the recently developed SH-15, a 155 mm truck-mounted howitzer gun, has also been spotted at some places along the Line of Control (LoC) after it was displayed on Pakistan Day last year.

Known as a 'shoot and scoot' artillery weapon, Pakistan had signed a contract with Chinese firm North Industries Group Corporation Limited (Norinco) for the supply of

236 SH-15s and, according to London-based Janes Defence magazine, the first batch was delivered in January 2022.

Though the presence of senior PLA officials at forward posts, as was detected in 2014, was not found, some intercepts suggested that Chinese troops and engineers were setting up infrastructure along the LoC, including building underground bunkers, the officials said.

The Army has officially maintained silence on the issue but has been constantly updating the intelligence agencies, sources said.

## CONSENSUAL SEX

# '16-year-old girl can decide on consensual sex'

### Meghalaya HC's big judgement in boy's favour

Shillong, Jun 25:

The Meghalaya High Court has made a significant ruling by quashing a First Information Report (FIR) filed in a case involving alleged sexual assault on a minor. The court emphasized that a 16-year-old is capable of making conscious decisions about engaging in sexual intercourse.

A plea seeking the quashing of an FIR filed under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) was presented be-

fore the bench of Justice W. Diengdoh. The petitioner argued that the incident in question was not a case of sexual assault but rather a consensual act. It was claimed that the petitioner and the alleged victim were in a loving relationship.

The bench stated that considering the physical and mental development of an adolescent around the age of 16, it is logical to assume their capability to make conscious decisions about their well-being, including engaging in sexual intercourse. The court acknowledged the ability of a person in this age group to make informed choices regarding such acts.



## Mahadev Book and Reddy Anna branches busted in Bilaspur

## Police conducts combing patrol; 215 warrants executed

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Durg Police continued its operation against online cricket betting and busted two branches of Mahadev Book and Reddy Anna in Bilaspur. The accused were doing transactions through various bank accounts. 04 laptops, 23 mobiles, ATM Card, Cheque Book etc were recovered from the possession of seven accused.

Police are going to conduct micro analysis of obtained bank accounts and mobile numbers. The accused are being quizzed to collect information in respect of persons conducting this illegal activity in



other states.

Superintendent of Police (Durg) Shalabh Kumar Sinha informed that the joint team of Anti Crime and Cyber Unit and Jamul Police Station had busted a branch of online cricket betting in Jamul.

They collected evidence in relation to other persons associated with the online

betting. In this sequel, the joint team got information about some people who were operating two panels of Mahadev Book 128 and Reddy Book 421 branches in Rajkishore Nagar area of Bilaspur.

Acting on this tip off, a team of Durg Police conducted a raid at a rented house in Bilaspur and ar-



rested seven persons red handed while operating the online betting racket.

The accused are Shailendra Singh (27) son of Nirmal Singh r/o Shanti Nagar Street 21 Supela Bhilai; Jaswant Singh (32) son of Harbhajan Singh r/o Shanti Nagar Supela Bhilai; Roshan Singh (28) son of Devendra Singh r/o

Qr No 18 G, Sector 04, Street 32, Bhilai; Nilesh Kumar (19) son of Om Prakash Sahu r/o village Sonhat, district Korea; Manish Taron (34) s/o Jagdish Taron MIG 1/125 Bhilai; Bhupendra Kumar (22) s/o Indal Singh r/o Qr no 21, Street 01, Block 2, Sector 05, Bhilai and Deepak Singh (27) son of Devendra Singh r/o village Idrishpur, district Baghat, Uttar Pradesh.

ASI Purna Bahadur, Constables Anup Sharma, Jugnu Singh, Samim Khan, Shiv Mishra, ASI Emmanuel Khalkho, Head Constable Vijay Sahu, Constable Arvind Yadav played a vital role in arresting the accused.

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Durg Police conducted a special combing patrol on the intervening night of Sunday and executed a total of 215 warrants within 17 hours. More than 100 jawans including 5 gazetted officers, 17 police station in-charge were deployed in the combing patrol. Police teams succeeded in nabbing long-absconding warrants including a condemned person who was absconding for the last 31 years.

On Saturday, SP Shalabh Sinha chaired a meeting of all the gazetted officers and SHOs of police stations / chowkis at the Police Control Room. He instruct-



ed them to arrest the absconding warrantees and conduct a combing patrol under the guidance of ASP (city) Sanjay Kumar Dhruv. The operation began at 22:00 hrs and the police teams managed to find 215 accused and execute the pending warrants. Apart from this, they

also checked the goons and anti-social elements. It needs to be mentioned here that the pendency of cases had increased in all the police stations due to the pending warrants and absconding accused. With the execution of the warrant, the victims will get justice.

## BSP's Caster-6 of SMS-2 makes new record

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Yet another milestone was achieved by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's SMS-2, with the Caster No 6 casting 62 heats in a single Tundish, surpassing the previous best record of 60 heats, made on April 17, 2023. The Casting started at 13:51 hrs on, June 22, 2023 and continued for a duration of 44 hours, and finally got over at 09:40 hrs on June 24, 2023. Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), and SK Ghoshal, CGM (SMS-2), along with other Senior Officials of the Plant congratulated the Caster-6 Team for this achievement. The record number of 62 heats in a sin-



gle Tundish was achieved by making some modifications in the SEN, impact pad, slide gate plates and the tundish lining. The feat was achieved by strictly adhering to the technical norms and operational excellence. Highest number of hot charging heats (58) was

also achieved directly to the Plate Mill, thereby increasing the rolling rate of Plate Mill. The Operations team of Caster No 6 was led by Alok Mathur GM, while Mechanical and Electrical teams were led by Yogesh Shastri, GM and Saurabh Jain, GM, respectively.

## Odissi dance performances enthral audiences

Cultural eve organized at Gundicha Mandap in Sector 10

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Under the aegis of Shree Jagannath Samiti, Sector 4, a nine-day festival of Mahaprabhu Shree Jagannath Swami ji's 54th Rath Yatra is being celebrated. In this episode, various cultural programs are being organized daily in the grand pandal of Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami Ji at Gundicha Mandap in Sector 10. In this sequence, the Odissi dance performances by the artists of Odissi Nritya Kala Kendra got a huge applause from the audience. Artists paid obeisance to Mahaprabhu Shri Jagannath Swami ji with their various presentations.



On this occasion, Additional Superintendent of Police UBS Chauhan was present as chief guest and former City Superintendent of Police Rakesh Joshi was present as special guest. Chairman of the committee Virendra Satpathy and

General Secretary Satyawar Nayak were also specially present. Trinath Sahu and Ranjan Mahapatra, office bearers of Jagannath Committee made special contributions in successfully organizing this musical event.

Additional Superintendent of Police UBS Chauhan, Chairman of the Committee Virendra Satpathy and General Secretary Satyawar Nayak honoured the 22 artists by presenting them mementos and citations.

Chief Guest UBS Chauhan congratulated the artists for their excellent performance and wished them a bright future. On this occasion, Committee Chairman Virendra Satpathy delivered the welcome address. The program was conducted and the vote of thanks was done by the General Secretary Satyawar Nayak.

### OBITUARY

Umashankar Gupta



**Bhilai:** Kasaudhan Vaishya Samaj Patron Umashankar Gupta left for heavenly abode at the age of 65 years on Saturday. Funeral procession was taken out from his residence situated at Vrinda Nagar and last rites of the mortal remains were performed at Ramnagar Muktidham. He was the father of Advocate Neeraj Gupta and Pankaj Gupta.



## कोई न छूटे अबकी बार - हर बच्चा स्कूल के द्वार

26 जून

मुख्यमंत्री श्री भूपेश बघेल

द्वारा

शाला प्रवेश उत्सव-2023

शुभारंभ

- ❖ अप्रवेशी, प्रवेश योग्य और अनियमित बच्चों को प्रवेश के लिए किया जायेगा प्रेरित
- ❖ निःशुल्क गणवेश और किताबों के साथ स्कूलों में बच्चों का प्रवेश
- ❖ बच्चों में स्कूल जाने की रुचि बढ़ाने लगभग 50 हजार स्कूलों में होंगे विभिन्न कार्यक्रम
- ❖ स्कूल आकर्षक और सीखने के प्रभावी केंद्र के रूप में होंगे विकसित
- ❖ शिक्षकों की सतत क्षमता विकास से नई, रोचक और प्रभावी शिक्षण प्रक्रियाएं होंगी लागू

बस्तर में नक्सल हिंसा से प्रभावित

314 स्कूल

पुनः संचालित

लगभग 15,000

बच्चे लाभान्वित

छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार - भरोसे की सरकार



## BJP did business in the name of religion: Acharya Pramod Krishnan

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party of playing with the faith of the people, Congress leader Acharya Pramod Krishnan said that the BJP did business in the name of religion and adopted Hindutva to gain power in politics. Only BJP does not have the right on Hindutva; rather Congress has always been on the path of Hindutva, he said while talking to the reporters at 'Rajiv Bhawan' here with Rajya Sabha MP Vivek Tankha. According to him no one is a bigger Hindu



than Mahatma Gandhi. In Chhattisgarh, Congress is following the path of Mahatma Gandhi, he said, adding that Hindutva is not the name of abusing Muslims. RSS, Vishwa Hindu Parishad and Bajrang Dal are BJP's supporter parties whereas

ED-CBI are hidden organizations of BJP, said Acharya. The work which is not in the public domain is done by ED and CBI, he added.

To form or not to form a government at any time depends on the discretion of the public, he said adding that we have full faith in the people of Chhattisgarh, Acharya said. Congress government in Chhattisgarh is working for public welfare, Acharya said.

Praising the work of the Congress government in Chhattisgarh, Rajya

Sabha MP Vivek Tankha said that he was happy to note that progress was being made in the state. Chhattisgarh is ahead in every field, he said. Bhupesh Baghel's team is expanding the state, he added. People are happy in the state and are saying that Baghel is coming back to the government, said Tankha. According to him there is no anti-incumbency in Chhattisgarh. A big change will come after a few months, he said and added that Congress will become powerful.

## Rains lashing Raipur since late night

● **Monsoon active in entire Chhattisgarh, causing dip in temperature**

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Monsoon has become active in Raipur and entire Chhattisgarh. Rains started at most places from Bastar to Bilaspur and Surguja divisions. Raipur is experiencing intermittent rains since late Saturday night that caused a drop in temperature and made the weather pleasant. The IMD Raipur has forecast fall in maximum temperature by 2 to 4 degree Celsius over Chhattisgarh. The IMD has warned heavy to very heavy rainfall and thun-



derstorm at isolated places over Chhattisgarh during the next two days.

Monsoon wind has reduced by about 71 per cent in June. By June 24,

On the other hand, due to the delayed arrival of monsoon in Chhattisgarh this year, the quota rainfall has been reduced by about 71 per cent in June. By June 24,

the state should receive 126.9 mm of rain. So far only 37.2 mm of rainfall has occurred. The delay in monsoon arrival has affected agriculture in the state. Sowing activities usually begin in the fields in Chhattisgarh with the onset of monsoon rains from 10 to 15 June, but this year there has been a delay of 15 days.

The south-west monsoon wind has reached Bilaspur and Surguja divisions of North Chhattisgarh from Bastar via Raipur. Many parts of the state received good rainfall. The Meteorological Department has warned of heavy to very heavy rain in some parts of Raipur division on Sunday.

## Police bust sex racket operating under the guise of spa centers

● **Seven including transgender arrested**

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Busting a sex racket operating under the guise of spa centres in Raipur police have arrested six men and eight women in this connection. According to information available police raided Spa Centres in Katora Talab and Shankar Nagar area and arrested six men and eight women.

The raid was carried out following complaints raised repeatedly about prostitution in the spa centers. Taking note of the complaint seriously Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal instructed Additional Superintendent of Police City/Crime Abhishek Maheshwari to take necessary action. Following the

instructions of the senior police officials the Deputy Superintendent of Police Crime Dinesh Sinha, City Superintendent of Police Civil Line Manoj Dhruv, Deputy Superintendent of Police IUCAW Lalita Mehar, Police Station Incharge Civil Line Archana Dhurandhar along with Joint Team of Anti Crime and Cyber?Unit and Women Defense Team Raipur raided Blue Moon Spa Center located in Shankar Nagar under Police Station Civil Line area and arrested landlord Ashok Barat and manager Akash Sahu and assistant manager Vivek Sahu. Three mobile phones were recovered from their possession. Kunal Rathi, the operator of Blue Moon Spa Center is absconding and all possible efforts are being made to trace and arrest

him. Similarly, the team members raided the Mind Wellness Spa Center located in Shankar Nagar under Police Station Civil Line area and arrested spa manager Ashiana Yadav (third gender) and assistant manager Rakesh Mahanand besides seizing 02 mobile phones related to the incident from their possession.

Pintu Jaiswal, the operator of The Mind Wellness Spa Center, is absconding and every possible effort is being made to trace and arrest him. On checking the mobile phones seized from the arrested persons, it has been found that they were involved in operation of prostitution by sending photos of different women from their mobile phones to the mobile phones of different customers.

## No child should be left out of school: Minister

'Shala Pravesh Utsav'

**Raipur, Jun 25:** School Education Minister Dr Premeai Singh Tekam has extended greetings and best wishes for the beginning of new academic session and 'Shala Pravesh Utsav' (school admission fest). The new academic session for school going children is beginning on June 26. Dr Tekam called upon ministers, parliamentary secretaries, MPs, MLAs and representatives of civic bodies and panchayat raj institutions to work together for betterment of schools.

Dr Tekam asked the public representatives to make sure that no child is left out of school education. He asked the parents and school monitoring committee to encourage children for regular attendance in schools and guide the villagers to continue education of their children.

## BJP MM members deserve credit: Sao

● **For continuing campaign even during peak of summer and promoting central's schemes**

**Raipur, Jun 25:** An important meeting of BJP Mahila Mandal (BJPMM) was held at party's Kushabhau Thakre premises here on Sunday. It was attended by BJP State President Arun Sao, Mahila Morcha working committee member Puja Vidhani, ex-Mahila Aayog President Vibha Rao, State President BJPMM Shalini Rajput, BJPMM state in-charge Sarla Kosaria and other office bearers of BJPMM. It was informed that BJPMM national working committee member and State President of BJPMM of different states and national working committee members will be arriving



here on two-day tour to Chhattisgarh on July 5-6. Under the Maha-Jansampark Abhiyan, all the BJ PMM National working committee members, BJPMM State Presidents and other office bearers would go to each district and inform people about the central government's schemes and meeting the beneficiaries of the central schemes, would felicitate them as well. On this detailed discussions were held in the BJPMM meeting today and a work plan was prepared.

BJP State president Arun Sao said that members of BJPMM carried out public campaign and contact even during high temperature of 43-44 deg.celsius and apprised people about central government schemes. Meeting the beneficiaries of central government schemes, they felicitated them. They staged chakka-jam against the liquor scam worth crore and on which the police even took action against them and still they did not backed out and for which they are

worth applaud. He said that the BJP National working committee office bearers along with BJPMM state presidents and others would go to each district and promote central government schemes going door-to-door.

BJPMM National working committee member Puja Vidhani said that to make the visit of BJPMM National President historic in Chhattisgarh, we all will have to work hard and had to inform the local people of the state about the promises not fulfilled by the Baghel's government. BJPMM national working committee member Vibha Rao said that the Mahila Morcha members are fulfilled the household responsibilities and that of the organisation's equally well and in the coming VS polls days are not far off they have to work likewise.

## Bar & Rod Mill marks new daily production record

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Bar & Rod Mill has once again created a new day production record. The Mill that rolls out TMT Bars achieved record production on June 21, 2023 by rolling out 3700 Tonnes (1779 Billets) in 16 mm TMT bar.

Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (Bhilai Steel Plant) along with Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) and Plant's other Senior Officials reached the shop floor and congratulated BRM's personnel on this achievement and motivated them to work with the same spirit to achieve all the goals of this year and create many more such records. The General Managers of the department, including SK Behera, KK Thakur, S Tripathi, Ashish, Shashwat Mahanty, Sameer Pandey, and Shikhar Tiwari were also present on the occasion, along with other sen-

ior officials and personnel of BRM. Congratulating the entire mill fraternity on this achievement, HOD Mukesh Gupta, CGM (BRM) said that the feat of substantially increased production was made possible by continuous monitoring and hard-work of the mill personnel and full cooperation of the concerned departments. Gupta also assured the Plant Management that BRM's Tejas team will continue to achieve all the forthcoming targets and will create more such records. BRM aims at 100% customer satisfaction by giving utmost priority to product quality. Products manufactured at BSP's Bar & Rod Mill have played an important role in the country's prestigious infrastructural projects such as Central Vista, Bullet Train Project, Ram Mandir Ayodhya, Border Road Organization.

## Minimum wage violators to face the music: Mishra

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** Action will be taken against the factories and contractors who do not pay minimum wages to the labourers. In the meeting organized at Provident Fund Office Raipur, HMS Acting President and Senior Member of Provident Fund Regional Committee Board HS Mishra raised this issue prominently after which Labour Secretary Amrit Khalkho assured to take action against those who violate the labour laws. Mishra also spoke about the exploitation of labourers.

It needs to be mentioned here that a meeting of the Regional Committee of the Provident Fund was held at the Provident Fund Office Raipur on June 22. Company representatives also participated in the meeting along with labour representatives. In the presence of Regional Provident Fund Commissioner Abhishek Kumar, all the attendees



shared their point of view. HMS Acting President HS Mishra said that the deduction of provident fund of organized and unorganized sector employees is not being done according to the full attendance. He said that deductions are made for low attendance.

Most of the factory owners, agencies, institutions and contractors do not deduct provident funds at all. Many people have not even taken the registration and code number of the provident fund. Mishra

and other labour representatives emphasized that the employee / labourers are being exploited and requested the Labour Secretary to take strict action in case of minimum wages violation and irregularities in provident fund. Khalkho asked the labour leaders to provide the names of establishments wherever the minimum wage is not being paid. He assured to take immediate action against such establishments. The Labour Secretary also said that the

minimum wage must be paid as per the government order.

RPF Commissioner Abhishek Kumar said that earlier the employees had to travel long distances in case of EPF related problems. But now, on behalf of EPFO, in every industrial area of every district, officers organize camps on the 27th of every month, train everyone and solve their problems immediately. He said that earlier the employees and labourers used to visit our office, but now our officers are going and solving the problems.

He also emphasized that when the employees become alert and aware, the number of members will also increase. Some people do not even know the benefits of provident fund. It is certain that the membership will increase if the workers are aware about the benefits. In the end, all the attendees gave detailed information about their respective areas.

## KK Jha appointed member of 'National MSME Award - 2023' committee

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** President of MSME District Industries Association, KK Jha has been appointed as a member of the National MSME Award - 2023 Selection Committee. This appointment has been made by the Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of Chhattisgarh. Expressing his happiness over his appointment, Jha



said that he is grateful to State Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Industry Minister Kawasi Lakhma for reposing faith in him. He will live up to this belief and discharge the responsibility given to him with utmost sincerity. Jha informed that in the upcoming meeting of the National MSME Award 2023 Selection Committee, he has been invited by Damodar Behera, Assistant Director, MSME Development Office,

Raipur. This meeting will be held on June 27 at 12 noon in room number 5-1/13 of the Ministry of Industry. The meeting will be presided over by the Secretary, Department of Commerce and Industry, Government of Chhattisgarh. Director, Directorate of Industries and Pramod Gharde, President, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Raipur will also be present in the meeting. Jha said that applications are invited from MSME units of Chhattisgarh for this award and this award is announced on the basis of achievements of their last year's tenure. This award is very respectable which motivates the MSME units to do better every year. The MSME industry of the state has expressed happiness over the selection of KK Jha.

## 'Nayee Chetna' workshop organised for women contract workers

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** A one-day awareness program titled "Nayee Chetna" Nai Chetna was organised for the women contract workers of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Sinter Plants-2 & 3 on June 20, 2023 from 10:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs. Anup Kumar Dutta, CGM (SPs) was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Vikas Kulkarni, GM (SP-2) and MRK Sharif, GM (SP-3) were also present on this occasion.



on Health, SA-8000, rules and regulations for the safety of women at the workplace. Discussions on Psychological Challenges faced by women also took place during the seminar. Sinter Plant management has been continuously organising such programmes to boost the

morale of its personnel. Such motivational programmes play a significant role in the strategic and economic development of women at the work-place. Sushmita Patla, AM (SPs & OHP) conducted the programme and proposed the Vote of Thanks.

## SAIL Green Tiles Plant inaugurated at LDCP RMP-1

**Bhilai, Jun 25:** 'SAIL Green Tiles Plant' was inaugurated at Bhilai Steel Plant's LDCP of Refractory Material Plant-1. Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) inaugurated the Green Tiles Plant on June 24, 2023, in presence of EDs, CGM I/Cs, CGMs, GMs and other Senior Officials and Personnel of the Plant.

Under the green environment initiative and as a step towards achieving 100% Solid waste utilisation, along with reducing CO2 emissions, Paver Blocks will be manufactured from BOF Slag by a fuel-free process at the 'SAIL Green Tiles Plant'.

Congratulating the RMP-1 collective, Chief Guest Anirban Dasgupta appreciated the team led by Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron) for commission-



ing the facility by utilising Plant's in-house resources. Disposal of the BOF Slag is a challenge and has not yet been streamlined. Besides a judicious disposal of BOF Slag, the Paver Blocks manufactured at this facility will also add to further beautification of the Plant & Township and also generate revenue. Paver Blocks made in the SAIL Green Tiles Plant are not only more cost-effective but also better in quality as compared to the

ones available in market, Shri Dasgupta said. The Director I/c (BSP) has also given the target of producing 1000 tiles per day and subsequently increase the target as-per demand.

Among the Senior Officers present on the occasion were, Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), S Mukhopadhyay, ED (Projects) with Additional Charge of ED(P&A), AK Chakraborty, ED (MM), Dr AK Panda, ED (Finance), Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c

(Iron), PK Sarkar, CGM I/c (Services), Asit Saha, CGM I/c (M&U), and Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS), along with other Senior Officials and Plant personnel.

Anjani Kumar, ED (Works) appreciated the facility and said that Waste management is a challenge for BSP, but this project will not only lead to waste-utilisation but also will generate revenue from it. Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron), thanked the Plant Management and said that BSP is blessed with the very energetic Inter-departmental team which has led to the fulfilment of the dream of utilising the BOF slag using Plant's in-house resources, in a very short time. Under the guidance of Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron), an inter-depart-

mental team from BSP had visited RDCIS Ranchi for studying the pilot project of making Paver Block from (5-12mm) BOF Slag.

Paver block made in the newly-commissioned 'SAIL Green Tiles Plant' has a compressive strength of M-40 (specified compressive strength of 40 N/mm<sup>2</sup>) as per IS 15658: 2006. These paver blocks can be used in a range of infrastructural purposes including pedestrian plazas, shopping complex ramps, car parks, office driveways, housing colonies, office complexes, rural roads with low volume traffic, farm houses, beach sites, tourist resorts local authority footways, residential roads, etc. The inauguration programme was conducted by B Anuradha, AGM (Environment).



# Vivek Sahu takes charge as Commanding Officer

# AIMWF successfully organises introductory meet

For marriageable youths from Muslim community



Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** All India Muslim Welfare Foundation (AIMWF) created a history by successfully organising an introductory meet of marriageable youths from the Muslim community in a simple programme held at local Shaheed Smarak Bhavan last on June 17. It was for the first time in the history of Chhattisgarh that hun-

dreds of families from Muslim community gathered and in this total of 233 youth (both men and women) gave their introduction and out of which decision was taken to tie nuptial knots through marriage ceremonies of few. This massive introductory meet materialized due to initiatives under leadership of the State Patron AIMWF Faizal Rizvi, State President Moh. Siraj Saheb and head

of 'Jaria-e-Rishta' unit Irfan Sultan. It was hard work and best management and team-work of the Youth brigade of Foundation and Hamshira Group that this programme attained grand success. In this meet, the youths from Muslim community from neighbouring states of Chhattisgarh viz. Odisha, Maharashtra, Kerala, UP, Andhra Pradesh took part, informs a press release.

● Of the only Air NCC unit of Chh'garh

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** It is a historic glorious time for 3 Chhattisgarh Air NCC, when Vivek Sahu, a cadet of Air Wing NCC, has taken over as the Commanding Officer of the only Air NCC unit of Chhattisgarh. Wing Commander Vivek Kumar Sahu, the only such officer who was a cadet of the same unit in the year 2005, participated in the National Republic Day Parade New Delhi 2005, in 2005 he got the opportunity to go abroad on behalf of NCC under the Youth Exchange Program, and also in the year 2008 in Hyderabad Received commission in Air Force from Air Force Academy, after that he took his basic flight



er aircraft training in Bidar (Karnataka). The Wing Commander has the experience of flying fighter aircraft like MiG-21, Jaguar etc. He also held the post of Joint Director in the Ministry of Defence, Delhi after completing in-

structor training. Associate NCC Officer Durga Mahavidyalaya Squadron Leader Dr. Vijay Kumar Choubey said that our current Chief Wing Commander Vivek Sahu had his primary education in his native village Pirda

Lakhoul, from Navodaya Vidyalaya Mana he completed his studies from 6th to 12th and joined NCC Junior Division and passed with 'A' certificate. After doing B.Sc from Shankaracharya College Bhillai, took Air NCC from

Raipur and got opportunity to be part of RDC in year 2005 and also go abroad in year 2005 itself, further Dr. Choubey told that this unit it is a historic proud moment in the last 60 years of Chhattisgarh Air NCC that Chief Wing Commander Vivek Sahu become a fighter pilot from a NCC cadet of Chhattisgarh and become a Commanding Officer in the same parent unit.

Today, on this occasion, in the presence of all the Physical Training Instructors, civilian staff and other employees of NCC Air Wing, Wing Commander Vivek Sahu said that it is a matter of great fortune for me that the unit of which I was a cadet 18 years ago has I got the opportunity to become the head of the unit only because of the discipline, hard work and personality development taught by NCC.

# 9th Int'nl Yoga Day organized in CU

# Talents receive honours at GEMS

Central Chronicle News

**Bilaspur, Jun 25:** The Ninth International Day of Yoga was organized by the Department of Physical Education at Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) from 6.30 a.m. on June 21, 2023. The theme of Yoga Day 2023 is 'Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. The program started with the welcome address by the Convener, Professor Sanjit Sardar.



increases the immunity of the body and it should be made a part of life for everyone to stay healthy. While congratulating the Department of Physical Education for organizing the event, the Registrar, Professor Manish Srivastava said that yoga is not just a physical exercise but an important means of keeping the body and mind healthy. He

said that only when the body remains healthy, the family, society, state and nation will become healthy. This practice of celebrating Yoga Utsav started from 2015 and is continuously moving forward. Yoga was practiced from 7 to 7.45 am as per the Common Yoga Protocol received from the Ministry. Under the direction of Dr.

Tilak Raj Meena, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education, research scholars Mr. Avinash and Ms. Shweta performed all the yoganams.

Yoga mats were presented to the guests on the occasion. Prof. Sanjit Sardar, the Head of the Department of Physical Education, was the Convener of 9th International Yoga Day. The program was conducted by Dr. Shalini Menon, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education and the vote of thanks was given by Prof. Ratnesh Singh.

Deans, heads of departments, officers, teachers, non-teaching staff, researchers and students of various schools of the university participated on this occasion.



Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** It was a proud moment for Shri Gujrati English Medium School family when three of its students cracked NEET examination 2023 and secured their seats in

medical college. These three talented students are Chitransh Sahu, Vishwambhar Pandey and Vaj Kumar Tandan. Shri Gujrati Shikshan Sangh took a decision to honour these talents and in presence of Om Mathur BJP

Chhattisgarh in-charge, Arun Sao BJP President, Jayanti Bhai Patel District BJP President and Vice President of GSS, Narayan Bhai Patel Executive President of GSS, Secretary duo Tulsi Das Patel, Ashok Bhai

Patel and other dignitaries all three of them were honoured with memento and floral bouquet. The ceremony was joined by Shri Gujrati English Medium School Principal Dr Shailesh Sharma and other faculty members.

# Monsoon reaches Bastar, Orange alert issued

# Certificate course on 'Applied Data Analytics: A Practical Approach' concludes in NIT

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Jun 25:** Monsoon has knocked in Chhattisgarh via Bastar. The Meteorological Department has issued this information bulletin. Along with this, the Meteorological Department has appealed to the administration as well as the people to be alert. There was heavy monsoon rain in Jagdalpur late on Wednesday night. It rained continuously throughout the night. It has been raining intermittently since Friday morning. On Saturday too, it was cloudy throughout the day and it was drizzling rain. So far 6 mm of rain has been recorded

सूचना / WARNING	संभावित खतरा / EXPECTED IMPACT
जुलाई 24 तक के लिए	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>राज्य के विभिन्न भागों में जलपात और सूखे का खतरा है।</li> <li>राज्य के विभिन्न भागों में जलपात और सूखे का खतरा है।</li> <li>राज्य के विभिन्न भागों में जलपात और सूखे का खतरा है।</li> </ul>
जुलाई 40 तक के लिए	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>राज्य के विभिन्न भागों में जलपात और सूखे का खतरा है।</li> <li>राज्य के विभिन्न भागों में जलपात और सूखे का खतरा है।</li> <li>राज्य के विभिन्न भागों में जलपात और सूखे का खतरा है।</li> </ul>

in Bastar. According to the Meteorological Department, there is a strong possibility of thunder and lightning at some places in Chhattisgarh in the coming 72 hours. In view of this, Orange Alert has been issued. In the next 24 hours, there is a possibility of heavy rain

with thunder and lightning at one or two places in the southern part of the state, Bastar, Dantewada, Sukma and Bijapur. On the other hand, there may be heavy rain with thunder and lightning at one or two places in Kondagaon, Kanker and Narayanpur along with some places in Chhattisgarh in 48 hours.

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur had organized a thirty days long certificate course on "Applied Data Analytics: A Practical Approach" from 22nd May to 20th June 2023. The course was conducted under the able guidance of Dr. S. Ghosh, Chairman, Continuing Education Cell, Dr. Rakesh Tripathi, Head of Department, Information Technology and Dr. Govind P. Gupta, Assistant Professor, Information Technology, Dr Mridu Sahu, Assistant

Professor, Information Technology. A valedictory session was held on 20th June 2023 marking the accomplishment of the course. Dr. N. V. Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Raipur, presided over the session as Chief Guest. He congratulated the organizing committee and the participants for the huge success of the event. Dr. S. Ghosh elaborated upon the importance of the course and took live feedback from the participants and Dr. Rakesh Tripathi explained the impact of the course and also congratulated the winners. Dr. Govind P. Gupta delivered the vote of thanks to successfully conclude the session. The course began with the inaugural ceremony followed by an introductory session by Dr. S Ghosh. The introduction of the field, its applications, and the importance of the course were covered in the session. Eminent speakers from computer science and core engineering domains shared their knowledge throughout the sessions. Hands-on training using Python/R and discussion on data analytics-based case studies were

done. The course was conducted in two different batches keeping in mind the busy schedule of the working professionals. There were 179 participants from across the country (MNIT Jaipur, NIT Hamirpur, IIIT Allahabad, Andhra University, Jadavpur University, Manipal University, Osmania University etc.) among which 75 were B. Tech students, 60 M. Tech/M. Sc and 23 Ph.D. scholars, whereas 8 industry personnel and 13 faculties from various institutes were present. Evaluation of the appli-

cants was based upon attendance, weekly MCQ test, and mini projects. Three MCQ tests were conducted to evaluate the performance of the participants. These projects were assigned to the group of participants. 57 Projects were submitted in Google Classroom and were scrutinized by the experts and the best 12 projects were selected for presentation. The presentation of the projects was done on 18th June 2023. The best 6 presentations, 3 from the morning and 3 from the evening batch, were declared as the best mini projects.

has increased by 7 percent. Collector Dr Sarveshwar Bhure recently reviewed the quality of education, facilities and infrastructure available in government schools in the meeting of district level officers of School Education Department. District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Abinash Mishra, Municipal Corporation Commissioner Mayank Chaturvedi, Assistant Collector Jayant Nahata, District Education Officer RL Thakur and all Block Education Officers, Assistant Block Education Officers also participated in the meeting. The Collector asked to honor the principals of the schools achieving more than 90 percent results in class X and 95 percent results in class XII. The felicitation ceremony will soon be held in the capital Raipur. Principals will be felicitated

# BJP cheats people in the name of religion: Lakhma

# Excellent performance of district schools

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Jun 25:** Excise and Industries Minister Kawasi Lakhma has charged that BJP is doing a political gimmick under the garb of the film Adipurush. BJP cheats the public in the name of religion and faith. During elections BJP seeks votes in the name of Lord Ram, Hanuman, but Karnataka elections have shown that even Lord Ram and Hanuman are not with BJP. He said that the Congress government is going to believe in God, we have got the temple of Mata Kaushalya built. We believe in Devguri. We are the people who believe in Lord Ram. BJP remembers



Shri Ram only at the time of elections. He said that there is a BJP government at the Centre, the Censor Board is theirs, the Censor Board has given the certificate to the film. At one place where they prefer to oppose the film here and on

the other is passed by their Censor board. Such double standards cannot go on. Kavasi Lakhma said that the Prime Minister of the country was seeking votes for the BJP in the name of Hanumanji from the public

in the Karnataka assembly elections. The election result has told that there is no Ram, Hanuman with the BJP. He said that this kind of propaganda does not last long. Hanuman supported the Congress in Karnataka. In the context of the construction of Ram temple in Ayodhya, Minister Lakhma said that the temple is being built on the orders of the Supreme Court and not on the instructions of the Central Government. The people of the country have faith in the

Supreme Court. The credit for the construction of the temple does not go to the BJP. Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had opened the lock of the Ram temple in Ayodhya. The temple is being built on the orders of the Supreme Court. That's why there is no role of BJP in this. Kawasi Lakhma said that what should be true faith towards religion. This has been shown by our Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and our Congress government. By constructing the temple of Mata Kaushalya in Chandkhuri, by constructing Shri Ram Vanagaman Path, our government has shown a mirror to the BJP which cheats in the name of religion.

- In class X-XII results
- Principals of excellent performing schools to be felicitated
- A review by Collector Dr Bhure

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Jun 25:** Government schools of Raipur district have performed brilliantly in class X and class XII results this year because of Collector Dr Sarveshwar Bhure's plan to focus on every student, monthly test and subject-wise and student-wise review. About 73 percent students have passed in class X and 82 percent students have passed in class XII examinations. Compared to the year 2021-22, this year the result of class X has increased by about 13 percent and the result of class XII

with shawl, shreefal and citation in the ceremony. The suggestions and experiences of all those principals will also be shared regarding the plan and strategy prepared for excellent performance. Compared to the year 2021-22, this year 13 percent more students have passed in the 10th class examination. Last year, 19 thousand 199 students appeared in the class X examination in the district and 11 thousand 455 students passed. This year 18 thousand 391 students of the district appeared for the class X examination and 13 thousand 360 of them have passed. This year the pass percentage of girl students in class X is 72.64. This year 5 students of the district are included in the merit list of class X and 3 of them belong to government schools.

Principals will be felicitated



# Main drain canal fails to withstand first rain

**Dongargaon, Jun 25:** Main drain under construction for the last two years in the city could not withstand the first monsoon rains and the main drain falling into the canal drain of the irrigation department from the main road has been in the circle of questions since the beginning of the construction of the drain. Now since this construction is nearing completion, the eyes of the city dwellers are fixed on this drain and this drain built with millions of rupees could not withstand the first rain.



not reach the drain, and as the city received its first rain of the season on June 22, a pond was formed on the road itself, causing water logging.

In the big cities of the country, the road is built by building a bridge over the road, but in Nagar Panchayat Dongargaon, a drain has been built under the drain.

The construction of the main drain channel is being done to prevent dirty water from going into the pond, but the entire dirty water of the Durga temple area reaches the same pond through the channel made under main drain channel and in this case, this entire project to prevent dirty water from going into the pond has failed.

plete failure as in this construction work, is being carried out in an arbitrary manner, ignoring all the rules. In the construction works of Dongargaon Nagar Panchayat, the construction of drains is always done above the road level which is a marvel of engineering and a high-

level investigation should be conducted on this main drain channel, which has become irregular in many places, so that the misuse of the government money coming from the taxes of the common people can be exposed. Naturally, if the level is raised from the road, the road water will

## Parliamentary secretary addresses public grievance



**Mahasamund, Jun 25:**

As part of the meet-and-greet program, Parliamentary Secretary and MLA Vinod Sevenal Chandrakar reached here at Ward No. 5 Sanjay Nagar and discussed with the citizens their grievances. Mr. Chandrakar resolved many problems on the spot and assured to

take appropriate steps towards the demands. The citizens mainly demanded the need for borehole mining to solve the problem of drinking water, on which Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Chandrakar assured appropriate initiatives.

Similarly, the citizens drew attention to the installation of electricity poles, three-phase lines

and the construction of drains for water drainage, on which Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Chandrakar assured to take proper initiative in this direction. Prominently present were Aweez Khan, Dilawar Surya, Shoaib Naqvi, Sabir Bhai, Aslam Khan, Md. Rasheed, Pradeep Dhruv, Mo Jamal, Ganesh Patel and others.

## Ganiari Shriram Manas Mandali demands ban on alcohol

**Kharora, Jun 25:**

The members of the nearby village Ganiari Shriram Manas Mandali, while demanding a complete ban on alcohol in the province, said that the province is currently in the grip of rampant alcoholism and due to the rapid spread of this social evil, the economic condition of the poor farmers is ruined. The physical condition is also on the verge of becoming hollow, especially the young people, and their energy is slowly getting poisoned in the form of alcohol.

The members of Manas Mandali have said that banning alcohol is the only way to

get rid of alcoholism, which is a breaker of the overall development of the province. The Mandali members also said that banning alcohol is necessary for the poor farmers economically and physically and the situation will be strengthened, the atmosphere of the home and village will be clean and peaceful, the youth will be inclined towards education.

Aunkar Sahu, Girdhari Yadav, Bhagarathi Verma, Chandrasekhar Verma, Chintanand Verma, Kirtanlal Verma, Khemchand Sahu Ishwari Verma, Aas Kumar Gaikwad etc. were among those who demanded prohibition of alcohol.

# Birth of emerging India is through the new generation: Dr Gupta

**Korea, Jun 25:**

Member of the National Child Rights Protection Commission, Dr Divya Gupta, here attended the divisional bench of Child Protection Commission in the district panchayat assembly hall about connecting the vulnerable families and highly sensitive children of the district with the government schemes and children and families living in difficult conditions, child rights. A bench was organized by the division bench of the Commission for the investigation, hearing and resolution of violations and cases related to their violation.

On this occasion, Asha Santosh Yadav, Member of State Child Protection Commission, Zilla



Panchayat CEO Ashutosh Chaturvedi, Additional Superintendent of Police Rohit Kumar, Joint Collector Anil Sidar and officers and employees of various departments were present. Meanwhile, Dr. Divya Gupta while addressing the officials said

that for the birth of a new emerging India, there is a need to pay attention to the new generation. All officials should be aware of their responsibilities and discharge their duties, so that they can make a difference in the lives of children, she

said. The bench mainly heard cases related to children's health, education, financial assistance, children's swaraj, creation of Ayushman card, creation of Aadhaar card, creation of bank account and etc.

Around 300 applications were received and the cases of children with special needs were also presented in the hearing, and instructions were given to provide them with necessary equipment and health check-up facilities. Stalls related to various departments, including Police Department, District Legal Service Authority, Health Department, Social Welfare Department, Education Department, Tribal Welfare Department were set up.

## Recovery of Rs 10900 mitigation fee from seven buses

**Bijapur, Jun 25:**

Before the start of the education session, checking of fitness, registration, permit, insurance, PUC, road tax, CCTV camera, driver's license, fire extinguisher, emergency door, indicator and necessary documents of vehicles of private schools operated under the district at Indira Stadium Bijapur here on Saturday.

Rs 10,900/- was recovered from 7 buses under the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) when the fitness test and documents were not found complete during the vehicle checking. Medical examination of 21 auto drivers was conducted by organizing a medical camp for auto drivers. The team of the district hospital gave necessary advice and medicines for the



- Fitness checking of vehicles of private schools run in the district before the start of the education session
- 21 auto drivers got health test done



treatment of auto drivers after conducting BP, sugar and eye tests.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Vineet Sahu, Inspector Sanjay Suryavanshi, Kishanlal

Mahore from Transport Department, Medical Team from District Hospital and other employees were present during the vehicle test and health test.

## Baghel govt has fulfilled 90% of promises: Singh

**Churikala, Jun 25:**

The work done by the Congress Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel government in the last four years is much above than any other state Chief Minister, and the government has fulfilled almost 90 percent of the promises made to the people in 4 years. The above were told by grandson of ex-MLA late Yagyaseni Devi, Kuwar Rajyavardhan Pratap Singh in a public interaction. Singh is State President of Chhattisgarh Adivasi Congress. He further also said that, today the peo-



ple of Chhattisgarh are happy and the government has waived the loans of 11 thousand crores and irrigation tax of 350 crores of 20 lakh farmers of the state, which has not happened in BJP-ruled states. The farmers of Chhattisgarh

were given the price of paddy at Rs 2660 this year. It is not given by the BJP government of any state, he said. He also said that the state is giving Rs 7000 financial assistance to the Lohar Mochi Baiga Gunia caste people living in the village of rural landless agricultural laborers in the state. 24 hour electricity is also available and the purchase of cow dung and cow other than 65 forest products are worth praise. Congress Province General Secretary Kunwar further said that the government of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel is teach-

ing English medium free of charge to the children of farmers and poor workers of the province by opening English medium schools and announced to open about 450 English medium schools in the new education session. He also said that the state government is providing assistance amounting to lakhs of rupees for the treatment of serious diseases under Mukhyamantri Suposhan Abhiyan, Mukhyamantri Hat Bazar Clinic, Mukhyamantri Urban Slum Health Yojana, Noni Dai Clinic, Khubchand Baghel Health Yojana.

## Woman with snake bite timely saved

■ With hard work, efforts of NMDC Apollo Hospital

**Bacheli, Jun 25:**

A tribal woman Rito, (30 yrs), W/o Late Muda, Midkopara, Gamawada was admitted in NMDC Apollo Hospital, Bacheli on June 22 at around 3:00 early in the morning. She was bitten by a venomous snake on the ight of June 22 at around 1:40 am when she was sleeping and due to which she became critical and was immediately taken to NMDC Hospital Bacheli.

After the snake bite her body turned blue due to spreading of venom in



her body and she was slowly losing consciousness and due to which she has become critical.

In medical language this is termed as Neurotoxic and in this the nervous system of the patient gets damaged and the brain stops function-

ing. After her admission in the hospital, the casualty doctors immediately started her treatment and the subject experts were called.

Seeing her serious condition, the patient was put into ventilator support and after 36 hours of

ventilator support, her condition started improving and after which she was removed from the ventilator and was discharged in normal condition.

The patient is now out of danger and is gaining health in the hospital and the credit for this goes to Dr PC Mahanta, sr. Medicine expert; Dr (Mrs) Amita Reddy, medicine expert; Dr Bharat Kumar, ad Dr (Mrs). Sirishi, Anesthesist Dr Samhita Sunder, Dr P Jawahar, Medical Officer and casualty nurse and other staff. It was the hard work and efforts by entire team of NMDC Apollo Hospital that the life of this patient could be saved.

## 7 nabbed with 20.960 kg 'Ganja' worth lakh



**Jagdalur, Jun 25:**

Police Station Nagarnar received information from the informer that a white colored scooter was coming from Orissa towards Jagdalpur via village Tiriya. The serial number of this Scooty is CG 17 X 8748, in which a man and a woman are carrying illegal intoxicant marijuana in a bag. On information, Mohammad Asif S/o late Nafees, R/o District Shamli Uttar Pradesh and Baby

Tabassum W/o Mohd. Bilal Ansari, R/o District Bardhaman Calcutta (Pt. Bengal) were arrested from near market square of village Tiriya. A total of 20.960 kg Ganja was recovered from their possession.

The arrested accused informed that, on the behest of Nafedin of Jagdalpur, both of us had gone to Odisha to collect ganja. There they met Md Hasan and Khalil Khan, together with them went to Manjur Ahmed and Subendu Chinara of Orissa to buy Ganja. It was on tip from an informer, a team was formed by the police station Nagarnar to nab the accused involved in the incident. Taking quick action by the police, all the accused involved in the incident were arrested.

Rs 86,500 in cash was seized from the possession of the arrested accused. All the 7 arrested accused were presented before the court on judicial remand after proceedings in police station Nagarnar.

## Modi govt is anti-farmers, youth, labourers and tribals: Vikram

**Bijapur, Jun 25:** Under the leadership of Block Congress Committee Bhairamgarh, Congmen staged against the anti-people policies of the BJP and the central Modi government in Bhairamgarh. While reminding them of their election promises, the Congress leaders said that Rs 2 cr per year should be given to the youth. What happened to the promise of providing employment, depositing Rs 15 lakh in each bank account, doubling the income of farmers by the year 2022 and bringing back black-money deposited abroad? Did anyone get the benefit of the promises made by the BJP and the Modi government to the people of the country till date, he questioned. On the other hand, due to the anti-people policies of the BJP and Modi government, today the inflation in the country is skyrocketing, instead of reducing the

prices of petrol, diesel, domestic gas and food items, their prices are continuously increasing. On the other hand, the government of Bhupesh Baghel in the state is working to put money in the accounts of the farmers of the state so that people can get relief from inflation.

Addressing the gathering, Vikram Mandavi, MLA of Bijapur and Vice President of Bastar Region Tribal Development



Authority, said that the BJP and the Modi government at the Center are completely anti-farmers, youth, laborers and anti-tribals. Further in his address he said that ever since the BJP and Modi government came to power at the Centre, the

prices of petrol, diesel, domestic gas and food items have been increasing continuously. In the coming time, the people of the country will uproot the BJP and the Modi government. On the other hand, District Congress Committee (DCC)

President Lalu Rathore termed the BJP and the Modi government as anti-people and said that the Modi government had promised the farmers of the country that they would double the income of the farmers; had promised the youth of the coun-

try that 2 cr people will get employment in the country, had promised that Rs 15 lakh in everybody's account, will bring black-money from abroad? When will the BJP answer what happened to these promises, he added.

District Panchayat President Shankar Kudiyaam, District Panchayat member and Chhattisgarh Farmers Welfare Board member Basant Rao Tati, District Panchayat members Nina RawatiyaUdde, Somaru Kashyap, Sarita Chapa, Parvati Kashyap, Youth Congress State Secretary Manoj Avalam, District President Dashrath Kunjam, District Vice President Sahdev Negi, District General Secretary Sukhdev Nag, Sonu Potam Block Congress Committee Bhairamgarh President Lachchu Ram Murya and Hirral Mandavi etc addressed.



## BRIEF



People cross a road amid rain as the southwest monsoon advances over Delhi, Sunday.

## Honour

**Guwahati:** As the Assam government on Sunday honoured those who had resisted the Emergency imposed by then prime minister Indira Gandhi in 1975, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma rued that the president, who had signed the ordinance, and the then Congress national chief were from the state. He also said that the resistance by opposition political leaders, media, lawyers and other sections of society has "ensured that no regime can ever think of imposing such restrictions again".

## Electrocution

**New Delhi:** A 34-year-old woman died of electrocution after accidentally coming in contact with a live wire at the New Delhi Railway Station complex on Sunday morning amid rainfall, police said. The incident took place near exit gate number 1 of the station when victim Sakshi Ahuja was going to board a train to Chandigarh, they said. She was with her sister at the time.

## Collapse

**Mumbai:** A portion of a ground-plus-three floor residential building collapsed in Ghatkopar area of Mumbai on Sunday morning, a fire brigade official said. Two persons were rescued from the third floor, he said, adding two persons were still trapped on the building's first floor and efforts were on to bring them out.

## Mishap

**Jamshedpur:** Two persons were crushed to death by a speeding tanker in Jharkhand's East Singhbhum district on Sunday, police said. The accident occurred on National Highway 49 at Khandamouda, around 80 km from here, under the Barsol Police Station limits when the tanker rammied into a roadside restroom where the two persons were standing at that time, Sub-Divisional Police Officer Kulddeep Toppo told PTI.

## Arrested

**Meerut:** Police have arrested two cattle smugglers following an encounter in the district's Kharkhauda area, officials said on Sunday. Their three companions, however, managed to escape and efforts are underway to arrest them, they said.

## Disrupt

**Hisar:** Rail traffic on the Hisar-Jakhal section was disrupted after a cement girder fell on the track near the Surya Nagar area between Hisar and Raipur, officials here said on Sunday.

# Nagpur police unearth 'task fraud'

Trace money trail to China

Nagpur, Jun 25 (PTI):

The Nagpur cyber police probing a "task fraud" have unearthed a transaction involving the transfer of crime money to a Chinese individual through cryptocurrency and arrested six men from Mumbai, Gujarat and Rajasthan, a senior official said. Three of the six arrested men hail from Mumbai and suburban Nallasopara and the others from Rajasthan and Surat in Gujarat. The police seized 19 debit and credit cards, nine mobile phones, a laptop, and cash worth Rs 7.87 lakh. Additionally, the police have frozen Rs 37.26 lakh from the bank accounts of the accused individuals, the official said on Saturday. On the modus operandi of such a crime, Deputy Commissioner of Police (cyber) Archit Chandak at a press conference said fraudsters em-

ploy different teams to handle various tasks, including an IT team to monitor transactions and a banking team to facilitate their activities. The fraud involves promise of money for performing tasks like liking videos and giving reviews for products. Later, the fraudsters lure the targeted individuals with "prepaid" tasks. They keep on increasing the fees and the victims keep paying the amounts expecting higher returns till they realise they have been cheated. "The task fraud involves a systematic process consisting of three key steps-trust building, laying trap and treachery. Cyber criminals first entice individuals with tasks promising lucrative monetary rewards. "In the second stage, they set a trap wherein they win the victims' trust over a month and persuade them with prospects

of an elevated profile in exchange for various fees. This ultimately leads to the third step-treachery-wherein the accused absconds with the money and cuts off all communication with the victim," said Chandak. He said the modus operandi resembles the operations of corporate entities. "These criminals employ different teams to handle various tasks, including an IT team to monitor transactions and a banking team to facilitate their activities," the official said. While conducting probe into a complaint lodged by a Nagpur-based chemical engineer, the police got a breakthrough when they traced the money trail to Meet Vyas, one of the arrested men, who had transferred the funds to a Chinese individual using cryptocurrency, Chandak said.

## TRADITIONAL RITUALS



Union Minister Darshana Jardosh with women who offered 1001 meters 'chunddi' to the Tapi river at the celebration of the river's birthday, in Surat, Sunday.

## Tripura to rechristen 75 border villages after names of freedom fighters

Agartala, Jun 25 (PTI):

The Tripura government has decided to rechristen 75 border villages in the state after the names of freedom fighters who had sacrificed their lives during the country's independence movement, a senior official said on Sunday. The project to rename 75 border villages will be taken up as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', an initiative to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of the country's independence and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. "The programme to recall the contribution of freedom fight-

ers to the country's independence will commence in July and is scheduled to be completed by August 15 this year. "Seventy-five border villages spreading across all the eight districts will be identified by the district-level committees. The administration had already prepared a list of freedom fighters from the state and their contribution to the country's freedom struggle," Information and Cultural Affairs Secretary PK Chakravorty told PTI. Statutes of the 75 freedom fighters will be erected in these villages and their family members will be felicitated by the government, he said.

## Emergency trauma still haunts those who were jailed

Lucknow, Jun 25 (PTI):

It has been nearly 50 years but Lucknow-resident Tej Narayan Gupta vividly remembers the evening a police team knocked on his door and picked him up. A nationwide crackdown had begun on June 26 in 1975, a day after the Emergency was imposed in the country, with scores of opposition leaders and activists put behind bars. "Around 9 pm I had just returned home when a police team raided my house and arrested me," Gupta, who was then an activist and lawyer, said. A policeman took him on a bicycle to Bazar Khala police station, two km away from his home. He was then taken to

Kaisarbagh police station and finally lodged in the Lucknow district jail along with other arrested persons. "The policemen was riding the bicycle, which was taken from a labourer, and I sat on the rod in front of him. He was riding the cycle very slowly. The motive was to create terror in the minds of the residents of my locality," Gupta, 83, told PTI. Equating the imposition of the Emergency with dacoity, he said, "Generally, dacoity is carried out around midnight. Similarly, this dacoity of democracy in the country also took place around midnight." The Indira Gandhi government imposed the Emergency on

June 25 night, suspending civil liberties and censoring the press. The morning after a crackdown began on opposition leaders and activists with scores of them being jailed across the country. "In jail, we were not sure about the future and whether we will ever walk out of it," Gupta said. Months later the situation changed and the Emergency was lifted on March 21, 1977. In his 'Mann Ki Baat' radio broadcast on June 18, Prime Minister Narendra Modi described the Emergency as a "dark period" in India's history and said those who supported democracy at that time were tortured.

## Three children who lost way reunited with families

Palghar, Jun 25 (PTI):

Three minor boys from Maharashtra's Palghar district who lost their way after venturing out of their homes in the excitement of going to see a train have been traced and reunited with their parents, police said on Sunday. The boys, including two siblings aged 6 and 7 and another five-year-old from their neighbourhood, left their homes in Boisar area here on Friday. At around 6.30 pm, a farmer at Asangaon village in Vangaon area, located about 15 km from Boisar, spotted the three children crying on a street and immediately alerted Vangaon police station, inspector Sandeep Kahale told PTI.

The children, who had also walked on the railway tracks and appeared tired, were brought to the police station and provided food, he said. When the police enquired with them, the boys informed they were from Ganesh Nagar locality in Mumbai, he said. The police, who suspected the boys were from a locality with the same name in Boisar area of Palghar, posted pictures of the three minors in a WhatsApp group created for community policing, the official said. An alert citizen from Boisar who saw the WhatsApp message contacted the Vangaon police and also coordinated with parents of the three children.

## WATERLOGGED UNDERPASS



Waterlogged Shani Mandir railway underpass after heavy rainfall in Sonapat, Sunday.

## 'Air connectivity to Bikaner, Kishangarh airport likely to enhance soon'

Jaipur, Jun 25 (PTI):

Air connectivity to Rajasthan's Bikaner and Kishangarh airports from other parts of the country is likely to enhance as the Airport Authority of India along with the Ministry of civil aviation has put up both the airports for bidding in order to start new flights. The development came after the Rajasthan government's resident commissioner in New Delhi held a meeting with the secretary of the union ministry sometime back regarding the expansion and development of airports in the state, an official said here. Commissioner of Rajasthan Foundation Dhiraj Srivastava said Bikaner and Kishangarh airports have been included in the bidding process for starting new flight services. Rajasthan Foundation is a body of the

state government to address the needs and concerns of non-resident Rajasthanis (NRR). "The bidding process will go on till July 15. By August 15, it is expected that airlines will come up to operate more flights from these two airports," Srivastava said while referring to the outcome of the meeting of the resident commissioner in Delhi with the secretary of the union minister of civil aviation. He said the foundation has requested the chief minister to expedite efforts to enhance air connectivity to the cities of Rajasthan, following which the meeting in Delhi took place. At present, one flight is being operated at Kishangarh and Bikaner airports each, which, too, is irregular, he said, adding that in view of the high footfall of tourists and celebrities, international flights should be operated from Udaipur Airport.

## YSRC, Oppn lock horns over AP law and order situation

Amaravati, Jun 25 (PTI):

The political temperature in Andhra Pradesh is on rise with the main opposition party TDP gunning for ruling YSR Congress over the death of a minor boy and a prominent Kapu leader's strongly worded letter to Jena Sena Chief Pawan Kalyan on the latter's commitment to the community. Maintaining the political tempo, the Jagan Mohan Reddy government on June 23 launched 'Jagananna Suraksha', a month-long programme to reach out to all 1.6 crore households in the state to check for their unresolved grievances and

Kapu leader's letter to Pawan Kalyan

solve them. Scheduled across all the 15,004 village and ward secretariats, 'Jagananna Suraksha' will entail volunteers, village and ward secretariat employees visiting all the 5.3 crore people in the state in the next 10 days to identify unfulfilled eligible beneficiaries. TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu tore into Reddy and the state government on June 19 following an incident in which a 15-year old boy was allegedly found burnt to death at Cherukupalli village in Bapatla district, and alleged deterioration of law and order situation in the state. After visiting the boy's home, Naidu sought

## Goods train hits stationary freight coaches

None hurt

Kolkata, Jun 25 (PTI):

A goods train collided with another stationary freight train at Onda in Bankura district of West Bengal on Sunday morning, a senior South Eastern Railway official said. No one was injured in the accident, which affected train services in the Adra division of SER for over four hours, he said. At least eight wagons derailed due to the collision, which happened around 4 am, the official said. Train movement at Onda in the Midnapore-Adra section of Adra division was restored at 8.30 am, after urgent repair work was carried out, he said. The derailed wagons



Several boggies derailed after two goods trains collided with each other near West Bengal's Bankura, in the wee hours of Sunday.

were removed from the tracks on war footing, and the first passenger train to pass was the 18011 Howrah-Chakradharpur express at 8.35 am, he said. The incident comes weeks after the train disaster at Bahanaga Bazar station in Odisha's Balasore district on June 2 in which 288 people were killed and hundreds injured. Onda is around 250

km away from Bahanaga Bazar. The SER official said the likely cause of Sunday's accident was that the driver of the moving goods train had overshot the home signal at Onda, which was red. The train then went into the loop line, for which the point was likely to have been set on the tracks, and hit the stationary freight wagons, he said.

## Flood situation remains grim

Guwahati, Jun 25 (PTI):

Over 4 lakh hit

The flood condition in Assam remained grim on Sunday, with over four lakh people hit by the deluge across nine districts, even though water levels started to recede, an official said. So far, three persons have lost their lives in this year's first wave of flood in different parts of the state, the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) official said. According to an ASDMA report, over 4,07,700 people are impacted by the deluge in Baksa, Barpeta, Darrang, Dhubri, Goalpara, Kamrup, Lakhimpur, Nalbari and Udalguri districts. The water levels have

begun to recede in some areas, the official said. The administration has been operating 101 relief camps in these districts, where 81,352 persons have taken shelter, and running 119 relief distribution centres in five districts. At present, 1,118 villages are under water and 8,469.56 hectare of crop area has been damaged across Assam, ASDMA said. Massive erosion was witnessed in Baksa, Barpeta, Sonitpur, Dhubri, Kamrup, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, South Salmara and Udalguri, it said. Places in Karimganj have also reported incidents of landslides due to heavy rainfall.



## Modi visits Egypt's historic 11th century Al-Hakim Mosque

Cairo, Jun 25 (PTI):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday visited Egypt's historic 11th century Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo, restored with the help of India's Dawoodi Bohra community.

On the second day of his state visit to Egypt, Modi visited the Fatimid era Shia mosque where he was received by Minister of Tourism and Antiquities of Egypt, Dr. Mostafa Waziri.

Modi was shown around the mosque whose latest restoration was completed about three months ago. He appreciated the intricate carved inscriptions on the walls and doorways of the mosque which was built in 1012.

"Honoured to visit the historic Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo. It's a profound testament to Egypt's rich heritage and culture," he tweeted in both Arabic and English.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Al-Hakim mosque in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, June 25.

Prime Minister Modi also met the leaders of Bohra community, who are actively involved in the upkeep of this Fatimid era Shia mosque and highlighted the strong people-to-people ties between India and Egypt, the MEA said in a press release.

The mosque mainly performs Friday prayers and all five obligatory prayers.

Over a thousand years

wards and have been maintaining it since then, he told PTI.

"The Prime Minister has a very close attachment to the Bohra community who have also been in Gujarat for many years and it will be an occasion for him to again visit a very important religious site for the Bohra community," India's Ambassador to Egypt Ajit Gupte earlier said.

The historic Mosque has been named after Al-Hakim bi-Amr Allah, the 16th Fatimid caliph and is an important religious and cultural site for the Dawoodi Bohra community.

The Dawoodi Bohra Muslims are a sect of followers of Islam who adhere to the Fatimi Ismaili Tayyibi school of thought. They are known to have originated from Egypt and later shifted to Yemen, before establishing a presence in India in the 11th century.

## Pak court acquits former PM Nawaz Sharif in 37-year-old 'bribe' case

Lahore, Jun 25 (PTI):

A Pakistani accountability court has acquitted former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in a 37-year-old case alleging that he transferred a "precious state land" here in the capital of Punjab province to one of the country's leading media barons as a "bribe".

Saturday's ruling came days after the federal government led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the younger brother of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif, made crucial amendments to laws to lift the life-long ban on politicians.

The 73-year-old three-time former prime minister's acquittal may allow him to contest and lead PML-N in the next general



election scheduled later this year.

Nawaz Sharif was disqualified in 2017 by the Supreme Court. In 2018, he became ineligible to hold public office for life after a Supreme Court verdict in the Panama Papers case.

"An Accountability Court in Lahore acquitted three-time premier Nawaz Sharif in a case related to illegal transfer of 54-kanal (6.75 acres) precious state land to Jang/Geo media group owner Mir Shakil-ur-Rehman in Lahore while he was the chief

minister of Punjab 37 years ago," a court official told PTI.

"Judge Rao Abdul Jabbar acquitted him after the country's anti-graft body (National Accountability Bureau) informed the court that after recent amendments to its law (by the Shehbaz Sharif-led coalition government), the case does not fall in its preview," the official said.

The former prime minister's lawyer contended that NAB had malicious intentions while filing the case against his client, who had no involvement in plot allotment.

The court has already acquitted Shakil-ur-Rehman in this case.

He said the acquittal of the principal accused proved that no offence was committed.

## Russian mercenary leader's exile ends revolt

Moscow, Jun 25 (AP):

The greatest challenge to Russian President Vladimir Putin in his more than two decades in power fizzled out after the rebellious mercenary commander who ordered his troops to march on Moscow abruptly reached a deal with the Kremlin to go into exile and sounded the retreat.

The brief revolt, though, exposed vulnerabilities among Russian government forces, with Wagner Group soldiers under the command of Yevgeny Prigozhin able to move unimpeded into the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don and advance hundreds of kilometres toward Moscow.

The Russian military scrambled to defend Russia's capital. Under the deal announced Saturday by Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, Prigozhin will go to neighboring Belarus, which has supported Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Charges against him of mounting an armed rebellion will be dropped.

The government also said it would not prosecute Wagner fighters who took part, while those who did not join in were to be offered contracts by the Defence Ministry.

Prigozhin ordered his troops back to their field camps in Ukraine, where they have been fighting alongside Russian regular soldiers. Putin had vowed earlier to punish those behind the armed uprising led by his one-time protege.

## FESTIVAL OF CYCLING



UK Minister of Tourism John Whittingdale poses at the festival of cycling 'RideLondon', in Maldon.

## Pak to raise Rs 215 billion through taxes to fulfil IMF loan conditions: FM Dar

Islamabad, Jun 24 (PTI):

Pakistan will raise Rs 215 billion through taxes to meet the stringent conditions set by the IMF, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said on Saturday, as the cash-strapped government tried to meet the conditions set by the IMF for a much-needed loan.

Speaking at the closing of a three-day-long general discussion with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the budget for the financial year 2023-24 held in the National Assembly, Dar said that Pakistan is trying to fulfil all the formalities the global lender wants them to complete prior to availing the loan. "As a result of the talks with IMF for the fiscal year 2023-24, the final taxes of only Rs 215 billion (approximately USD



750,400,000) have been agreed, ensuring that it will not burden the poor and middle segments of the society," he said.

The announcement was made by Dar two days after IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva urged Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to resolve policy differences at the global lender's staff level prior to getting a much-needed loan to stabilise the country's economy.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) signed a deal in 2019 to provide USD 6 billion to

Pakistan on the fulfilment of certain conditions.

The plan was derailed several times and the full reimbursement is still pending due to insistence by the donor that Pakistan should complete all formalities.

A member of the federal cabinet joined from Paris the technical round of talks, which took place in Islamabad after the meeting between the IMF MD and Prime Minister Sharif. Both sides again discussed all the outstanding issues and the government appeared to accept the IMF's views on a few budgetary numbers. On Saturday, Dar said that Pakistan would bring down the running expenditure by Rs 85 billion, which would have no impact on the proposed development budget, the raise in salaries and pensions of the federal government employees.

## You are India's hero, Indian community members tell Modi

Cairo, Jun 25 (PTI):

Members of the Indian community in Egypt showered fulsome praise on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, hailing him as India's hero, as he began his two-day visit here. Modi, the first prime minister to undertake a bilateral visit to Egypt in 26 years, was given a rousing welcome at the Ritz Carlton hotel, where he interacted with the Indian diaspora in separate groups. Most of the members appreciated the Prime Minister's address to the US Congress and the economic progress of the country under his leadership. "You are India's hero," a member of the Indian diaspora told Modi, who responded by saying



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with members of the Indian Community, in Cairo.

that efforts by every Indian, including those living overseas, have contributed to the country's success. "Saara Hindustan sabka hero hai. Desh ke log mehnat karte, desh ki taraqqi hoti hai (Entire

India is everyone's hero. The people of the country work hard and the nation progresses)," the prime minister said.

"This is a result of your hard work. Your devotion is paying off (Yeh aapki

mehnat ka natija hai. Aapki tapasya kaam kar rahi hai," Modi said. Modi also met the members of the Bohra community, who have strong linkages with his home state of Gujarat. Earlier, waving the Indian tricolour, members of the Indian community welcomed the Prime Minister to chants of 'Modi, Modi', 'Vande Mataram' when he reached the hotel here. An Egyptian woman, Jena, dressed in a saree, greeted Modi with the popular song 'Yeh Dosti Hum Nahil Chhodenge' from the movie 'Sholay'. Impressed by the rendition of the Kishore Kumar-Manna Dey number, the Prime Minister expressed surprise when Jena said she knew very little Hindi and had never visited India.

## Sikh man shot dead by unknown gunmen in Pakistan's Peshawar city

Peshawar, Jun 25 (PTI):

A Sikh man was shot dead by unidentified gunmen here on Saturday, in the latest incident of targeted attacks against minority communities in Pakistan.

Mannohan Singh was on his way to the interior city area of Peshawar from Rasheed Garhi, a suburban locality of Peshawar, when some armed men attacked him near Guldara Chowk Kakshal, which comes under the jurisdiction of Yakka Toot police station.

Singh was shifted to a

hospital where he was pronounced dead by the doctors, police said.

This is the second incident of armed attack on a Sikh man in the Yakka Toot area in the last 48 hours. A Sikh man was injured after he sustained bullet wounds on his legs on Friday.

A Sikh businessman was shot dead in the city by unknown assailants in March.

About 15,000 Sikhs live in Peshawar, mostly in the Jogan Shah neighbourhood of the provincial capital Peshawar.

Most of the members of the Sikh community

in Peshawar are involved in business, while some also have pharmacies.

In September last year, a well-known Sikh haikem' (Unani medicine practitioner) was shot dead by unidentified gunmen inside his clinic in Peshawar.

In 2018, Charanjit Singh, a prominent Sikh community member, was killed by unknown men in Peshawar. Similarly, news channel anchor Ravinder Singh was killed in 2020 in the city.

In 2016, Pakistan Te h r e e k - e - I n s a a f National Assembly member Soren Singh was also

killed in Peshawar. Hindus form the biggest minority community in Pakistan. According to official estimates, 75 lakh Hindus live in the Muslim-majority country. Muslims account for about 96 per cent of Pakistan's 207 million population, Hindus 2.1 per cent and Christians about 1.6 per cent according to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan estimates. The majority of Pakistan's Hindu population is settled in Sindh province where they share culture, traditions and language with their Muslim residents.

## One killed, another injured in Pak suicide attack: Police

Islamabad, Jun 25 (PTI):

One policeman was killed and another was injured on Saturday in a attack by a suicide bomber in Pakistan's Balochistan province, police said.

The attack happened in Balochistan's Turbat when the female suicide bomber targeted a vehicle of the Paramilitary Frontiers Corps (FC). "A policeman was killed and a lady police constable was wounded in the attack who was immediately rushed to the hospital for medical

treatment," police said.

Officials of law enforcing agencies reached at the scene and initiated the collection of evidence to investigate the incident. The banned Baloch Liberation Army accepted the responsibility for the attack. It said in a statement that the attack was carried out by Samia Qalandrani Baloch of the Majeed Brigade of the group. Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Qudoos Bizenjo condemned the blast and expressed regret at the at-

tack and extended his condolences to the families of killed and injured officials. "The aim of terrorism is to halt the development process and intimidate the security forces. The evil intentions of terrorists will never be successful," the chief minister said in a statement. The province has been grappling with a wave of terrorism and insurgency for several years, with various militant groups carrying out attacks targeting security forces and civilians alike.

## Women are provided with a 'comfortable and prosperous life' in Afghanistan: Taliban leader

Islamabad, Jun 25 (AP):

The supreme leader of the Taliban released a message on Sunday claiming that his government has taken the necessary steps for the betterment of women's lives in Afghanistan, where women are banned from public life and work and girls' education is severely curtailed.

The statement from Hibatullah Akhundzada was made public ahead of the Eid al-Adha holiday, which will be celebrated

later this week in Afghanistan and other Islamic countries.

Akhundzada, an Islamic scholar, rarely appears in public or leaves the Taliban heartland in Afghanistan's southern Kandahar province. He surrounds himself with other religious scholars and allies who oppose education and work for women. In his Eid message Akhundzada said that under the rule of the Islamic Emirate, concrete measures have been taken to save women from many

traditional oppressions, including forced marriages, "and their Shariah rights have been protected".

Moreover, "necessary steps have been taken for the betterment of women as half of society in order to provide them with a comfortable and prosperous life according to the Islamic Shariah", the message continued.

Lately, Akhundzada appears to have taken a stronger hand in directing domestic policy, banning girls' education after the

sixth grade and barring Afghan women from public life and work, especially for nongovernmental organisations and the United Nations.

The message was distributed in five languages: Arabic, Dari, English, Pashto and Urdu. Akhundzada said the negative aspects of the previous 20-year occupation related to women's wearing of the hijab and "misguidance" will end soon.

"The status of women as a free and dignified human being has been re-

stored and all institutions have been obliged to help women in securing marriage, inheritance and other rights," he added.

Despite initial promises of a more moderate rule than during their previous stint in power in the 1990s, the Taliban have imposed harsh measures since seizing Afghanistan in August 2021 as US and NATO forces were pulling out.

They have barred women from public spaces, like parks and gyms, and cracked down on media freedoms.





## CENTRAL Chronicle

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### Modi's US Visit

#### Subtly Signaling Strength to China

In the realm of international diplomacy, messages are often conveyed not through explicit statements, but rather through nuanced gestures and actions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the United States exemplified this approach, sending a strong signal to China without uttering its name. The visit showcased the deepening strategic partnership between the United States and India, emphasizing shared interests and highlighting India's emergence as a rising power. The implications for China are clear, despite the absence of direct references during the visit. China has emerged as India's primary security threat in recent years, overshadowing its historical rival, Pakistan. Border clashes and growing tensions between the two populous nations have revived a long-standing rivalry in the Indo-Pacific region. Recognizing this shift, the United States has found common ground with India, aligning their strategic interests and fostering a convergence between the world's largest democracy and the global superpower. Although President Joe Biden referred to Chinese President Xi Jinping as a "dictator" prior to the visit, both leaders refrained from framing their engagement as a direct response to the China challenge. However, it is evident that the issue of China's role in various domains, including the military, technology, and economy, loomed large throughout the discussions. National security adviser Jake Sullivan clarified that the visit was not explicitly about China, but the question of China's influence was undeniably on the agenda. The visit witnessed several significant agreements, including the manufacturing of General Electric fighter-jet engines in India and the procurement of General Atomics armed drones. These deals hold immense importance for India, as they enhance its defense capabilities and equip it to counter China's military maneuvers effectively. The provision of sensitive jet engine technology, previously unrevealed even to treaty allies, signifies a long-term commitment between the United States and India in the defense sector. It opens avenues for future collaborations and paves the way for India's defense innovation advancements over the next few decades. India's recognition of the need to compete with China's military modernization campaign is evident in its efforts to foster technological advancements. By facilitating tech and defense collaboration, PM Modi's visit aims to break down barriers and promote cooperation between the two countries. An example of this is the partnership between Micron Technology Inc., the largest US memory chipmaker, and India. This agreement not only represents a significant investment but also contributes to the rebalancing of global supply chains away from China. India's objectives in pursuing these initiatives go beyond countering China. The deals serve to reduce its reliance on Russian military equipment and revitalize its manufacturing sector. By attracting foreign investment, India aims to become an alternative manufacturing destination, a prospect that gained momentum as investors sought alternatives to China during the pandemic. India's ambitions extend beyond regional influence. As the host of the upcoming G-20 summit, India aspires to assert itself as a great power with its unique approach to alliances and partnerships. While the United States and China vie for influence in the Pacific, India positions itself as a champion of the developing world. Its recent interactions with Pacific Island nations, warmly received by leaders in the region, reinforce India's standing as a prominent global player. The United States recognizes India's strategic autonomy and does not expect it to become a formal treaty ally like Japan or Australia. India's refusal to condemn Russia's actions in Ukraine or join in sanctions underscores its independent foreign policy approach. However, India's perception of China as a threat has significantly evolved in recent years. The border conflict and China's aggressive actions have strained relations and led to public sentiment against China in India. Bans on Chinese apps, restrictions on Chinese telecom giants, and other measures reflect India's growing concerns. While the visit was not framed as a direct response to China, the subtext is clear: the United States and India are aligned in their pursuit of a free and open Indo-Pacific. The message to China is unmistakable - India's emergence and partnership with the United States serve as a counterweight to its regional aspirations. As the geopolitical landscape continues to evolve, the United States and India's strategic partnership will play a pivotal role in shaping a future that promotes peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

### Semiconductor Boost

#### Micron's Investment Strengthens India's Plans

The announcement of American chipmaker Micron Technology investing up to \$825 million in a new assembly and test facility in Gujarat is a significant development for both India and the United States. The investment aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious \$10-billion incentive plan for chip manufacturing, while also supporting the US goal of diversifying business risks away from China and strengthening economic ties with India. Micron's decision comes at a crucial time, as the global chips market is projected to reach \$1 trillion by 2030. With support from the Central and state governments, the total investment in the facility is expected to reach \$2.75 billion. This investment, along with Micron's commitment, boosts India's vision of becoming a semiconductor manufacturing hub. While the facility will focus on testing and packaging semiconductor chips rather than their production, it is a crucial step towards building a robust semiconductor ecosystem in the country. Additionally, other companies like Applied Materials and Lam Research are also investing in India's semiconductor sector, further strengthening the country's position. For years, India has excelled in software-related know-how, resulting in significant advancements in digital technologies. However, entering the hardware sector poses new challenges. Merely offering subsidies will not be enough to attract chip supply chains. The establishment of larger clusters capable of supporting manufacturing, ensuring long-term operations, and facilitating technology transfer is essential. These clusters will provide the necessary infrastructure and ecosystem for the semiconductor industry to thrive in India. As India embarks on its silicon journey, it presents an opportunity for the country's talent pool to shine. The semiconductor sector is resource-intensive and demands highly-skilled workers. India needs to leverage this opportunity by providing hands-on and industry-relevant training to engineering students. Taking inspiration from Taiwan's success in the semiconductor industry, India can focus on fostering public-private partnerships that prioritize training and certification programs. By doing so, India can bridge the competence gap and create a skilled workforce capable of meeting the demands of the semiconductor industry. The growth potential of the global chips market, coupled with Micron's investment and India's emphasis on semiconductor manufacturing, opens up numerous job opportunities. To fully capitalize on this potential, India must nurture its talent pool and ensure that engineering students receive practical training that aligns with industry requirements. This approach will not only address the competence gap but also position India as a global player in the semiconductor sector. Micron's investment in a new assembly and test facility in Gujarat is a significant boost to India's plans of becoming a semiconductor base. The support from the US and the Indian government, coupled with other investments in the sector, sets the stage for India's entry into the global semiconductor market. By focusing on building larger clusters, nurturing talent, and providing industry-relevant training, India can capitalize on the growing demand for semiconductors and establish itself as a key player in this critical industry.

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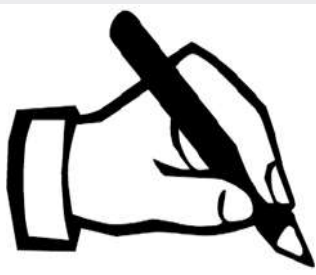
### SURREAL MONSOON JOURNEY



A bus moves through the waterlogged service road of Delhi-Gurugram Expressway after heavy rains, in Gurugram, Sunday, June 25.

## The Impact of Language: Promoting Respect and Culture in Society

DR. MANMOHAN PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA



The word is Brahmah, which means it is the creator of rituals, culture, thinking and behaviour. Once a word is spoken, it cannot be taken back, similar to an arrow released from a bow. Words make up language. Language can be both positive and negative. In my view, a civilised and good language is that which is acceptable to all, arouses a sense of respect and esteem towards the speaker, which is liked to be heard again and again.

On the contrary, bad and uncivilised language is one that arouses hatred towards the speaker, who does not like to listen. Even in literature, good literature is that which has the sweetness of language, decency and purity from the point of view of grammar. These qualities are also considered important in colloquial language. It is also a measure of the identity of a good person in society.

A person with good language, whether he is a minister or a sentry, a leader or an actor, a king or a subject, an officer or an employee, a religious teacher or a disciple, a writer or a reader, all have their own unique name and identity in the society. They are always the

centre of attraction. The public likes to hear them again and again. The list of such people in India is huge. In Indian politics, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Jaiprakash Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Lohia, George Fernandes, Sushma Swaraj, LK Advani, Narendra Modi etc. have influenced everyone with their speech. In Indian literature there is a desire to read the literature of Kabir, Tulsidas, Surdas, Jaishankar Prasad, Nirala, Pant etc. again and again. In the same way, among the religious leaders Swami Vivekananda, Mahamandaleshwar Satyamitranand ji, Avdhesanand ji, Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji, Acharya Shri Ram Sharma etc., have made a large population as their followers by their speech, language and knowledge.

It is believed that language also evolves with time and civilization. It is proven that language reflects the mental level of the user. Nowadays, it is not known why the use of indecent, uncivilised words in the language of some of the people of India is increasing. It is shameful when it is known that educated people take pride in using

these words.

Many times film stars and co-stars are often expected to engage in inappropriate behavior, writers are writing what they should not be writing, and so-called religious teachers and storytellers are saying things that should not be said and politicians are using language that should not be used. No doubt the number of such people is less today, but when a person who has the ability to influence a large number of people uses such words, it is sure it becomes a matter of concern. Therefore, people's leaders, writers and influential persons should use words after careful consideration. Our saint poets have said - "Baatun hathi paaye, Baatun hathi paun..." and say such words, "Aisi Vani boliye, man ka aapa khoye..."

In an Indian parliament and vidhan sabha there is already a ban on use of indecent words, even if they were used, they would have been removed from the records saying they were unparliamentary. There is a well defined process of identification of unparliamentary words in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Vidhan Sabha. The Dictionary of unparliamentary words was first released in 1954 and from time to time other words were added to it.

It is a welcome and appreciated process to issue a list of unparliamentary words by the Parliament from time to time. However, once these words become part of public discourse, they are not easily forgotten. It is also incomprehensible that when these words are unparliamentary in the Parliament

then why not unparliamentary in the election campaign? Why doesn't the Election Commission ban the use of such words?

We all know that Indian cinema has a different identity in the world, it makes films on every subject and that too in large numbers. But from time to time it has to face criticism, sometimes for rude scenes, sometimes for rude subject matter, sometimes for rude dialogue or language. Currently released film 'Adi Purush' is also facing criticism for its vulgar dialogues. This is not the first time; in the past, objectionable and double-meaning words have been used in films and removed following protests.

The question is why all this happens despite the presence of the censor board? What message does the film writer want to convey to the society through such language? Why isn't there a regulated vocabulary for the language used in cinema, dialogues, songs, etc.? Why does not the people of India unanimously oppose rude, uncultured, invalid, unparliamentary words?

What mistakes were made by those who approved this film for general public viewing? Are they given permission knowingly, or do they not have the power to delete indecent words? Or is there a conspiracy behind this? All these questions are subject of investigation and subject of improvement in future. As good and decent citizens of India, we should use words that create a positive impression and culture in our society.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Tragic Tourism

The loss of 5 lives and the submersible Titan is undeniably heartbreaking. Yet, let's confront an uncomfortable truth. We've witnessed a similar tragedy before, etched in world history—the sinking of the Titanic. Over 1500 souls met a chilling demise, but now it seems the commercial expedition industry and tourists are callously exploiting this sorrowful event in the name of "adventure" and "fun." How can seemingly rational individuals engage in such morbid pursuits? The convergence of profit and grief is deeply troubling. Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata, raises a poignant question, reminding us that humanity has not learned from its past mistakes.

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata

#### Betrayal by Doctors

The Shopian Case reveals a disheartening reality of doctors misusing their positions of trust and authority to instigate panic and unrest in the Valley. These medical professionals, who should be upholding the principles of healthcare, instead pursued their vested interests, causing extensive burden on security and investigating agencies. Their actions wasted valuable time and resources. In an era of advanced techniques for truth verification, it is astonishing that they believed their malicious acts would go unnoticed. The betrayal by these individuals tarnishes the reputation of a noble profession, bringing shame upon their colleagues and the healthcare community as a whole.

Rajeev Das, Shopian

#### Infrastructure Crisis

Shimla, once a serene hill town, is now grappling with the consequences of rapid urbanization, tourism, and rural migration. The city's infrastructure and resources are strained as a result. The already existing parking woes are worsened by haphazard construction and inadequate parking space to accommodate the rising number of cars. The town also suffers from a severe water shortage during summers. The local municipal authorities lack the necessary infrastructure to handle emergencies such as fires and landslides effectively. Furthermore, extensive illegal constructions have encroached upon the once lush green belts, exacerbating the situation. Shimla is in dire need of comprehensive planning and investment to address these pressing challenges.

Faizal Ahmed, Shimla

## Titanic Expedition Tragedy: Unveiling the Deep-Sea Dangers



Yash Pal Raihan

In a tragic turn of events, an adventure to explore the wreckage of the RMS Titanic claimed the lives of five individuals, raising concerns and demanding answers to prevent such devastating accidents in the future. The submersible Titan, carrying a team of explorers, met a

catastrophic fate with a fatal implosion, shattering the hopes of a successful expedition. The allure of the Titanic, which sank in 1912 after striking an iceberg, continues to captivate nautical experts and underwater tourists alike. Resting 900 nautical miles east of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, the ship's wreckage remains a testament to its historical significance.

The search for the missing Titan grew increasingly desperate as the submersible's estimated 96-hour air supply dwindled. Among the individuals on board were Stockton Rush, the founder and CEO of OceanGate, the company owning the Titan, and four others. The team included British billionaire and explorer Hamish Harding, Pakistani-born businessmen Shahzada Daand and his son Suleman, both British citizens, and French oceanographer and renowned Titanic expert Paul-Henri,

fondly known as 'Mr. Titanic.' The undersea expedition, operated by OceanGate since 2021, carried a price tag of \$250,000 per person.

The tragic loss of these "true explorers" has triggered widespread shock and grief globally, highlighting concerns about potential safety compromises made by OceanGate. While the cause of the Titan's destruction remains unclear, the US Navy reportedly detected an acoustic anomaly consistent with an implosion shortly after the submersible lost contact with the surface. An extensive international search involving US, Canadian, British, and French teams led to the discovery of debris, confirming it to be from the Titan. However, the bodies of the victims are yet to be recovered.

The legal ramifications surrounding this disaster are complex. OceanGate, as the responsible company, may

face accountability for the fate of the passengers, including their CEO. However, the presence of waiver forms, in which passengers released the company from liability, complicates the situation. Families could potentially pursue legal action against OceanGate if negligence on the part of the crew is proven. Additionally, liability extends to the operator of the parent vessel, Polar Prince, as it is Canadian-flagged and based.

Deep-sea exploration inherently carries risks, and while waivers acknowledge this fact, companies involved must prioritize employee and passenger safety. Certification of vessels and adherence to rigorous safety protocols are paramount. The tragedy involving the Titan stands out as an outlier, as its maker chose not to certify the vessel, defying industry conventions. Previous concerns about the Titan's safety were raised in 2018 during a symposium of

submersible industry experts and in a subsequent lawsuit, which was later settled.

As we navigate the realm of deep-sea tourism, it is essential to acknowledge that accidents may occur even with the most reliable technology. The recent rail accident in Orissa, along with incidents on ropeways in Uttarakhand, Kashmir, and Himachal Pradesh, serve as reminders of this reality. It is crucial to address the liability, improve safety measures, and ensure that companies exceed expectations in safeguarding the lives of those involved in deep-sea expeditions.

In the aftermath of this tragedy, lessons must be learned, questions answered, and protocols strengthened to protect future adventurers. The Titan expedition serves as a stark reminder that the pursuit of discovery must always be accompanied by an unwavering commitment to safety and responsibility.



**BRIEF**

**REC**

**New Delhi:** State-owned REC Ltd will provide finance of Rs 3,045 crore to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation to develop Phase-II project in Bengaluru. REC approved a proposal in this regard at a board meeting held on Saturday, a company statement said. Phase-II project comprises extension of two corridors of Phase-I and establishing 2 new lines from RV Road to Bommasandra and Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara. The project will enhance connectivity and ease traffic in the city.

**Dunzo4Business**

**New Delhi:** Reliance Retail backed Dunzo's logistics arm Dunzo4Business plans to expand the business to 10-15 cities in the next 12-18 months, a senior company official has said. Dunzo co-founder and Dunzo4Business (D4B) head Dalvir Suri told PTI that the logistics aggregator firm is working, along with the government-supported Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), to cater to intricacy last mile delivery of products.

**Vedanta**

**New Delhi:** Billionaire Anil Agarwal's mining conglomerate Vedanta Ltd donated Rs 155 crore to political parties through electoral bonds in the fiscal ended March 2023, according to the company's latest annual report. The donation was higher than Rs 123 crore the firm gave in 2021-22 (April 2021 to March 2022), the annual report for 2022-23 said. It did not give the names of the beneficiary political parties. The Modi government had, in 2017-18, introduced the system of electoral bonds for electoral funding. This was to provide an alternative to the cash donations.

**Himalayan Airlines**

**Kathmandu:** The Himalayan Airlines, a joint venture between Nepal and China, on Saturday resumed its direct flight between Kathmandu and Beijing after a three-year interval caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an official statement. Bishnu Pukar Shrestha, Ambassador of Nepal to the People's Republic of China, flew to Beijing in the resumed first direct flight of the Himalayan Airlines, according to a press release issued by the Nepal Embassy in Beijing.

**NHPC**

**New Delhi:** State-owned NHPC Ltd has inked an initial pact with an Odisha state utility to develop 2,000 MW of pumped storage projects and 1,000 MW renewable energy in the state. The MoU signed with GRIDCO Ltd envisages setting up self-identified pumped storage projects of at least 2,000 MW and renewable energy projects (Ground-Mounted Solar Projects / Floating Solar Projects) of at least 1,000 MW in the state, a power ministry release said.

## Will strive to get CPI down to 4 pc: Shaktikanta Das

● **El Nino a challenge for food inflation**

**Mumbai, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Governor Shaktikanta Das has said the Reserve Bank will strive to get headline inflation to its 4 per cent target but flagged El Nino as a challenge to its efforts.

In an exclusive interview with PTI Bhasha at his office here, Das exuded confidence that the economy will grow at 6.5 per cent in FY24, as estimated by the RBI earlier. The central bank's rate hikes by a cumulative 2.50 per cent since May last year, coupled with supply-side



measures from the government, have helped get the inflation down to 4.25 per cent in May from a peak of 7.8 per cent in April last year, Das said.

"We continue to be watchful on the inflation front. We expect inflation to be at 5.1 per cent in FY24, and we will continue to strive and get it down to 4 per cent," he added.

On the high borrowing costs, Das said interest rates on loans may have a

### More than two-thirds of Rs 2,000 notes returned within a month of withdrawal

**Mumbai:** Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das has said that within a month of the recall order, more than two-thirds of the Rs 2,000 currency notes have returned to the system. In a surprise move, but as part of the clean note policy, the Reserve Bank had on May 19 ordered the recall of the Rs 2,000 banknotes worth around Rs 3.62 lakh crore. On June 8, announcing the second monetary policy review of the fiscal, Das had said around Rs 1.8 lakh crore worth of the Rs 2,000 notes have been returned, accounting for approximately 50 per cent of the notes in circulation as of March 31, of which 85 per cent were in deposits and the rest in exchange.

direct relation with inflation, and if inflation cools down on a durable basis, people can expect lower interest rates on loans.

The governor explained that the Russia-Ukraine war, which led to a shoot-

up in the commodity prices, led to a surge in inflation, but added that crude prices are not a concern from an inflation perspective now as they've come down to USD 76-76 a barrel.

## Goyal holds interaction with over 50 top-performing Youtubers in India

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has held an interaction with over 50 top-performing Youtubers in India on various issues like popularising handicrafts, benefits of millets and consumer awareness, an official said. The interaction was held on June 23.

Youtubers who participated in the discussions include Vivek Bindra, Gaurav Chaudhary (Technical Guruji), Viraj Sheth (Co-founder Monk Entertainment), Ganesh Prasad (Think School), Shlok Srivastava (Tech burner), Prafull Billore



(MBA Chai Wala), and Anushka Rathod (Anushka Rathod Finance), among others, the commerce and industry ministry official said. "Minister Piyush Goyal held a fruitful interaction 'SAMPARK SE SAMVAD' with an interesting group of top-performing

Youtubers in India, from diverse genres who are experts at demystifying content of any nature," the official said.

The issues discussed during the interaction included consumer awareness and protection (with a special focus on fake websites), cyber security, ways to boost tourism, popularising handlooms and handicrafts, and creating more content on the benefits of millets, among others.

The minister also invited the content creators to further propagate the five resolutions, including making India a developed nation in the next 25 years.

## 'Meesho' earns coveted spot among most influential companies

**Mumbai, Jun 25:**

Meesho has made it to TIME's prestigious list of the 100 Most Influential Companies in the world for 2023. Meesho was recognized as one of the 'Pioneers' on the list for the extraordinary impact it has made on India's e-commerce landscape.

In its third edition this year, TIME100 Most Influential Companies list honours organizations - across sectors including health care, entertainment, technology, retail and energy - that have made substantial contributions towards shaping industries and redefining the way we live and work. To assemble the list,



Visit Aatrey, CEO & Sanjeev Barnwal, CTO.

TIME solicited nominations across sectors, and polled its global network

of contributors and correspondents, as well as outside experts. Then TIME

editors evaluated each on key factors, including impact, innovation, ambition, and success. The result is a diverse group of 100 businesses helping chart an essential path forward.

This recognition validates Meesho's trailblazing achievements and its commitment to democratizing internet commerce for everyone through an inclusive and egalitarian platform.

The company has empowered millions of small businesses to come online and create digital storefronts, which has not only boosted their earning potential but also helped generate employment at scale.

## Mercedes-Benz eyes 20 pc sales from pre-owned segment this year

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

German luxury carmaker Mercedes-Benz is looking at around 20 per cent of its total sales this year to come from pre-owned cars sales despite sourcing of used vehicles remaining a challenge, according to a senior company official.

The company's arm Mercedes-Benz India had sold over 3,000 pre-owned cars last year and is witnessing robust demand for such vehicles with the holding period coming down to around 10 days as compared to 30 to 45 days earlier.

"Still 18 to 20 per cent of our total car sales will come from used cars. So last year, if we did 16,000-odd cars, I will say 3,000 plus cars were used cars, about 20 per cent. Similar



ratios will continue, I would say at 20-odd per cent." Mercedes-Benz India Managing Director & CEO Santosh Iyer told PTI.

He was responding to a query on the sales of the company's pre-owned cars.

The company sells its pre-owned cars through the "Mercedes-Benz

Certified" channel which are located at all dealers' locations and are actively selling and trading-in cars.

The Mercedes-Benz Certified business witnessed steady traction growing by 20 per cent in Q1 2023, owing to growing aspirations and also supported by increased supplies of pre-owned cars, Iyer added.

## FASHION SHOW



Models present creations by Pakistani designer My Apparels during a Fashion Show in Karachi, Pakistan, Sunday, June 25.

## Adani eyes Rs 90,000 cr EBITDA in 2-3 yrs

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Embattled Adani group is eyeing a 20 per cent year-on-year growth in pre-tax profits to reach Rs 90,000 crore EBITDA in 2-3 years on the back of robust growth in businesses ranging from airports to energy, according to a company note.

Earlier this month, the group repaid loans aggregating USD 2.65 billion to complete a prepayment programme to cut overall leverage in an attempt to win back investor trust post a damning report of a US short seller.

The ports-to-energy conglomerate is now looking at robust growth in sectors such as airports, cement,

renewables, solar panels, transportation and logistics, and power and transmission, it said adding several of Adani's new infrastructure investments will also begin to fructify and generate cash in the coming years. Adani is expected to see an increase of more than 20 per cent in EBITDA on a consolidated basis in the coming years as it drives robust and sustainable growth across its business portfolio. Its target EBITDA of over Rs 90,000 crore is expected by FY23, the note said.

In recent years, the group has made substantial investments in ports and completed significant projects across renewables, transportation and

ports. Businesses such as airports and renewables are also exhibiting improved cash flows. Its solid asset base, built over three decades, supports resilient critical infrastructure and ensures high asset performance throughout their life cycles.

The group's listed portfolio EBITDA increased 36 per cent yoy to Rs 57,219 crore in FY23 (April 2022 to March 2023 fiscal). Core infrastructure businesses, which constitute 82.8 per cent of the portfolio including energy, transport, logistics, and flagship Adani Enterprise Ltd's infrastructure ventures, registered a robust 23 per cent yoy growth in EBITDA to Rs 47,386 crore.

# War of billionaire: Musk, Tata, Mittal & Amazon on one side, Ambani on other for satellite spectrum

**New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):**

Elon Musk wants his Starlink to beam down wireless internet in India from satellites orbiting the earth, but the licensing regime his group favours has put him at odds with Mukesh Ambani's Reliance.

After meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New York last week, Musk on June 21 said he was keen to launch Starlink in India that "can be incredibly helpful" in bringing the internet to remote villages that lack on-ground infrastructure.

But Starlink wants India to just assign a license for the service and not insist on auctioning the signal-carrying spectrum or airwaves. This stand finds Musk on the side of Tatas, Sunil Bharti Mittal's firm, and Amazon, who too prefer the same route. But Ambani's Reliance says there must be an auction of spectrum for foreign satellite service providers to offer voice and data services to provide a level playing field to

traditional telecom players who offer the same services using airwaves bought in government auctions.

"India's space-based communication services (SS) spectrum decision is key. Mobile spectrum has been auctioned since 2010 with the government's cumulative sale of USD 77 billion and several players are keen on SS," brokerage CLSA said in a note on 'Satellite Spectrum Battle Ahead'.

Based on comments provided by various companies to the sector regulator TRAI's consultations on the issue, CLSA said several players, including Starlink are keen on India SS.

Amazon's Kuiper, Tata, Bharti Airtel-backed OneWeb, and Larsen & Toubro are against the auction while Reliance Jio and Vodafone-Idea support an India SS auction, it said.

Sources said some in the government believe an auction is the best route as it would get the foreign companies to commit in-



vestment in the country. Also, it will allow some kind of regulation over content that can be streamed on OTT platforms using the SS.

At a global level, ITU manages spectrum, satellite orbit resources and coordinates the planning of new satellite networks to ensure interference-free SS.

ITU coordinates orbit slots and frequency bands, but India will assign spectrum to licensees for gate-

way links to satellites and user links (terminal and satellite).

The Department of Telecom has granted licences to OneWeb India and Jio Satellite Comm (in partnership with SES) but final SS policies are awaited. "A key decision for SS will be what method should be used to assign spectrum for user links (L-band & S-band): auction or administrative. This includes higher bands (C, Ku & Ka) and if

this will be at national or circle level (like mobile)," it said.

Internationally, spectrum for SS and orbital slots were auctioned in key markets of the US and Brazil, but both then reverted to the administrative assignment.

Of the 64 responses from companies, industry groups and others to the public consultation on satellite spectrum, 48 favoured licensing, 12 voted for an auction, and

the rest were neutral.

CLSA said OneWeb's view is that SS should be assigned administratively, on a shared basis, and harmonised internationally. Through Starlink, Musk's SpaceX, which is authorised in 84 administrations (1.5 million users) sees the best approach for SS spectrum is a shared model with administrative assignment.

The Kuiper project of Amazon, which plans to launch its first set of satellites in 2024, recommends administrative assignment and also says spectrum-sharing obligations after auctions would create inefficiencies.

As per Reliance Jio (RJio), which is the market leader in India with close to 440 million telecom users and 8 million wired broadband subscribers, satellite operators are planning networks to compete with terrestrial service providers and auctioning SS is the sole viable strategy. Vodafone-Idea, too, has urged the regulator for auction to uphold a level

playing field.

Bharti Airtel believes auctioning SS spectrum will create barriers for competition as some may block access by winning the spectrum in spite of having no global allocation.

Reliance Jio and Bharti are currently rolling out 5G services in the country. SS, when integrated with existing 5G coverage, will extend capabilities of 5G networks to where cell coverage is not expected to reach and will also boost enterprise offering, CLSA said.

"However, in India, low mobile tariffs in 5G of USD 0.17 per GB (vs USD 6 in US and USD 0.4 in China) will be a challenge for providing SS," it said. "SS spectrum allocation via auction or administrative allotment will also be key to telecom's competitive landscape, including in 5G and access to the under-served."

Deloitte expects India's satellite broadband service market to grow by 36 per cent a year to reach USD 1.9 billion by 2030.



## Rhea Chakraborty opens up about her challenging times, being labelled

Actress Rhea Chakraborty, who serves as the Gang Leader on the youth adventure reality show 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand', has spoken up on the tough times she faced in life when she was labelled by people.

In the upcoming episode of 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand', Rhea will be seen sympathising with contestant Shuly Nada during the auditions over the subject of body positivity.

Rhea will be seen recalling her experience where she chose to rise above and combat all the hatred, rather than succumb to it. She will mention: "A lot of people will say a lot of things. I have been labelled with many names, and many things have been said about me. But will I accept those labels? Kya main unke wajah se apne life me rukungi? Bilkul bhi nahi. Let them go. Kaun hai woh? (Will that stop me from living the life I want, certainly not. Let them go. Who are those people to comment on me?)" The upcoming episode will see Shuly Nadar, a gifted calisthenics athlete, sharing her traumatic experience of an abusive boyfriend and various discriminatory labels she fought owing to her skin colour. Her story will leave all the gang leaders emotional.

Gang Leader Rhea will be seen sympathising with her strongly and saying: "Nothing is wrong with your colour, you are absolutely beautiful and strong. You deserve the best in life and jo bhi aapke sath hua, woh aapki galti nahi hai, unki galti hai." 'MTV Roadies - Karm ya Kaand' airs Saturday and Sunday on MTV India and Jio Cinema.

## Aniket Chauhan leaves Kumar Sanu mesmerized

Sony Entertainment Television's homegrown dance reality show 'India's Best Dancer 3' is raised the bar for entertainment with a '3 hour special' episode this Sunday! As the competition gets intense, the talented contestants were to a new test in this 'naya daur', where they showcased their magic of dance. Making the grand evening extra special, the show celebrated the legendary singer and king of romantic melodies, Kumar Sanu in the 'Superhit Sunday With Sanu Da' special.

The episode showcased extraordinary performances by the contestants who recreated the magic of Kumar Sanu's timeless songs, infusing romance, love, and laughter in their acts. Not only will the episode showcase exceptional dance talent, but also featured Indian Idol contestants Rishi Singh & Debosmita Roy, comedian Jai Vijay & Nitesh Pandey, along with the talented dancers - Sanam Johar, Sushant Khatri, and the winner of India's Best Dancer season 1, Tiger Pop; making for a perfect entertainment bonanza. Leaving everybody in awe mind blowing act on the song 'Laal Dupatten Wali' by contestant Aniket Chauhan and choreographer Gourav Sarwan. Their quirky



performance will not only entertain the judges but will also leave them in splits. Kumar Sanu, thoroughly impressed by their performance, will go on to say, "Thank you so much for this beautiful tribute. I truly enjoyed watching you perform. I think this stage is Aniket's gurukul. He didn't learn dance from any institute or guru, but still, his dance is amazing. I hope he continues to follow his passion for dance as he is fantastic."

Reflecting on his own journey, Kumar Sanu shared, "When I was 8

years old, I used to play the tabla at home. In 1979, during one show, I accompanied the musicians and unexpectedly had to sing. I was scared, but I sang 'Dunya Mein Logo Ko' from the movie Apna Desh. People were clapping and praising me. I was shivering on stage, and people thought I was dancing, but in reality, I was scared."

Tune in to watch an entertainment bonanza like none other with India's Best Dancer 3's every Sunday from 8 - 11 pm only on Sony Entertainment!

## 'Babasaheb's graduation made him a beacon of hope for the community'



Dr B.R. Ambedkar was a great proponent of equality in education and made history by becoming the first graduate in the community. This accomplishment made him a beacon of hope for the community, paving the way for education and empowerment. The current track in &TV's Ek Mahanayak - Dr B.R. Ambedkar presents this milestone journey. In a candid interview, Atharva, who essays the role of young Bhimrao Ambedkar in the show, sheds light on this significant track.

**Excerpts of interview:**  
Can you provide details about the track on the historical moment when Babasaheb became the first graduate in his community?

The ongoing story track showcases the incredible journey of Babasaheb as he completes his graduation. Despite numerous obstacles, Babasaheb advocat-

ed for education as a catalyst for societal and economic advancement motivating others to pursue higher education and attain graduate status. His enduring legacy spurred individuals to fight for the right to education and strive for a more equitable society. His journey as a graduate exemplifies his relentless dedication and unwavering determination to overcome social barriers and prejudice. This achievement transformed him into a beacon of hope for the community, forging a path toward education and empowerment. It is quite a significant track, and we are confident the viewers will be deeply inspired by it.

**What role did Babasaheb's educational accomplishments play in his fight for social justice and equality?**

Babasaheb was one of the most prominent voices in Indian history. Whether it was his unwa-

vering fight for equality, his championing of women's empowerment, his instrumental role in education reform, or his efforts to uplift the oppressed, his impact on the lives of all Indians has been profound. His remarkable ability to challenge and mobilise a revolution that reshaped democracy within India served as a beacon of inspiration for millions.

**Apart from his education, any teaching that has inspired you?**

The influence of Babasaheb's ideologies on me has been profound, particularly as I delved deeper into his remarkable journey for my role. However, one aspect that has truly inspired me is his unwavering commitment to women's rights and empowerment. As men, we often overlook the rightful respect and status that the opposite gender deserves. Despite our nation's progress, women face inequality, which deeply affects me. I have always supported women's rights and studying Babasaheb's diligent fight for gender equality has further ignited my motivation for this cause.

Watch this significant and inspiring story track on Dr Ambedkar's Graduation at 8:30 pm in &TV's Ek Mahanayak Dr B.R Ambedkar, airing every Monday to Friday.

## Supriya Pathak: I felt a sense of belonging on 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' set



Veteran actress Supriya Pathak spoke about working with new faces on the sets of 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' and shared that she felt a sense of belonging. Supriya will be seen on 'The Kapil Sharma Show' along with 'Satyaprem Ki Katha' cast Kartik Aryan, Kiara Advani, Gajraj Rao, Shikha Talsania, Siddharth Randeria, and Anuradha Patel.

In the midst of fun conversations, Supriya will be seen talking about her experience working on Satyaprem Ki Katha. She said: "At the beginning of a film, when new faces come together, there's a slight awkwardness, but with time, they connect with each other and they become like a family." "And when the shooting concludes, it's truly a heartfelt moment. I genuinely felt a sense of belonging and comfort, as if I was at home while on the set." Additionally, Anuradha shared her deep affection for portraying the role of a mother. Anuradha said: "To be honest, the most fulfilling role I have ever undertaken in my life is that of a mother. "So, if someone asks me to portray a mother's character, I don't even consider the age of the hero or heroine. I have a profound love for playing the role of a mother, and it has been a desire of mine since childhood."

## Kangana: 'Emergency is one of darkest chapters of India'



Actress-filmmaker Kangana Ranaut's 'Emergency' will be releasing in theatres on November 24, this year. The announcement video also marks 48 years since Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared Emergency in India.

Talking about the film, Kangana said: "Emergency is one of the most significant and darkest chapters in our history that young India needs to know. It is a crucial story and I want to thank my super-talented actors like late Satish ji, Anupam ji, Shreyas, Mahima, and Milind for embarking on this cre-

ative journey together."

"I am excited to bring this extraordinary episode from India's history to the big screen. Jaihind!" Manikarnika Films presents Emergency Directed and Produced by Kangana Ranaut from a screenplay by Ritesh Shah and story by Kangana. It stars Kangana as former Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi. The film also features late Satish Kaushik, Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry and Milind Soman in pivotal roles. Emergency is scheduled to release on November 24.

## &TV characters will be seen in a state of astonishment



In &TV's Doosri Maa, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai, characters will be seen in a state of astonishment. About &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai track, Angoori shares, "Tiware (Rohitashv Gour) receives a notice from a lawyer indicating that he must leave his house and shop because they belong to his elder brother. Ammaji (Soma Rathod) asks Tiware and Angoori (Shubhangi Atre) to accompany her to the village. But Tiware is furious because he doesn't

want to miss out on seeing Anita (Vidisha Srivastava), and Vibhuti (Aasif Sheikh) worries about Angoori. As a result, he asks them to stay at his house without alerting Anita, which irritates her. Anita then misbehaves with both and accuses them of stealing items, which shocks and upsets them."

Tune in to Doosri Maa at 8:00 pm, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan at 10:00 pm, and Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 pm, airing every Monday to Friday only on &TV!

## Salman Khan's 'Tiger 3' has an 'Avengers: Endgame' connection

The makers of Salman Khan and Katrina Kaif-starrer upcoming offering 'Tiger 3' have onboarded top Hollywood action coordinator Chris Barnes, who has worked on Marvel's historic hit 'Avengers: Endgame'.

Chris Barnes is a veteran in creating action spectacles and his bio suggests that he specialises in marine action.

Chris has also worked in huge Hollywood blockbusters like The Bourne Ultimatum, I Am Legend, Joker, Doctor Strange, Spider-Man: Far From Home, Avengers: Infinity War, etc. A source said: "YRF Spy Universe is the



mainstay for these action entertainers and of course YRF and Maneesh Sharma are going to go all out to give audiences a film that they won't forget! Such moves only indicate their intention to give people a never seen before theatrical experience."

'Tiger 3' is part of the fabled blockbuster generating YRF Spy Universe and is the third film from the Tiger franchise after two humongous hits Ek Tha Tiger and Tiger Zinda Hai. Tiger 3 also stars Katrina Kaif as super-spy Zoya and Emraan Hashmi as the villain. It is set to release this Diwali.

coolest film franchise that we have in India today and Tiger 3 will bring its own, unique flavour to

the spy franchise that will be remarkably distinct from Pathaan or War franchises." "Action is the

## CROSSWORD

684



### ACROSS

- Come ashore
- Bullets, for short
- Pester
- Woodwind
- Yuletide
- Roger \_\_\_\_\_ (007 actor)
- Carbonated drink
- Supplementary
- At all times
- Throw
- Seaweed
- Inhabit
- Carson's successor
- Albany's canal
- Certain steaks (hyph.)
- Wooden nail
- Implant
- Perspire
- Goodbye (Sp.)
- Watering hole
- Stop
- Coins from Mexico
- Boutique
- D.C. VIP

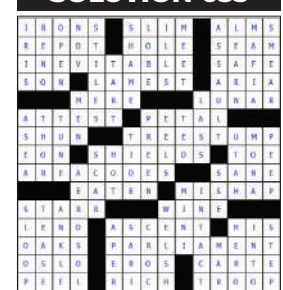
- Song of praise
- Coops
- Affluent
- Roundabout route
- Glen
- Loop of rope
- Actress \_\_\_\_\_ Bancroft
- Excessive
- Singer \_\_\_\_\_ Seeger
- Solemn
- Percussion instrument
- Put down
- Therefore
- \_\_\_\_\_ and ends
- Building wings

### DOWN

- Defeated candidate
- Over
- Lymph \_\_\_\_\_
- Sweetie
- Disneyland site
- A la \_\_\_\_\_
- Hero's award
- Martini garnish
- French pal
- Cranney's kin
- Zilch
- Spoken
- Dog's cry
- Camper's home
- Bureau
- Vulgar
- Flows back
- Have creditors
- Advance upon

- Soften
- Tread
- Dad
- Genesis site
- Essence
- Enjoy a buffet
- Let fall
- Impressed utterance
- Restores the honor of
- Short skirt
- Paper fastener
- Owned apartment
- Stash
- Basketball's Shaquille \_\_\_\_\_
- Up to the time of
- Marsh grasses
- Platter
- Initial bet
- Borrowed money
- Rock's \_\_\_\_\_ Clapton
- Wall support
- Ike's monogram

### SOLUTION 683





# Sahal, Mahesh make mark in SAFF Championship

Bengaluru, Jun 25 (PTD):

Amid the loud cheers that have often been reserved for talismanic Sunil Chhetri, two young footballers were quietly making their mark during India's SAFF Championship campaign so far.

It's not that Sahal Abdul Samad and Mahesh Singh are unfamiliar names to Indian football aficionados, but they validated their potential to carry forward a rich legacy in Indian football.

The duo were particularly impressive against a gritty Nepal whom India beat 2-0 Saturday night at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium to book a semi-final berth.

Nepal had erected a defensive hurdle in front of India for a good one hour and the home side needed a moment of inspiration to break free. It came in the 61st minute.

Mahesh made a run through the left flank and made a pass to Sahal, who pushed the ball back to the



India's Sahal Abdul Samad (Orange) in action against Nepal during a 2023 SAFF Championship football match at Sree Kanteerava Stadium, in Bengaluru.

former around a Nepalese defender, setting him free.

With oodles of space to work with, Mahesh sent the ball to an unmarked Chhetri inside the box with a laser-guided cross and the Indian captain was never going to miss a simple tap past Nepal goal-

keeper Kiran Limbu.

India's assistant coach Mahesh Gawli was effusive in his praise for the 24-year-old Mahesh.

"I think Mahesh's cross was the turning point. He is an excellent talent and a future star for India. He is a quality player and very

passionate about his game. I think he'll become a very good player in the future," said Gawli in the post-match press conference.

Before showing more purpose and precision in the second half, Sahal was banking on his dribbling skills to tear through

Nepal defence without much avail.

Sahal drew the inevitable 'oohs and aahs' from the crowd when he evaded three markers with some brilliant close control. But he held on to the ball a touch longer to eventually lose possession just outside the box, infuriating Gawli at the touchline. Gawli said a half-time chat with the 26-year-old from Kerala prompted him to change the individualistic approach.

"Sahal was instructed to release the ball sooner and not give it away so cheaply by dribbling excessively. He did exactly that in the second half," said the former India defender.

The transformation fructified in the 70th minute. Sahal won the ball from a Nepal defender to dash through the centre before passing the ball at the first opportunity to Chhetri.

Chhetri, for once, could not go past Limbu but Mahesh was in right position to head in a deflection off the Nepal custodian.

## Indian team crosses 150-medal mark ■ Special Olympics World Games

Berlin, Jun 25 (PTD):

Roller skaters continued to impress as they grabbed two gold and three silvers on the penultimate day to help India go past 150-medal mark at the Special Olympics World Games here.

India now have a whopping 157 medals (66 gold, 50 silver, 41 bronze) with a day left in the Games. Arayan (300m) and Deepen (1000m) were the gold medal winner roller skaters. The Indian men mixed 5x5 basketball team beat Portugal 6-3 to claim gold. The women's 5x5 team settled for a silver after losing to Sweden in the final on Saturday. In volleyball, India beat Korea 2-0 in the men's/mixed bronze medal match. In the women's unified team event, India won gold, beating UAE in a topsy-turvy contest. In tennis, Swaraj Singh lost to Tamas Torok to win silver in the men's singles level 5 event. India also won a silver in women's handball after losing to Azerbaijan in the final. The final day's action on Sunday will see India vie for medals in athletics, lawn tennis and cycling. The Indian contingent is made up of 198 athletes and unified partners and 57 coaches to compete in 16 sports. The Special Olympics World Games is an event held to promote recognition and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.

## Ponting offers technical advice to Labuschagne, Head

London, Jun 25 (PTD):

Former captain Ricky Ponting has offered technical advice to Australia batters Marnus Labuschagne and Travis Head to counter England's bowling attack ahead of the second Ashes Test starting Wednesday at the Lord's.

Australia won the opening Test at Edgbaston, Birmingham by two wickets in what was the first match of the new ICC World Test Championship cycle.

There were a number of impressive individual performances, but Labuschagne and Head struggled in the Ashes opener.

Ponting wants Labuschagne to go back to basics to find success, and has offered one-on-one time to the 28-year-old right-hander.

"I'll wait for them to come and ask me. It's not my place, I'm not one of the coaches, I'm just a past player that's sitting back and analysing what a lot of these guys are doing," Ponting said in the ICC Review.

"But I would like to catch up with him (Labuschagne) and have a



chat about his batting, because I think what I've seen over the last couple of weeks, as far as I'm concerned, I think he's over complicating things a little bit.

"I think he has to trust and believe in what's made him the No.2-ranked Test batsman for the last couple of years and go back to trusting that. I would actually tell him to watch some video of when he's actually played his best, and remember those things and do that all over again."

Ponting also believes Head needs to work out a plan to get through that initial phase of bouncy attacks from England bowlers.

"Firstly, he's now going to be aware that it's going to happen. He's going to expect that," said the legendary batter.

## Hockey India names senior men's team core group ahead of ACT

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Hockey India on Sunday named a 39-member senior men's core group for the national camp to be held from June 26 to July 19 at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre in Bengaluru.

After the camp, the team will travel to Terrassa, Spain, where it will compete against England, the Netherlands and the home side in the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation International Tournament from July 25 to 30. The four-nation tournament will be followed by the Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai from August 3, in which India will face Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan, and China for the title. The core group includes goalkeepers Krishan Bahadur Pathak, PR Sreejesh,

Suraj Karkera, Pawan Malik and Prashant Kumar Chauhan, and defenders Harmanpreet Singh, Jarmanpreet Singh, Surender Kumar, Varun Kumar, Amit Rohidas, Gurinder Singh, Jugraj Singh, Mandeep Mor, Nilam Sanjeev Xess, Sanjay, Yashdeep Siwach, Dipsan Tirkey and Manjeet. The midfielders called up for the camp include Manpreet Singh, Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh, Shamsher Singh, Nilakanta Sharma, Rajkumar Pal, Sumit, Akashdeep Singh, Gurjant Singh, Mohd. Raheel Mousen and Maninder Singh. S Karthi, Mandeep Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Abhishek, Dilpreet Singh, Sukhjeet Singh, Simranjeet Singh, Shilananand Lakra and Pawan Rajbhar were named among forwards.

## Shooters Ganemat, Darsha make cut for Asian Games, World Championships

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Ganemat Sekhon, the 22-year-old shotgun exponent to win India's first skeet medal at a World Cup, and Darsha Rathore have been included in the proposed list of shooters for the ISSF World Championships in Azerbaijan and the Asian Games scheduled in Hangzhou, China from September 23.

The third skeet shooter in the women's category for both major events is Parinaaz Dhaliwal.

Ganemat, the first Indian woman skeet shooter to win a medal in the junior World Championships and the



first to win a World Cup bronze, had last month added a World Cup silver in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Darsha has made the outing even more memo-

orable, clinching bronze in Almaty, which meant that India had two senior individual medals in women's skeet at the World Cup for the first time. The men's

## Women's doubles pair of Sutirtha and Ayhika in final

■ WTT Contender tournament in Tunis New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTD):

Indian women's doubles pair of Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee advanced to the final of the WTT Contender tournament in Tunis after beating Korean duo of Shin Yubin and Jeon Jihi on Saturday.

The Indian duo won 3-2 (7-11 11-9 11-9 7-11 11-9) in a hard-fought semifinal. They face Japanese pair of Miyuu Kihara and Miwa Harimoto in the final on Sunday. But the Indian mixed doubles pair of Manika Batra and G Sathiyam as well as the men's doubles duo of Manav Vikash Thakkar and



Manush Utpalbhair Shah lost their respective semi-final matches.

Batra-Sathiyam lost to Koreans Shin Yubin and Lim Jonghoon 0-3 (7-11 8-11 9-11) while Thakkar-Shah combine suffered an identical 0-3 (3-11 12-14 7-11) defeat to the duo of Cho Daeseong and Cho Seungmin, also of Korea.

## Top seeds Krejckova and Ostapenko will contest the Birmingham Classic final

Birmingham, Jun 25 (AP):

Top-seeded Barbora Krejckova and No. 2-seeded Jelena Ostapenko will contest the Birmingham Classic final after taking contrasting paths.

Krejckova hasn't dropped a set all week after dispatching Zhu Lin of China 6-3, 6-2 in the semifinals on Saturday.

Ostapenko played her fourth consecutive three-set match when she beat fourth-seeded Anastasia Potapova 5-7, 6-2, 6-4. In a matchup of former French Open champions, Ostapenko leads the head-to-head against Krejckova 4-2, including winning their most recent match last month in the Italian



Czech Republic's Barbora Krejckova celebrates after beating China's Lin Zhu in straight sets in their women's singles semifinal match at the Rotherhay WTA Birmingham Classic tennis tournament at Edgbaston Priory Club in Birmingham, central England.

Open third round. But they have never met on grass. By beating Zhu, the 12th-ranked Krejckova

will return to the top 10. She will be playing for her seventh singles title on Sunday and second of the

year, after the Czech won Dubai in February.

Ostapenko took more than two hours to put down Potapova. Potapova needed six set points to clinch the first set. Ostapenko built a 4-0 lead in the second to even the set score.

The Latvian snatched the decisive break in the decider when she made four return winners to take Potapova's service game at 3-3. "It's important to win these kind of matches when you're sometimes not playing your best, and you just fight for every point," the 17th-ranked Ostapenko said. In her first final in almost a year, she will be aiming for her sixth singles title.

## Mohun Bagan sign Albanian forward Sadiku

Kolkata, Jun 25 (PTD):

Indian Super League champions Mohun Bagan's attacking line got a huge boost with the arrival of premier Albanian centre forward Armando Sadiku.

The 32-year-old, who grabbed the headlines by scoring the solitary goal in Albania's historic win over Romania in Euro 2016, penned a two-year contract, the Mariners announced on Sunday.

With the addition of Sadiku, Mohun Bagan will now have a lethal attacking lineup with Hugo Boumous and Dimitri



Petratos already in their ranks. The club is also likely to rope in A-League's (Australia's top-tier) Central Coast forward Jason Cummings. "We now have good idea

about Indian football in Spain. So when they approached me, I looked for the league and the club, and it just took me seven days to give my consent," Sadiku said. "Mohun

Bagan have a huge legacy in Indian football and I'm looking forward to play for them and play a role in their success."

A known name in the Spanish League, Sadiku last played for La Liga 2 side FC Cartagena and has a current market value of Rs 5.6 crore, according to 'transfermarkt'. Sadiku is believed to be a replacement for Mohun Bagan's Finnish midfielder maestro Joni Kauko who sustained an ACL injury in their match against FC Goa and was subsequently ruled out for the remainder of the season.

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## 'Telangana model of development holistic'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K T Rama Rao on Sunday said the Telangana model of development is one which is "inclusive, holistic, integrated and balanced" and exuded confidence it will pay rich dividends for the party to come to power for the third consecutive term this year.

The Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS), which won the two previous assembly polls, was rechristened as the BRS last October. The next Assembly polls in the state are due by the end of this year.

In an interview to PTI, Rao, who is a state minister and son of Chief Minister K



K T Rama Rao

Chandrashekar Rao, said people in the state are familiar with the governance model of Telangana.

"People in the state are aware who can provide better administration and there is nobody in the opposition (in the state) who can match what Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) can deliver for the state," Rao said the BJP and Congress are vying for

power in Telangana but claimed they have nowhere showcased a governance model similar or better than the southern state even though they are in power in 20-odd states across the country.

"Secondly, people will compare and contrast. If Congress and BJP are vying for Telangana state then they should also showcase. They have 20 plus states under their belt and should showcase a better model of governance than Telangana," he said, when asked how the elections will be different under the BRS banner.

Asked how the Telangana model is different from the Gujarat model, he said, "I would rather not comment on the Gujarat model because it

is now done and dusted. People have seen the reality." "I am very confident that this good governance model will pay rich dividends and help the BRS handsomely and KCR will become a hat-trick CM. No south CM has been able to pull off a hat-trick so far. He will be the first CM to do that, mark my word," he said. "Last time, the TRS had won 88 seats. In the coming Assembly elections, the party will win anywhere between 90 and 100 seats out of 119," he said, adding that "good work" is the key mantra for winning the coming polls. "There is no substitute for good work."

Rao said able leadership and a stable government have done the magic for the party in Telangana.

## PROTEST RALLY



Government employees hold placards during a protest rally against the state government while refusing to join election duty without the Central Force ahead of the upcoming Panchayat polls, in Kolkata, Sunday.

## 'Govt kept same rules for Indian, foreign firms while procuring Covid vaccines'

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):

Foreign-made vaccines were not procured during the Covid pandemic as the firms were demanding indemnity, which was not made available to Indian vaccine manufacturers, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has said, asserting that the "same rule applies for all".

He also said that it was wrong to suggest that India stopped foreign made vaccines like that made by Moderna and Pfizer from coming to India.

"We may have certain requirements and strengths and other countries may have some other strengths and needs. It is wrong to say that India stopped any country from coming to India. When they applied with required data, we gave them emergency use approvals just like we gave to Indian companies," Mandaviya said in an exclusive interview to PTI recently.

However, their demands

for indemnification and sovereign immunity waivers were a major impediment and eventually the government did not go ahead with it, the minister stated.

"At that time, Sputnik vaccine was also there and so were Indian vaccines. Whichever global company wants to come to India, they can come and sell their products, whether they are medicines or vaccines, we have no problem with that. But all need to follow India's rules and regulations. Our own companies did not ask for an indemnity. Sputnik did not ask for it," Mandaviya said.

"If our own companies are not seeking such relaxations and following our rules and regulations, then it is natural that global companies also do the same," he said.

The minister stressed that countries need to cooperate with each other in the health sector in times of globalisation. Highlighting that India



Mansukh Mandaviya

wants to expand its relationship with the world in the pharma and health sectors, Mandaviya said, "We are not against anyone or in favour of anyone". India is such a country that applies the same rules and regulations for Indian and foreign companies with equal rights.

"Not many countries give such equal rights, but India does. The world also appreciates this position of our country," Mandaviya stated.

Recounting the fight against the pandemic, Mandaviya, who took charge of the health ministry in the middle of the

coronavirus crisis in July 2021, said Covid management was a big challenge for a vast and diverse country like India, but its success story has now become an example for the entire world.

The minister also dismissed suggestions that approvals for vaccines were rushed without taking into account long-term side effects and that the recent spate of heart attacks was linked to it, saying the entire process from vaccine research to its administration followed all established international standards. He said vaccine development and approvals used to take much longer earlier due to various physical and manual processes but the authorities and scientists made full use of the latest technology, including artificial intelligence, this time and, therefore, the entire process could be fast-tracked. Mandaviya, a BJP leader from Gujarat known to enjoy the trust of Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, said, "Let me tell you that PM Modi followed scientific ways for all procedures from the very beginning, from Covid management to vaccine research to approvals to the vaccination drive."

"It was the PM's direction because of which IN-SACOG (Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium) and several other taskforce and empowered groups were set up for vaccine approvals and other protocols. In the entire Covid journey, we followed scientific ways to fight this pandemic.

"Scientists told us when the vaccines should be approved, and the entire data and data analysis was done as per international standards. India followed the same international standards that were followed by global companies," he said.

The minister said it all indeed happened very fast in India but those questioning the speed must understand why the approvals came early.

## KACHORI WALI AMMA

## A woman's tale of beating odds with courage and perseverance

Shahjahanpur (UP), Jun 25 (PTI):

With steely courage and determination to provide for her family, Anju Verma sets up her humble shop every night to dole out mouth-watering 'kachoris', thus earning the moniker "Kachori wali Amma".

Her husband Vinod Verma, the sole earning member of the family, died of heart attack five years ago, leaving her distraught and with no means to raise her four children.

Not one to accept failure, Anju (60) decided to march on and continued with her husband's 'kachori' (snack) business.

At 10 every night, she sets up her shop on the empty platforms in front of closed shops and serves hot 'kachoris' with potato stuffing, soyabean along



Anju Verma, 60, runs a small Kachori shop in the night to earn a living, in Shahjahanpur.

with garlic sauce — all for Rs 30 per plate.

People queue up, especially during winters and monsoon, to savour the kachoris and also get them packed for home. The elderly woman manages to earn around Rs 2,000 every day. Asked why she chose to set up her outlet at night, Anju, who lives in front of Sunehri Masjid near

Kotwali of Shahjahanpur, says the main reason was the unavailability of a proper shop or the means to rent one. The woman says she has three daughters and a son. She says she managed to get one of her daughters married with the earnings of her kachori business. Her youngest child is 20-years-old and he is a college student.

## 'The Babu and The Bazaar'

## Exhibition celebrates rich Bengali tradition of Kalighat pat, oil paintings

New Delhi, Jun 25 (PTI):

Iconic Kalighat pat paintings depicting Hindu gods and goddesses, the privileged castes and classes the bhadrak of Bengal, and sex workers at The Babu and The Bazaar" at DAG here attempt to unravel parts of the 19th-century Calcutta's history, culture and gendered hierarchies.

While at its centre are the Kalighat pats, the exhibition, curated by historian and scholar Aditi Nath Sarkar, features oil paintings, reverse paintings on glass, and early printmaking depicting the city of Calcutta which stood at the crossroads of



tradition and modernity in the 18th- and early-19th century.

According to Sarkar, the Kali temple at Kalighat in then-Calcutta aided the growth of an adjoining market that sold memorabilia to tourists, including drawings in watercolours on mass-produced mill paper, which

came to be known as Kalighat pats.

"In its heyday, the watercolour paintings mostly depicted divine iconography, such as the Kalighat Kali, Durga, Jagadhatri, Annapurna, Shiva, Ganesha, Kartikeya, and a host of other gods," Sarkar writes in a book accompanying

the exhibition. The exhibition showcases paintings depicting scenes from Hindu scriptures, including Narsimha disemboweling Hiranyakashipu, Krishna vanquishing Bakasura, Durga killing Mahishasur, Shiva riding Nandi, Ram darbar, and Jatayu battling Ravana.

While a large part of the exhibition is devoted to the watercolour paintings of Hindu gods, goddesses and scenes of religious importance, a section also explores secular themes, "such as erotica depicting sex workers, caricatures of the privileged castes and classes, and social commentary".

Among the more "secular" works are a collection of paintings depicting the quintessential Bengali 'babu', a man from the elite class, who is often a subject of satire or domestic ridicule being chastised by a woman, seemingly his wife. Talking about the Early Bengal' oil paintings at the exhibition, Sarkar said the style emerged from the Calcutta elite wanting something that better fitted their elevated status. "We witness a hybridised genre of oil painting coming into existence as artists were commissioned to create art by Bengali aristocrats and wealthy merchants."

## SP expert in 'Chipko Movement': Adityanath on anti-BJP Oppn meet

Noida, Jun 25 (PTI):

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday took a jibe at the Samajwadi Party joining a meeting of Opposition parties at Patna to forge unity against the BJP for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, saying the Akhilesh Yadav-led party is an "expert in Chipko Andolan".

BJP leader Adityanath was addressing a public rally in Gautam Buddha Nagar's Noida during which he inaugurated over 124 development projects worth more than

Rs 1,719 crore across Noida and Greater Noida.

When the Samajwadi Party, the Rashtriya Lok Dal, the Janata Dal (United) and others who are called followers of JP (socialist icon Jayaprakash Narayan) collude with those (Congress) who trampled the democracy, the public also begins to see how they tried to hide their misdeeds and corruption," he said.

"The Samajwadi Party has a long history. Like in 2004, they had extended support to the Congress without even being asked

for it. Although the Congress did not want their support the Samajwadi Party forced it. This party is an expert in 'Chipko Andolan'," Adityanath said.

"The Samajwadi Party has done it in the past and they have done it once again this time. But brothers and sisters, we should not deviate from the positive approach and continue our development journey," he told the event.

The Chipko Movement refers to a non-violent agitation in 1973 by local communities in present-day Uttarakhand for the

protection and conservation of trees in response to increasing deforestation. The locals, including women, hugged trees in their effort to save them.

"Today, I have come with that message only. In the last six years in Gautam Buddha Nagar, the perception has changed. Major works are being done in infrastructure development, investments are coming in and Noida and Greater Noida are poised to dominate the world. This district has given Uttar Pradesh a

new identity in the last six years," he said.

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