

# Central Chronicle



## PM Modi to address rallies in Chh'garh in next two days

**Press Trust of India**

**RAIPUR:** The campaigning for the second phase of Lok Sabha elections in Chhattisgarh is heating up with Prime Minister Narendra Modi scheduled to address rallies over the next two days. Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressed a public meeting in Kanker Lok Sabha constituency in the Bastar region on Monday, said BJP state media co-incharge Anurag Agrawal. PM Modi will address campaign rallies on April 23 and 24 in Sarguja, Mahasamund, and Janjgir-Champa Lok Sabha constituencies, he added. Polling will be held for Rajnandgaon, Mahasamund, and Kanker seats in the second phase on April 26. Shah landed at Swami Vivekanand Airport in Raipur on Sunday evening and chaired a meeting of senior party leaders at the state BJP headquarters.

# Terrorism eliminated, Maoism to end soon

Cong leaders did not attend consecration ceremony at the Ayodhya in lure of their vote bank

**Press Trust of India**

**KANKER:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday said the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has eliminated terrorism from the country while Maoism is on the verge of ending. Addressing an election rally in Chhattisgarh's Kanker town, Shah also asked Maoists to surrender, or else they would be rooted out from the state in two years. He asked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi that four generations of his family were in power in the country, but what they have done for the poor people in Chhattisgarh. "The Congress says the minority (community) has the first right over the country's resources of the country, but we (BJP) say the poor, adivasis, Dalits and backwards have the



**HIGHLIGHT**

- Shah alleged, Baghel did not take action against Naxalites

first right over resources of the country," Shah said. He also said that Congress leaders did not attend the consecration ceremony of Lord Ram's idol at the Ayodhya temple in lure of their vote bank. The Union minister hailed PM Modi, saying he has a "track record of 10 years and agenda for 25 years." "Narendra Modi ji has eliminated terrorism from the country while Maoism is on the verge of an ending.

## 3 Crore Lakhpati Didis

**THIS IS MODI'S GUARANTEE**

Before 2014	After 2014
Women had to face the humiliation of defecating in open	Built 12+ Crore toilets and women got a respectable life
Lack of clean water made life difficult for women	Water supply from tap to 14+ Crore families made life easier for women
The dream of owning a home remained just a dream for decades	1.6 Crore women became home owners under PM Awas Yojana
Crores of women were at risk of various diseases due to smoky kitchens	Saved 10+ Crore housewives from diseases by providing smoke free Ujwaala gas connections
No concrete plan for economic independence of women	90+ lakh SHGs have empowered women

**1 Crore women were made Lakhpati Didis**

This is just a trailer... Will make 3 Crore Lakhpati Didis in the next 5 years

**Phir Ek Baar Modi Sarkar**

Press the lotus button Make BJP win

## Rs 600 for enrolling law graduates as lawyers

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court said on Monday that not more than Rs 600 can be charged for enrolling law graduates as advocates across the country, as it reserved its verdict on pleas challenging "exorbitant" fees being levied by state bar bodies for the purpose. Reserving the judgement on as many as 10 petitions, a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala referred to Section 24 of the Advocates Act, 1961 and said the fee for a law graduate to be enrolled as a lawyer is Rs 600 and Parliament alone can increase it by amending the law.

## Padma awards to Venkaiah Naidu, Mithun, Usha Uthup

**HIGHEST CIVILIAN HONOUR**

**Press Trust of India**

**NEW DELHI:** Former vice president M Venkaiah Naidu, founder of Sulabh International Bindeshwar Pathak and a host of other prominent persons were conferred with Padma Awards by President Droupadi Murmu at a ceremonial function held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here on Monday. Naidu, Pathak, who was given the award posthumously, and renowned Bharatanatyam dancer Padma Subrahmanyam were conferred with the Padma Vibhushan. Actor Mithun Chakraborty, singer Usha Uthup, former Uttar Pradesh governor Ram Naik and industrialist Sitaram Jindal were conferred with the Padma Bhushan. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, among others, were present at the function. Padma Awards, one of the highest civilian honours of the country, are conferred in three categories -- Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. The awards are given in various disciplines or fields of activities, viz.- art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc. The Padma Vibhushan is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service, the Padma Bhushan for distinguished service of high order and the Padma Shri for distinguished service in any field.



## No normalisation of scores for CUET-UG, NET

**Press Trust of India**

**Students have been raising concerns about the normalisation of scores**

**NEW DELHI:** Normalisation of scores for the Common University Entrance Test-UG and the National Eligibility Test is being done away with from this year, according to UGC Chief Jagadesh Kumar. "No normalisation of scores will be required this year since both exams will be conducted in a single shift for a subject," Kumar told PTI. Normalisation is a process for revising the score of a student in a way that it becomes comparable with the score of another. This becomes necessary when an examination in the same subject is held in multiple sessions, each with a different paper. Students have been raising concerns about the normalisation of scores "unfairly" impacting their performance in the exam. "Earlier, we had to conduct the test for the same paper for two or three days in our endeavour to provide the first-choice centre to the students as much as possible. But this year, by adopting the OMR



mode, a large number of centres will be available at schools and colleges, enabling us to conduct the test across the country on the same day. "If the test is conducted on multiple days for the same paper, normalisation is required and it is a scientific method," the UGC chairman said. The CUET-UG will be conducted from May 15 to 24 this time. In a shift from the earlier pattern of conducting the crucial exam for admission to undergraduate courses in a Computer Based Test (CBT) mode, CUET-UG for 15 subjects will be conducted in pen and paper mode while for 48 subjects in online mode.

## Intense heat wave to continue for five days

**Press Trust of India**

**NEW DELHI:** The intense heat wave scorching large parts of east India will continue for another five days, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday. The ongoing spell of heat wave, the second this month, is broiling parts of West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand and Bihar. Heatwave conditions have been prevailing in Odisha since April 15 and the Gangetic West Bengal since April 17, according to the MeT department. In a statement, the MD said heat wave to severe heat wave conditions are expected in parts of West Bengal, Karnataka, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand during the next five days. High humidity could add to people's inconvenience in coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karnataka, Goa, Kerala, West Bengal and Bihar, it said. Substantially high night temperatures are likely in east Madhya Pradesh on April 22 and April 23. High night temperatures are considered dangerous because the body doesn't get the chance to cool down.



## NEWSLINE

**CHHATTISGARH**  
**Grand procession taken out on Ramnavami**

A grand procession was organized in the regional Ramjanaki temple of the region and scores of devotees enthusiastically took part in the Yatra.

**SPORT**  
**Nadal poised for Laver Cup swansong**

Rafael Nadal said Monday he will play at the Laver Cup in Berlin in September in what may be one of the 22-time Grand Slam champion's last tournaments.

**FASTFACTS**

- CUET-UG from May 15 to 24
- UGC-NET, on June 16 in pen and paper mode



**NATION**  
**NIA raids at nine locations in terror-related case**

The National Investigation Agency Monday carried out raids at nine locations in Srinagar in a militancy-related case, officials said here.



# Raipur



INDI Alliance leaders are in jail or on bail, this is an alliance of corrupt people

Arun Sao

Dy CM Chhattisgarh



Heavy rain lashed city on Monday evening bringing much needed respite to the residents from heat.

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

### VOTERS' AWARENESS

#### Motor cycle rally taken out for voters' awareness

**RAIPUR:** As per the instructions of District Returning Officer and Collector Dr. Gaurav Singh, voter awareness rally was organized today in Tilda Newra under the guidance of Block Education Officer of Education Department, Development Block Tilda Newra, LK Zahire and BRCC Santosh Sharma. SDM Prakash Tandon flagged off the voter awareness rally in which all the cluster coordinators of the development block, teachers of government and private schools, teachers, principals and bus drivers of the schools started the motor cycle rally from the block education department office Tilda. The rally passed through Station Road, Baniyapara, Sindhi Camp, Gandhi Chowk and culminated at BNB School Tilda, where SDM Prakash Tandon administered the oath of voter awareness to the teachers and employees.

### HANUMAN JANMOTSAV

#### Maha Aarti at Rathore Chowk on Hanuman Janmotsav today



**RAIPUR:** As per every year, this year also on the occasion of Hanuman Janmotsav, Maha Aarti and puja will be performed at Manokamna Siddha Hanuman Temple located at Rathore Chowk at 6 pm on 23rd April.

As part of the birth anniversary, Dugdhabhishek, makeup and the entire temple will be decorated with flowers at 6 am. Bhajan presentation will be given by Harisatsang Mandal of Rajnandgaon.

### From around the city

#### Fire erupts in 4 ambulances parked outside community health center



**RAIPUR:** Four Sanjeevani 108 ambulances parked outside the Community Health Center at Bhatagaon in the capital Raipur suddenly caught fire, leading to chaos among the people present nearby. According to the information, these ambulances were broken and were parked outside the hospital. Fire initially broke out in one ambulance and then it spread to other vehicles parked nearby.

According to the information, when

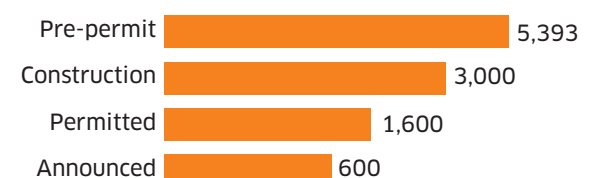
the ambulance caught fire, some people were standing around it. Smoke along with fire suddenly started rising from an ambulance. Even before people could understand anything, the ambulances were engulfed in flames. After receiving information about this arson, the fire department team reached the spot and efforts were being made to control the fire. Cause of the fire has not been known by the time of filing this report.

### The Day's NUMBERS

As of January 2024 project wise

(Capacity in megawatts)

### CAPACITY OF COAL POWER PROJECTS ACROSS CHHATTISGARH (IN MEGAWATTS)



Source: Statista

### JUDICIAL REMAND

#### No relief to Ex-IAS Anil Tuteja on judicial remand for two days

**RAIPUR:** Retired IAS Anil Tuteja, arrested in the excise scam case, was presented in the court through video conferencing after completion of one-day judicial remand. During the hearing in the case, the court of District Judge passed an order to send Tuteja to jail on judicial remand for 2 days.

Now, after the special judge of PMLA court returns from leave, the District Judge court has given instructions to produce him on April 24 and take remand.

On Saturday, ED had summoned Anil Tuteja and his son Yash Tuteja from the ACB/EOW office and took both with them to the zonal office for questioning. While after a long interrogation of both of them, Yash Tuteja was released early in the morning but Anil Tuteja was arrested and presented in the court. ED had sought 14 days' ED remand from Anil Tuteja to interrogate him in the fresh ECIR registered by ED in the excise scam case.

### CAR RALLY

#### Women hold steering wheels of cars, giving voter awareness message



**RAIPUR:** Passion and enthusiasm were writ large on the faces women holding steering wheels in the car rally taken out for creating voter awareness under the guidance of the Collector and District Returning Officer Dr Gaurav Singh. The women themselves came out for the rally holding the steering wheels of the cars.

The most attractive thing was the slogan of voter awareness by women in open jeep and voter awareness was created with various types of innovations. Many groups of women participated in this car rally and in one voice they raised slogans of voter awareness and gave the message of voting.

# INDIA alliance is ahead of NDA in 102 seats in 1st phase

A day after BJP released a poster declaring 3 Congress' RS MPs from Ch'garh as missing one of those three MPs, Rajiv Shukla, reached Raipur and addressed press conference.

### Central Chronicle News

**RAIPUR:** Congress Rajya Sabha MP Rajiv Shukla and national spokesperson Radhika Kheda have attacked PM Narendra Modi for his claim that Congress wants to snatch people's properties and distribute them to people with more children. According to Rajya Sabha member Rajeev Shukla and Congress national spokesperson Radhika Kheda the INDIA alliance is ahead of the NDA in 102

seats in the first phase and that's why in panic the PM is saying something which is not even mentioned in the manifesto.

In fact, during an election rally in Rajasthan, PM Modi had said 'if Congress comes to power, it will distribute your money among Muslims'. Countering this, national spokesperson Radhika Kheda said that there was no talk of Hindu-Muslim in the Congress manifesto. 'We

### HIGHLIGHT

● What Prime Minister Modi is saying is not mentioned in the Congress manifesto.

● There was no talk of Hindu-Muslim in the Congress manifesto. Congress' guarantees have a positive impact on the entire country

condemn the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. I challenge you to show what the PM said in

the manifesto. Congress' guarantees have a positive impact on the entire country'.

Radhika Kheda also said that Congress will empower youth by providing 30 lakh jobs. The youth will be given the right to apprenticeship for one year, she said, adding that 'Agniveer Yojana' would be scrapped and fresh recruitment would be started in the army. She also said that one woman from every poor family

will be given Rs 1 lakh annually.

Home Minister Amit Shah had said that Naxalism will end in Chhattisgarh in two years. On this matter, Rajya Sabha MP Rajiv Shukla said 'It is good to end Naxalism. But BJP should first look at its history... Naxalism has increased during the 15 years of BJP government being in power. Rather, Naxal incidents have reduced under the Congress government'.

## LS polls: 168 candidates in fray for 3rd phase

**RAIPUR:** As many as 19 candidates have withdrawn their nominations till last date on Monday for third phase of Lok Sabha elections 2024. The 19 candidates who have withdrawn their nominations are 2 each from Sarguja (ST), Raigarh (ST), Janjgir-Champa (SC) and Korba, 5 from Bilaspur and 6 from Raipur. With this total 168 candidates including 26 women are in fray for 3rd phase of Lok Sabha elections to be held in Sarguja, Raigarh, Janjgir-Champa, Korba, Bilaspur, Durg and Raipur. Meanwhile Commissioning of EVMs and VVPATs for 2nd phase has been completed. Adequate number of EVMs and VVPATs have been made available to all the districts for second phase.

### Central Chronicle News

A passenger from Bhatapara carrying cash amount of Rs 7.50 lakh was caught at Raipur Railway Station during checking on Monday.

**RAIPUR:** In view of Lok Sabha elections checking conducted at platform-1 of Raipur station under the guidance of Divisional Safety Commissioner Raipur. Accordingly Mandir Hasaud Task Team in-charge Taruna Sahu, Assistant Sub-Inspector Narendra and Head Constable BL Yadav conducted checking of the passengers alighting from train number 22815



RPF has caught a man with cash of Rs 7.50 lakh at railway station

### FACTFILE

● A person carrying a bag was stopped near the stairs and on inquiry he disclosed his name as Mahesh Panjwani (45)

Ernakulam Express in ward, Bhatapara police station, Bhatapara district, Baloda Bazar (Chhattisgarh). When asked about the black bag kept with him, he told that it contained cash of 750000 (seven lakh fifty thousand).

ward, Bhatapara police station, Bhatapara district, Baloda Bazar (Chhattisgarh). When asked about the black bag kept with him, he told that it contained cash of 750000 (seven lakh fifty thousand).

### NAXALITE ARRESTED

## Injured Naxalite Sindhu caught by Odisha Police

### Press Trust Of India

**RAIPUR:** Mango Nureti, a female Naxalite cadre, was injured in an encounter between Naxalites and police that took place on April 12 in Kanker district of Chhattisgarh.

She was absconding after the encounter in which 29 Naxalites were killed, including some

notorious leaders with bounties on their heads worth lakhs of rupees.

On the night of April 20, the Navrangpur Police team of South Odisha arrested the injured Nureti and handed her over to the Chhattisgarh Police.

This incident highlights the ongoing Naxalite-Maoist insurgency in the Red Corridor region



**Anti-Naxal operation was started by Navrangpur District Police**

Rohit Verma  
Sp, Navrangpur District



of India, which includes areas of Chhattisgarh, Odisha and other states. The security forces have been engaging in operations to counter the Maoist rebel groups, leading to frequent encounters and arrests of Naxalite cadres.

The arrest of Nureti is a notable success for the security forces in this protracted conflict.



## Raipur News

# POCUS can play pivotal role in pediatric emergency cases

Point-of-care ultrasonography (POCUS) can play a pivotal role in pediatric emergency cases. It will not only help in the stabilization of the child but also in the diagnosis.

Central Chronicle News

**RAIPUR:** Pediatric emergency physicians should be encouraged to become familiar with it, as it is a safe technology. POCUS can be extremely helpful in performing diagnosis, managing critical situations, and guiding procedures, which results in globally improving pediatric patient care, said experts in the 10th National Conference on 'Emergency Medicine: Pediatric Advances and Recent Trends' (EMPART-24).

While inaugurating the CME, Lt Gen Ashok Jindal (Retd), Executive Director, said that pediatrics is a specialized medical discipline that needs to be explored regularly because every child is different from others. 'Pediatric emergencies are always challenging, as infants and children cannot express their health issues properly. In a large country such as India, we need to explore technological innovation and equip medical officers in the periphery with it. This will help to reduce pediatric emergency cases in tertiary care centers. Our overall aim should be to reduce the mortality rate and ensure the



Lt Gen Ashok Jindal (Retd), Executive Director with participants during 'EMPART-24' in AIIMS.

### HIGHLIGHT

● Executive Director, said that pediatrics is a specialized medical discipline that needs to be explored regularly

● HoD, Pediatrics said POCUS allows obtaining real-time images to correlate with the patient's presenting signs and symptoms.

survival of every child, he added. According to Prof. Anil Goel, HoD, Pediatrics Department, POCUS

allows obtaining real-time images to correlate with the patient's presenting signs and symptoms.

It can be used by various specialties and may be broadly divided into diagnostic and procedural applications. 'All facilities are available in the pediatric emergency for the children. The department has been focusing on POCUS, as children are usually unable to explain their symptoms. New technology and techniques have been introduced for early diagnosis by the department,

he said.

Course Director Dr. Prena Batra said that 'EMPART-24' provided training and academic knowledge to the participants to deal with every aspect of pediatric emergencies. The 10th successful program will ensure providing pediatric emergency services to the most needed and vulnerable population.

The Pediatrics Emergency Department at AIIMS receives an average of 30 cases of 0-14-year-old children per day. Most

of them were found to be suffering from nephrotoxicity, trauma, burns, accidental poison intake, insect bites, pneumonia, and respiratory distress. Half of them needed to be admitted immediately. CME covered a wide spectrum of topics, including transfusion, cardiac emergencies, renal management, life-threatening rashes, and decontamination techniques.

The Organizing Committee includes Prof. Goel, Dr. Atul Jindal, Dr. Varun Anand and Dr. Santosh Rathia.

| NATIONAL PR DAY |

# National PR Day celebrated by PRSI

Central Chronicle News

This year's theme for Public Relations Day focused on the eternal values

**RAIPUR:** The National Public Relations Day 2024 was celebrated by the members of the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) Raipur Chapter on April 21 in Raipur. This year's theme for Public Relations Day focused on the eternal values and the role of public relations in emerging India. The event commenced with a Kabir Bhajan presented by Padma Shri Bharati Bandhu and their team.

Dr. Sushil Trivedi, a former IAS officer, has long experience in public relations and has worked

FASTFACTS

● Dr. Trivedi Sanatan values means, it refers to the Hindu religion and the values followed by ordinary Hindu families.

● Lecture highlighted the importance of Sanatan/Hindu values

with the Governor, President, and government departments.

He was giving a lecture on Sanatan (eternal) values and the role of public relations in emerging India. Dr. Daneshwari Sambhakar, Rukhsar Parveen, C. Vidrumana Vachaspati Bharti and Piyush Sharma were honored with certificates and mementos by the Public Relations Society of India for their special contribution in the field of public relations.

Hindu values and how public relations can play a role in promoting these values as India emerges on the global stage. On Public Relations Day, senior journalist Asif Iqbal, senior journalist Girish Pankaj, editor Dr. Vishvesh Thackeray, Additional Director Public Relations Alok Dev, President PRSI Raipur Chapter Dr. Shahid Ali, Babulal Sharma and Nidhi Aggarwal also spoke on Sanatan values and the role of public relations in emerging India. Dr. Daneshwari Sambhakar, Rukhsar Parveen, C. Vidrumana Vachaspati Bharti and Piyush Sharma were honored with certificates and mementos by the Public Relations Society of India for their special contribution in the field of public relations.

## Governor took a meeting with officials at Raj Bhavan

Central Chronicle News

**RAIPUR:** PM Modi will be visiting Chhattisgarh on April 23 and 24. On April 23, he will stay overnight at the Raj Bhavan (Governor's residence). Ahead of the visit, Governor Vishwabhushan Harichandan held a meeting with concerned officials at Raj Bhavan on Monday to review preparations. The Governor himself took stock of the arrange-

ments made for the PM's overnight stay at Raj Bhavan. Officials present at the meeting included the Secretary to the Governor Yashwant Kumar, Deputy Secretary Mrs. Hina Animesh Netam, and other Raj Bhavan officials. The Governor provided guidelines to the officials regarding preparations for the PM's visit and stay. This high-level visit by the Prime Minister to the state of Chhattisgarh.

## Two nabbed with stolen goods worth Rs 55000

**RAIPUR:** It was on collecting information about the prisoners released from Jail, that the Khamtarai police succeeded in nabbing two accused involved in theft of Rs 55000 including cash and ornaments worth Rs 25,574 from the closed house of Manoj Sau R/o Sahupara, Neemdabri, Khamtarai. He had gone out to Dhamtari closing his house on April 16 and when he came back he found the goods stolen.



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग  
Election Commission of India

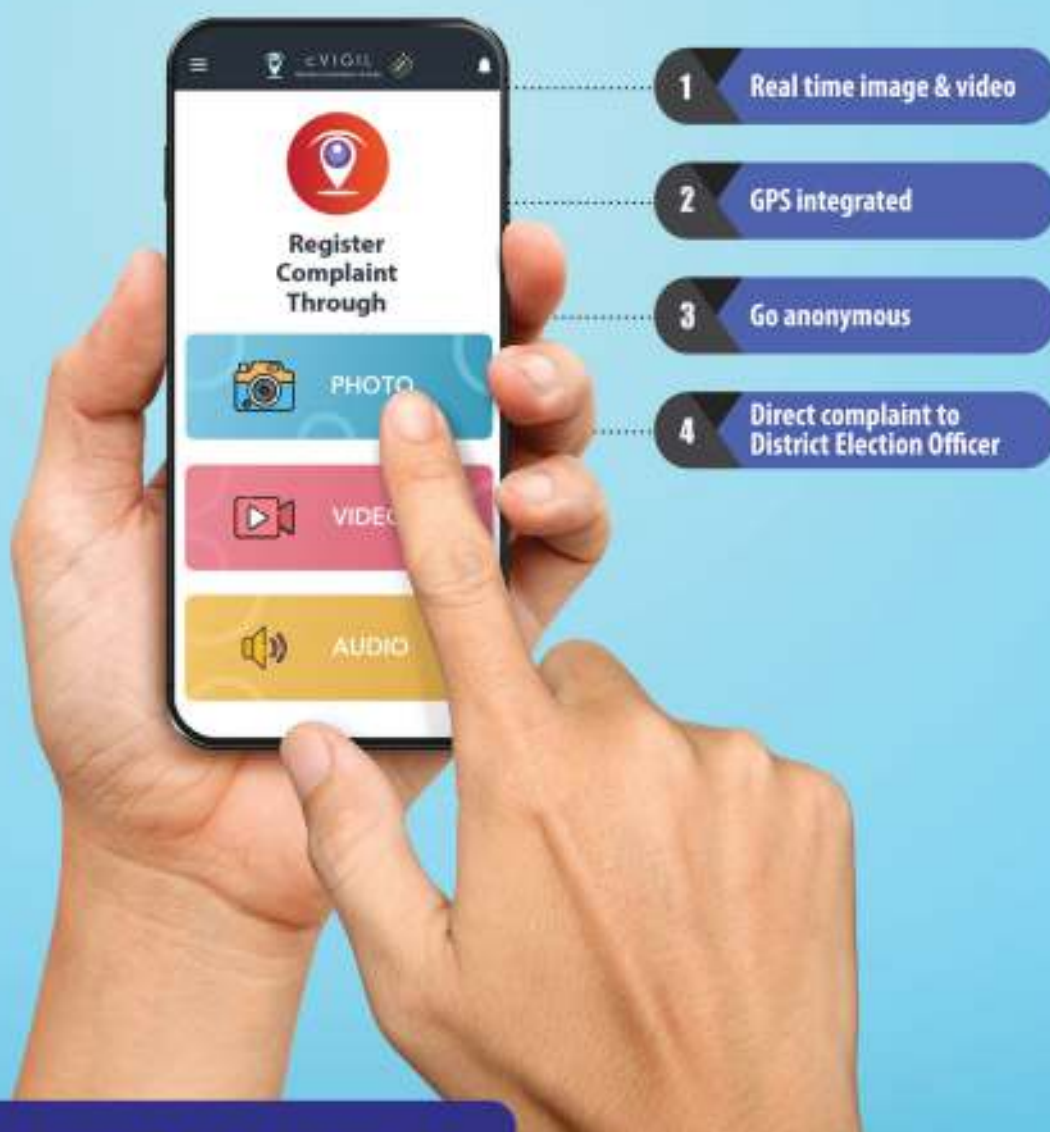


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# Bhilai



BJP government has provided opportunities for progress along with providing public facilities to people"

JP Nadda  
BJP National President

## 25 candidates in fray from Durg Lok Sabha Constituency

After last date for withdrawal of nominations symbols were allotted to the candidates

Central Chronicle News

**BHILAI:** After the last date of withdrawal of nominations for Lok Sabha Elections in Durg Parliamentary Constituency, the Collector and District Election Officer Richa Prakash Chaudhary distributed election symbols to the candidates of recognized national and state political parties as well as the independent candidates. 25 candidates will contest elections for parliamentary constituency Durg. District Election Officer allotted 'Elephant' election symbol to candidate Dilip Ramteke (Bahujan Samaj Party), 'hand' symbol to Rajendra Sahu (Indian National Congress) and 'lotus' election symbol to Vijay Baghel (Bharatiya Janata Party). Similarly, 'flute' symbol was allocated to Dr Anju Keme (Ekam Sanatan Bharat Dal), 'Coat' symbol to Pushpa Marisa (Ambedkarite Party of India), 'air conditioner' symbol to Yashwant Sitaram Sahu (Bharatiya Shakti Chetna Party), 'diamond' symbol to Rakesh Sahu (Nyayadharna Sabha), 'sewing machine' symbol



Election Officer announcing symbols to candidates

to Vikas Sharma (Lokshahi Ekta Party), 'Kettle' symbol has been allotted to Sheetkaran Mahilwar (Azad Samaj Party), 'Saw' to Shankar Thakur (Gondwana Gantantra Party), 'Bucket' to Shyam Sundar Sahu (Loktantra Congress Party), Gas Cylinder to Savita Shailendra Banjare (Shakti Sena Bharat Desh), 'Coconut Farm' election symbol has been allotted to Sukhdev Tandon (Rashtriya Jan Sabha Party), 'bat' symbol to Anup Kumar Pandey (independent).

### Symbol decided thru lottery as 2 candidates had given preference

Symbol allocation was to be done through a lottery system as two candidates had given first preference to the same symbol.

Loktantra Congress Party candidate Shyam Sundar Sahu and Shakti Sena (Bharat Desh) candidate Savita Shailendra Banjare had given first preference to the 'gas cylinder' election symbol. Hence, the District

#### HIGHLIGHT

● Symbol allocation was done through a lottery system as two candidates had given first preference to the same symbol

Election Officer allotted the symbol through lottery symbol. Through

the lottery draw, the gas cylinder election symbol was given to Savita Shailendra Banjare Shakti Sena (Bharat Desh). Thereafter, the gas cylinder symbol was allotted to Savita Shailendra Banjare by the District Election Officer. Loktantra Congress Party candidate Shyam Sundar Sahu was allotted the symbol of bucket.

### Sanitation workers spread voter awareness in Durg

Central Chronicle News

Swachhata Didis-marched holding placards as well as the broom and raise slogans "First vote then proceed for other work"

**BHILAI:** Under the guidance of Collector and District Election Officer Richa Prakash Chaudhary and SVEEP District Nodal Officer, voter awareness campaign is being run in the district to achieve the target of 100 percent voting. As a part of the voting awareness campaign in Durg Municipal Corporation limits, the Swachhata-Didis urged the people to cast their votes. Early in the morning with the first rays of the sun, the Swachhata-Didis accompanied by SVEEP Volunteer Dr Panigrahi conducted an innovative voter awareness program in ward number 43. The sanitation workers marched across the streets holding placards as well as the broom. They raised slogans "First vote and then proceed for other work". Dr Panigrahi said that early morning is the best time for voter

awareness programmes as during this period a large number of people including women, men, youth and senior citizens go for morning walk. At this time, voting awareness messages can reach a large number of people. Some people came out of curiosity after hearing the slogans and

#### FASTFACTS

- Innovative initiative for voter awareness is being run in the district
- Invitation with 'haldi-akshat' distributed among voters for awareness

seeing the placards in the hands of sanitation workers.

With the participation of Sanitation Supervisor Anil Ratnakar and Alok Hela, an impressive appeal for voting was conveyed among the people. Sanitation workers distributed invitation cards containing turmeric and yellow rice (akshat) among the common people. Dr Panigrahi said that such voter awareness campaigns will be done in other wards also.

#### SUCCESS

Geet Sone crowned Mrs India Classic 2024



**BHILAI:** Fashion designing student and a mother of two, Geet Sone brought laurels to the state by winning the crown of Mrs India Classic 2024 at a prestigious fashion show organized by Glamanand in Zee Studio Jaipur. She performed with confidence in each round to win the Mrs India Classic 2024 title. The contestants underwent two-month online training and received rigorous training for 10 days in Jaipur. In the Grand Finale National Costume Round, Geet showcased the capable form of a woman. When the jury asked, "What if you fail", Geet replied that she will move forward with confidence and make her dreams come true.

#### CRIME

Woman murdered, body packed in plastic bag

**BHILAI:** Body of a 30-year-old woman, packed in a plastic bag, was recovered near Sagini Ghat of River Sheonath in village Kodiya on Monday. On information, a team of Nandini Police Station reached the spot. The Crime Team and Forensic Experts also reached the spot and conducted crime scene investigation. Police informed that the body was about 4-5 days old. The deceased was around 25-30 years old and was wearing a blue saree and black blouse. Police are collecting information from the nearby villages regarding the disappearance of any such woman. The body remained unidentified till the filing of this report.

#### INFORMATIVE

Supela - Chandra Maurya Flyover closed for traffic



**BHILAI:** After completion of the repair works on Kumhari Flyover, the construction company has started working to remove the technical fault of Raipur to Durg road of Supela Chandra Maurya Flyover on National Highway. The repair work on the bridge commenced on April 22. Consequently, the traffic movement on both the roads of the flyover will be completely closed. During this period, all vehicles will pass through the service road beneath the bridge.

### Trinayan App helps to trace bike lifter

Central Chronicle News

Cops found the locations of the CCTV cameras installed near the crime scene and collected the footage swiftly

**BHILAI:** The "Trinayan App", developed under the guidance of IGP (Durg Range) Ram Gopal Garg, helped the cops to trace a bike lifter. With the help of this application, the cops found the locations of the CCTV cameras installed near the crime scene and collected the footage swiftly. The accused was seen in the CCTV footage and was soon arrested.

CSP (Bhilai Nagar) Satyaprakash Tiwari informed that on April 18, Newai Police Station received a complaint from Chandan Lal Patel of Azad Market Risali regarding theft of his Hero Maestro (CG 07 BL

3198). The scooter parked in front of his house was stolen by some unknown person. Police launched an investigation and checked the CCTV cameras around the incident spot by getting the camera information through Trinayan App.

The suspect was seen in the footage and was identified as Upendra Kumar Giri alias Vijay. Police traced the suspect and took him into custody. During interrogation, he confessed to stealing the scooter.

The stolen scooter was recovered from his residence. The accused Upendra Kumar Giri alias Vijay (19) son of Kamal Kishore Giri, a resident of HSLC Colony, Ruabandha was arrested and produced before the court.

He has been sent to jail on judicial remand. Anand Shukla (SHO, Newai), Head Constable Suraj Pandey, Ajit Yadav and Sanjay Nirmalkar played a vital role in arresting the accused.

### Man hangs self in Jamul

**BHILAI:** A 48-year-old man allegedly committed suicide by hanging self in Jamul on the intervening night of Monday. The body was found hanging on an electric high tension tower near ACC Square. The deceased was identified as Atma Ram Nishad, a resident of ACC Square. He worked as a labourer and is a father of three children. Two of his sons have also started earning. On Sunday morning, he left home without telling anyone. When he did not return, the family members searched for him but he was not found. On Monday morning, they reached Jamul Police Station to lodge an FIR. Meanwhile, the cops received information about the body after which the family members reached the crime scene and found Atma Ram hanging dead. Police conducted a crime scene investigation and the body was sent for autopsy.

### Mitanins take out candle march for voter awareness

VOTER AWARENESS

Central Chronicle News

Voters appealed to use their franchise selflessly, impartially, fearlessly and without any inducement

**BHILAI:** As per the instructions of Collector and District Election Officer Richa Prakash Chaudhary and under the guidance of Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr JP Meshram, a candle march and voter awareness rally was organized for the upcoming Lok Sabha Election 2024 in Durg parliamentary constituency. About 300 Mitanins, officers and employees of the Health Department participated in the rally. The voter awareness rally was flagged off from Collectorate Complex Durg and moved across Patel Chowk, District Panchayat Durg, Chief Medical and



A candle march and voter awareness rally was organized for the upcoming Lok Sabha Election

#### FASTFACTS

- 300 Mitanins and other officers / employees participate in voter awareness campaign
- Mitanins raised slogans and appealed to all voters to cast their votes in the biggest festival of democracy

Health Officer's office and concluded at District Hospital Durg. The Mitanins raised slogans and appealed to all voters to cast their votes in the biggest festival of democracy. Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr JP Meshram also participated in Voter Awareness Campaign Rally and Candle March. District Nodal Officer Health Department, Lok

Sabha Elections and Nodal Officer Mitanin Program Dr CBS Banjare, DPM Sandeep Tamrakar, District Coordinator Mitanin Program Bhekhush Deshmukh, Urban Program Manager (Durg) Sanjeev Dubey, Devanand Banjare, Urban Coordinator Mitanin Program Lakshmi Sahu and Kiran Sahu, and other officers and employees were present.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### BSP celebrates World Earth Day by planting trees

Central Chronicle News

**BHILAI:** World Earth Day was celebrated by planting trees, the very lifeline of all living beings on our planet by BSP. The collective commemorated this occasion by carrying out tree plantation activities in the Sector-6 area of the Steel Township. DL Moitra, CGM (Env Mgmt), exhorted the employees and citizens of the township to join hands in protecting Mother Earth

through small contributions like planting trees, reducing waste, avoiding plastic, etc., which go a long way in this noble endeavor. It is noteworthy that SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant has accorded top priority to environmental protection and resource conservation since its inception. BSP has planted more than 5 million trees in its plant premises, Township, and Mines. Additionally, it has contributed to roadside plantation efforts



under its CSR initiatives. BSP has also made significant investments over the years in reducing emissions, recycling water, and utilizing waste. During the recently concluded modernization and expansion activities, BSP invested in greening its processes, thereby reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. BSP has also embarked upon an ambitious journey to further reduce its carbon footprint to 2 Ton/TCS by

“Small contributions like planting trees, reducing waste, avoiding plastic etc, can go a long way in protecting Mother Earth”

DL Moitra  
CGM (Environment Management), BSP

2030-31, aligning with the best practices in the steel industry. As part of BSP's ongoing efforts to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change, BSP is partnering with a firm to establish a pilot-scale plant for the conversion of flue gas CO2 into petroleum-grade ethanol. This innovative project aligns with BSP's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and transitioning towards a net-zero future by 2070.



# Battle-2024



Fear and panic have gripped the BJP. After the first phase of polling in nearly 100 seats across the country.

Mamata Banerjee  
WB Chief Minister

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

### NARCOTICS

**Narcotics worth Rs 3.24 cr seized in West Singhbhum ahead of LS polls**

**RANCHI:** Ahead of the Lok Sabha elections in Jharkhand, authorities in West Singhbhum district confiscated narcotics valued at Rs 3.24 crore, an official said on Monday. The Maoist-hit Singhbhum constituency is scheduled for polling on May 13. "Ahead of the polls, the district administration has seized 2,162 kg of poppy straw, a narcotic substance, following the launch of an intensive campaign," West Singhbhum deputy commissioner Kuldeep Chaudhary said. Chaudhary, along with SP Ashutosh Shekhar, spearheaded the drive to check the circulation of drugs and illegal money before the upcoming elections. Despite some progress, West Singhbhum remains among the severely impacted districts by left-wing extremism, witnessing 46 Maoist-linked incidents leading to 22 fatalities last year. **PTI**

### WB CHIEF MINISTER BANERJEE

**Panic in BJP camp after sensing defeat in first phase of LS polls**



**RAIGANJ:** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday said the BJP is in panic mode after sensing defeat in the first phase of polling last week and asserted that the rout of the saffron camp across the country is imminent. Addressing a rally in Raiganj, Banerjee described the controversy surrounding Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas district, where women have accused TMC leaders of sexual abuse, as a "pre-planned ploy" by the BJP. **PTI**

### Grand old party leader calls them 'betrayers'

**Odisha BJP unit releases the Odia version of the party's manifesto for the Lok Sabha elections**



**BHUBANESWAR:** The Odisha BJP unit on Monday released the Odia version of the party's manifesto for the Lok Sabha elections. Senior BJP leaders including election in-charge Vijaypal Singh Tomar, state president Manmohan Samal, former union minister Jual Oram and former state president Samir Mohanty were present during the release of the Odia version of the party's manifesto.

Centre's free ration scheme will be extended by another five years, three crore 'Lakhpatididi' will be created, the PM Awas Yojana will be expanded and drinking water supply will be taken to every home, said Tomar.

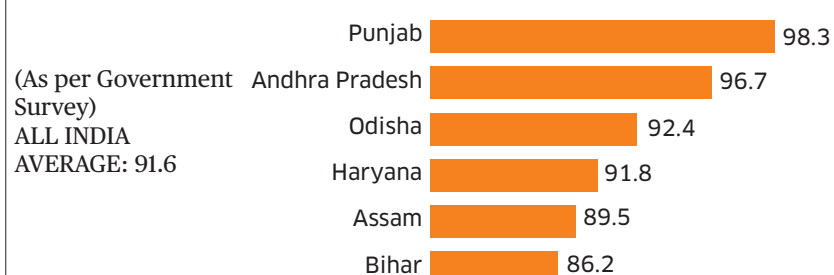
"If BJP forms a government in Odisha, we will implement all the promises made in the central manifesto in the state. The present government has not implemented the Ayushman Bharat Yojana in Odisha for which migrant workers are facing hardship," he said.

The Modi government is totally dedicated to women, youths and farmers. The Modi government has fulfilled all promises made in the poll manifesto in 2014 and 2019, Samal claimed.

The BJP will reach out to every household with the Odia version of the manifesto, the state party president said. **PTI**

### The Day's NUMBERS

#### STATE WISE HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY (IN %)



### POLICE ACTION

**Case against Nagpur Cong worker for making video while voting**

**NAGPUR:** Police have registered a case against a Congress worker for allegedly making a video from his mobile phone while casting his vote in Maharashtra's Nagpur district and uploading it on a social media platform, an official said. The accused, Sonam Rajesh Shrivankar (23), was present as the Congress' election representative at a voting centre in Mauda tehsil of Ramtek Lok Sabha constituency, on April 19. He went to cast his vote through the electronic voting machine (EVM) and allegedly made a video of the same. This came to light when he later uploaded the video on a social media platform. Following a complaint by the polling station in-charge, the Mauda police on Sunday registered a case against Shrivankar under sections 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by a public servant) and 176 (omission to give notice or information to public servant by person legally bound to give it) of the Indian Penal Code. **PTI**

### LS ELECTION

**BJP's Mukesh Dalal set to get elected unopposed from Surat**



**SURAT:** BJP's Mukesh Dalal is set to get elected unopposed from Surat Lok Sabha seat after all other candidates withdrew from the fray, the party's Gujarat unit chief CR Paatil said on Monday. "Surat has presented the first Lotus to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. I congratulate our candidate for Surat Lok Sabha seat Mukesh Dalal for getting elected unopposed," Paatil posted on X. On the last day of withdrawal of the nomination forms on Monday, as many as 8 candidates, mostly Independents and Pyarelal Bharti of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), withdrew their papers. **PTI**



Jammu: Union Cabinet Minister and BJP candidate Jitendra Singh during a road show for Lok Sabha elections.

# Assembly polls in J-K to take place soon: Jitendra

People of the Union Territory are enthusiastic about participating in the electoral process to support the BJP's development agenda

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** NEW DELHI Union minister Jitendra Singh on Monday said that Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir will be held soon and the people of the Union Territory are enthusiastic about participating in the electoral process to support the BJP's development agenda.

Speaking to PTI, he asserted that normalcy has been restored in J-K but the opposition parties were involved in a "wrong" portrayal of the ground situation after the 2019 abrogation of Article 370 which gave a special status to the erst-

while state.

"Opposition parties are engaged in a wrong portrayal of the ground situation in Jammu and Kashmir. Normalcy has been restored in Jammu and Kashmir after scrapping Article 370. Elections in Jammu and Kashmir will happen soon, as stated by Prime Minister Modi in a recent rally in Udhampur. It has to happen and it will happen soon," the BJP leader said.

There is no elected government in Jammu and Kashmir since the BJP withdrew from its coalition with the PDP in 2018. It has been under the Centre's rule, which

### HIGHLIGHT

- Normalcy has been restored in Jammu and Kashmir after scrapping Article 370.

- There is no elected government in Jammu and Kashmir since the BJP withdrew from its coalition with the PDP in 2018

also saw the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 and J-K being divided into two Union territories.

The Supreme Court had in December last upheld the government's decision to abrogate Article 370 and said steps should be taken

to conduct the election to the Union territory's Assembly by September 30, 2024.

On the ongoing Lok Sabha polls, Singh said the people are upbeat in Jammu and Kashmir about the development carried out in the region and are supporting the BJP. "There is special enthusiasm among people. A common person in J-K is very enthusiastic to vote for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pro-people policies. They are especially motivated to help Modi win over 400 seats in the Lok Sabha polls. "Nari Shakti' or women are participating in large

numbers and they are exceptionally motivated to vote for the BJP due to Modi's welfare schemes meant for them," said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

Singh is the BJP candidate from J-K's Udhampur constituency, where polling was held on April 19. He is a two-term sitting Lok Sabha member from the constituency.

"The main agenda of this Lok Sabha polls and in Jammu and Kashmir especially is development. The Centre is always committed to further development of the Union territory and ensuring jobs for youths," he said.

### POLL RALLY

# Cong plans to redistribute people's property: PM Modi

### Ex-MP

**Mohinder Singh Kaypee joins SAD**

**CHANDIGARH:** Former Punjab Congress chief and ex-MP Mohinder Singh Kaypee on Monday joined the Shiromani Akali Dal. SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal visited Kaypee's residence in Jalandhar to bring him into the party fold. Badal also announced Kaypee as the party candidate from the Jalandhar reserve parliamentary constituency. The blow to the grand old party came two days after Karamjit Kaur Chaudhary, the wife of late Congress MP Santokh Chaudhary, joined the BJP in Delhi. Kaypee, a prominent Dalit leader in the Doaba region, was a minister in the 1992 and 1995 Congress government.

**Congress following a policy of appeasement, and yet doing nothing to uplift the social and economic condition of Muslims**

**ALIGARH:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday accused the Congress of planning to redistribute people's property if it is voted to power. Echoing the remarks made a day earlier in Rajasthan, Modi said at a poll rally here that the Congress planned to conduct a survey people's possessions and redistribute them. He said the people of Aligarh had put a "lock" on dynastic politics, corruption and "appeasement" practised by the two



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Aligarh

### FACTFILE

- People of Aligarh had put a 'lock' on dynastic politics, corruption and "appeasement" practised by the two "shahezaade", or princes

He was referring to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav, who are fighting the Lok Sabha elections as allies. Modi accused the Congress of following a policy

of appeasement, and yet doing nothing to uplift the social and economic condition of Muslims. He cited the enactment of a law against instant triple talaq during the term of his government as a move that helped Muslim women.

### UP ELECTION

# Smriti Irani accuses Rahul Gandhi's absence

Press Trust Of India

**AMETHI:** Union minister and local MP Smriti Irani on Monday alleged that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will come to Amethi after April 26 and divide the people in the name of casteism and visit one temple after the other. Addressing roadside meetings during her election campaign in Bhetua and

Bhadar areas here, Irani said, "After the voting in Wayanad on April 26, Rahul Gandhi will come here to tell everyone that Amethi is his family and stoke the fire of casteism in the society here." She added, "Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party rejected the invitation for the consecration ceremony of Lord Shri Ram in Ayodhya but he will be seen roaming around

**"Rahul Gandhi never raised issues of Amethi in the Parliament and was often missing from the House"**

Smriti Irani  
Amethi MP



the temples in Amethi. So there is a need to be careful and alert." In a major upset for the Congress in 2019 Lok Sabha elections, Irani wrested Amethi from Rahul Gandhi, who had held the constituency for 15 years. The Congress has not yet declared its candidate from the seat but local party workers are rooting for Rahul Gandhi to contest again.



Modi-ki-Guarantee means 'false guarantee' and no outcome of 'aache din ke sapne'

Vinod Chandrakar  
Ex-MLA Mahasamund



# Chhattisgarh

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

### PROCESSION

#### Grand procession taken out on Ramnavami

**BIRKONI:** A grand procession was organized in the regional Ramjanaki temple of the region and scores of devotees enthusiastically took part in the Yatra. Acharya Lakshminarayan Vaishnav giving information on the grand ceremony said on the occasion of Ram Janam Utsav, the Lord was first purified amidst the chanting of Vedic mantras and Abhishekam was done with water, Ganga water, milk, curd, ghee and Panchamrit and thereafter adorned in new clothes, along with various types of jewellery and flowers. Thereafter amidst the sounds of bells, drums and conch shells, worship was performed welcoming the birth of the Lord and the procession commenced with the tableau of the idol of Lord Ram placed on the main road of the village, which travelled from Ramjanaki Mandir Chowk to Sahu Para, Chandi Gate.

### CAMPAIGNS

#### Naveen Markandey campaigns for BJP's Roop Kumari Choudhary



**KURUD:** Former MLA and State President Schedule Caste Morcha, here in the region campaigned for Bharatiya Janata Party's Mahasamund Lok Sabha candidate Roop Kumari Choudhary. In his address for officials and workers of Scheduled Tribe Morcha, Markandey said that the resolve of forming Modi government is at its peak and due to the public welfare schemes of Modi government, we and our society are continuously progressing towards prosperity and economic progress.

### From around the region

#### Chunai Sports competition 2024 organized in NTPC Sipat under the voter awareness prog



**SIPAT:** An election sports competition was organized at NTPC Sipat under the voter awareness program SVEEP of Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh district administration.

On this occasion, RP Chauhan, CEO, District Panchayat Bilaspur, Vijay Krishna Pandey, Project Head, NTPC Sipat, Amit Kumar Sinha, SDM Masturi, Siddhi Gavel, Tehsildar, Sipat, Anil Shankar Sharan, General Manager (Operation and Maintenance) including District Administration and officials of NTPC Sipat were present.

Under the theme "whether male or female, voting is everyone's responsibility", this program organized Kho-

Kho for rural children, Kabaddi or Tug-of-War for teachers.

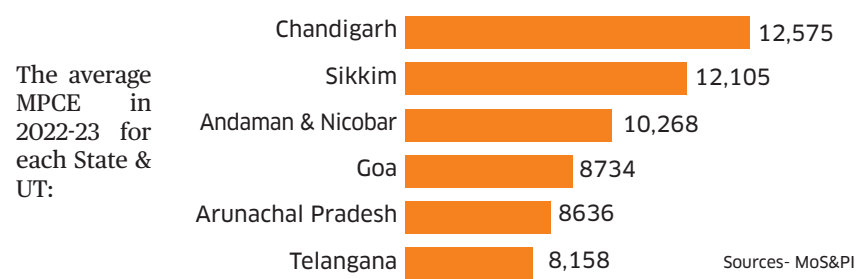
This program proved to be an important step in increasing awareness about the importance of elections.

Along with the election sports competition, an oath taking ceremony was also conducted for all the present group members, which enthused them towards civic duties.

Through this updated and encouraging programme, NTPC Sipat and the district administration have played an important role in sensitizing the citizens and strengthening the fundamental principles of democracy.

### The Day's NUMBERS

#### WHAT IS THE AVERAGE MPCE (URBAN) BY STATE & UTS IN 2022-23 (RS)



### APPEAL TO VOTERS

#### Voting is necessary to strengthen democracy: Thaneshwar Sahu

**ANWARI:** Social worker Thaneshwar Sahu in his address to the society towards embarking towards the goal of voting said that it is biggest power to strengthen democracy. He urged people and the general public to abstain from voting under the influence of greed or intoxication, but to think wisely before casting ones valuable vote. He further said that every voter should understand his constitutional rights and go to cast his vote on 26th April so that the true form of democracy can be achieved with 100 percent voting and one which ever party or leader you vote for, he or she should have a clean and honest image. He further said that voting is necessary for nation building and it is very important to use voting in elections. Along with voting ourselves, we should make everyone else aware about voting, he said clarifying the fact that through voting, we have got the right to elect public representatives as per our wish.

### SELECTION

#### Jharna Sahu and Sagar Sahu selected for the SGFI National



**KURUD/DHAMTARI:** In a winning spree accolade in the district two students have been selected for Nationals of School Game Federation of India, which will be held in Rewari Haryana from 26th to 30 April, 2024.

The students namely Jharna Sahu of grade 12th, daughter of Pushpasen Sahu and a student of Government Higher Secondary School Parkhanda Development Block Kurud District Dhamtari and Sagar Sahu son of Shyamu Sahu Class 11th have been selected for the games.



BJP National President JP Nadda being garlanded during a public meeting for Lok Sabha elections, in Lormi, Chhattisgarh, Monday, April 22.

# 'PM Modi focused on everyone's development'

"The Congress made brothers fight with each other and indulged in the politics of vote-bank. Modi ji changed the definition of politics of India"

### Press Trust Of India

**LORMI:** BJP president JP Nadda on Monday accused the Congress of indulging in the politics of vote bank and appeasement and said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has changed the culture of politics in the country with focus on development of everyone.

Addressing a rally in Lormi town of Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district, Nadda highlighted the BJP-led central government's achievements in the last 10 years.

He referred to the Ram

temple construction in Ayodhya, abrogation of Article 370 (which provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir), notification of rules for the Citizenship (Amendment) Act implementation, and ban on the practice of instant triple talaq.

The rally was held to campaign for BJP candidate Tokhan Sahu in the Bilaspur Lok Sabha seat, which will go to polls on May 7.

"Today the culture of politics has changed under the leadership of Modi ji. Earlier it was asked to which caste (a

### HIGHLIGHT

● The rally was held to campaign for BJP candidate Tokhan Sahu in the Bilaspur Lok Sabha seat, which will go to polls on May 7.

person) belonged, either forward or backward, from this side of the river or the other side, from hills or plains," he said.

"The Congress made brothers fight with each other and indulged in the politics of vote-bank. Modi ji changed the definition of politics of India.

He changed the way of doing work. Under his leadership, the country has been heading ahead with the slogan of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas, sabka prayas'," Nadda said. While they (Congress) did politics of appeasement, PM Modi did politics of "vikaswaad" (development), he added. Nadda also claimed the Congress has always opposed Lord Ram and Sanatan Dharma. "The Congress has always been anti-Ram and anti-Sanatan. During the Manmohan Singh-led rule when Sonia Gandhi

was the UPA chairperson, it had given an affidavit in court that Lord Ram is fictional and does not have any historical basis," he said. "Is this not true that their lawyer had asked the court to extend the (hearing in) Ram Mandir case otherwise the BJP will get benefit of the decision in the matter. They did the work of disrupting (construction of Ram temple). The Ram Mandir trust invited them (Congress leaders) for the consecration of Lord Ram's idol at the Ayodhya temple but they rejected it," Nadda said.

### | AWARENESS PROGRAMME |

# 'Get an opportunity to study fire prevention measures'

### Press Trust Of India

Officials of Fire Services Department, Korba West explained to the workers the ways to control fire safely.

**KORBA:** Fire Safety Week 2024 was celebrated at Hasdev Thermal Power Station (HTPS), Korba West. Many types of competitions were organized in the week-long awareness programme, in which officers, employees and contract workers of the plant participated enthusiastically.

During this, the officials of Fire Services Department, Korba West explained to the workers the ways to control fire safely through fire extin-



Week-long awareness programme on fire safety formally concluded.

### FACTFILE

● Many types of competitions were organized for officers, employees in the week-long awareness programme

guishers and also provided an opportunity to the participants to do so and

rewarded the participants who performed excellently. Highlighting the importance of these weekly awareness and training programs organized between April 14, 2024 to April 20, 2024, Sanjay Sharma, Executive Director of the plant, said that through such events, people will be made to understand the importance of fire safety,

follow safety rules, and There is an opportunity to study fire prevention measures, through which the ability to face emergency situations increases. On this occasion large number of officers and employees of the plant including Chief Engineer PK Swain, Sudhir Kumar Pandya, MS Khan, Senior Chief Chemist AK Kurnal were present.

### | ENCOURAGEMENT |

# 'Ghar Aaja Sangi' prog to encourage migrant workers

### Press Trust Of India

**KHAIRAGARH:** As per the instructions of Collector and District Election Officer Chandrakant Verma, a unique program, 'Ghar Aaja Sangi' has been initiated to encourage migrant workers to vote in the upcoming Lok Sabha Polls 2024. Under the program, the migrated workers will be asked to share their

information on voting day through video call and an appeal is being made to the workers most of them migrants to return to their respective village or city and vote. This program is 100% implemented in the district to achieve the target of hundred percent voting.

Under the programme, the BLOs of the district and the relatives of the

● 'Ghar Aaja Sangi' has been initiated to encourage migrant workers to vote in the upcoming

Chandrakant Verma  
Collector



migrated workers will be contacted and will be motivated to vote through phone, video call or video conferencing and its objective is to get maximum votes in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections to be held on 26 April 2024. Till date, 86 of the migrant workers of the district, have been contacted, and efforts are being made to contact the remaining workers as well.



# General Observer conducts inspection of strong room

General Observer took stock of all the arrangements including counting room

Central Chronicle News

**GAURELA - PENDRA:** General Observer Kailash Sukhdev Pagare, appointed by the Election Commission of India for Lok Sabha constituency 04 Korba (Assembly constituency 24 Marwahi), here inspected the strong room located in the Collectorate premises. He along with Collector and District Election Officer Leena Kamlesh Mandavi took stock of all the arrangements including counting room, voting material room, control room, material distribution and return center, convenience portal, and paid news monitoring.

He also took information from Additional Superintendent of Police Om Chandel regarding the deployment of police force in the district for free, fair and peaceful elections. The Observer asked to carefully match all the materials in the set being prepared for distribution of voting materials and took information about the complaints received through the control room and C-Vigil and their resolution. Similarly, through the Suvidha portal, information was taken regarding obtaining permission by political parties and candidates for meetings, processions, rallies etc.



General Observer KS Pagare inspected the strong room located in the Collectorate premises.

He gave instructions to deposit weapons, maintain adequate stock of diesel and petrol, keep control on criminal incidents as well as install CC-TV cameras for transparency of election activities. He also directed for continuous monitoring of paid news cases and checking of vehicles and videography at check posts. During the inspection, Additional Collector Namrata Anand Dongre, Deputy District Election Officer Anandrup Tiwari, ARO, and others were present.

## Two labourers installing electric poles get electrocuted in Lendra

The work of installing new electricity poles is being done in village Lendra under Darbha police station area of the district. During this period, two laborers got injured due to electric shock. After which other working colleagues got him admitted to Mecos for treatment and their treatment is continuing.

The labourers who

### HIGHLIGHT

• The labourers who came with the injured told that on Monday morning, 9 labourers were doing the work of installing electricity poles

came with the injured told that on Monday morning, 9 labourers

were doing the work of installing electricity poles in village Lendra. During this time, old electric wires were being removed, new wires were being laid and new poles were being installed. Meanwhile, Sonu Ram, S/or of Deu, 45 years, resident of Chidpal, Baman, S/o of Pandu, 39 years, got electrocuted.

## Children exhilarated as they took their seats within aircraft

The singular experience of sitting inside a helicopter permitted the students to venture inside it.

**BIJAPUR:** Over a hundred young individuals from the remote, sensitive and Maoist-affected region of Bijapur were afforded a distinctive opportunity to satiate their avid curiosity regarding helicopters on the April 22. In this locale, the frequent arrival and departure of these aerial vehicles is a commonplace occurrence, fueling a keen interest among the local youth to witness them in close proximity.

In a pioneering endeavour spearheaded by the District Collector, Anurag Pandey, an assemblage comprising children with disabilities from Samarth, students of the Bijapur Sports Academy, and pupils from the esteemed Eklavya Model School were cordially invited to the helipad. This singular experience permitted them to venture inside a helicopter, thereby quenching their thirst for knowledge about these remarkable flying machines.

The children were visibly exhilarated as they took their seats within

the aircraft. The pilot assiduously elucidated the intricate procedures pertaining to landing, take-off, engine functionality, and the multifarious operations involved in manoeuvring the helicopter. Undeterred by their inquisitive nature, the young attendees posed a myriad of queries, ranging from inquiries about the aerial perspective of the terrain to the requisite qualifications and educational pathway

### FASTFACTS

• Children with disabilities from Samarth, students of the Bijapur Sports Academy were invited to the helipad

• The children were visibly exhilarated as they took their seats within the aircraft

to become a pilot upon attaining adulthood. The comprehensive responses provided by the pilot not only satiated their curiosity but also kindled aspirations within these young minds.

With palpable enthusiasm, they articulated their ambitions to secure esteemed positions, embark on exhilarating helicopter rides, and even pursue careers as pilots themselves upon reaching maturity.

### NEWSLINE

#### 'NYOTA BHOJ'

'Nyota Bhoj' given to children on Head Master's B'day



**KHARORA:** On the birthday of the Head Master Government Middle School, Keshala (Kharora) Ramesh Kumar Verma, gave a luncheon party ('Nyota Bhoj') to SMC President and all teachers and students of Primary and Middle School.

In the food served, children were served rice, dal, potato, chana-chhole, banana, 'jalebi', 'Papad', 'Laddu', 'Gulgul', 'bhajija', 'aachar' and other items.

The children were very happy on this 'Nyota Bhoj' and expressed gratitude towards the Head Master. In the end RK Verma said that with this type of programme, there is infusion of new energy between the staff and children and it leads to lot of happiness.

### CASUALTY

Civilian from Mutawendi fell victim to an IED

**BIJAPUR:** Another innocent civilian from Mutawendi village fell victim to an IED planted to inflict casualties on security forces On April 20, a local resident Gatria, S/o Linga, aged 18 years, from Patelpara Mutawendi under Gangaloor police station limits, had ventured around 3 km south-east of Mutawendi for gathering forest produce. Tragically, he got caught in the blast of an IED insidiously planted by Maoists, leading to his demise on the spot. In a recent incident, a civilian from Kachilwar village under Naymed police station limits was severely wounded when he inadvertently stepped on an IED laid by Maoists while traversing an interior route towards his village in the Ittawar area.

### CEREMONY

Inter-ship ceremony held in GHS School



**KHARORA:** Under the vocational course in Govt HS School, Bangoli, the students of Class 11th and 12th with internship in IT and automobile trade were given 'inter-ship ceremony' and in this certificates were distributed to students. On completion of inter-ship of students, they were provided motivational amount of Rs 1300 online. In this programme, Principal Vijay Kumar Dhruv, senior lecturer Toksingh Verma, former Dy. Sarpanch ex-SMDC MLA's rep Doman Nayak and MP's rep Domar Dhurandhar, IT trainer Smriti Sharma, Automobile trainer Hemant Kashyap, Girdhar Sahu, and all staff and parents and school's family were present.

## One dies, two other injured as truck collides with car

Central Chronicle News

A car got badly damaged and driver of car Dinesh died on the spot and two others got seriously injured.

**KURUD:** A recklessly driven truck collided with a car near Parmeshwari Fules at around 11:00 of Saturday night and the car got badly damaged and driver of car Dinesh died on the spot and two others got seriously injured. The two injured Shrawan Sahu and Kaushik Sahu were taken to Civil Hospital Kurud and from there were referred to Raipur and the treatment of another of their colleague Raju Sahu is going on at Kurud Hospital.

As per information in this regard from Kurud Police, it was around 9:30 pm on Saturday, four persons from Gobara left for Kurud in their car bearing No. CG 04 PP 3766.

The four persons were Dinesh Sahu, Aahat, Shrawan Sahu S/o Bihari Sahu and Kaushik Sahu S/o Bihari Sahu. The car was driven by Dinesh. It was reaching near Parmeshwari Fuels at around 11:15 pm that a recklessly driven truck bearing No. CG 04 JD 0560 collided with the car from the front and went on top of the front portion of car's engine. Due to this both Dinesh and Shrawan Sahu received serious injuries and the local people sent both for treatment to Civil Hospital Kurud in 108 Ambulance.

The doctors declared Dinesh Sahu dead after examination and Shrawan Sahu and Kaushik Sahu who were seriously injured were sent for treatment to Raipur. The fourth person Raju Sahu who got seriously injured received injuries on his left palm and above the right eye.

## 2 die, another seriously injured in marriage party

**ANWARI:** In a controversy over dancing with songs from DJ in Gram Bhaishod under Birejhar Chowki, a person stabbed three persons brutally and in a person from bride side and other from bride-groom side died and the third one is also seriously injured. As per reports in this regard, on April 21, the 'barat' of Dhruv family from Gram Chatoud had come to Gram Bhaishod of Tilda-Newara area. During playing of DJ there was controversy and it turned into physical fighting. In this some unknown person stabbed three persons including one from the bride's side and another from bride-groom side and third unknown person. In this the person RK Dhruv S/o Gajendra of Gram Chatoud from bride-groom side and another RK Tarak (16), S/o Gangaram, of Baisbod died and one more person from bride-groom side got seriously injured.

## Thorough checking of vehicles being carried out

Central Chronicle News

The inspection team is doing strict checking of vehicles round the clock near the Bridge on Raipur to Odisha road border

**RAJIM:** In view of the LS polls 2024, the police is intensively carrying out checking of the vehicles plying between the two district and with the election date nearing, even the bike riders and scooters are being checked daily.

It is notable here that the first leg of Lok Sabha polls have been held in the state and the polling in the second phase is on April 26 Friday. In this polling will be held in Mahasamund LS seat and the entire administrative and police is busy in making preparations for it. At one place where the voters are anxiously



The police and authorities conducting checking of vehicles in view of LS Polls.

### FASTFACTS

• The traders are more troubled, especially those having business in Rajim and residence in Navapara

• Due to frequent checking the bike and jewellerly business persons had to bear lot of loss

waiting to cast their vote, on the other, the LS candidates have intensified their campaigning. The inspection team is doing strict checking of vehicles round the clock near the Bridge on Raipur to Odisha road border. So far the inspection team has not found any objectionable. The traders are more troubled, especially those having business in Rajim and res-

idence in Navapara. After day-long business they take back the cash to Navapara and the jewellers take back their jewellery and again take it back to their shop the next day in the morning. It is worthwhile to mention here that the last VS polls were held during Diwali festive season and it is peak of the business period for all traders and for the bullion market.

### ENVIRONMENT

## Sand extracted to a depth of 8 to 10 feet in River Mahanadi

Central Chronicle News

**RAJIM:** The sand mafia active in the region by the River bed of River Mahanadi is taking no turns in living the river barren by extracting sand to a depth of 8-10 feet continually leading to sand erosion and violation of environmental norms.

The fleets of heavy movers and other carriers are transporting the sand for the last 5-6 months and the adminis-

tration is not showing any interest in curbing it.

However, Mineral Department officials are claiming to have taken action, but the river is sieved continuously and many small and big pot-holes are claiming lives owing to their number increasing with each passing day. Capacity of roads by the river also has depleted a lot, as due to the ongoing wedding season there are a lot of pedestrians and other



commuters who are witnessing small and big accidents due to roads in bad shape.

According to information received, sand ghats are operated in Peetaiband, Rawad, Parsada Joshi, Hathkhaj, Chaubebandha of Rajim area and it's from here that all sand transportation trains leave for the capital Raipur, Durg, Bhilai via Pandit Sunderlal Sharma Chowk of Rajim city. Sometimes



'The officers from the Mineral Department are claiming to have taken action'

Officer Mineral Deptt.

the loading highways are not covered and water oozes out of the moving trucks, other than sand particles effecting the movers and commuters. An interesting fact in the case is that digging 8 to 10 feet deep using chain mountain machine close to Rajim Parswani bridge connecting Gariaband Dhamtari district, in the near future, can cause non sustainable damage to the bridge built worth crores of rupees.





## QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

One individual may die for an idea, but that idea will, after his death, incarnate itself in a thousand lives.

[Subhash Chandra Bose]

# Comment

## India's dynamic constitution: Vibrant living legacy preserved

In the current political landscape, there's a fervent debate swirling around the perceived threats to India's Constitution. With opposition parties raising concerns about the possibility of its alteration under the Modi government, it's imperative to dissect the essence of our democratic foundation.

The Indian Constitution, often hailed as a living document, embodies the spirit of secularism, social justice, and federalism—values that form its very soul. Despite fears of its manipulation, recent Supreme Court rulings have underscored the inviolability of its core principles. Secularism, social equity, and federalism aren't mere provisions; they're the bedrock of our democracy, safeguarding the rights of every citizen.

Opposition parties' apprehensions about the Modi government's intentions may stem from political rhetoric, but they serve as a stark reminder of the need to uphold constitutional integrity. While assurances from the Prime Minister regarding

the preservation of constitutional values are welcome, the fact that such guarantees are deemed necessary raises pertinent questions about the state of our democracy.

The essence of democracy lies in dissent and diversity, both of which have come under scrutiny in recent years. Instances of stifling dissent, silencing opposition, and encroaching upon state autonomy have raised concerns about the erosion of democratic norms. The cooperative federalism envisioned by the Constitution has faced unprecedented challenges, with central interference impeding states' autonomy—a departure from the spirit of shared governance.

Moreover, the intersection of religion and politics has further muddied the waters of constitutional discourse. While the Constitution espouses secular ideals, the politicization of religion threatens to undermine its secular fabric. The promise of freedom of religion mustn't be misconstrued as a license for religious hegemony;

rather, it should underscore the need for pluralism and tolerance.

The recent wave of legislative measures and administrative actions, while ostensibly aimed at preserving cultural identity, has raised concerns about encroachment on individual liberties. Anti-conversion laws, among others, have sparked debates about the limits of state intervention in matters of faith—a delicate balance that the Constitution seeks to maintain.

Despite the challenges, the resilience of India's democratic framework lies in its ability to adapt and evolve. The Constituent Assembly's unwavering commitment to nation-building, rooted in the collective struggle against colonialism, serves as a guiding light in tumultuous times. Today, as we grapple with political polarization and partisan agendas, it's crucial to heed Justice Fali S. Nariman's words: the Constitution isn't a static document; it's a testament to our shared aspirations and collective resolve.

In a time marked by legis-

lative logjams and parliamentary pandemonium, the onus lies on our political leadership to emulate the ethos of the Constituent Assembly—placing the nation above partisan interests. The spirit of democracy isn't confined to electoral victories; it thrives in the robust exchange of ideas, the protection of minority rights, and the promotion of social justice.

As we navigate the complexities of governance and politics, let us reaffirm our commitment to upholding the sanctity of the Constitution. It's not merely a legal document; it's a beacon of hope, a testament to our democratic ideals, and a reminder of our collective responsibility to safeguard the principles enshrined within its hallowed pages. In the face of adversity, let us draw inspiration from the visionaries who crafted our Constitution—a vision of a just, equitable, and inclusive society. For in preserving the soul of our democracy, we secure the promise of a brighter, more resilient future for generations to come.



Yash Pal Ralhan

Icon for PwD nominated by election commission Chandigarh

## The boundary of human rights

The dichotomy between the internal and foreign policy of the United States of America and Germany is profound. It is said that charity begins at home. By *Sujit De*



Reuters photographer Mohammed Salem won the prestigious 2024 World Press Photo of the Year award for his image of a Palestinian woman cradling the body of her five-year-old niece in the Gaza Strip | Photo: AP

Sandeep Pandey returned his Magsaysay Award last year in protest against America's approach towards Palestine. He also returned all the degrees he had got from American universities - a dual MS in Manufacturing from Syracuse University, New York and a PhD in mechanical engineering from the University of Berkeley. He correctly highlighted the contrast between America's internal and foreign policy. While expressing his sincere admiration for America's high regard for human rights within its boundaries, he criticised the USA for showing a different face in Gaza. He said, "I think the US is one country which respects human rights the most and offers the best freedom of expression, but sadly it is true only within the country."

He observed that the US actions of abruptly leaving Afghanistan and helping Israel against Palestine were against its commitment to human rights. He said, "It is strange that the US, which not very long back handed over Afghanistan, much bigger in area, to Taliban on a silver platter knowing very well that it was jeopardizing the civil liberties of common Afghans, especially

the women, parrots the Israeli position about Hamas being a terrorist organisation ignoring the fact that Hamas has won an election in Palestine, unlike the Taliban." Interestingly, there is so much to be learned from the internal policy of the United States. The same thing is applicable to Germany because of its sensitivity to human rights violations. In a recent development, Germany has reiterated its sensitivity against even a faint trace of racism. The display of any Nazi symbol includ-

ing the "SS" has long been banned in Germany. Recently, Germany has withdrawn jerseys with number 44 immediately after it was pointed out that there was a resemblance between that number and the stylized SS used by Nazi Party's Schutzstaffel group.

However, it appears that just like America, Germany leaves its commendable sensitivity against human rights violations far behind in their foreign policy. Nicaragua has recently brought a case against

Germany at the International Court of Justice. In the case file, Nicaragua said, "Germany is facilitating the commission of genocide" in Gaza and violating the Genocide Convention by providing Israel with military and financial aid.

Earlier, South Africa sought emergency measures from the court. The court in its order asked Israel to ensure that its citizens and soldiers must not violate the Genocide Convention. The convention forbids actions intended to destroy a

national, ethnic, racial or religious group.

It has become extremely difficult to supply food to the Gazans because of Israel's blockade. The United Nations officials have warned that the amount of food entering Gaza cannot feed its 2.2 million people. Now, Gazans have been relying on a wild plant known as Khobeza to battle hunger. The Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip said that over 33,000 Palestinians, including many children and women, had been killed in Gaza. Samantha Power, the director of the US Agency for International Development has admitted that famine has begun in Gaza. She said, "In northern Gaza, the rate of malnutrition prior to October 7 was almost zero, and it is now almost 1 in 3 kids." Global experts and aid agencies have warned for months that nearly all 2.2 million Palestinians would soon face extreme hunger. The dichotomy between the internal and foreign policy of the United States of America and Germany is profound. It is said that charity begins at home. It is good to see that charity begins at their respective home countries but unfortunately, it has not been allowed to cross their border.

## OUR VIEW |

### US Veto Thwarts Palestine's UN Membership Bid

The veto by the US in the UN Security Council, thwarting a resolution recommending full UN membership for Palestine, echoes a persisting stance that impedes progress toward a just resolution in the Middle East. Despite the draft's substantial backing, with 12 out of 15 members expressing support, the veto stifled a significant opportunity for peace and equity in the region. The rationale offered by the US, advocating for direct negotiations between Israel and Palestine, disregards the glaring reality of entrenched stonewalling from Israeli authorities. This veto perpetuates a status quo where impunity shields injustice, rendering the aspiration for a sustainable peace increasingly elusive. Palestine's quest for full membership resonates with the global community, as evidenced by overwhelming support anticipated in the UN General Assembly. Over 140 member states already recognize Palestine, underscoring the widespread acknowledgment of its rightful place among nations. The denial of this recognition only prolongs the suffering of Palestinian civilians, who have endured the ravages of conflict and occupation. The timing of this veto is particularly poignant, coming on the heels of a devastating assault on Gaza, which wrought unimaginable suffering on innocent civilians. The window for meaningful dialogue and reconciliation narrows with each instance of international inaction. The US insistence on bilateral negotiations overlooks the power dynamics at play, where one party holds disproportionate leverage and the other faces systemic marginalization. Direct talks have consistently faltered in the face of Israeli intransigence, perpetuating a cycle of violence and dispossession. Palestine's current status as a non-member observer state falls short of the recognition it deserves. While its flag may flutter outside UN headquarters, it remains symbolically distanced from the community of nations. Bridging this divide is not merely a symbolic gesture but a crucial step towards affirming the dignity and rights of the Palestinian people. In the pursuit of peace, unilateral actions that perpetuate injustice must be challenged.

## GUEST VIEW |

### Russia Targets Ukraine's Energy Infrastructure

The escalating conflict between Russia and Ukraine has taken a concerning turn, morphing into an energy war as Russia deliberately targets Ukraine's vital energy infrastructure. Last week, one of Ukraine's key power plants, the Trypilka plant, was destroyed in a major missile and drone attack, severely impacting internal power supply to provinces including Kyiv, Cherkasy, and Zhytomyr. These coordinated strikes not only threaten Ukraine's stability but also pose a significant risk to European energy costs. As Russia intensifies its attacks on critical targets, including large-scale generation capacity, experts warn of potential widespread blackouts. The consequences extend beyond regional boundaries, with global gas and electricity prices already on the rise since the conflict's onset. European nations, in an effort to mitigate economic repercussions, have turned to importing gas via LNG tankers. However, the supply chain faces severe disruption if key facilities fall under Russian control, exacerbating the already dire situation and leaving Europe vulnerable to energy shortages.



Arka Goswami

## YOUR LETTERS

## Congress: Bitter Gourd Analogy

In a curious analogy, Congress is likened to bitter gourd, highlighting its supposed negative aspects. However, this comparison inadvertently praises Congress, as bitter gourd boasts health benefits like reducing blood sugar and cholesterol, and boosting immunity. The accuser's oversight of bitter gourd's virtues undermines their attempt to disparage the party. Such analogies underscore the complexity of political critique and the unintended consequences of metaphorical language.

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata

## A national distraction

Arvind Kejriwal's diabetes, entangled with mangoes and sweets, diverts national attention, sparking debate over alleged exploitation for bail. Political theatrics overshadow governance, squandering valuable time and eroding public trust. As AAP's focus shifts, pressing national concerns remain neglected, emphasizing the need for responsible leadership. Amidst accusations and controversies, the nation's priorities risk being sidelined, highlighting the importance of addressing substantive issues over sensational distractions.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

Send your articles (550-600 words) and letters (70-80 words) for this page on: [editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com)  
The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity.



# Business



UN chief keen on  
continuing momentum  
of MDB reforms

**N K Singh,**  
Chairman, 15th Pay Commission



Ivory Coast Commerce Minister Souleymane Diarassouba (C) and Queen Mathilde of Belgium during the opening of the World Cocoa Conference in Brussels. | Photo: PTI

## Sustained economic growth of 7 pc feasible for India: Shashanka

Recently, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised India's growth projection to 6.8 per cent for 2024 from its January forecast of 6.5 pc citing bullish domestic demand conditions

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Sustaining the economic growth momentum of 7 per cent in 2024-25 and beyond is feasible on the back of favorable monsoon, higher farm productivity and improved global trade, RBI Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) member Shashanka Bhide said on Monday. During 2023-24, the economy is likely to record a growth

rate of near 8 per cent on account of good performance of manufacturing and infrastructure sectors. "(India's economic) Growth in the current year is likely to be supported by agriculture with a favourable monsoon and improved global trade. Sustaining the growth momentum of 7 per cent seems feasible," he told PTI. Bhide further said that in the long-term, the need for productiv-

NUMBER

8%

• Growth in the current year is likely to be supported by agriculture with a favourable monsoon

• We should also be prepared for minimising the adverse impact of extreme weather events

ity improvements will remain the key factor to achieve food price stability. Asked what are some of the headwinds he is wary of, Bhide said one area of concern is the global environment. "The slow pace of recovery in global demand on one hand and supply chain disruptions on the other hand, if the ongoing geopolitical conflicts are not resolved quickly, (it will) pose significant chal-

lenge in terms of demand as well as input prices. "We should also be prepared for minimising the adverse impact of extreme weather events on output," he said. Recently, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised India's growth projection to 6.8 per cent for 2024 from its January forecast of 6.5 per cent citing bullish domestic demand conditions and a rising working-age population.

## Gold, silver retreat from record levels as Iran-Israel tensions ease

**NEW DELHI:** Gold and silver prices retreated from record high levels in the national capital on Monday, with the precious metal plunging by Rs 450 per 10 grams, due to weak global trends and easing tensions in West Asia. Gold prices declined by Rs 450 to Rs 73,650 per 10 grams amid weak trends in the overseas markets, according to HDFC Securities. The yellow metal had settled at Rs 74,100 per 10 grams on Friday. Silver prices also tumbled by Rs 1,100 to Rs 85,500 per kg. In the previous close, it had closed at Rs 86,600 per kg. "Spot gold prices (24 carats) in the Delhi markets are trading at Rs 73,650 per 10 grams, down by Rs 450 against the previous close," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

**At present Apple's vendors and suppliers employ 1.5 lakh people in India**

**NEW DELHI:** iPhone maker Apple through its vendors is expected to employ over 5 lakh people in India over the next three years, according to government sources. At present Apple's vendors and suppliers employ 1.5 lakh people in India. Tata Electronics, which runs two plants for Apple, is the biggest job generator. "Apple is accelerating hiring in India. At a conservative estimate, it is going to employ five lakh people in the next three years through its vendors and components suppliers," a senior government officer told PTI.

| ACCELERATING HIRING |

## 'Apple may employ 5 lakh people in India in 3 years'



India's first Apple retail store at Jio World Drive Mall, in Mumbai. | Photo: PTI

FASTFACT

• Apple's iPhone exports from India rose sharply to USD 12.1 billion in 2023-24

• 2- Apple led the India market with the highest revenue in 2023

When contacted, Apple declined to comment on the projection. Apple has plans to scale up production in India by over five-fold to around USD 40 billion (about 3.32 lakh crore) in the next 4-5 years. According to market research firm Counterpoint Research, Apple led the India market with

the highest revenue in 2023 for the first time, while Samsung topped the chart in terms of volume sales. The firm in its recent report said Apple surpassed the 10-million-unit mark in shipments and captured the top position in revenue in a calendar year for the first time.

| BUSINESS CALLS |

## Zomato hikes platform fee to Rs 5 per order

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Zomato has hiked its platform fee by 25 per cent to Rs 5 per order from Rs 4 in select markets, citing it as a part of business calls taken by the food tech giant. According to the company's app, it has also paused its intercity food delivery service 'Intercity Legends'. This comes days before it is slated to

announce the results for the quarter that ended in March. When reached out for a comment, a Zomato spokesperson told PTI, "These are business calls which we take basis various factors from time to time". Notably, the food delivery platform has received various tax demand orders aggregating to Rs 227.85 crore since March 15, separate regulatory filings



showed. In February, Zomato reported a consolidated net profit of Rs 138 crore for the December quarter. The company is expected to announce the fourth (January-March) quarter results next month. According to company sources, the hike in platform fees applies to major cities like Delhi-NCR, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Hyderabad, among others.

**BizBriefs**  
BEST OF THE REST

FOLLOW-ON OFFERING

### Vodafone Idea FPO subscribed 3.3 times, retail lags

**NEW DELHI:** Debt-saddled telecom operator Vodafone Idea Ltd's Rs 18,000 crore follow-on offering (FPO) on Monday was subscribed more than 3.3 times, as institutional investors poured in money but the retail segment lagged. On the last day of the offering, as many as 4,212.56 crore shares were sought against the issue size of 1,260 crore at 14.30 hrs, according to information on stock exchanges.

The final numbers will be known when the issue closes on Monday evening. Qualified institutional buyers sought 8.71 times of their 360 crore shares reserved for them, while non-institutional investors bid for 2.7 times of the 270 crore shares earmarked for them. Response from retail investors, who have been offered the biggest chunk, lagged with just 56 per cent of 630 crore shares being picked up. **PTI**

INDICATORS

Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	73,088.33	+0.77
Nifty	22,336.40	+0.86
Nifty, MidCap	49,096.40	+0.82
Nifty SmallCap	16,484.20	+1.31
Nifty Bank	47,924.90	+0.74

Closing rates as on Apr 22, 2024 at 5:30p.m. (IST)

Forex RATES

Foreign currency Vs Rupee

US Dollar	83.35
Euro	88.70
Chinese Yuan	11.50
UAE Dirham	22.69
Pakistan Rupee	0.30
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.28

On Apr 22, 2024

World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	37,986.40	+0.56%
FTSE 100 Index	8,034.00	+1.75%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)	37,438.61	+1.00%
CSI 300 (CHN)	3,530.90	-0.30%

Index at 05:30 p.m. (IST, Apr 22, 2024)

How markets behaved today?

### Markets sustain winning streak; Sensex jumps over 560 points



**MUMBAI:** Equity benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty climbed nearly 1 per cent each on Monday amid a rally in Asian and European markets, decline in Brent crude oil prices and buying by foreign investors. Extending its previous day's rebound, the 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 560.29 points or 0.77 per cent to settle at 73,648.62. During the day, it advanced 679.47 points or 0.92 per cent to 73,767.80. The NSE Nifty went up by 189.40 points or 0.86 per cent to 22,336.40.

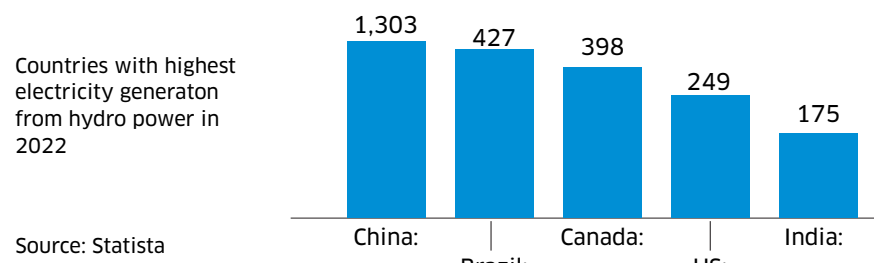
In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 1.26 per cent and midcap index rallied 0.93 per cent. Among the indices, consumer durables advanced 2.53 per cent.

**Major Gainers:** L&T, Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, SBI, UltraTech Cement, Wipro, ICICI Bank, Infosys, HCL Tech and Asian Paints

**Major Gainers:** NTPC, JSW Steel and HDFC Bank **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

WORLD BIGGEST HYDRO POWERS



Source: Statista

CORPORATE

### Haier India introduces S800QT QLED series, setting a new benchmark

**NEW DELHI:** Haier Appliances India, the No.1 global major appliances brand for 15 consecutive years, has announced the launch of its latest Smart QLED Series S800QT. Designed to elevate the home entertainment experience, the series has a 4K QLED display and comes in 4 sizes 75", 65", 55" and 43". It will be available across all channels starting at a price of Rs 38,990. The all-new-QLED series builds upon Haier India's widespread acclaim of providing an unparalleled entertainment experience, offering enhanced features, and mesmerizing design elements. Mr. NS Satish, President, Haier India, stated, "At Haier, we are dedicated to continuously redefining the home entertainment experience, and with the feature packed S800QT-QLED series, we're delivering a harmonious blend of cutting-edge technology and aesthetic finesse. Catering to consumers who seek uncompromised visual brilliance and an immersive cinematic haven in their own homes." **PTI**

PRICE HIKE

### Escorts Kubota to hike tractor prices from May 1 across models

**NEW DELHI:** Farm machinery and construction equipment maker Escorts Kubota on Monday said it will hike prices of its tractor range with effect from May 1. The agri-machinery business division shall be increasing the prices of tractors effective May 1, 2024 onwards, the company said in a regulatory filing. The increase in prices would vary across models/variants and geographies, it added. The company, however, did not give the quantum of the price hike. Shares of the company were trading 2.11 per cent up at Rs 3,173.25 apiece on the BSE. **PTI**







SC decision, a milestone

Siddaramaiah  
CM, Karnataka

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

## VIOLENCE

## UP minister Sanjay Nishad roughed up at wedding in the village Khalilabad

**SANT KABIR NAGAR:** Uttar Pradesh minister Sanjay Nishad was allegedly attacked by some people when he was visiting a village in the Khalilabad Kotwali Police Station area to attend a wedding, police said on Monday. A complaint was filed in the matter by the minister's personal secretary Vinod Kumar. The incident took place late Sunday night in Mohammadpur Kathar village, where Nishad was confronted by a group of people with questions about his work and his MP son's absence from the constituency. Nishad was rushed to a local hospital with a bloody nose as a result of the row. "I lead the Nishad community. Wherever my workers are, I make sure to attend their weddings. On Sunday, it was the wedding of my worker in Mohammadpur Kathar village," Nishad told the media in Sant Kabir Nagar. **PTI**

## CRIME

## Man kills three including his father with sharp axe in a drunken state

**LATEHAR:** A 35-year-old allegedly killed three persons including his 65-year-old father and injured two with a sharp axe in a drunken state in Jharkhand's Latehar district, police said on Monday. The accused identified as Ranjan Oraon was arrested on Monday following a raid in his village, Latehar, Superintendent of Police (SP) Anjani Anjan said. The incident happened on Sunday night at Dabri village, around 170 km from Jharkhand's capital Ranchi, when the accused returned home in a drunken state. The villagers told police that a dispute occurred at their home after he returned in a drunken state. Oraon killed his father Suraj Oraon with the axe and then his relatives Anupama Devi (35) and Mansuria Devi (32). He also injured his cousin Amlesh Oraon and his wife Hirmani Devi. **PTI**



Ragpickers sort waste at a large dump on the World Earth Day, in Guwahati. PTI PHOTO

# Political slugfest over landfill fire; local residents fall victim

It has been 15 years. Ministers visit us only during elections. But after that not a single one returns to our door to know if we are facing any problem. This landfill is a curse

Press Trust Of India

Thick plumes of smoke still rose skywards from Ghazipur landfill on Monday, hours after a major fire broke out there. This smoke is not any common smoke, it is very poisonous.

**NEW DELHI:** A political slugfest erupted on Monday over the Ghazipur landfill fire incident with the BJP attacking AAP-led MCD over the blaze which left local residents gasping for breath and racked with other health issues.

Delhi cabinet minister Atishi said the incident will be investigated to ascertain its cause.

A major fire broke out at the landfill site in east Delhi on Sunday evening. Officials cited hot and dry weather conditions as the likely trigger for the fire.

Police have registered an FIR against unidentified persons.

According to police, a case under section 336 (act endangering life or personal safety of others) and 278 (making atmosphere noxious to health) has been registered at Ghazipur Police Station and a probe has begun.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva vis-

## HIGHLIGHT

- Residents accused the MCD and the city government of inaction

- Officials claims dry weather conditions responsible for the fire

ited the site and charged it was an example of "corruption" of the AAP government even as mayor Shelly Oberoi, who also went to the site, said this is not the time for politics. On Sunday, deputy mayor Aaley Mohammad Iqbal had also visited the site. Thick plumes of smoke still rose skywards from Ghazipur landfill on Monday, hours after

a major fire broke out there. A wall made of tin panels marking the boundary of the landfill also fell as a portion of garbage broke away. The several metres long wall was erected on the poultry market side. "It has been 15 hours since the fire broke out. This smoke is not any common smoke, it is very poisonous. We are unable to keep our eyes open due to irritation and are experiencing difficulty in breathing," Ram Kumar from Gharoli village, close to the landfill, said.

Several residents told PTI that due to the smoke they were not able to send their children to

school. They accused the MCD and the city government of not taking any action to give a better life to them. "It has been 15 years. Ministers visit us only during elections. But after that not a single one returns to our door to know if we are facing any problem. This landfill is a curse for us. We are forced to suffer foul smells every day. And now this fire has caused several health problems for us. Why do they (ministers) want us to die?" Ilayas Khan said. Rakesh Kumar, a heart patient, said he had to move to his relative's place because he could not bear the suffocation any longer.

## | CHALLENGING CONDITIONS |

## Rajnath Singh visits Siachen; reviews military preparedness

### NIA raids at nine locations in terror-related case

**SRINAGAR:** The National Investigation Agency Monday carried out raids at nine locations in Srinagar in a militancy-related case, officials said here. "The NIA conducted searches at nine locations in Srinagar in a case linked to terror activities," they said. The NIA sleuths carried out the raids along with police and CRPF. The raids are being conducted at the sites associated with individuals with link to terrorism as part of a case registered by the agency in 2022. The officials said the suspects in the case are linked to The Resistant Front (TRF), an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). The LeT and TRF are proscribed organisations and have been involved in the constant instigation and motivation of Kashmiri youth to join terror outfits.

Press Trust Of India

The Siachen glacier at the height of around 20,000 feet in the Karakoram range is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where soldiers have to battle frostbite and high winds

**NEW DELHI:** NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday visited Siachen, the world's highest battlefield, and reviewed India's overall military preparedness in the region. Singh's visit to Siachen came over a week after the Indian Army marked the 40th year of its presence in the strategically key region. The defence minister, accompanied by Army



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh during a visit at Siachen Base Camp.

## FACTFILE

- Siachen is the capital of courage, grit and determination

Chief Gen Manoj Pande, reviewed the overall

security situation in the region, officials said. "Visited a forward post in Siachen. Had a wonderful interaction with the brave Army personnel who are guarding our nation in extremely

challenging conditions," Singh said on 'X'. "I laud their courage and professionalism in the line of duty," he said. Singh also interacted with the soldiers deployed in Siachen.

## | SOUMYA VISHWANATHAN MURDER |

## SC notice against bail granted to 4 life convicts

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to examine the plea by TV journalist Soumya Vishwanathan's mother against the bail granted to four convicts who were serving life imprisonment for the 2008 murder of her daughter.

A bench of Justices Bela M Trivedi and Pankaj

Mithal issued notices to the Delhi government and the four convicts on Madhavi Vishwanathan's petition. Advocate Amit Kumar, who represented convicts Amit Shukla and Baljeet Singh Malik, opposed her plea. The Delhi High Court had on February 12 suspended the sentence of Ravi Kapoor, Amit Shukla, Baljeet Singh Malik and Ajay

**Will examine the bail granted to four convicts**  
Justice Bela M Trivedi  
Judge, Supreme Court

Kumar and granted them bail during the pendency of their appeals challenging their conviction and



sentence. Soumya Vishwanathan, who worked with a leading English news channel, was shot dead in the early hours of September 30, 2008 on Nelson Mandela Marg in south Delhi while she was returning home from work in her car. While granting relief to the convicts, the high court had noted that they have been in custody for 14 years.

## From around the web on India

### INSV Tarini with women officers returns home after two months of "historic transoceanic expedition"



**NEW DELHI:** Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Tarini carrying two women officers has returned home triumphant after undertaking a "historic transoceanic expedition" that lasted nearly two months during which they faced challenges posed by heavy winds and rough seas. The expedition was undertaken in "double-handed mode" by Lt Cdr Dilna K and Lt Cdr Roopa A, women officers of the Indian Navy.

"Their exceptional journey marks a historic milestone as they become the first from India to accomplish such a feat," the Navy said in a statement on Monday. The two officers now prepare

for their next monumental voyage, a circumnavigation of the globe (Sagar Parikrama - IV expedition) on INSV Tarini scheduled to commence in September this year, it said.

The INSV Tarini had embarked on the expedition from INS Mandovi, Goa to Port Louis, Mauritius on February 28, showcasing 'Nari Shakti' in the maritime domain, officials earlier said.

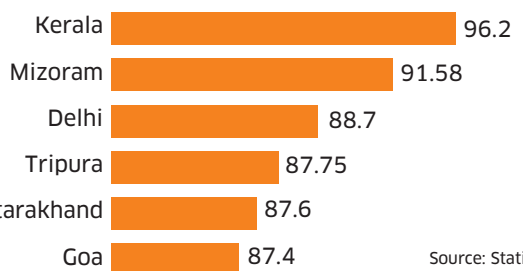
It has "returned triumphant to her base port at Goa on April 21 after a historic transoceanic expedition of nearly two months duration", the Navy said.

The expedition was flagged off from Goa by circumnavigator and their mentor Cdr Abhilash Tomy (retd). **PTI**

## The Day's NUMBERS

ALL INDIA AVERAGE 77.7

## STATE WISE LITERACY RATE (IN %) (NSO SURVEY)



Source: Statista

## SUSPICIOUS

### Police arrests man for conducting recce near Abhishek's house

**KOLKATA:** Kolkata Police Special Task Force and the detective department arrested a person from Mumbai for purportedly conducting recce around the residence and offices of Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee, an official said on Monday.

The person, identified as Rajaram Rege, tried to call the TMC Diamond Harbour MP and his PA after getting their numbers, the officer added.

The IPS officer claimed that Rege had met Mumbai terror prime accused David Headley earlier, apart from others. "Today our officers arrested Rajaram Rege from Mumbai. He had visited Kolkata, stayed here, and conducted a recce of TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee's offices and residence. He obtained the mobile phone numbers of Banerjee and his PA and tried to contact them," the officer said.

Rege stayed at a hotel in Kolkata's Shakespeare Sarani area before returning to Mumbai. **PTI**

## SUFFOCATION

### RPF constable dies while controlling smoke from empty coach of a train

**MUZAFFARPUR:** A constable of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) died allegedly while controlling smoke billowing out from an empty coach of a train at Muzaffarpur railway station here on Monday, officials said. The deceased RPF constable has been identified as Vinod Yadav. CPRO of East Central Railway Birendra Kumar told PTI, "Prima facie it appears that the incident took place when the victim noticed smoke billowing out from a coach of the empty Valsad-Muzaffarpur train at Muzaffarpur railway station at around 7 am. Preliminary inputs from the site suggest that he immediately picked up a fire extinguisher...the moment he tried to open the extinguisher, it burst out...this caused him severe injuries." The entire train was empty when the incident took place, the CPRO said, adding the train had terminated at Muzaffarpur railway station. "It was not a fire. **PTI**



# 25,000 Bengal teachers tired, told to return salary

The bench directed the WBSSC to initiate a fresh recruitment process

Press Trust Of India

**KOLKATA:** The Calcutta High Court on Monday ordered cancellation of all appointments made through the recruitment process of the State Level Selection Test-2016 (SLST) in West Bengal government-sponsored and aided schools, declaring it as "null and void". A division bench comprising justices Debangsu Basak and Md Shabbir Rashidi also directed the CBI to undertake further investigation in respect of the appointment process, and submit a report within three months. The bench directed the West Bengal School Service Commission (SSC) to initiate a fresh recruitment process. Over 23 lakh candidates had appeared for the SLST-2016 for 24,640 vacant posts.

A total of 25,753 appointment letters were issued against the vacancies, said Firdaus Shamim, a lawyer for some of the petitioners. The division bench also rejected a prayer by some appellants for a stay on the order. SSC Chairman Siddharth Majumder said the commission will appeal in the Supreme Court, challenging the high court verdict, after going through the complete order. Moments



Calcutta HC, Kolkata | PTI PHOTO

after the court order, hundreds of school job aspirants waiting outside its premises rejoiced, as many broke into tears. "We had been waiting for this day. After years of struggle on the streets, justice has finally been delivered," one of them said. The division bench, formed by the Chief Justice of the high court on a direction of the Supreme Court, had extensively heard numerous petitions and appeals relating to the selection of candidates for appointment by the SSC.

## SC permits minor rape survivor to undergo MTP

Taking note of "exceptional" circumstances, the Supreme Court on Monday permitted a 14-year-old rape survivor to undergo medical termination of her almost 30-week pregnancy, saying the welfare of the minor was of "paramount importance". Exercising its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution which empowers it to pass any order necessary

### HIGHLIGHT

● SC directs LTMGH at Sion to conduct MTP

● SC said, welfare of minor is their priority

for doing complete justice in any case, a bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala said, "Bear-

ing in mind the exigencies of the situation and the welfare of the minor, which is of paramount importance and her safety...we set aside the judgement of the Bombay High Court." At the outset, the bench, which took up the plea as the first item, observed, "We will allow the medical termination since she is 14-year-old and it is a rape case."

## 80000 school teachers to get AI training in Kerala

Press Trust Of India

The AI training focuses on summarisation techniques to simplify complex documents in PDFs, images, and videos and to generate concise summaries that retain crucial information and even create new content using AI tools.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:

For the first time in the country, around 80,000 secondary school teachers in Kerala are all set to get hands-on training in AI. The three-day training, being conducted by Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) from May 2, aims to empower 80,000 teachers in Classes 8 to 12. It is envisaged to provide them with the necessary AI expertise by August 2024, an official statement said here.

The AI training focuses on summarisation techniques to simplify complex documents in PDFs, images, and videos and to generate concise summaries that retain crucial information and even create new content using AI tools. Teachers would learn image generation techniques to create and edit subject-specific visuals, transform them into cartoons or paintings,

and integrate text with the images, KITE said in a statement on Monday.

This is followed by Prompt Engineering and Machine Learning which helps in formulating precise prompts essential for effective utilisation of AI tools and also to understand its programming mechanisms respectively by actually doing it, it said. Through data visualisation, teachers will explore how AI can be harnessed to create

### FASTFACTS

● Teachers could identify potential risks associated with AI, while fostering a culture of responsible AI usage

● In the training, teachers would also create their own avatars to understand the concept of deepfakes

presentations and animations, along with generating and customising tables, graphs and charts that cater to specific requirements.

Next comes assessment wherein teachers would be equipped with AI techniques for evaluation purposes, enabling them to design various question formats, including unit tests etc, it further said.

### NEWSLINE

#### PARADIP

*Drinking water to quench thirst in Kujang*



In view of the recent heavy summer waves, Military Ex-Servicemen Association of Jagatsinghpur district launched Water Kiosk Center on Sunday to provide drinking water to pedestrians. Jagatsinghpur district ex-servicemen have decided to gradually provide water Kiosk services in every block of the district till the end of next June. In this context, a drinking water Kiosk center was launched at near Kujang Market from 9 am to 2 pm on Sunday.

#### SURAT

*Search for pistol used for firing outside Salman's home*

A Mumbai crime branch team on Monday launched a search in the Tapi river in Gujarat's Surat city to recover the pistol used by two men for allegedly firing outside Bollywood superstar Salman Khan's residence, police said. The two arrested men - Vicky Gupta (24) and Sagar Pal (21) - told the police during interrogation that they threw the weapon into the Tapi river here from a railway bridge when they were fleeing towards Bhuj in a train after arriving in Surat by road from Mumbai following the firing incident, according to sources. The duo allegedly fired outside 58-year-old Khan's house at the Galaxy Apartment.

## AIIMS to form medical board to examine Kejriwal

Press Trust Of India

In its order, the court said the detailed list of food he consumes "categorically shows that the food items which are being provided as home cooked food, are quite different from the diet prescribed by his own doctor"

**NEW DELHI:** A Delhi court on Monday directed the AIIMS to constitute a medical board to examine Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to determine whether he needs insulin to control his blood sugar levels and said the home-cooked food that the politician was consuming was different from the diet chart prepared by his doctor. Special Judge for CBI and ED cases Kaveri Baweja passed the order while declining Kejriwal's plea for video consultation with his doctor in

the presence of his wife. Kejriwal had alleged he was not being administered insulin in jail leading to "alarming" rise in his blood sugar levels.

The ED had claimed on Friday the AAP leader was consuming sugar-laden food like mangoes and sweets on a regular basis to create grounds for medical bail. Kejriwal responded sharply, accusing the central anti-money laundering agency of acting "petty" and "politicising" what he ate. The court on Monday ordered all necessary medical treatment to be provided to Kejriwal, arrested in a money laundering case linked to the alleged Delhi excise scam. The court ordered the AIIMS director to constitute a medical board comprising endocrinologist/diabetologist to examine Kejriwal. The board will decide whether he should be administered insulin and also take a call on the diet and exercise plan he needs to follow, the court said.

## 11 dead in separate accidents in 24 hours

**KHARGONE:** Eleven persons died and 28 were injured in separate accidents in the past 24 hours in Madhya Pradesh's Khargone, Seoni and Maihar districts, police said on Monday. Two persons were killed and 11 injured in Khargone, seven died and 16 were injured in four accidents in Seoni and two persons lost their lives and one received injuries in Maihar, officials said. In Khargone, 65-year-old Taj Bi and her 48-year-old son Aamin were killed on the spot and 11 persons sustained injuries after a car collided with a sports utility vehicle on Bistan Road under Kotwali police station limits at 2:30am, an official said. "Taj Bi and Aamin were travelling in the SUV from Indore to Khargone when it collided with a car. The injured comprise two persons in the car and nine in the SUV. Eight of the injured have been shifted to Indore for further treatment," said district hospital post in charge Ram Naresh Sharma.

## Drive to provide passengers with pure drinking water

Central Chronicle News

Social service organizations are actively contributing to quench the thirst of passengers

**BILASPUR:** Considering the intense heat during the summer season, Bilaspur Division Railway Administration has made arrangements for sufficient availability of water coolers and water taps to provide clean and cool drinking water to passengers. Special attention is being paid to ensure that passengers do not face any inconvenience for water during their journey.

Additionally, social service organizations are actively contributing to quench the thirst of passengers. These organizations are providing cool water at stations to fulfill the additional water needs of passengers. In this regard, a water cooler has been installed by the



Bilaspur Division Railway Station. | RLY PHOTO

### FASTFACTS

● Water cooler installed by the Rotary Club Virat at Shahdol stn

Rotary Club Virat at Shahdol station and Hare Madhav Paramarshi Foundation has opened a water outlet at Umaria station. These organizations are providing free cool drinking water to passengers on

the platforms and trains. As soon as the trains arrive at the stations, passengers are served water and encouraged to fill their empty bottles with cool water. Free cool water is also being provided to passengers arriving from various locations on the platform.

The main objective is to ensure that no passenger remains thirsty on trains passing through the stations. This initiative is providing considerable relief to passengers from the fatigue of rail travel and the scorching summer weather.

## Ex-HC judge Gangopadhyay demands Mamata's resignation

**KOLKATA:** Terming the Calcutta High Court order to cancel all appointments made through the recruitment process of the State Level Selection Test-2016 (SLST) in West Bengal government-sponsored and aided schools as an "appropriate judgment", former judge of the court Abhijit Gangopadhyay on Monday demanded "immediate resignation" of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY			
No. DMM/ROH/BIA/Tender/TADK-SECR-RAIPUR DIV. Dt. 17.04.2024			
S. No.	Tender Notice No.	Name of Work	Closing
01	DMM/ROH/PPYD/BIA Tender No. TADK-SECR-RAIPUR/DIV.	Man-power hiring of Attendants in lieu of Railway TADK for a period of 36 Months within Raipur Division SECR.	16.05.2024 15.00 Hrs.

1. For more information Please visit website ([www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in))  
2. Any other queries related to tender contract to office of DMM/ROH/PPYD/BIA  
ROH Store Depot, PP Yard, Bhalai, Dist- Durg (C.G.) Pin-490021 on working Day Monday-Friday 8.00 AM to 5.00 PM and Saturday 8.00 AM to 12.00 PM, Phone No. - 9752877402.

Divisional Material Manager  
PRR/DMM/BIA/JAN/12  
ROH Depot/PP Yard/SECR/Bhalai

**छत्तीसगढ़ उच्च न्यायालय, बिलासपुर**

**सूचना**

क्रमांक 5928/चौ-14-1/2023 बिलासपुर, दिनांक 02/04/2024  
Aix No. 06/2023 (DEO)

छत्तीसगढ़ उच्च न्यायालय, बिलासपुर में डाटा एन्ट्री ऑपरेटर के पद को भर्ती हेतु विज्ञापन क्रमांक 06/2023 के माध्यम से आवेदन पत्र मंगाये गये थे। उक्त पद हेतु आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त होने की अंतिम तिथि 30/10/2023 निर्धारित थी। उक्त पद हेतु प्रथम चरण की लिखित परीक्षा दिनांक 28/04/2024 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से 11.00 बजे तक 04 परीक्षा केन्द्रों में आयोजित किया जाना निर्धारित है। पात्र एवं अपात्र अभ्यर्थियों के आवेदन पत्रों की सूची छत्तीसगढ़ उच्च न्यायालय, बिलासपुर की वेबसाइट पर अपलोड कर दी गई है। विस्तृत जानकारी छत्तीसगढ़ उच्च न्यायालय, बिलासपुर की वेबसाइट <https://highcourt.cg.gov.in> पर देखा जा सकता है।

(बलराम प्रसाद वर्मा)  
प्रभारी रजिस्ट्रार जनरल

G-2425030184

**Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.**

Corporate Office: Unit No. 802, Natraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V. Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400069  
Bilaspur Branch : 1st Floor, Krishna Sanchatra Compound Near RNT Squire Tarbahar Road Bilaspur - 495004 (CG).

**POSSESSION NOTICE Appendix IV (for immovable property)**

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

S. N.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) (Name of the Branch)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Date of Possession
1	(Loan Code No. 01010000328 / Bilaspur Branch) Prakash Rakesh (Borrower), Sourabh Rakesh (Co-Borrower)	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Teh.- Shivnagar, Durpa to Mudpar Road Ward No. 14 Durpa Jamgir - Champa Chhattisgarh 495557. Boundaries:- East- Road, West- Land of Ganga Bai Kewat, North - Land of Sukhrum, South - Land of Narayan Kewat	18-12-2023 & ₹ 25,62,687/-	18-04-2024

Place : Chhattisgarh  
Date : 23-04-2024

Authorised Officer  
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited



# World



First illegal migrants' flight to take off for Rwanda in 10-12 weeks

Rishi Sunak  
UK PM

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

**ELECTIONS**  
**Poland's PM celebrates after his party wins a string of cities**

**WARSAW:** Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk is celebrating after a series of candidates supported by his party won weekend races for mayor. Tusk declared victory in the second round of the country's local elections late Sunday and listed the many cities where candidates backed by his Civic Coalition won, among them Krakow, Poznan, Wroclaw and Rzeszow.

It puts the pro-European Union centrist Civic Coalition in a favourable position as the country looks next to elections to the European Parliament on June 9. "I think we won the second round. We won't stop!" Tusk wrote on social platform X. Mayors were chosen in a total of 748 cities and towns where no single candidate won at least 50 per cent of the vote during the first round on April 7. **PTI**

**HITLER-BIRTHDAY**  
**Four Germans caught marking Hitler's birthday outside his birth place**



**BERLIN:** Four Germans were caught laying white roses in memory of Adolf Hitler at the house where the Nazi dictator was born in western Austria on the anniversary of his birth, and one gave a Hitler salute as they posed for photos, police said on Monday. Hitler was born on April 20, 1889, in Braunau am Inn. After lengthy wrangling over the future of the house where he was born, work started last year on turning it into a police station. **PTI**



Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., center, walks with Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, right, during arrival honors at the Malacanang Presidential palace in Manila.

# Australian PM criticises X over church violence content

Australian PM Anthony Albanese criticised social media platform X for refusing to remove graphic posts about a knife attack on a bishop and priest in a Sydney church.

Press Trust Of India

**MELBOURNE:** X Corp, the tech company founded last year by billionaire Elon Musk to succeed Twitter, announced last week it would fight in court Australian orders to take down posts relating to a knife attack on a bishop in an Assyrian Orthodox church as a service was being streamed online. Albanese said social media posts, misinformation and dissemination of violent images had exacerbated suffering from the Christ the Good Shepherd Church attack, which the two clerics survived, and a knife attack at a Sydney shop-

ping mall two days earlier which killed six people.

He said he was surprised that X was fighting in the Australian Federal Court orders to take down violent content from Australia's eSafety Commission, which describes itself as the world's first government agency dedicated to keeping people safer online. "Social media has a social responsibility," Albanese told reporters. "I find it extraordinary that X chose not to comply and are trying to argue their case."

The platform's Global Government Affairs team said on Saturday Australia's eSafety Commis-

### HIGHLIGHT

● Social media posts, misinformation and dissemination of violent images had exacerbated suffering from the Christ the Good Shepherd Church attack

● "I find it extraordinary that X chose not to comply and are trying to argue their case."

sioner Julie Inman Grant had ordered it to remove some posts that commented on the church attack, but it said the posts did not violate X's rules on violent speech.

X said the Australian

regulator had demanded the platform "globally withhold these posts or face a daily fine of \$785,000." "X believes that eSafety's order was not within the scope of Australian law and we complied with the directive pending a legal challenge," the Global Government Affairs account said. "While X respects the right of a country to enforce its laws within its jurisdiction, the eSafety Commissioner does not have the authority to dictate what content X's users can see globally," it said. "We will robustly challenge this unlawful and dangerous approach in court,"

it added. The material is geoblocked from Australia but remains available elsewhere. The live feed of the church attack and social media posts that followed attracted a crowd of 2,000 people and fuelled a riot against police, who barricaded the young suspected attacker inside the place of worship. The rioting injured 51 police officers and damaged 104 police vehicles, officials said.

Three alleged rioters had been arrested by Sunday and police on Monday released images of 12 suspects they accuse of being the main instigators of the violence, taken from video of the riot.

### From around the world

**Israeli military intelligence chief resigns over failure to prevent October 7 attack**



**TEL AVIV:** The head of Israel's military intelligence directorate resigned on Monday over the failures surrounding Hamas' unprecedented October 7 attack, the military said, becoming the first senior figure to step down over his role in the deadliest assault in Israel's history.

Maj. Gen. Aharon Haliva's resignation sets the stage for what's expected to be more fallout from Israel's top security brass over Hamas' attack, when militants blasted through Israel's border defences, rampaged through Israeli communities unchallenged for hours and killed 1,200 people, most civilians, while taking roughly 250

hostages into Gaza. That attack set off the war against Hamas in Gaza, now in its seventh month.

The military said in a statement that Haliva had asked to end his service "following his leadership responsibility." Shortly after the war, Haliva had publicly said that he shouldered blame for not preventing the assault as the head of the military department responsible for providing the government and the military with intelligence warnings and daily alerts.

The military said in the statement that the military chief of staff accepted Haliva's request to resign and thanked him for his service.

### EAST AFRICA-FLOODS

# Flooding wreaks havoc in East Africa

Press Trust Of India

**Deadly floods are wreaking havoc in many parts of East Africa that face torrential rainfall, with the poor nation of Burundi calling for international help to deal with the aftermath.**



Floods wreaked havoc in many parts of East Africa after torrential rains.

**BUJUMBURA (BURUNDI):** Deadly floods are wreaking havoc in many parts of East Africa that face torrential rainfall, with the poor nation of Burundi calling for international help to deal with the aftermath. Lake Tanganyika's rising waters have invaded the port of Bujumbura, Burundi's economic capital, disrupting business there and elsewhere in the country that relies

heavily on donor support to run government programmes. "We are issuing this statement to ask our development partners to combine efforts with the state of Burundi to help all people affected by these disasters," Interior Minister Martin Niteretse said April 17. "We need that support." Niteretse spoke in Bujum-

### FASTFACTS

● The number of people internally displaced by flooding rose by 25 per cent.

● The Boulevard du Japon, a major highway in Bujumbura, has been completely flooded in recent days

bura alongside Violet Kenyana Kakyomya, the UN resident coordinator in Burundi. Between September and April 7, some 203,944 people were affected by flooding, with 19,250 homes and 209 classrooms destroyed during that time. The number of people internally displaced by flooding rose by 25 per cent,

reaching over 98,000 people, according to Kakyomya. Burundi is one of the world's poorest countries, with 80 per cent of its 13 million people employed in agriculture, according to the World Bank. Flooding there has created surreal scenes like game rangers entering the waterlogged Rusizi National Park in a canoe. The Boulevard du Japon, a major highway in Bujumbura, has been completely flooded in recent days. Climate experts say flooding events in Burundi and elsewhere in the region are part of extreme conditions linked to the El Niño weather phenomenon. "It must be said directly that these floods are associated with climate changes that affect Burundi like other countries in the region," said Jean Marie Sabushimike.

### PLASTICS-BAN

# Ban on single-use plastics in Hong Kong

Press Trust Of India

**HONG KONG:** Hong Kong has long been a major producer and consumer of great food, and a great amount of plastic and Styrofoam to go with it. That's going to change as new legislation aims to stop the sale and distribution of Styrofoam products and single-use plastic cutlery went into effect

on Monday. Under the new law, single-use cutlery such as forks, spoons, straws and plates cannot be sold or distributed for both dine-in and takeaway customers. However, plastic food containers and cups can still be given out for takeaways. The regulation of disposable plastic tableware and other plastic products in Hong Kong aims to reduce their use

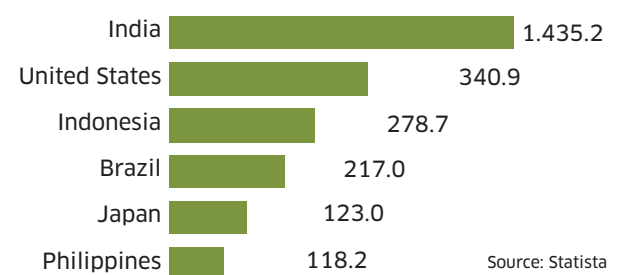


at the source to cut down on pollution, Hong Kong's Environmental Protection Department said in an emailed response to The Associated Press. Restaurants were given a six-month grace period. A second phase of the ban, expected next year, will ban all single-use plastics including containers for both dine-in and takeaway.

### The Day's NUMBERS

Estimated population of the world biggest democracies in 2024 (in million people)

### THE WORLD'S BIGGEST DEMOCRACIES



**NORWAY-KING**  
**Norway's King Harald, Europe's oldest monarch, is back at work**

**COPENHAGEN:** Europe's oldest monarch, King Harald V of Norway, returned to work Monday after on a long sick leave following two surgeries to implant pacemakers. The first scheduled tasks for Harald, 87, is to receive Norwegian military officers at the royal palace in Oslo, according to the Norwegian royal calendar. In late February, Harald fell ill during a private holiday with his wife Queen Sonja on the Malaysian resort island of Langkawi. He received a temporary pacemaker there due to a low heart rate on March 2. Harald returned to Norway aboard a medical airplane and was immediately transferred to a hospital. He underwent a second surgery to receive a permanent pacemaker 10 days later at Oslo's university hospital. At first, he was expected to be on sick leave for two weeks, but that was extended several times. During that time, his 50-year-old son, Crown Prince Haakon, has been assuming the king's duties. **PTI**

**ADVERTISING SEARCH**  
**Japan's anti-monopoly body orders Google to fix ad search limits**



**TOKYO:** Japan's antitrust watchdog said Monday that US search giant Google must fix its advertising search restrictions affecting Yahoo in Japan.

The Japan Fair Trade Commission said in a statement that its recent study of Google's practices showed it was undermining fair competition in the advertising market.

Google did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Yahoo has merged with Japanese social media platform Line, and Line Yahoo declined comment. **PTI**



The breathtaking view from my room overlooking the cityscape and the sea was just the beginning of an unforgettable experience.

Priyanka Chopra  
Actress



# Excursion

CELEB TALK

## Priyanka Chopra's Mumbai trip: Finding home in the Oberoi Horizon

During her Mumbai trip, Priyanka Chopra shared that her stay at The Oberoi felt like a homecoming, she said "feel like home."



Where luxury meets comfort: A glimpse into the unparalleled hospitality and breathtaking views at The Oberoi Mumbai.



Priyanka Chopra's recent Mumbai escapade was transformed into an extraordinary experience by her indulgent stay at The Oberoi. As she graced the city for a lavish event and cherished moments with family, including husband Nick Jonas and daughter Malti Marie Jonas, Priyanka couldn't help but express her gratitude to The Oberoi for making her feel truly at home. Sharing glimpses of her stay on Instagram, Priyanka revealed that the captivating view of the cityscape framed by the vast expanse of the sea from her room's window would be a cherished memory.

**My stay at The Oberoi was truly unforgettable. From the stunning view to impeccable hospitality, every moment was exceptional.**

Priyanka Chopra  
BOLLYWOOD ACTRESS  
apart is its seamless blend of luxury and comfort. From the modern elegance of its ambience, with iconic views of Marine Drive, to the spa-

acious rooms and suites offering panoramic vistas, every detail is crafted to elevate the guest experience. Dining at The Oberoi is a culinary journey around the globe, with six distinct venues offering a variety of international and local cuisines. From indulgent spa therapies to bespoke experiences like private poolside dinners and wine-tasting extravaganzas, The Oberoi ensures that every guest receives the royal treatment. Priyanka Chopra's Mumbai trip was not just a journey; it was a testament to the unmatched hospitality and luxury that The Oberoi offers, making every stay a truly unforgettable experience.

### WindowView WHAT TO WATCH



#### ISTANBUL IN SPRING

##### A Vibrant Escape with Tulips and Traditions

Experience Istanbul's charm in spring, particularly in March and April, with temperatures hovering around 12°C (54°F) or higher. Pack versatile clothing for occasional showers and chilly evenings, opting for layers. Witness the city adorned with blooming tulips during the International Tulip Festival at the end of March or early April. Plan your visit on, which typically fall in March and April, impacting travel and accommodation costs due to increased domestic and international tourism. Be prepared for possible closures during these festive periods while exploring this vibrant destination.



#### GOKARNA

##### Karnataka's Serene Oasis of Adventure and Spirituality

Nestled in Karnataka lies the tranquil haven of Gokarna, a lesser-known gem amidst the state's famed beaches and temples. Home to the revered Mahabaleshwar Temple, Gokarna invites visitors to immerse themselves in spirituality while exploring its serene beaches like Om, Half Moon, and Kudle. Beyond its religious sites, Gokarna offers a blend of adventure and tranquility, catering to all types of travelers. Plan your visit between October and March to relish the mild climate and escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life, making Gokarna an idyllic retreat for all.



#### Auli

##### Enveloped by the Majestic Himalayas, Auli Beckons Adventurers

Cradled within the embrace of the Himalayan peaks, Auli emerges as a playground for those seeking excitement and serenity. With its panoramic vistas of TrishulParvat, Hathi, Ghoda, and the iconic Nanda Devi, Auli invites explorers to discover its unspoiled slopes and captivating landscapes. From exhilarating skiing adventures to peaceful treks and cozy camping experiences, Auli offers a wealth of unforgettable moments. Traverse the rugged terrain by embarking on a scenic trek from Joshimath or soar above the clouds with a mesmerizing ropeway ride. Explore the harmonious blend of adventure and tranquility in the enchanting realm of Auli.



#### Gurez Valley

##### A Journey into Kashmir's Serene Wilderness

Gurez Valley in Kashmir offers a unique experience of the shepherd's life. It's a remote valley with snowy mountains and bubbling streams. Perfect for trekking and camping, you'll find many routes with stunning Himalayan views. Explore nearby villages to enjoy local culture and food. Don't miss Wular Lake, Peer Baba Shrine, and Razdan Pass, famous spots in Gurez Valley. Best time to visit is from June to September for pleasant weather. Immerse yourself in the tranquility of this hidden gem, where every step brings you closer to nature's embrace.



#### Tawang

##### A Hidden Gem of Arunachal Pradesh

If you're planning a trip to Arunachal Pradesh, don't miss out on Tawang. It's one of India's most captivating destinations. Tawang is a secluded town renowned for its breathtaking scenery and vibrant culture. The journey to Tawang is full of excitement, but it's not for the faint-hearted. This town has gained a reputation as an offbeat destination in India. Explore the renowned Tawang Monastery, one of the largest Buddhist monasteries globally. Immerse yourself in the local culture and cuisine by visiting nearby villages. The best time to experience Tawang's beauty is from March to October.

### | ROME'S BATHS OF CARACALLA |

## Resurrected rapture: Rome's ancient baths of Caracalla embrace aquatic majesty once more

Central Chronicle News

Ancient Oasis, Rome's Caracalla Baths Revived in Aquatic Splendor" Witness history's embrace as water returns, igniting the grandeur of Rome's legendary thermal wonders.

In a mesmerizing revival fit for the annals of history, Rome's Baths of Caracalla, steeped in silence for over a millennium, have emerged from the depths of time to embrace the gentle embrace of water once again. Originally envisioned by Emperor Septimius Severus in 212 AD and brought to completion under Caracalla's reign, these legendary thermal complexes stand as enduring monuments to the city's illustrious past. Now, as the curtains rise on a new chapter in their storied history,



Rome's Baths of Caracalla: A timeless revival blending ancient grandeur with modern innovation, as history meets contemporary artistry in a mesmerizing celebration of culture and heritage.

#### HIGHLIGHT

● Rome's Baths of Caracalla, dormant for a millennium, awoken with the unveiling of the "Specchio" pool. Aterballetto's performance heralds a new era of artistry, blending ancient grandeur with modern innovation amidst historic ruins.



the unveiling of the "Specchio," a modern pool designed by architects Hanes Peer and Paolo Bornello, marks a transformational moment, breathing fresh life into these timeless ruins. The "Specchio" not only pays homage to the ancient grandeur of Rome's thermal baths but also embodies the city's

commitment to preserving its cultural legacy. Mirella Serlorenzi, the site's director, aptly describes the reintroduction of water as a poignant yet respectful gesture, blending past and present in perfect harmony.

This ambitious restoration project, led by Rome's cultural authorities, seeks to rejuvenate the city's ancient sites, ensuring they remain vibrant centers of cultural expression for future generations. As the inaugural performance by Aterballetto, choreographed by Iratxe Ansa and Igor Bacovich, unfolds, it heralds a new era for the Baths of Caracalla. Against the backdrop of ancient ruins, visitors are invited to immerse themselves in an enchanting fusion of history and contemporary artistry, creating an unforgettable experience in the heart of the Eternal City.



## Sports



Ashish Nehra has created a beautiful environment where we can be fearless and play for the team. He told me to enjoy myself and gave me a lot of freedom.

Sai Kishore  
Gujarat Titans

# Gukesh makes history, Challenger for world title



D. Gukesh of India and Hikaru Nakamura of USA during their Round 14 match. | Photo: PTI

Gukesh played out an easy draw with American Hikaru Nakamura in the 14th and final round to finish with nine out of a possible 14 points in the tournament.

Press Trust Of India

**TORONTO:** India's 17-year-old Grandmaster D Gukesh scripted history by winning the Candidates Chess Tournament here to become the youngest ever challenger to the world title, bettering a record created by the legendary Garry Kasparov 40 years ago. Gukesh played out an

easy draw with American Hikaru Nakamura in the 14th and final round to finish with nine out of a possible 14 points in the tournament that is held to decide the challenger to the world champion. The triumph entitles Gukesh a clash against reigning world champion Ding Liren of China in the last quarter of the year. The Chennai-based

## HIGHLIGHT

● Chennai-based teen bettered Kasparov's record by quite a distance as the Russian great was 22 when he qualified in 1984.

● Gukesh became only the second Indian after the great Viswanathan Anand.

teen bettered Kasparov's record by quite a distance as the Russian great was 22 when he qualified in 1984 to clash with compatriot Anatoly Karpov. "So relieved and so happy. I was following this crazy game (between Fabio Caruana and Ian Nepomniachtchi), and then I went for a walk with my second (Gregorz Gawezyk), I think that

helped," Gukesh said after winning. Gukesh also won a cash award of 88,500 Euros (approx Rs 78.5 lakh). The total prize fund of the Candidates was 5,00,000 Euros. He became only the second Indian after the great Viswanathan Anand to win the prestigious tournament. Five-time world champion Anand's triumph came in 2014.

## Ramit Tandon bows out in third round of El Gouna squash tourney

**NEW DELHI:** India's Ramit Tandon's impressive run at the El Gouna International Open squash tournament came to an end as he went down in straight games to Peruvian world No 3 Diego Elias in the third round of El Gouna International Open in Egypt. The Indian was no match for former world number 1 Elias, who dispatched Ramit 11-2, 11-4, 11-2 in 35 minutes in the USD 198,000 PSA Platinum event on Sunday. The Indian world No 40, who is preparing for next month's World Championships in Egypt, had upset French world No 11 Victor Crouin in the second round after brushing aside Egyptian world No 62 Aly Hussein in his opener.

## Koneru Humpy finishes 2nd in Women's Candidate chess

Press Trust of India

At the half-way stage, Humpy was languishing at 2.5 points out of seven games but came up with a splendid effort to score five points from the last seven games.

**TORONTO:** Indian grandmaster Koneru Humpy delivered the goods when it mattered, defeating erstwhile joint leader Tingjie Lei of China to finish second on a superior tiebreak in the women candidates tournament here. Zhongyi Tan of China expectedly topped the tables after settling for a draw with Anna Muzychuk of Ukraine. The real story of the day was R Vaishali who scored



Grandmaster Koneru Humpy of India during her match against Tingjie Lei of China. | Photo: PTI

## FACTFILE

● Tan finished with 9 points in all, 1.5 points clear of the nearest rivals Humpy, Lei and Vaishali who all finished second to fourth respectively.

her fifth victory on the trot at the expense of Kateryna Lagno of Russia to tie for the second spot before finishing fourth on tiebreak. Tan finished with 9 points in all, 1.5 points clear of the nearest rivals Humpy, Lei and Vaishali who all finished

second to fourth respectively. Aleksandra Goryachkina finished fifth on seven points, a full point ahead of Lagno, while Nurgul Salimova of Bulgaria and Muzychuk ended in the last two spots in the eight-player double round-robin contest.

TENNIS

## Elena Rybakina wins Porsche Grand Prix

Press Trust of India

**STUTTGART:** Elena Rybakina eased to her third title of the season on Sunday with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Ukraine's Marta Kostyuk in the final of the Porsche Grand Prix. Rybakina, the world No. 4-ranked player who defeated top-ranked Iga Swiatek in the semi-

finals, saved the three break points she faced and took four from six opportunities to win in an hour, 9 minutes. It's Rybakina's tour-leading 26th win of the year. The Stuttgart title comes after wins in Adelaide and Abu Dhabi this season. The Kazakh player's previous clay-court wins were in Rome in 2023 and Bucharest in

It's an amazing tournament, and I'm really looking forward to come back next year.

Elena Rybakina  
Tennis player



2019. "It's an amazing tournament, and I'm really looking forward to come back next year," said Rybakina, who also defeated Jasmine Paolini and Veronika Kudermetova in Stuttgart. The 27th-ranked Kostyuk was under pressure from the start as Rybakina broke her serve and sealed the first set in just 30 minutes.

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CRICKET

### Liverpool stays in the hunt for the PL title with 3-1 win at Fulham

**LONDON:** Liverpool stayed in the hunt for the Premier League title and moved level on points with leader Arsenal with a 3-1 victory over Fulham that was illuminated by a brilliant free kick by Trent Alexander-Arnold. Liverpool bounced back from Thursday's exit to Atalanta in the Europa League quarterfinals and last weekend's home loss to Crystal Palace by winning at Craven Cottage after Jurgen Klopp dropped Mohamed Salah and Alexis Mac Allister to the bench. Alexander-Arnold's curling free-kick in the 32nd was canceled out by Timothy Castagne's first goal for Fulham in first-half stoppage time. Ryan Gravenberch and Diogo Jota scored in the second half as Liverpool joined Arsenal on 74 points – one more than defending champion Manchester City, which has a game in hand. **PTI**

PARIS GAMES

### It's grey area, need more clarity in rules: RCB's Topley on Kohli's dismissal

**KOLKATA:** Virat Kohli's controversial dismissal has compounded the struggling Royal Challengers Bengaluru's woes, and their left-arm quick Reece Topley on Sunday described the whole episode as "a grey area" in cricket and called for more clarity in rules. The new Hawk-Eye technology to determine no-balls for height was used when TV umpire Michael Gough deemed a waist-high delivery from KKR's Harshit Rana fair, ending Virat Kohli's stay at a 7-ball 18 through a return catch. RCB lost the IPL match by a run while chasing an imposing 223. Despite Kohli's contention, the Hawk-Eye showed that the ball would have passed below his waist if he had stayed inside his crease, thus making it a legal delivery under the new system. "Obviously, those measurements are brought in to get rid of a grey area, and then you have something today that no one had thought of," said Topley. **PTI**

## BARCELONA OPEN TENNIS

### Ruud beats Tsitsipas to win Barcelona Open for biggest career title a week after loss in Monte Carlo



**BARCELONA:** Casper Ruud took his revenge against Stefanos Tsitsipas by winning the Barcelona Open final in straight sets for his biggest career title, a week after losing to the Greek in the Monte Carlo Masters final. Ruud won 7-5, 6-3 for his first title of the season after losing the three other finals he played this year. "Honestly, this has been worth the wait," Ruud said after the triumph in Barcelona. "A lot of finals that I've lost have been tough, a bit dis-

appointing, of course. Any time you reach a final, it's nonetheless a good week, so you can't be too hard on yourself, but this one has been a long time coming." Seventh-ranked Tsitsipas had comfortably won in straight sets in Monte Carlo but this time Ruud prevailed, converting three of the six break points he earned. "I'm super happy to do it here in Barcelona in front of a packed stadium and on Rafa Nadal Court," the sixth-ranked Ruud said. **PTI**

## The Day's NUMBERS

### TOP CENTURY MAKERS IN CRICKET TILL 12.10.23

Sachin Tendulkar (India)	100
Ricky Ponting (Australia)	71
Virat Kohli (India)	70
Kumar Sangakkara (Sri Lanka)	63
Jacques Kallis (South Africa)	62

IPL T20

### 'Starc is a superstar, don't think of him from investment standpoint'

**KOLKATA:** Under scrutiny for his poor show in the ongoing season, IPL's costliest buy Mitchell Starc on Monday received the backing of Kolkata Knight Riders' managing director and CEO Venky Mysore, who said they don't think of him from an "investment standpoint". KKR had bought Starc for a record Rs 24.75 crore but it always came with a caveat as the Aussie left-arm quick had limited experience in the shortest format and was making a comeback to IPL after nine years. "He's a superstar and he's a quality player," Mysore said on the sideline of Knight Golf event at RCGC here. "We don't think of it from an investment standpoint, because you go to the auction and things happen in the auction, which is not in the hands of the player, nor is it in the hands of anybody else." "We just felt that an addition to the team like Mitchell Starc would add a lot of value, which it has". **PTI**

IPL BATTLE

### Du Plessis, Curran fined for IPL Code of Conduct breaches



**BARCELONA:** G Royal Challengers Bengaluru skipper Faf du Plessis has copped a Rs 12 lakh fine, while Punjab Kings captain has been penalised 50 per cent of his match fees for their respective offences, the IPL announced on Monday. Du Plessis was fined for maintaining a slow over rate during RCB's thrilling one-run loss, their seventh of the ongoing season, to Kolkata Knight Riders at the Eden Gardens on Sunday. Curran, on the other hand, was fined half of his match fees for a Level 1 offence under Article 2.8 of the IPL's Code of Conduct which refers to "showing dissent to an umpire's decision" during PBKS' three-wicket loss to Gujarat Titans in Mullanpur on Sunday. **PTI**



# Sports News



Chennai Super Kings player MS Dhoni during a training session Photo PTI.



Lucknow Super Giants' players in action. Photo PTI.

# Revenge on CSK's mind, LSG eye victory

**Press Trust of India**  
**CSK aims to avenge loss against LSG in IPL match; both teams vie for playoff contention.**

**CHENNAI:** Revenge will be on defending champions Chennai Super Kings' minds when they host an unpredictable Lucknow Super Giants here in their reverse IPL fixture on Tuesday with both the teams desperate to break out of the mid-table logjam. The last time the two teams faced off in Luc-

know last week, KL Rahul and Quinton de Kock put up a record opening partnership which proved to be the difference as LSG joined CSK at eight points in the IPL standing. The Super Kings have been a force to be reckoned with at home and they will look to set the record straight this time. Following the away loss, CSK will be eager to redeem themselves in the three consecutive home ties to march towards the playoffs. For CSK, skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad and Shivam Dube have done

Teams	Chennai Super Kings	Lucknow Super Giants
	Rachin Ravindra, Ruturaj Gaikwad (c), Ajinkya Rahane, Daryl Mitchell, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, Sameer Rizvi, MS Dhoni (wk), Shardul Thakur, Tusshar Deshpande, Mustafizur Rahman, Matheesha Pathirana, Nishant Sindhu, Moeen Ali, Mitchell Santner, Shaik Rasheed, Aravelly Avaneesh, Maheesh Theekshana, RS Hangargekar, Simarjeet Singh, Mukesh Choudhary, Prashant Solanki, Ajay Jadav Mandal, Richard Gleeson and Deepak Chahar.	Quinton de Kock, KL Rahul (c & wk), Deepak Hooda, Ayush Badoni, Marcus Stoinis, Nicholas Pooran, Krunal Pandya, Ravi Bishnoi, Mohsin Khan, Shamar Joseph, Yash Thakur, Manimaran Siddharth, Prerak Mankad, Arshad Khan, Krishnappa Gowtham, Amit Mishra, Kyle Mayers, Ashton Turner, Matt Henry, Naveen-ul-Haq, Devdutt Padikkal, Yuvvir Singh Charak, Mayank Yadav and Arshin Kulkarni.
		Match start time: 7.30 PM (IST).

bulk of the scoring and their failure against LSG meant they didn't get a flying start and also struggled in the middle overs. While opener Rachin

Ravindra's form is a concern, CSK also promoted Ajinkya Rahane as the opener and as a result, Gaikwad pushed himself a spot down to three.

For LSG, batting has been an issue but they have shown how devastating they can be if their top-order fires. Rahul and Quinton were on a roll and they will once again have to do the heavy lifting at Chepauk. Also Nicholas Pooran has hit top gear when needed and LSG will bank on him a lot. Pacer Mohsin Khan and Yash Thakur did well to restrict CSK initially but found themselves in the firing line of Dhoni in the final overs, something they need to work on before they walk into his den.

## Kohli fined 50% of match fees for IPL Code of Conduct breach

**NEW DELHI:** Star batter Virat Kohli was on Monday fined half of his match fees for showing dissent towards umpire's decision during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL match against Kolkata Knight Riders. Kohli was given out after he was caught off a waist-height full-toss delivery Harshit Rana during RCB's one-run loss to KKR at the Eden Garden's on Sunday. The Hawk-Eye system that measures no-balls for height came into



play. The delivery, which seemed to be dipping on the batter, was just above the waist when he made contact with the ball. The star batter, who made 18 off seven balls, was standing just outside the crease at that moment. TV umpire Michael Gough checked for the height and as per the Hawk-Eye tracking, the ball would have passed Kohli's waist at a height of 0.92 meter had he been standing upright at the crease.

**INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE |**

# Ashish Nehra inspires us to be fearless: Sai

**Press Trust of India**  
**The Tamil Nadu Ranji team skipper grabbed 4 for 33 to set up a three-win for his IPL team.**

**BISHKEK:** Head coach Ashish Nehra has created a "beautiful environment" which allows each and every member of Gujarat Titans squad to play fearless cricket, left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore said after his match-winning performance against Punjab Kings here on Sunday. The Tamil Nadu Ranji team skipper grabbed 4 for 33 to set up a three-win for his IPL team. "I was playing after 20-25 days, so just wanted to go out there and enjoy myself and give my 120 percent. (Coach) Ashish Nehra has created a beautiful environment where we can be fearless and play for the team. He told me to enjoy myself and gave me a lot of freedom," the lanky twerker



### HIGHLIGHT

● I was playing after 20-25 days, so just wanted to go out there and enjoy myself and give my 120 percent.

said. His skipper Shubman Gill agreed that they should have finished the game much earlier than the 20th over. "Would have liked to finish it earlier, good to get those two points," Gill said. On his new role as skipper, Gill stated that he is able to compartmentalize his batting and leadership. "It's been very exciting for me to be able to take up this role. When I am out there batting, I play as a

batter," he said. Punjab Kings' stand-in skipper Sam Curran admitted that 165 would have been ideal on that track. The hosts managed only 142. "The effort with the ball was incredible, the fight from the team was amazing. But it (win) wasn't meant to be again. They (GT) have got some world-class spinners and Sai Kishore bowled really well," the England all-rounder said. "I thought we got up to a decent score but they got over the line in the end. Anything above 160-165 would have been tough. I thought the way we bowled we gave ourselves a chance.

## Bhavesh, Simranpreet win second 25m Pistol Olympic Selection Trials

**NEW DELHI:** Bhavesh Shekhawat and Simranpreet Kaur Brar emerged winners in the men's 25m rapid-fire pistol (RFP) and women's 25m pistol OST T2 trials respectively at the first-ever Olympic Selection Trials (OST) for Rifle and Pistol at the Dr.Karni Singh Shooting ranges here on Monday. Bhavesh shot 34 in the RFP final, comfortably holding off OST T1 winner Anish Bhanwala (29), to extend his good form in the trials. Vijayveer Sidhu was third with 22-hits. Adarsh Singh (17) and Ankur Goel (13) finished fourth and fifth. In the women's pistol, Simranpreet continued her good run in the trials, firing 37-hits in the 10 series of five-shots each, to emerge triumphant. She too held off OST T1 winner and Olympian Manu Bhaker who signed-off with 35-hits on the day.

# Chennai's chess nursery: The learning ground for Gukesh, Praggnanandhaa

**Press Trust of India**  
**It is the nursery where GMs D Gukesh, who won the Candidates to become the youngest-ever challenger for world title.**

**CHENNAI:** Even a casual stroll around the city will help visitors collect crumbs of Chennai's flourishing romance with

chess - Napier Bridge decked up as a chess board, murals on the walls of many buildings or advertisements of coaching centres. But Velammal Institutions is the catalysing force behind this chess revolution in the city. It is the nursery where GMs D Gukesh, who on Monday won the Candidates to become the youngest-ever challenger for world title, and R Praggnanandhaa learned the

intricacies of the sport. "Chess has always been a part of the city's culture and the decision to make chess a part of the curriculum has really helped it to boom. Of course, they also have a champion like Anand to look up to, S Velavan, the chess co-ordinator at the Velammal, said. "Since most of the children coming here have a genuine interest in chess, we don't have to push them. They combine

studies and chess well, and, in fact, the students who play chess have done even better in their studies too," Velavan added. What he refers to here is the '7 to 17 programme' introduced in schools by former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalitha in 2013, coinciding with that year's World Chess Championship between Viswanathan Anand and Magnus Carlsen held in the city.

# Nadal poised for Laver Cup swansong

**Press Trust of India**  
**BERLIN:** Rafael Nadal said Monday he will play at the Laver Cup in Berlin in September in what may be one of the 22-time Grand Slam champion's last tournaments. Nadal has signaled 2024 may be his last year on tour and said last week that his second-round loss to Alex de Minaur at the Barcelona Open, which he has won 12 times, was "probably my



last match here." "At this stage in my career I really want to go out there and make the most of every opportunity I am given," Nadal said in a

statement. The 37-year-old Spanish superstar has long struggled with injuries and has played just five competitive matches this year,

three in Brisbane in January and two in Barcelona last week. The Laver Cup, to be held from Sept. 20-22, is an indoor hard-court men's competition pitting Team Europe against Team World in a format similar to that of golf's Ryder Cup. Nadal and Roger Federer teamed up in the doubles at the 2022 Laver Cup in London for the Swiss great's last match before retirement.

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I see the pressure on the younger actors to do airport looks. As you grow older, you really don't care. But it doesn't mean you go out looking like a sloth!

Raveena Tandon  
Actress



# & Finally

## O.T.T Watch



**Park Chan-wook revives 'Oldboy' for TV series**

Park Chan-wook and Lionsgate team up for 'Oldboy' TV series. The South Korean director of acclaimed films like "Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance" brings his 2003 classic to English audiences.



**K-Drama Reigns**

K-drama Parasyte: The Grey, Queen of Tears Top Netflix Global Chart Queen of Tears slips to third but maintains sixth streak.



**Dynamic Duo**

"The Family Man" stars Sharib Hashmi and Sunny Hinduja are set to collaborate on a new Hindi-language play.

CLOSE UP

## Challenge to convey emotions with just your voice, says Priyanka Chopra Jonas

From Hollywood to Bollywood, Celebrating Multilingualism and Earth Day with DisneyNature's Indian Tigress Saga on Disney+ Hotstar.

Press Trust of India

Priyanka Chopra Jonas narrates 'Tiger' documentary, sharing her passion for voice work and conservation.

The challenge is to be able to convey emotions with just your voice, says actor Priyanka Chopra Jonas, who turns narrator for the upcoming documentary "Tiger" and finds it exciting that her career straddling Hollywood and Bollywood also gives her the opportunity to work in different languages. The DisneyNature documentary for which Chopra Jonas gives the voiceover in English revolves around Ambar, a young tigress raising her cubs in the fabled forests of India. It started streaming on Disney+ Hotstar on April 22 on Earth Day.



Priyanka Chopra Jonas lends her voice to 'Tiger', a documentary celebrating nature's resilience and the beauty of conservation.



**THE BOLLYWOOD HOT PAIR**  
Richa Chadha, Ali Fazal Launch Ehaab Couture: Chikankari Artistry!



"Richa Chadha, Ali Fazal Unveil Ehaab Couture: A Tribute to Chikankari Art! Actor-couple's new label embraces Lucknow's cultural legacy with timeless elegance. 'Ehaab' embodies the spirit of gifting and social responsibility, aiming to empower local artisans while

preserving tradition. Dive into a world of intricate craftsmanship and rich heritage with this heartfelt venture. Experience the allure of Chikankari embroidery as it intertwines with modern fashion, bringing a touch of sophistication to your wardrobe."

BOLLYWOOD

**Anurag Basu's 'Metro... In Dino' to now release in November 2024**

Anurag Basu's "Metro... In Dino" promises to transport viewers into the heart of urban life, exploring the complexities of modern romance with depth and nuance. With talents like Pankaj Tripathi, Neena Gupta, and Konkana Sen Sharma on board, audiences can expect stellar performances that bring Basu's vision to life. As anticipation builds for this cinematic spectacle, T-Series' announcement on social media sets the stage for a memorable journey.

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ग्राम श्यामतराई धमतरी  
दोपहर 03:00 बजे  
महासमुंद लोकसभा

**24 अप्रैल 2024, बुधवार**  
पीजी कॉलेज मैदान अंबिकापुर  
प्रातः 09:00 बजे  
सरगुजा लोकसभा

आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं...

**फिर एक बार मोदी सरकार**

**भारतीय जनता पार्टी, छत्तीसगढ़**

**कमल के बटन दबाना है** **भाजपा ल जिताना है**