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SPORT

India women eye clean sweep, Lanka seek pride

Pg 14



& GLITTERS Sonam

Bajwa slams 'Housefull 5' women portrayal Pg **12**



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Defence Ministry clears Rs 79K cr defence buys

DAC, chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, green-lighted the proposals.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The defence ministry on Monday approved procurement of long range rockets, missiles, radar systems and military platforms worth Rs 79,000 crore to bolster the military's combat prowess.

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, green-lighted the proposals.

The DAC approved procurement of loiter munition systems for the Army's artillery regi-

It also cleared acquisition of low level lightweight radars, longrange guided rocket ammunition for Pinaka rocket system and integrated drone detection and interdiction system (Mk-II) for the Indian Army, the defence ministry said. Loiter munition will be used for precision

'Elect a govt

infiltrators'

GUWAHATI: Union Home Minister Amit Snan on Monday exhorted the people

of Assam to elect a govern-

ment in next year's assem-

bly polls which will work

against infiltration and in favour of development of

the state. He accused the

Congress of encouraging

infiltration for the sake of 'vote bank' politics, which

led to a threat to the iden-

tity of the Assamese people

from the illegal migrants.

"It had been like a long

bad dream for Assam till

10 years ago. Bandhs,

blockades, firings, bomb

blasts were rampant. There

were numerous insurgent

groups, agitations were

happening," Shah said after

inaugurating a 5,000-seat

auditorium here, the larg-

est in the North East region.

He claimed that Assam has

made progress over the last

10 years of BJP regime in

the state, and 11 years of the

Narendra Modi government

to expel



214 MM Pinaka Multiple Launcher Rocket System during the 75th Republic Day parade celebrations.

HIGHLIGHT

DAC approved procurement of loiter munition systems for the Army's artillery regiments.

strike of tactical targets, whereas low level lightweight radars will detect and track small size, low flying unmanned aerial

Auto system enhances flight safety.

Rajnath Singh Defence Minister

systems, it said. It said long range guided rockets are being procured to enhance the range and accuracy of Pinaka rocket systems for effective engagement of high value targets.

Integrated detection and interdiction system (Mk-II) with enhanced range will protect the vital assets of the Indian Army in tactical battle area and hinter-

For the Indian Navy, approval was accorded for procurement of high frequency software defined radios (HF SDR) Manpack and for leasing high altitude long range (HALE) remotely piloted aircraft system (RPAS).

The unspecified number of RPAS is being taken on lease for continuous intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance over the Indian Ocean region, the ministry said.

For the Indian Air Force, approval was given for procurement of automatic take-off landing recording system, Astra Mk-II missiles, full mission simulator and SPICE-1000 long range guidance kits, etc, it said.

"Induction of the automatic take-off landing recording system will fill the gaps in the aerospace safety environment by providing high definition all-weather automatic recording of landing and take-off," the ministry said.

SC stays Sengar's release, flags grave legal questions

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday stayed the Delhi High Court order suspending the life sentence of expelled BIP leader Kuldeep Singh Sengar in the 2017 Unnao rape case and said he shall not be released from custody.

A vacation bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices J K Maheshwari and Augustine George Masih, which was hearing the CBI's plea challenging the high court order, said that substantial questions of law have arisen in the matter that require consideration.

The apex court also issued notice to Sengar seeking his response within four weeks on the CBI's plea. The bench said it was conscious of the



Survivor in the Unnao rape case leaves from Supreme Court, in New Delhi

'Won't rest until he's hanged'

The Unnao rape case survivor on Monday expressed satisfaction after the Supreme Court stayed a Delhi High Court order suspending the convict Kuldeep Sengar's life sentence and said she has full faith in the justice system.

fact that ordinarily when a convict or an under-trial was released on bail pursuant to an order passed by a trial court or the high court, such order shall not be stayed by it without hearing such person.

FACTFILE

SC issued notice to Sengar seeking his response within four weeks on the CBI's plea.

It noted that Sengar was also convicted and sentenced in a separate case and was still in custody in that matter.

"In the peculiar circumstances of the case, we stay the operation of the impugned order dated December 2025, passed by the high court. Consequently, the respondent (Sengar) shall not be released from custody pursuant to the said order," the bench said.

The top court said various substantial questions of law have arisen for its consideration in the

| RBI REPORT |

at the Centre.

'ATM numbers dip in FY25 as digital payments rise'

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The numautomated ber of teller machines (ATMs) declined moderately in FY25, with the increase in digitisation, a RBI report said on Monday. The number of bank branches increased by over 2 per cent on the back of network expansion by the public sector banks, the 79,884 in the last year,

report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India for FY25 said. The overall number of ATMs declined to 2,51,057 as of March 31, 2025, from 2,53,417 in the year-ago period, driven down further by private-sector banks' strategies, it indicated. Private sector banks' ATM network declined to 77,117 from



while the public sector banks also had a decline to 1,33,544 from 1,34,694 in the year-ago period, it said, adding that the decline was due to both groups shutting down offsite ATMs. "Increase in

 ATM count dropped to 2,51,057 by March 2025.

digitalisation of payments has reduced the customers' requirement of transacting with ATMs," the report said. The indepen-

dently-run white label ATMs increased to 36,216 from 34,602 in the yearago period. Public sector banks' ATM distribution was evenly distributed between rural, semi-urban, urban and metropolitan areas, while the private sector banks and foreign banks had a concentration in the urban and metropolitan areas in their ATM networks.

People visit Amritsar ahead of New Year



Aravalli definition row: SC stays its own order

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday stayed its own order that accepted a new definition for the Aravalli hiils and ranges, and said a high-powered expert panel will be set up to resolve "critical ambiguities" and prevent any regulatory gaps that might undermine the ecological integrity of the world's oldest mountain system.

As the uniform definition of Aravallis sparked an outcry among environmentalists, the court kept in abeyance its November 20 directions, saying there is a need to probe further whether the criteria of 100-metre elevation and the 500metre gap between hills will strip significant portion of the ranges of ecological protection. At the heart of the raging issue is what exactly constitutes the hills and ranges in the Aravalli region, with environmentalists saying the restrictive 100-metre definition increases the area open to mining and construction. The top court had earlier accepted the

recommendations of a committee of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on the definition of the Aravalli hills and ranges to protect the mountain system.

The committee had recommended that "Aravalli Hill" be defined as any landform in designated Aravalli districts with an elevation of 100 metres or more above its local relief, and an "Aravalli Range" will be a collection of two or more such hills within 500 metres of each other.

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Cong party has always safeguarded constitutional values and committed to strengthen the democratic roots and fight for rights of the poor.

Vikas Upadhyay Ex-MLA Raipur (South)

Briefs

POLICE RAIDS IN KOTWALI, TELIBANDHA

Four accused nabbed in illicit sale of liquor

ED raids 9 locations in Raipur, Mahasamund

A total of seven different ED teams carried out the simultaneous raids in connection with Bharatmala Project.



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted raids on Monday morning in Raipur and Mahasamund in connection with the Bharat Mala Project compensation scam. The raids targeted the premises of Harmeet Khanooja, his associates, and related officials. A team of ED officers is currently examining documents at the locations.

According to reports, raids were conducted at approximately nine locations in Raipur and Mahasamund. A total of seven different ED teams carried out the simultaneous raids early this morning. ED officials are currently examining several important docu-

FACTFILE

According to sources, ED teams are searching the premises linked to Harmeet Khanooja, his associates and Jasbir Singh Bagga in Mahasamund.

• It is being said that this raid is being conducted as part of an investigation into aspects related to money laundering and corruption.

ments and digital devices at the sites.

According to sources, ED teams are searching the premises linked to Harmeet Khanooja, his associates, concerned government officials, and

some landowners. During the operation, documents, digital records, and evidence related to transactions are being examined.

It is reported that a raid was conducted at the house of businessman Jasbir Singh Bagga in Basant Colony, Mahasamund. He is the owner of a Honda showroom. The ED team is examining documents at the businessman's residence. The ED officials arrived in two

Under the Bharat Mala project in Chhattisgarh, a 950 km road is being constructed from Raipur to Visakhapatnam. The project includes a four-lane road from Raipur to Visakhapatnam and a six-lane road from

Durg to Arang. The government acquired land from several farmers for this road construction. Compensation was to be paid to them, but many farmers have still not received their compensation. Leader of the Opposition Charan Das Mahant raised this issue on the

second day of the 2025

Assembly budget session,

after which an investiga-

tion into the matter was

ordered. It is being said that this raid is being conducted as part of an investigation into aspects related to money laundering and corruption. The ED's action is currently underway, and further major revelations are expected in this case in the coming

One killed, another injured as bus hits a bike

RAIPUR: A horrific road accident occurred in Nava Raipur. A speeding bus hit a motorcycle, killing one person on the spot, while his brother-in-law was seriously injured. The two were on their way to attend an event. The incident took place in the Upparwara Chowki area under the Rakhi police station in Raipur district.

According to the information received, Teerath Sonwani, a resident of Charoda village in the Fingeshwar area, was going to Khapri with his brother-in-law Gautam Ratre to attend a family function. They had just reached near Balco Hospital in Nava Raipur when a speeding bus hit their motorcycle. The collision was so severe that both fell off the bike.

The bus ran over Teerath Sonwani, crushing his head, and he died on the spot. Gautam Ratre was seriously injured and was immediately admitted to the hospital for treatment. Upon receiving information about the incident, the police reached the spot, took the body into custody, and sent it for post-mortem. The police conducted the inquest proceedings on Monday, and after the post-mortem, the body was handed over to the family members.

team arrested Ravi Sahu, son of late Raju Sahu, age 42 years, resident of

RAIPUR: In view of the upcoming New

Year, and to prevent crimes, crack

down on criminals, apprehend those

selling liquor illegally, and maintain

security and peace, under the instruc-

tions of Deputy Inspector General of

Police and Senior Superintendent of

Police Dr. Lal Umed Singh, a 25-member team of the Anti-Crime and Cyber

Unit, under the guidance of Additional

Superintendent of Police Crime Sand-

eep Mittal and Deputy Superintendent

of Police Crime Sanjay Singh, and led

by In-charge Inspector Sachin Singh,

conducted foot patrolling and surprise

checks in various police station areas

of Raipur, including Devaradera and

During checking in Gandhi Nagar,

Kali Bari under Kotwali police station

area, the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit

BSUP Colony.

including history-sheeter Ravi Sahu

Gandhi Nagar, Raipur, a fugitive and history-sheeter from Kotwali police station, and seized 94 pouches of illegally possessed English liquor worth Rs 12,200/- from him. A case has been registered against the accused under crime number 358/25, Section 34(2) of the Excise Act at Kotwali police station. Accused Ravi Sahu was also absconding in crime number 352/25 under Section 34(2) of the Excise Act and Section 6 of the Chhattisgarh Gambling Prohibition Act 2022; his arrest is also being processed in this case.

GANJA SEIZED FROM COCONUT HUSKS

Ganja worth Rs 6 crore seized from a truck carrying coconut husks, two nabbed

BALRAMPUR: The district police have taken major action against drug trafficking. A truck loaded with ganja worth Rs 6 crore has been intercepted. The accused were transporting the narcotics from Odisha to Rajasthan. Police have arrested three interstate smugglers. The operation was carried out in the Basantpur police station area. According to information, based on a tip-off, truck number RJ 32 GE 0960 was stopped in a border area on the night of December 28. During the search, 40 packets of ganja were recovered from under the coconut husks loaded in the truck.

The total weight of the seized ganja is 1198.460 kilograms, and its estimated value is approximately Rs 5.99 crore. The truck used in the smuggling is valued at approximately Rs 25 lakh. The arrested individuals, Amrish Kumar (23 years old) and Manish Kumar (20 years old), are residents of



Uttar Pradesh.

Police have registered a case against the accused under crime number 228/2025, Section 20(b)(ii)(C) of the NDPS Act, and sent them to judicial custody. SP (Superintendent of Police) Vaibhav Banker's statement: Based on a tip-off, an investigation was conducted into the illegal smuggling of Ganja in a truck. Ganja worth approximately Rs 6 crore at market value has been seized, and a thorough investigation will be conducted in this entire case.

History-sheeter nabbed in Ganja supply network

Central Chronicle News

A history-sheeter was nabbed with 1 kg 977 grams of cannabis worth Rs 98,850.

RAIPUR: Under the special campaign "Operation Nishchay" being run under the guidance of IG Amresh Mishra and SSP Dr. Lal Umed Singh for effective action against drugs, instructions have been given to prevent drug trafficking and to identify and take action against people involved in their illegal purchase and sale.

In this connection, the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit team received information that a person on a two-wheeler near the immersion pond in Raipur, under the DD Nagar police station area, was

FACTFILE

nabbed is one against whom approximately two dozen cases have been registered at DD

The history-sheeter Nagar Police Station.

carrying ganja and was trying to sell it. Upon this, senior officers directed the in-charge of the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and the Station House Officer of DD Nagar to locate and apprehend the accused with the ganja. Under the direction of senior officers, a joint team of the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and DD Nagar police went to the said location and identified the person matching the description and vehicle given by the informant. When they tried to talk to him, he started running, but he was surrounded and caught.

Offices wear deserted looks, schools remain closed

| CEOF STRIKE |

Central Chronicle News

(CEOF) staged a powerful protest across the state regarding the interests of employees in support of their 11-point demand.

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh Employees and Officers Federation (CEOF) staged a powerful protest across the state regarding the interests of employees. There was widespread discontent among employees regarding the state government's "Modi's Guarantee" scheme, resulting in silence in government offices across the state, from Indravati Bhavan to other offices. Most schools remained closed. Employees of urban



FACTFILE

Similarly the strike was held successfully in Durg, Bilaspur, Bastar region and Surguja division and all the offices remained closed with no work.

local bodies took leave and participated in the impactful protest. Teachers and employees in the state's universities also took leave to support the Federation's movement. Officers and employees in the offices of department corporations,

boards, etc., in Nava Raipur are observing a complete work stoppage in support of the movement. The strike caused difficulties for senior officials in reaching government offices in Nava Raipur.

Under the guidance of Chhattisgarh Employees and Officers Federation's provincial convener Kamal Verma and divisional in-charge Chandrashekhar Tiwari, there was considerable enthusiasm for the work stoppage movement in Raipur.

BOOK RELEASES

CM Sai releases book 'Gajrath Yatra-2025', honours six forest personnel

DANTEWADA: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai today released the book "Gajrath Yatra-2025" at his residence, Bagia. This book comprehensively covers the classification of elephant movement areas and sensitive zones in Jashpur district, awareness campaigns being conducted at the school level, the establishment of the Elephant Information and Control Room, technical initiatives for human-elephant conflict management, Animal Tracker app training, and the expansion and achievements of the Gajrath Yatra throughout the district.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister honoured six forest personnel with certificates for their remarkable work



in reducing human-elephant conflict and raising public awareness. These included Forest Guard Umesh Painkra, Forest Ranger Durgesh Nandan Sai, and RRT members Mahattam Ram Soni, Ganesh Ram, and Ravishankar Painkra, and Phool Singh Sidar from the Elephant Friends Group.

FOUNDATION STONE FOR BHORAMDEV TOURISM CORRIDOR

Dy CM Vijay Sharma reviews preparations and gave instructions to the officials

RAIPUR: On January 1st, the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Bhoramdev Tourism Corridor, which will give a new direction to the tourism development of Chhattisgarh, is going to be held. This project, being built at a cost of approximately Rs. 146 crore, is being initiated by Deputy Chief Minister Shri Vijay Sharma and the foundation stone will be laid by Union Tourism Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Chief Minister Shri Vishnudev Sai.

To review the preparations for the event, Deputy Chief Minister Shri Vijay Sharma inspected the program venue at the Bhoramdev temple complex today. He held a review meeting with public representatives and officials, took detailed information about the preparations, and gave necessary instructions. Deputy Chief Minister Shri Sharma instructed that the main stage and seating arrangements, seating arrangements for the public, security arrangements,



traffic, parking, drinking water, and all other necessary arrangements related to the event should be completed on time. During this time, District Panchayat President Ishwari Sahu, District Panchayat Vice President Kailash Chandravanshi, Chairman Dr. Virendra Sahu, Collector Gopal Verma, ASP Pushpendra Singh Baghel, ADM Vinay Poyam, and other public representatives and officials were present.

| STAR ATTRACTION AT KARTAVYA PATH |

Chhattisgarh tableau selected for R-Day Parade

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh's tableau will be among the star attractions on New Delhi's Kartavya Path during the upcoming Republic Day celebrations. This year's tableau will present a striking depiction of the nation's first digital museum dedicated to tribal freedom heroes. The Ministry of Defence's expert committee has selected Chhattisgarh's tableau for the Republic Day main cere-



The digital museum inaugurated in Nava Raipur Atal Nagar Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the occasion of the silver jubilee of the formation of Chhattisgarh.

Congratulating

state on the selection of the tableau for the Republic Day celebrations, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that through Chhattisgarh's tableau, citizens across the country will witness the unflinching patriotism, unparalleled bravThis tableau is not merely a display,

but a symbol of the nation's gratitude and respect for the contribution of tribal society.

Vishnu Deo Sai

ery and the proud tradition of supreme sacrifice upheld by tribal commu-

of the Public Relations Department, said that all states had submitted their tableau proposals to the Ministry of Defence. After an extensive and rigorous selection pro-

nities for their principles.

He described the selec-

tion as a moment of pride

and excitement for the

Rohit Yadav, Secretary

entire state.

cess spanning nearly four months, tableaux from 17 states have been finalized, including that of Chhattisgarh.

Raipur News

Deputy CM Sao outlines two-year urban development milestones

Focusing on the second phase of the Prime Minister's Housing Scheme, Sao announced a target of 1.32 lakh new homes under PM Awas Yojana (Urban) 2.0.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao recently presented a comprehensive progress report on the state's urban administration and development over the past two years, marking a transformative period for Chhattisgarh's cities. Speaking at a press conference at the Chhattisgarh Samvad Auditorium in Nava Raipur, Sao detailed a roadmap aimed at modernizing infrastructure and ensuring that the benefits of central and state schemes reach every urban house-

The centerpiece of this development strategy is the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Urban 2.0. Sao announced that the state has set an ambitious target of constructing 1.32 lakh houses across various categories, including one lakh units under Beneficiary Led Construction and 27,000 through Affordable Housing Partnership.

With over 24,000 units already sanctioned and 5,351 currently under construction, the government aims to approve an additional 50,000 houses by March 2026. This initiative is backed by a substantial mother allocation of 129.06 crore rupees

RMC Zone 9 cracks down

vehicles

RAIPUR: The

on abandoned

Municipal Corporation

(RMC) launched a series of enforcement actions

on Monday, targeting

traffic obstructions and

environmental violations

along the vidnan Sabna

route. Acting under the

orders of Municipal Com-

and the guidance of Zone

9 Commissioner Anshul

Sharma Senior, officials

focused on clearing pub-

lic thoroughfares and

ensuring compliance with

urban construction rules.

In a coordinated effort

with the traffic police,

the Zone 9 Town Invest-

ment Department iden-

tified and seized two

abandoned or "con-

demned" vehicles that

were obstructing the flow of traffic on Vidhan Sabha

Road. The operation

was supervised on-site

by Executive Engineer

Sharad Dhruv, Assistant

Engineer Syed Zoheb,

and Sub-Engineer Atul

Bansal.

| FINE |

missioner

Vishwadeep

Raipur



already distributed to municipal bodies.

Reflecting on the state's rapid urbanization, the Deputy Chief Minister noted that Chhattisgarh's

population has surged to approximately 78.10 lakh in 2025, a significant rise from the 57.07 lakh recorded in the 2011 census. To manage this growth, the state operates 193 notified urban

municipal corporations

and 56 municipalities.

Sao emphasized that the

governance of these bod-

ies is rooted in the 74th

Constitutional Amend-

ment, ensuring local

self-governance remains

transparent and account-

including 14

bodies,

Roadmap for digital cities and green mobility

Innovation in sanitation and digital services also featured prominently in the report. Chhattisgarh continues to lead in national cleanliness rankings. with Belha and Bilaspur securing top honors in the Swachh Survekshan 2024-25. The state is also pioneering the establishment of Bio-CNG plants and regional sanitary landfills to manage solid waste effectively. Furthermore, the expansion of GISbased property tax portals to 53 urban bodies and the "More Sangwari" doorstep service delivery system represent a significant leap toward a "Digital Chhattisgarh."

Looking ahead, Sao outlined projects for the next three years, including the deployment of 240 electric buses under the PM e-Bus scheme and the completion of 33 "Nalanda Campus" high-tech libraries. Through these integrated efforts, the government aims to create modern, sustainable, and inclusive urban spaces that cater to the needs of the state's growing population.

UP, Jharkhand archers dominate National Junior Championships

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The 45th NTPC National Junior Archery Championship is heading toward a grand finale at the Swami Vivekananda Athletic Stadium in Raipur. Running from December 22 to 30, the prestigious event has brought together over 1,000 young archers from across India to compete in Recurve, Compound, and Indian Round categories. Monday marked the opening of the Indian Round, where archers from Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Assam showcased exceptional precision. In the men's 40-meter category, Shubham from Uttar Pradesh took the top spot with an impressive 351 points out of 360, followed by Assam's Shyam Kanu Rabha and UP's Manish. Shubham maintained his dominance in the 30-meter distance, while Ranvijay Yadav of UP and Chan-



dramohan Soren of Jharkhand secured the remain-

ing podium spots. The women's division saw equally fierce competition. Vedakshi Tomar of Uttar Pradesh led the 40-meter round with 333 points, closely followed by Iharkhand's Baby Kumari and Lakshmi Kumari. In the 30-meter distance, Rajasthan's Pratibha Kandara surged to the top, while Himani Basumatary of Assam and Baby Kumari delivered strong performances to stay in medal contention.

championship will conclude tomorrow with the highly anticipated mixed team and individual elimination rounds.

Chhattisgarh Tennis Tournament Central Chronicle News

Rising Stars shine at 25th

RAIPUR: Raipur witnessed a grand showcase of athletic talent as the 25th Chhattisgarh State Ranking Tennis Tournament 2025 drew to a successful close on December 26. Organized under the aegis of the Chhattisgarh State Tennis Association, the weeklong event, which began on December 20, brought together the finest players from across the state's various districts for a highstakes display of skill and sportsmanship.

The concluding day was marked by a prestigious award ceremony attended by notable dignitaries. Guru Narayan Pradhan, DSP at the Police Headquarters in Raipur, graced the occasion as the chief guest, while Mukesh Pillai attended as a special guest. General Secretary Gurucharan Singh Hora highlighted the tournament's success, noting the vital roles played by Chief Referee Nikhil Marathe



and Tournament Director Tushar Mandlekar in ensuring a seamless competition.

championships

The

featured a wide range of categories, from youth divisions to veteran brackets, underscoring the growing popularity of tennis in the region. Among the standout performers was Emon Bhatt, who claimed double glory by winning both the Under 18 Boys and the Men's Singles titles. In the Women's Singles category, Isha Sharma emerged victorious, defeating Divya Jyoti Sahu in a spirited final.

The youth categories saw intense competition, with Vanya Pundir win-

The veteran and doubles categories added to the excitement of the final days.

ning the Under 12 Girls title and finishing as runner-up in the Under 14 category, where Janhvi Shaw took the top spot. Ved Thakkar showed similar consistency, winning the Under 12 Boys title and securing the runner-up position in the Under 14 Boys division, which was won by Eklavya Singh Rajput. Other notable winners included Ariz Khan in Under 16 Boys and Tanishka Bhatnagar in Under 18 Girls.

NEWSLINE

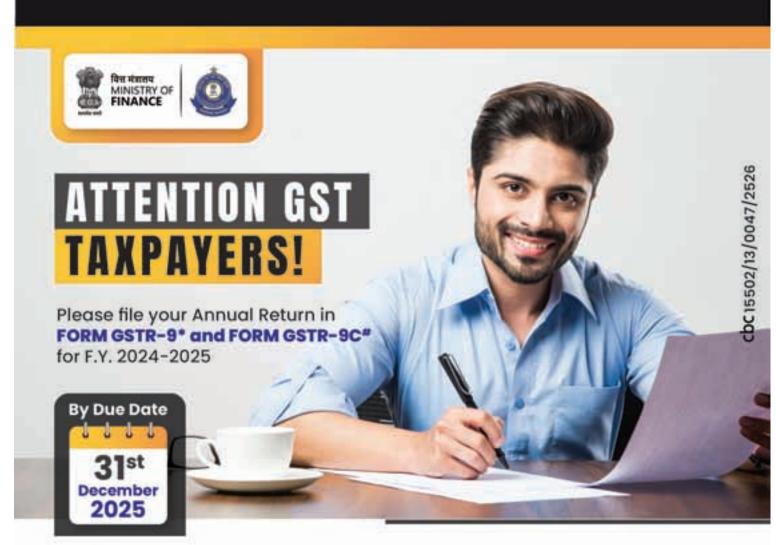
SANITATION

Cleanliness restored near Raj Talkies



RAIPUR: The Raipur Munic ipal Corporation health department took action to resolve sanitation issues near Raj Talkies and Bhagat Sweets following reports of accumulated waste and clogged drains Responding to a public complaint, the Municipal Health Officer issued immediate directives to the concerned Zone Health Officer to clear the area.

In compliance with these instructions, a specialized cleaning team was deployed to the site. The team conducted a thorough cleaning of the drainage system, ensuring the complete removal of all accumulated silt and debris.



What is FORM GSTR-9?

FORM GSTR-9 is a comprehensive yearly return that consolidates all the information already submitted in the monthly/quarterly GST returns—such as FORM GSTR-1 and FORM GSTR-3B.

*Taxpayers required to file FORM GSTR-9

All GST taxpayers having Aggregate Annual Turnover above ₹2 Crore (during F.Y. 2024-2025) except the following:



What is FORM GSTR-9C?

FORM GSTR-9C is a reconciliation statement comparing data declared in FORM GSTR-9 with the audited financial statements, along with certification by a CA/CMA.

#Taxpayers required to file FORM GSTR-9C

Taxpayers whose Aggregate Annual Turnover is above ₹5 Crore (during F.Y. 2024-2025) need to file a self-certified reconciliation statement in FORM GSTR-9C along with the Annual Return in FORM GSTR-9,

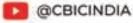
Late Filling of FORM GSTR-9 and FORM GSTR-9C will attract late fee

Please scan for details on GST Annual Returns













RAIPUR: The Raipur

Central Chronicle News

Municipal Corporation (RMC) took stern action against sanitation negligence today, imposing a significant fine on the Moti Mahal hotel located along the Shastri Bazar main road. Following a series of public complaints, the RMC headquarters health team joined forces with the Zone 4 health department for a surprise inspection of the prem-



During the inspection, conducted under the guidance of Municipal Health Officer Dr. Tripti Panigrahi and per the instructions of Commissioner Vishwadeep, officials found that the hotel was dumping waste on

the main road. The team

Moti Mahal fined over sanitation violations

discovered waste and filth being discarded directly into the public drains through the hotel's outlet.

As a direct consequence of these violations, a spot fine of 10,000 rupees was issued to the hotel management.

Bhilai



The lifting of paddy from procurement centers has gained momentum,

> **Abhiieet Singh** (Collector, Durg

Transparent policies drive record paddy procurement

2.68,901.52 metric tonnes of paddy has been procured with direct online payments exceeding Rs 58,163 lakh disbursed to farmers.



Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Guided by the government's farmer-centric policies, the paddy procurement process in Durg district has reached a new milestone. As of December 29, the district has recorded the purchase of nearly 2.69 lakh metric tonnes of paddy, worth over Rs

63,749 lakh. The transition to a transparent digital system has resulted in more than 50,718 farmers receiving their payments directly into their bank accounts within record time. The process has been signifi-

FASTFACTS

- 25932 farmers surrendered 501.86 hectares of land area.
- Farmers support to prevent illegal paddy recycling by middlemen.

cantly simplified by the "Tuhar Token" mobile app, which is now available 24/7. This removes previous time restrictions, allowing farmers to generate tokens at their convenience. Additionally, the lifting of paddy from procurement centers has gained momentum, with

Digitization removes middlemen

The 'Tuhar Token' app is now active 24/7, meaning farmers no longer have to wait for specific "office hours" to secure a sale date. This digital leap has eliminated middlemen from over 25,000 transactions this season alone. Farmer Sadaram of village katro stated that the 'Tuhar Token' app saved him from the long queues. It feels like a new era for farmers.

65,765.98 metric tonnes already moved for milling, creating space for new arrivals. To ensure the integrity of the procurement drive, thousands of small-scale farmers have voluntarily surrendered their registered acreage after selling their yields. This proactive step effectively blocks middlemen from using legitimate farmer credentials to offload illegal stock. With over 3.8 million gunny bags currently available at centers, the district administration has ensured that every farmer can sell their produce without logistical delays.

Eleven suspects detained

BHILAI: In a proactive move to ensure public safety, the Bhilai Nagar

Police have intensified surveillance and ated strict action against individuals during the ongoing Divya Shri Hanumant Katha. The high-profile event, featuring Pt Dhirendra Shastri, began on December 28, 2025, drawing massive crowds to the Sector-6 area. Under the direct guidance of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Vijay Agrawal (IPS), dedicated police teams were deployed to prevent incidents of chain snatching, pickpocketing, and theft. During a security sweep of the pandal and surrounding premises, officers identified several individuals moving suspiciously without valid entry passes or identification documents. Following thorough questioning, 11 suspects - including men and women hailing from Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh - were taken into custody. These individuals failed to provide identity proof (Aadhaar cards) or justify their presence at the venue. The police have registered preventive cases against the suspects, including Aki Ruiya, Rahista Bai, Devar-

iya Singh, Parmal Singh,

Alamgir and others from

districts like Umaria,

Katni, and Nalanda.

BMC commissioner conducts surprise inspection



Central Chronicle News

BhilaiMunic-Commissioner ipal Rajeev Kumar Pandey of Bhilai Municipal Corporation carried out an intensive inspection of various development works in Zone 1, Nehru Nagar. During the visit, he reviewed newly completed cementing and asphalt road projects, as well as the condition of local ponds, gardens, and playgrounds. He directed officials to ensure quality standards and complete all works within stipu-

lated timelines. The inspection began at Ward No. 6, Sanjay Nagar, where residents had long demanded improved road connectivity. Responding to public interest, the Corporation recently completed construction of a new asphalt road. While inspecting the site, the Commissioner remarked

that the new road would residents dust and mud, ensuring

smoother movement. At Sanjay Nagar pond, Pandey observed that several checker (pavers) around pond had come loose. He instructed the Zone Commissioner to immediately repair and reorganize the tiles, and also emphasized maintenance of the central platform to enhance its appearance.

The Commissioner further visited Gulmohar Garden, where construction of a shed near the community building is underway. He directed engineers to expedite completion of the shed maintain lar cleanliness inside the garden. Inspecting the nearby badminton court, he ordered reinforcement of the chain link fencing to improve safety.

NEWSLINE

BURGLARY Notorious



BHILAI: The Old Bhilai Police apprehended two habitual thieves responsible for a mobile shop burglary in Hathkhoj. The breakthrough was achieved with the assistance of the Durg Police's Trinayan App, leading to the recovery of stolen goods worth Rs 40,000.

The victim, Rocky Raj Mishra, a BTech student whose father owns "CG Mobile" in Transport Nagar, reported that burglars broke into the shop on the night of July 5, 2025. The suspects made off with multiple mobile phones, earbuds, and cash. Following a tip-off about a suspect attempting to sell keypad phones near Khursipar, police detained Kuldeep Kaushik (23) and Viraj Nirmalkar (18).

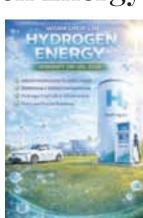
During interrogation, the duo confessed to the crime. Police recovered six mobile phones and two earbuds from their possession, while the suspects admitted to spending the stolen cash. On December 29. both individuals were arrested and sent to jail under judicial remand.

BIT Durg to host two-day workshop on Hydrogen Energy

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Bhilai Institute of Technology (BIT), Durg will organize a two day workshop on Hydrogen Energy from January 8-9, 2026, with a focus on renewable and sustainable energy solutions. The program is sponsored by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi, under the VAANI Scheme, and will be conducted in Hindi to encourage the use of local and regional languages in technical education.

The workshop aligned with the National Hydrogen Mission of the Government of India and aims to highlight clean energy transition, green hydrogen technologies, and sustainability. Expert lectures will be delivered by professors from premier institutions includ-



ing IITs and NITs, offering participants insights into cutting edge research and applications in the field.

The initiative is being held under the patronage of Dr. S. K. Jaiswal, Principal of BIT Durg, with academic leadership from Dr. Shubhrata Nagpal, Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department. The program is coordinated by Dr. Santosh Kumar Mishra, with Dr. Anil Kumar serving as Co Coordinator.

Two arrested for burglary

BHILAI: The Jamul Police the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanfessed to the crime.

apprehended two burglars involved in a theft at a locked residence in Shankar Nagar, Chhawani. The police recovered gold and silver ornaments valued at approximately Rs 1,83,500 from the accused. The incident came to light after the complainant, Purendra Kumar Sahu, reported that while he was away in Raipur for his wife's medical treatment between December 4 and 15, thieves broke into his house. Neighbours alerted him to the break-in, and upon returning, he found his jewelry and cash missing. An FIR was subsequently registered at Jamul Police Station under hita (BNS). Following a tip-off, a joint team from Jamul Police and the ACCU detained two suspects: Kuldeep Singh (24) and S Vinay (22), both residents of Khursipar. During interrogation, the duo con-

| HANUMANT KATHA CONCLUDES | **Devotion to Hanuman brings** blessings of Ram and Sita: Shastri

Central Chronicle News

The five-day event concluded with a message of social harmony, inspired by the teachings of Baba Guru Ghasidas.

BHILAI: The five-day "Divya Hanumant Katha," organized by the Seva Samarpan Sanstha at Jayanti Stadium, Bhilai, concluded on Monday with a massive surge of devotees and a profound call for social equality. Addressing the sea of followers on the final day, international storyteller Pandit Dhirendra Krishna Shastri described Bhilai-Durg as a "wonderful city" of faith. He explained the verse "Prabhu Charitra Sunibe



Pt Shastri narrating the katha from Vyaspeeth

FASTFACTS

- Shastri described Bhilai-Durg as a "wonderful city" of faith.
- Thousands placed their petitions (Ariis) at the Bageshwar Peeth.

Ko Rasiya, Ram Lakhan Sita Man Basiya," stating that those who worship Hanuman, the "Sankat Mochan" of Kali Yuga, receive the collective grace of Lord Ram and Mata Sita, as the divine

couple resides eternally in Hanuman's heart.

The concluding day witnessed an outpouring of faith, with thousands carrying red cloths and coconuts to place their petitions (Arjis) at BageshwarPeeth. The event was graced by high-profile leaders, including State BJP President Kiran Deo Singh, Cabinet Minister Tank Verma, Rajesh Ram Agrawal, Khushwant Saheb, and MLAs Amar Agrawal and Doman Lal

Korsewada. Promoting the message of social harmony, Pt. Shastri invoked the philosophy of Baba Guru Gnasidas, 'Mank heMankhe Ek Samaan' (All humans are equal). He drew parallels to how Lord Hanuman united all beings in the service of Lord Ram. He urged the youth to renounce addiction, rise above caste discrimination, and commit to serving the needy and the nation. The ceremony ended on a spiritual high with the recitation of the Hanuman Chalisa and the Guru Ghasidas Aarti, leaving an indelible mark on the twin cities. BJP National Vice-President Saroj Pandey, along with the convener of the Hanumant Katha, Rakesh Pandey, and several other prominent dignitaries were present on the occasion.

ATTEMPTED MURDER Fugitive nabbed in Nagpur



BHILAI: Police arrested 20-year-old Aman Nishad for the attempted murder of a young woman after he went on the run to Maharashtra. The arrest follows a violent attack that took place in the Jevra Sirsa area. The accused and the victim were previously in a relationship.

Conflict arose after Nishad married another woman, prompting the victim to sever contact. On the night of December 24, Nishad lured the victim outside her home under the pretext of a final conversation. When she refused his proposal to marry him, a heated argument ensued. Nishad allegedly strangled her and attacked her throat multiple times with a blade.

The victim's screams for help forced Nishad to flee the scene. Following a pursuit across state lines, a dedicated police team tracked the suspect to Nagpur, where he was hiding. He was brought back to Durg, charged under Section 109 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and sent to judicial remand.

| WORKPLACE SAFETY CULTURE |

BSP Blast Furnace Department observes Safety Week

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Emphasising workplace safety culture, the Blast Furnace Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) organised a Departmental Safety Week in its Blast Furnace area last week.

programme inaugurated was CGM Agrawal, (In-Charge-Safety), the presence of Gujju Srinivas, GM (Blast Furnace), Shantanu Mitra, N. Madhu, A.K. Paswan, R. Praveen, senior offi-

cers and employees. The inaugural session was conducted by Abhishek Singh, Safety Officer.

The concluding ceremony was graced by messages,

Departmental

Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/c (Iron), as Chief Guest. He stressed that at Bhilai Steel Plant, safety is as important as productivity. He highlighted hazard identification, risk assessment, and audio-visual tools as effective means of communicating safety to frontline workers.

He urged employees to especially safety gear.

ensure mandatory use of

Safety Quiz for Women Employees were held, On the first day, a with 60 women partic-

Safety Quiz and Special

ipating. The women's session was chaired by Dr. Usha, Medical Officer, NOHSC, with Philomena jit Kaur present. It was coordinated by Laxmi Devangan and the wom-

Ekka, Vasla, and Inder-

Day two featured an Extempore Speech Competition with 15 participants, chaired by S.K. Dukania, GM, and judged by Sunil Shukla, DSO. A Tool Box Talk Competition was also held with 15 teams, chaired by Sameer Dobhal, AGM, and judged by Nimesh Gupta, DSO.

On the third day, a Safety Poster Com-

petition drew 70 entries, judged by Pushpa Ambrose and Anurag Pathak. Safety Slogan, Poem, and Skit competitions followed, with over 100 employees in poetry and seven teams in skits.

The Safety was organised under the guidance of Manoj Kumar, CGM. The valedictory programme was conducted by Hemant Kumar Verma, AGM, with a vote of thanks by Vikas Nashine, GM (Safety-BF).

Yearender

2025 8 WE INDIANS STAY INDEBTED TO THEM

'Gratitude is the key', they say and nearing to wrap off 2025 on a cherished note, we ought to pay our gratitude to the select people and brands who are steadily transforming India. Here stands a list who owes us much and many.

Millets & moringa introduced by



people and nature are

protected together.

The real

Ajit Doval, India's National Security Advi-

sor, is widely regarded as

career, spanning over five decades, is characterized

a spymaster of excep-

tional intelligence and

strategic acumen. His

by a blend of patient

insight, and decisive action. Doval is con-

sidered an architect of

India's modern security

doctrine, known for an "aggressive defense"

posture. The real shadow

commander Doval is piv-

otal in India's safety grid.

observation, meticulous

planning, psychological

Specialist on the top

of the country, it is the genre of 'Generalist' who are

to their spirits.

oaring the nation. Salutes

Long before the green revolution transformed indigenous diets in India, the tribes of Chhattisgarh cultivated and consumed foods that are now globally recognized as super foods. Kuddos to these tribes of Chhattisgarh that India is slowly navigating towards millets and moringa, all high on the nutritional

quotient. Yet is more to be discovered as India is soon to devour alookanda, paich - a nutritious drink made by soaking rice or millet and kandul lentils, which once cultivated, they are dried, packed up in sihadi leaves, stitched together with sihadi ropes and can last up to two years!

Wildlife legacy and leadership

Kaziranga National Park's landscape demands courage, from guards who patrol in floods to officers who must protect rhinos and tigers through crises. As Fleid Director, Dr Sonail Gnosh has become one of its strongest anchors In 2025, she became the first Indian to win the IUCN Kenton Miller Award for innovation in protected-area management. Her leadership blends science, community partnership, and steady crisis response. Whether

The Unified Command the powerful India



The central government notified new rules for unified command across the three services -Army, Navy and Air Force to bolster effective command, control, and efficient functioning of Inter-Services Organisations (ISOs) under Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, General Upendra Dwivedi Army Chief, Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi Navy Chief.. The rules, which came into effect on May 27, have been notified amid the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan. The rules were notified under Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control & Discipline) Act 2023 will enable greater jointness and Command efficiency in Armed Forces. Every Indian is truly indebted to the Forces, when chaos is inevitable at a time of

coups and treasons.

Red Brigade wiped off

Guddu Baba the real 'Ganga Prahari'



to know th at Central India's famed 300 year long fought Tripartite Struggle fought between Gurjara Pratiharas, Pallavas and Rashtrakutas was solely for the Ganga valley and Basin, the most fertile of land and the most pious of rivers. Such is the might of the river! Though many warriors have fought for the Ganges, but not like Vikas Chandra, fondly called as Guddu Baba, a Patna-based activist known for starting the Ganga Bachao

The readers ought

Andolan and fighting sewage/unclaimed bodies in the river, using PILs and other methods. He is fighting for the river alongside groups like the Ganga Mahasabha and initiatives like Ganga Praharis. He also leads a network of local volunteers acting as guardians for the

No one can make Indians laugh as the great Kapil Sharma Show. Enriched with celebrity arrivals, movie empowerment, the show transforms India to a laughter club, snatching away stress and misery for a while. Making millions laugh effortlessly the show's great watch are Sunil Grover (Dafli/various), Krushna Abhishek (Mona/Chote Bhaiya), Kiku Sharda (Chef Dhaniya/Bade Bhaiya), and Archana Puran Singh. Is there anyone who hates the show? Nay never!

In essence, Chhattisgarh is on the brink of ending the Naxal insurgency, with strong government action and high Maoist defections indicating the twilight of the movement. With over 2,000 Naxalites surrendered in 2024-2025, including senior leaders, drawn by new rehabilitation policies offering financial aid, land, and skill training showing a major shift from insurgency to development focus. Peace to Shabri's land and power to the Forces beckoning Naxalism.

Laugh India loud with Kapil's Show



India Ka biscuit – Parle G

Are there haters for Parle G, India's sole biscuit? There can't be. Do you know lately Belgium's Lotus Bakeries brought its iconic Biscoff cookie to India in late 2025 through a major partnership with Mondelez (Cadbury's



parent company), transitioning it from a premium import to an accessible, locally-manufactured snack, available for as low as 10, making it a mass-market competitor to other Indian biscuits with its signature spiced caramel flavour. But to the surprise of the market they could not outnumber Parle G in sales. Chai and Parle G are inseparables for Indians. Pure Gratitude.

Saare Jahan Se Accha...

2025 and patriotism saw all borders cross, when more than a half dozen movies were released on real life war encounters. Mov-



ies like 120 Bahadur, Sky Force, Sarzameen, Ground Zero,Saare Jahan Se Accha,Tehran and the upcoming movie Ikkis are the select few. India stands in immense gratitude, to its makers producers actors distributors and viewers alike.

Sharavan Singh Indian's adore you

In May, when fear and uncertainty hung heavy along the India-Pakistan border during Operation Sindoor, Shravan Singh was just a school-going child.



Yet, in the moment of danger, he showed immense courage and kindness and chose to help soldiers stationed nearby, in whatever way he can. That act of bravery has earned the 10-year-old the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar.

Snow Leopard Conservancy India Trust

Snow Leopards, unlike the other big cats like tigers, lions and common leopards, cannot roar. Despite its large distributional range, the population of snow leopards across the world is dwindling, making



it one of the most endangered cats in the world. The global population of snow leopard is estimated between 3500 and 7000 individuals. There are about 500 individuals in the higher reaches of Indian Himalaya. The Snow Leopard Conservancy India Trust; here is playing a pivotal role in saving the Big Cat, a remarkable member of the Himalayan ecosystem. Fauna maters much.

PM Surya Ghar Yojna

As the world walks towards sustainability and zero emissions, the PM Surva Ghar Yoina is lighting free of cost thousands of houses across India, thereby also pledging towards the Green



Planet crusade. Many Indian households in rural and semi urban region are today getting free power and also fighting post independence power scramble. An ambitious plan it is all set to play a crucial role in India's sustainable development.

Shyam Bihari Jaiswal Health Minister- Ch'garh



BJP govt conspiring to change name of MNREGA: Sahu

Congress workers staged a protest in Mainpur and raised slogans against the central and state governments.



Central Chronicle News

MAINPUR: Former President of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee, Dhanendra Sahu, arrived in Mainpur on Sunday. Local Congress workers gave him a warm welcome. MLA Janak Dhruv was also specially present on this occasion. Later, on the occasion of the 141st Foundation Day of the Congress, Dhanendra Sahu hoisted the Congress flag and a pro-

gram was organized.

Bhatgaon

wins first

Festival

Panthi party

prize in Youth

MUNGELI: The team

from Mungeli district

brought glory to the

district by receiving the

nrst prize from Governor

Raman Deka and Union

Minister Tokhan Sahu at

the state-level youth fes-

tival dance competition.

Earlier, the Bhatgaon

Panthi Party had also

brought glory to Mungeli

district several times.

This is their 5th state-

level award. The State

Youth Festival 2025-

26 was organized from

December 23 to 25 at

Bahtarai Stadium, Bilas-

pur. A state-level youth

festival and competition

was organized, featuring

14 disciplines including

folk dances such as Pan-

thi dance, Karma dance,

Raut Nacha, Sua dance,

Gedi dance, as well as

debate, story writing,

from all districts of the

state took part in the

poetry

painting.

competition.

FACTFILE

 Senior Congress leaders were honored on the occasion of Congress Foundation

During this, senior Congress workers were honored with shawls and

Following this, a protest meeting was organized against the central BJP government's move to repeal the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee

Act (MNREGA). During this, former minister and former state president of Congress, Dhanendra Sahu, alleged that the BJP and the Modi government are continuously attacking the name of Mahatma Gandhi. He said that the UPA government had enacted the MNREGA law to fulfill Mahatma Gandhi's dreams of Ram Rajya and village self-employment, which was successful in providing employment to the

poor and labourers.

Sahu termed the changes in MNREGA by the BJP government as a well-planned conspiracy to erase the legacy of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. He said that the Modi government has snatched away the rights of the poor and laborers by changing the basic concept of MNREGA. This government wants to implement the contract system by amending MNREGA against the labourers at the behest of capitalists.

KVMY has increased farmers' income: DFO

MUNGELI: The Kisan Vriksha Mitra Yojana (KVMY) operating under the Mungeli Forest Division has emerged as a powerful means of environmental protection as well as the economic upliftment of farmers. Under the scheme, a total of more than 98,800 saplings have been planted so far, directly benefiting 93 farmers. According to information provided by the Forest Divisional Officer's office, Mungeli, this scheme has increased farmers' income and has also made a significant contribution to maintaining environmental balance.

BJP leaders pay tribute to Sahibzadas on Veer Bal Diwas

MUNGELI: On the occasion of Veer Bal Diwas, MLA Punnulal Mohle visited the Gurudwara and offered floral tributes to the photographs of Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh. On this occasion, he said that the Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Ji sacrificed their lives for the country at such a young age. They dedicated their lives for the country, religion, and truth. We salute the sacrifice of Guru Gobind Singh's family.

| FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS |

Congress displays its strength on occasion of Foundation Day

Central Chronicle News

MANENDRAGARH: On the occasion of the Congress Party's Foundation Day, a dignified meeting was organized by the District Committee. The meeting included detailed discussions on organizational strengthening, party ideology, and issues of public interest. The birthday of Block Congress Committee President Rajesh Sharma and a felicitation ceremony for the newly appointed Women's Congress Urban District President Roma Chatterjee were also celebrated.

On this occasion, District Congress President Ashok Srivastava said in his address, "The Congress Party has been the greatest guardian of democracy, the constitution, and social justice from the country's inde-



pendence to the present day. Foundation Day reminds us that we must intensify our struggle by becoming the voice of the common people."

Former MLA Gulab Kamro said, "Congress is not just a political party, but an ideology that has always fought for the rights of the poor, farmers, laborers, and the underprivileged. Today, there is a need to further strengthen the organization at the grassroots level."

Senior Congress leader Ramesh Singh said, "Congress Foundation Day reminds us of the core principles of sacrifice, struggle, and service. In today's times, it is the responsibility of all of us to convey these values to every citizen."

NSUI State President Neeraj Pandey, while addressing the youth, said, "The future of the country is in the hands of the youth. Only the ideology of Congress can provide the youth with the right direction, equal opportunities, and justice. By connecting the youth power with the organization, we will win the battle for change."

FACTFILE

 Block President Rajesh Sharma's birthday celebrated, new energy infused into the organization with the welcome of Women's District President Roma Chatterjee.

District Congress Committee (DCC) spokesperson Saurav Mishra said, "On Congress Foundation Day, we resolve to fight against the antipeople policies of the BJP on every front and to strongly raise the problems of the common people from the streets to the parliament."

During the meeting, the birthday of Block Congress (BCC) President Rajesh Sharma was celebrated with great enthusiasm.

JJM SCHEME IN DOLDRUMS |

writing, and

Participants

Construction of water tanks progressing at a snail's pace!

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: The central government's ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) scheme appears to be far from achieving its goals. The central government launched the Jal Jeevan Mission scheme to provide clean drinking water to people by ensuring tap water in every household. Under the scheme, the government planned to provide pure drinking water to every household

by 2024, but with only a few days left in 2025, the question arises whether the central government's claim of providing pure drinking water to every household by 2024 will be fulfilled, as the scheme seems to be failing in this region. The promise was to deliver pure drinking water to every home through taps, but people are now tying their cattle to these very taps. Even today, the construction of water tanks is progress-



ing at a snail's pace in most places. Under the scheme, pipelines have been laid in villages and taps have been installed Department has become so inactive that even after receiving reports of broken handpumps in rural areas.

Villagers

in every house. However, not a single drop of water has come out of these taps to date. Some villagers say, "so what if we

they are useful for tying our cattle." Even after almost 4 years, these taps stand like dry poles. When the villagers heard the announcement of installing government taps in every house under the tap water scheme, a wave of happiness spread among them, but the negligence of the contractors, the village panchayat head, and the indifference of the higher officials have made a mockery of this scheme.

don't get water? At least

Briefs

EST OF THE REST

VAJPAYEE'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

Atal Smriti seminar conference concludes in a dignified atmosphere



MCB: As per the instructions of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) District Organization, the "Atal Smriti Seminar Conference," organized on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna, the revered Atal Bihari Vajpayee, concluded in a dignified atmosphere at the Community Hall in Khadgawan, under the Manendragarh assembly constituency.

The chief speaker of the pro-

gram, Chhattisgarh Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal, said in his powerful address that the upliftment of India, the country, and its farmers were always a priority for the revered Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He said that Atal Smriti seminars are being organized across the country today, which reflects the widespread acceptance of his ideas.

VEER BAL DIWAS

Veer Bal Diwas celebrated at the new Govt Girls' College

MUNGELI: Veer Bal Diwas (Valiant Children's Day) was celebrated at the new Government Girls' College. The sole objective was to honour the children and preserve their indomitable courage. The chief guest of the program was Principal Dr. Prachi Singh, and the program was presided over by Senior Professor Madan Lal Kashyap.

The program began with a prayer to Goddess Saraswati. The main speaker, Dr. Prachi Singh, addressed everyone, saying that Veer Bal Diwas is celebrated every year on December 26th. This day is dedicated to remembering the martyrdom and bravery of Guru Gobind Singh's younger sons, Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh. Kashyap said that both children sacrificed their lives for religion and truth, which is a symbol of their valour, courage, and sacrifice. The program coordinator, Jitendra Kumar Sharma, said that today is a very auspicious day, which has become a symbol of the courage and values of these martyred children. This day not only reminds us of a historical event but also provides an opportunity for today's children to connect with the values of fearlessness and integrity, and to dedicate themselves to the nation with determination.

POOR NETWORK

Public troubled by the poor condition of Airtel and Jio networks

MUNGELI: The condition of Airtel and Jio

mobile networks is continuously deteriorating in many areas of the district. In the city and dozens of villages in the area, the network is so weak that ordinary citizens are facing immense difficulties in making mobile calls, using the internet, and availing online services. Despite this, Airtel and Jio companies are charging consumers the full recharge fee every month, which has caused deep resentment among the people. Local people say that due to the poor network condition, neither calls connect properly nor is the internet speed satisfactory. Many times calls get disconnected midway, while internet services are so slow that it becomes difficult to even open simple messages or government websites. Villagers allege that Airtel and Iio companies claim excellent network and fast internet in their advertisements, but the reality is completely opposite. Consumers say that despite paying the full monthly recharge, we are not even getting basic network facilities. This is a direct deception of the consumers. This network problem is not limited to private conversations only, but it is directly affecting students' online studies, farmers' digital services, traders' online payments, and government work for ordinary citizens.

E-KYC MANDATORY

Families without e-KYC updation are not receiving ration in Dec



MUNGELI: Ration has been stopped in December for 1 lakh people in the district due to non-completion of e-KYC. This is big news for cardholders; families whose e-KYC is not updated are not receiving ration in December. The Food Department has appealed that it is mandatory to get it registered in the ration card by the last date, December 31st. E-KYC has to be done for every

There are a total of 400 ration shops in the district, with 2,55,143 ration cards. In the urban area of Mungeli, there are a total of 10,346 cards, in Patharia 2,172, and in Lormi 5,065 cards. Lormi block has 93,946, Mungeli 82,597, and Patharia 58,341 ration cards. The total number of members in all the ration cards in the district is 8,31,892. 1 lakh members who have not completed KYC are being affected.

fied that families whose e-KYC process for the members registered in their ration cards is not complete will not receive ration benefits from December 2025. Cardholders are now starting to get worried due to not receiving ration. The state government has set a deadline of December 31st for updating e-KYC. The Food Department has appealed that every member registered in the ration card must get their KYC done. If the KYC of even one member of the family remains pending, the ration share of that member may be cut, or the benefits received on the entire card may be interrupted.

The Food Department has clari-

This is to identify fake ration cards and ineligible beneficiaries. Aadhaar linking ensures that ration is given only to genuine beneficiaries.

Chhattisgarh News

Millions to flock holy city on New Year's Day

Crowds are already gathering at the temples to make the first day of 2026 memorable.

Central Chronicle News

Crowds already started gathering in the holy city to make the first day of the New Year memorable. On Sunday, more than 15,000 devotees had arrived from morning till evening. Currently, the crowd of tourists is increasing every day. It is estimated that the number will exceed 100,000 on January 1st. Looking at last year's figures, the temples were so crowded that it was difficult to find even a place to stand. The same situation is expected this year. This is because tourists pass through Rajim to reach many tourist destinations in Gariaband district.

Chandrabhan Singh Thakur, the caretaker of the Shri Rajivlochan Temple, said that January 1st falls on a Thursday. On this day, the deity will be specially adorned. Devotees coming here for darshan (sightseeing) include a large number of tourists not only from the state but also from other states. Besides visiting the temples, offering prayers, and taking a holy dip, they spend the entire day in the holy city.

It is important to know that this city is also called the city of Hari and



Wake up in the Brahma Muhurta and wear clean clothes

When discussing what should be special on New Year's Day with some scholars, they suggested that one should wake up during the Brahma Muhurta (auspicious time before sunrise), take a bath, wear clean clothes, perform puja at home, donate to the needy, maintain a positive atmosphere at home, and avoid laziness. It is important to mention that besides Rajim, there are many other tourist and religious sites in the district where people will gather in large numbers to celebrate the New Year.

Surya Dev Temple, Rajim Bhaktin Temple, Ganesh Temple, Shyam Kartikeya Temple, Bhutesh-Nath Mahadev Temple, Pancheshwar Nath Mahadev Temple, Garib Nath Mahadev Temple, Somesh-Mahadev Nath Temple, Adishakti Maa Mahamaya Temple, Dattatreya Temple, Chhota Rajivlochan Temple, Bhubaneswar Nath Mahadev Temple, etc.

Collector inspects Aadhaar **Service** Center

SUKMA: Collector Amit

Kumar conducted a surprise inspection of the Aadhaar service center operating in the Collectorate premises. During this time, he inquired about the services being provided to citizens at the center and closely reviewed the process, timelines, and arrangements for Aadhaar-related work. During the inspection, Collector Amit Kumar also interacted with villagers who had come to get their Aadhaar cards made and updated, and took their feedback on the services. Citizens shared their experiences related to the service process, which the Collector listened to attentively. The Collector instructed the employees working at the center to ensure that common citizens do not face any inconvenience in Aadhaar updates, new registrations, and other services. He said that the Aadhaar service center is an important service unit of the government, where quick and effective resolution of the problems of common people should be the highest priority.

On this occasion, Chief Executive Officer District Panchayat Mukund Thakur, E-District Manager Mohd. Shahid, and District Aadhaar Manager Sheikh Shahrukh were also present.

| 140TH CONG FOUNDATION DAY |

Large quantities of Mahua liquor, fermented mash recovered



Central Chronicle News

PITHORA: Under the special campaign being run by the Excise Department to completely curb the manufacture and sale of illegal liquor in the district as per the government's instructions, the Pithora circle has achieved a major success. Based on concrete information received from an informant, Excise Sub-Inspec-

tor Neeraj Kumar Sahu and his subordinate staff conducted a well-planned raid on a remote location near a hill in Laxmipur village, where illegal hand-distilled liquor was being manufactured on a large scale. This surprise action by the department created panic among the illegal traders, and the accused managed to escape, taking advantage of the situation.

Discrepancies in rural area boundaries addressed

RAJNANDGAON: A training program for Tehsildars and Master Trainers was organized at the Collectorate conference hall for the successful implementation of the Census 2027 proposed by the Government of India. The training was imparted by Joint Director Census, Ashok Mishra, and Assistant Director Census, Kavindra Bhangari. The main objective of the training was to digitally demarcate and verify the

boundaries of villages to ensure the accuracy and reliability of census data.

Additional Collector Prem Prakash Sharma instructed that all census-related work be completed with seriousness, transparency, and within the stipulated time. During the training, detailed information was provided on digital mapping, updating village boundaries, identifying potential errors, and the process of resolving them.

NEWSLINE

Bagbahra Scouts and Guides leave for Pachmarhi



BAGBAHRA: Scouts and Guides from Bagbahra left for Pachmarhi to participate in the National Mountaineering Camp. In this camp, participants are trained in adventurous activities, disaster management, and life-saving techniques. This provides a great opportunity for young students to participate in mountaineering and adventure activities.

They will learn to protect themselves and help others while facing challenging situations. They will receive training on the difficult conditions encountered mountaineering.

'URS OF KHWAJA

Raza Foundation organizes blood donation and distributes fruits to



BIJAPUR: On the auspicious occasion of the 'Urs of Khwaja Garib Nawaz', the Raza Foundation performed an exemplary act of humanitarian service. On this occasion, blood was donated for needy patients at the district hospital, and fruits were distributed to patients admitted to the hospital.

Foundation District President Sarfaraz Ansari said that the teachings of Khwaja Garib Nawaz convey the message of numanity. service, and brother hood. Inspired by these messages, a blood donation camp was organized at the district hospital on the occasion of the Urs, and fruits were distributed to the patients keeping their health in mind.

patients



AREA DOMINATION

Two IEDs planted by Maoists recovered, safely destroyed on the spot



BIJAPUR: A team of 199 **Battalion CRPF from FOB** Koppaguda under Gangalur Police Station area was on area domination and demining duty in the FOB Pidia area.

During the operation, approximately 2 km from Pidia camp, during demining, two IEDs planted by Maoists were recovered at a distance of 50 meters from the under-construction road.

Congress stages oneday protest against BJP's anti-people policies



Central Chronicle News

BASNA: On the occasion of the 140th Foundation Day of the All India Congress Committee, under the direction of the District Congress Committee and Devendra Bahadur Singh, the former minister and ex-Raja of Phuljhar State, the Congress strongly protested against the decision of the BJP-led central government to change the name of the MNREGA scheme. Calling this decision a direct attack on the rights of the poor, laborers, and farmers, Congress workers held a oneday protest and raised

| STUBBLE BURNING |

the Kharif crop and the

preparation for the Rabi

crop, farmers are burn-

ing the remaining crop

slogans against the antipeople policies of the BJP

Hara (Vishnu and Shiva).

Here, one can see excel-

lent examples of ancient

sculptures and paintings

in the 6th-century Shri

Rajivlochan Temple of

Lord Vishnu, the Panch-

mukhi Kuleshwar Nath

Mahadev Temple of

Lord Shiva, and many

other ancient temples

of various deities. Other

prominent temples here

Deval, Lakshmi Narayan

Temple, the Vaman Ava-

tar Temple, Narasimha

Avatar Temple, Badri-

narayan Temple, Varaha

Avatar Temple, Rajra-

jeshwar Nath Mahadev

Temple, Dan Daneshwar

Nath Mahadev Temple,

Ramchandra

include

government. Addressing the protest, senior Congress leader and former Mandi Chairman Manjit Singh Saluja sharply criticized the BJP government, saying that the BJP is trying to hide its failures by erasing the names Congress's welfare schemes, but the people of the country have now understood everything. He said that a historic scheme like MNREGA is the lifeline of millions of poor people, and tampering with its name reflects a dictatorial mindset.

Last date for insuring Rabi crops is Dec 31

33 crore as compensation to 20380 farmers for crop damage. This year, during the Rabi 2025-26 season, only 15,627 hectares of land have been insured by farmers so far. The Agriculture Department is continuously working through field officers to reach out to farmers and encourage them to insure their crops. Cooperative societies are also motivating farmers to get their crops insured through paddy procurement cenfacing practical difficulties in providing insurance to farmers who have not yet sold their paddy or updated their Kharif

the bank.

RAJNANDGAON: The last date for insuring Rabi crops for the year 2025-26 under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana is December 31, 2025. Last year, in Rabi 2024-25, 39541 hectares of Rabi crops were insured. Due to untimely rains and other reasons, the insurance company paid Rs. ters. However, banks are short-term loans through

Kurud pay homage to great leaders, achievements discussed

Central Chronicle News

A grand program was organized by the BCC **Kurud** on the glorious occasion of the 140th Foundation Day of the INC.

KURUD: A grand program was organized by the Block Congress Committee Kurud on the glorious occasion of the 140th Foundation Day of the Indian National Congress. During this time, Congress workers remembered the great sons of the nation, including the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi, who contributed to the country's independence and reconstruction, resolved to follow their path.

The program began at Gandhi Chowk in an enthusiastic atmosphere. Here, under the leadership of the Block Congress Committee, the workers



FASTFACTS

Addressing the seminar, senior leaders said that the Congress was founded to free the country from the shackles of slavery.

garlanded the statue of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and performed puja (worship) according to the rituals. During this time,

with slogans of "Congress Zindabad" (Long live Congress). After paying homage at Gandhi Chowk, a special seminar was organized at the local Congress Bhavan. During this time, the workers congratulated each other on the Foundation Day by distributing sweets. The seminar highlighted the contributions of the founders and prominent leaders of the Hume, Womesh Chandra Banerjee, Dadabhai Naoroji, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Indira Gandhi, and Rajiv Gandhi, among many other great personalities. Addressing the seminar, senior leaders said that the Congress was founded to free the country from the shackles

of slavery.

Central Chronicle News

RAJNANDGAON: As per



The administrative team reached the spot and identified the illegal plotting being carried out on approximately 30 acres in the Lakholi area and behind the Press Club, as well as encroachments on government land, and removed them with the help of JCB machines and other resources.

Stubble burning leads to air pollution **Central Chronicle News** RAJIM: With the end of

residue, grass, chaff, and straw in their fields. These days, this scene is administration nor any not only visible in Rajim aware/concerned organibut also in agricultural zation has come forward lands across rural areas, to stop this. Moreover, where flames are raging some farmers have even everywhere. It's a terflooded their fields after

rifying sight, with only burning the stubble. black ash visible after The once lush green the burning. Neither the fields have been transformed into ash. Only those who collected straw for their livestock have any left. This situation has been observed for the past 8-10 years. This situation arose after the use of harvesters for paddy thresh-

Burning fields destroys beneficial insects, causes pollution, and degrades soil fertility.

ing became common.

Agriculture Expert

Earlier, farmers would harvest the paddy, tie it into bundles, and bring it to the threshing floor. Then they would thresh was collected and stored for the livestock's fod-

rollers.

it using tractors and

This way, all the straw

der for the entire year. The cattle would eat it and fill their stomachs. Besides this, it also had other uses. People say that the government and administration only scare people and make empty promises, announcing that burning stubble will result in punishment or a fine under a certain section of the law.

Administration's bulldozer demolishes illegal colonies

the instructions of Collector Jitendra Yadav, continuous strict action is being taken in the district against illegal plotting and illegal encroachment on government land. In this sequence, under the guidance of SDM Rajnandgaon Gautam Patil, a joint team of the Revenue Department and Rajnandgaon Municipal Corporation (RMC) took action in various areas of the municipal

Business &



"Ministry of Civil Aviation has established a permanent, 24×7 **Passenger Assistance Control** Room to ensure a smooth mechanism for passengers."

Ram Mohan Naidu Civil Aviation Minister

Infrastructure push & export growth propel India's textile

The year 2025 marked a defining phase for India's textile sector, with the Ministry of Textiles accelerating reforms, infrastructure development and export promotion.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The year 2025 marked a defining phase for India's textile sector, with the Ministry of Textiles accelerating reforms, infrastructure development and export promotion to strengthen India's global competitiveness while ensuring inclusive growth across the value chain-from farmers and artisans to large manufacturers.

Significant progress was recorded under the PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) scheme, with seven parks approved across Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. Infrastructure works worth over Rs 2,590 crore were initiated by state governments, while environment clearances were secured for all sites. Investment MoUs with an expected potential exceeding Rs 27,400 crore were signed, and 100 per cent land acquisition was completed. The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the PM MITRA Park at Dhar, Madhya Pradesh, in September, while DPRs worth over Rs 7,000 crore were approved for four



- DPRs worth over Rs 7,000 crore were approved for four parks, making world-class textile manufacturing
- Significant progress was recorded under the PM Mega Integrated **Textile Region and** Apparel (PM MITRA) scheme.

parks, marking a major step towards world-class textile manufacturing hubs. The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for textiles began delivering measurable results in 2025. Of the 74 selected applicants, 40 companies reported investments, 30 commenced production, and provisional incentives were disbursed to eligible firms. The scheme is expected to generate investments of nearly Rs 28,700 crore, with technical textiles accounting for over half of participating companies.

India's textile and

apparel exports registered growth in 2025, reaching USD 37.8 billion and reinforcing the country's position as the world's sixth-largest exporter. Traditional markets such as the US, EU and UK remained dominant, while emerging destinations contributed a growing share. The ministry reiterated its Vision 2030 target of USD 100 billion in textile exports, driven by market diversification, sustainability and inno-

vation across more than 500 exporting districts nationwide. Under the National Technical Textiles Mission, 168 R&D projects were approved, alongside support for startups, educational institutions and quality control orders covering key products. The mission continued to strengthen India's capabilities in specialty fibres and strategic applica-The SAMARTH scheme

further expanded the skilled workforce, with over 5.4 lakh persons trained so far-88 per cent of them womenand a placement rate of 75 per cent, reinforcing the sector's role in inclusive employment generation. Major reforms were undertaken in the cotton sector, including MSP procurement of 100

lakh bales, digitisation through the Kapas Kisan app, and the launch of the Kasturi Cotton Bharat programme to enhance traceability and branding. A five-year Cotton Productivity Mission was announced to boost yields and sustainability. The silk sector recorded strong growth, with raw silk production rising by over 55 per cent since 2013-14 and bivoltine silk output nearly quadrupling. India retained its position as the world's second-largest silk producer. The wool and jute sectors also saw targeted interventions, including GI registration for Ladakh Pashmina, R&D projects for coarse wool, mandatory jute packaging norms, MSP procurement and technology-driven monitoring

Silver surges Rs 3,650 to hit record Rs 2.4 Lakh per kg

Press Trust Of India

The FTA eliminates duty on 100 pc of Indian exports, along with a \$20 billion investment.

exports by opening the door to 1.4 billion Indian **NEW DELHI:** A Free Trade consumers," he added. Agreement (FTA) with "Fixing the Basics. Build-India will add more ing the Future," Luxon said, while welcoming the employment, exports, and raise incomes, said deal that was concluded in nine months. Earlier, New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon. Prime Minister Naren-He said this as India dra Modi had hailed the and New Zealand con-India-New Zealand FTA as

FTA with India means

FACTFILE

exports, more jobs:

New Zealand PM

FTA with India will

exports, and raise

incomes, said New

Zealand PM Chris-

cluded a comprehen-

sive and long-awaited

FTA, marking a major

economic and strate-

gic milestone. "We said

we'd secure a Free Trade

Agreement with India in

our first term, and we've

delivered," Luxon said

in a post on social media

"This landmark deal

and

platform X.

incomes,

add more jobs,

topher Luxon.

a historic milestone. important moment for India-New Zealand relations, with a strong push to bilateral trade and investment! My friend PM Christopher Luxon and I had a very good conversation a short while ago following the conclusion of the landmark India-New Zealand means more jobs, higher Free Trade Agreement," more he wrote on X.

Silver prices extended the record-setting rally, jumping Rs 3,650 to Rs 2,40,000 per kg.

NEW DELHI: Silver prices extended the recordsetting rally for the fifth straight day on Monday, jumping Rs 3,650 to Rs 2,40,000 per kg in the national capital due to persistent buying by traders, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The white precious metal had closed at Rs 2,36,350 per kilogram on Friday. So far this year, silver prices have delivered remarkable returns, surging 167.55 per cent, or Rs 1,50,300, from Rs 89,700 per kg recorded on December 31, 2024. Meanwhile, gold of 99.9 per cent purity retreated from its record levels by declining Rs 500 to Rs 1,41,800



per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes). It had climbed Rs 1,500 to hit a fresh record of Rs 1,42,300 per 10 grams in the previous market session. Gold traded weak on Monday as traders booked profit after the yellow metal in the international markets slipped nearly USD 70 to USD 4,463 per ounce amid high volatility, Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst - Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, said. In the overseas markets, spot gold was trading lower by USD 69.67, or 1.54 per cent, at USD 4,462.96 per ounce. Spot silver retreated from lifetime highs to trade lower by USD 4.06, or 5.13 per cent, to USD 75.09 per ounce, pressured by prof**FACTFILE**

Silver prices have delivered remarkable returns, surging 167.55 per cent in its price so

it-taking after an end-ofyear rally that notched a fresh record of USD 83.97 per ounce.

"The broader trend remains volatile as markets reassess positions after the recent sharp rally. This week, the Federal Reserve's meeting minutes will be a key trigger, while the US holiday period could keep trading volumes relatively thin," Trivedi said. Hareesh V, Head of Commodity Research, Geojit Investments Ltd, said, "In 2025, gold, and silver reached record highs, driven by a potent blend of macroeconomic shifts, industrial demand, and structural supply tightness."

| DEFENCE MANUFACTURING |

Adani to put Rs 1.8 lakh cr to boost defence sector

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Adani Group plans to invest Rs 1.8 lakh crore next year in defence manufacturing, with a focus on strengthening capabilities in unmanned and autonomous systems as well as advanced guided weapons as it looks to play a stealth anchor role in India's future warfare capabili-



ties, sources said. Adani Defence & Aerospace in 2025 transitioned from extended planning cycles

to rapid deployment with some of its military hardware being used in Operation Sindoor.

in unmanned and autonomous systems, advanced guided weapons, sensors and electronics, AI-enabled multi-domain operations, and scaled-up maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) and training infrastructure, company sources said. Autonomous across air, sea and land domains are unmanned

Next year, it will invest

platforms that use sensors, software and secure networks to operate with minimal human intervention, expanding military reach while reducing risk to personnel. In the air, they include UAVs that conduct intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, communications relay and precision-support missions with long endurance.

BizBriefs

INDIAN MARKET

Sensex, Nifty extend losses for fourth session due to selling pressure in IT, realty, pharma & auto stocks





MUMBAI: Indian equity extended their losing streak for the fourth consecutive session on Monday, weighed down by sustained selling pressure in information technology, realty, pharma and auto stocks. The benchmark Sensex closed at 84,695.54, down 345.91 points, or 0.41 per cent. The Nifty also ended lower at 25,942.10, declining 100.20 points, or 0.38 per cent, as weakness persisted across key sectors. Market analysts said the Nifty slipped below the psychological 26,000 mark as well as its 20-day exponential moving average (EMA), extending losses by nearly 100 points amid heightened volatility ahead of the monthly derivatives expiry. "The index formed bearish candlestick patterns, indicating nearterm selling pressure, though it continues to hover around key short-term moving averages," analysts noted. Experts added that a sustained break below the 25,900 level could open the door for further downside towards the 25,800-25,700 zone. On the Sensex,

Power Grid, Trent, HCL Technologies and Bharat Electronics were among the major laggards, dragging the index lower. However, selective buying was witnessed in a few stocks, with Tata Steel, Asian Paints, Hindustan Unilever, Eternal, NTPC and Axis Bank ending the session in positive territory.

The broader market also remained under pressure. The Nifty Midcap 100 index declined 0.52 per cent, while the Nifty Smallcap 100 fell 0.72 per cent. Sectorally, IT, realty and auto stocks bore the brunt of the selling. The Nifty IT index slipped 0.75 per cent, while the Realty and Auto indices declined 0.67 per cent and 0.53 per cent, respectively. In contrast, some defensive pockets showed resilience. The Nifty Media index gained 0.93 per cent, while PSU Bank and FMCG indices edged up 0.05 per cent and 0.11 per cent, respectively. Analysts said market sentiment remained cautious, with investors continuing to pare positions amid sector-specific selling and the absence of strong positive triggers.

FLIGHTS

Indigo cancels 118 flights due to operational reasons

MUMBAI: IndiGo on Monday cancelled 118 flights across its network due to bad weather and operational reasons, according to its website. Of these, six flight services were axed due to operational reasons, while the rest were cancelled due to bad weather conditions at various airports. Flight services were cancelled at Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Cochin, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Amritsar, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Dehradun, Indore, Patna and Bhopal, among others, as per the indigo website. The airline, in a travel advisory at 11.20 am, said, "Foggy conditions remain in place across Delhi and several airports in northern India, with visibility yet to improve fully. As a result, the earlier impact on flight movements is likely to extend into the noon hours, and some delays may continue." In the advisory posted on X, however, IndiGo did not say it had cancelled 80 flights on Monday. "We assure you that flight departures and arrivals are being sequenced to ensure steady and orderly movement, while keeping your journey and comfort in mind," the airline added in the advisory. IndiGo, which cancelled thousands of flights, including 1,600 on a particular day, early this month due to the court-mandated stricter flight duty.

SOLAR

Waaree Energies launches two solar inverter facilities



NEW DELHI: Waaree Energies on Monday announced the commencement of commercial operations at two stateof-the-art solar inverter line manufacturing facilities, boasting a combined annual capacity exceeding 3 GW. The facilities, established through its wholly-owned subsidiary Waaree Power, are located at the company's Sarodhi-Valsad factory in Gujarat, each with an annual capacity of 1.525 GW. Operations officially began on December 29 2025, at 10 am, marking a significant milestone in the company's expansion plans. The inauguration of these facilities enhances Waaree Energies Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM)-approved capacity to 20.17 GW, including 3.73 GW from Indosolar. The ALMM initiative, introduced by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), is designed to support India's "Make in India" vision by promoting domestic manufacturing of high-quality solar modules.

SEBI CLEARANCE

Knack Packaging, Shivalaya Construction among 4 Companies get SEBI clearance for IPOs

NEW DELHI: As many as four companies, including Knack Packaging and Shivalaya Construction, have secured SEBI's approval to collectively raise over Rs 1,400 crore through initial public offerings (IPOs), data available with the markets regulator showed on Monday. The other companies that received regulatory nod are tiles and bathware maker Varmora Granito and Behari Lal Engineering. These firms had filed their draft papers between August and September and received Sebi's observations during Dec 15-26.

In regulatory parlance, receipt of observations allows companies to proceed with their public issues. All four IPOs will comprise a mix of fresh issue of shares and an offer for sale (OFS) by existing shareholders. Meanwhile, Infifresh Foods, which had filed its draft papers in August through the confidential route, has withdrawn its prospectus, the

update showed. The approvals come at a time when the primary market has seen record activity in 2025. During the year, companies raised nearly Rs 1.76 lakh cr., supported by strong domestic liquidity, steady investor demand and a supportive macroeconomic environment.

Central Chromicle Classifieds FOR RENT हॉस्पिटल/बैक/अन्य व्यवसाधिक समयोग हेत् अधि चयपुरत भवन-नेशनल हाईवे ६, रावपु आरंग शेव पर, रीवा तखोती स्टेशन के पास NCC EPIN HER & धास. ६००० वर्गकिट (2800 वर्गीफेट निर्मित)

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Nation News

INSV Kaundinya recreation of fifth-century vessel

Its design and construction had posed 'unique technical challenges.'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Traditionally-built stitched ship INSV Kaundinya, which on Monday embarked on her maiden overseas voyage, from Gujarat to Oman, is a recreation of a fifth-century vessel, and inspired by a painting from the ancient Ajanta Caves. Named after the legendary mariner Kaundinya, who is believed to have sailed from India to Southeast Asia in ancient times, the ship embodies India's historic role as a maritime nation. Its design and construction had posed "unique technical challenges," according to

The Indian Navy had formally inducted and named the vessel as Indian Naval Sailing Vessel (INSV) Kaundinya at a ceremonial event held at the Karwar naval base on May 21, in the presence of Union Minister of Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat. On Monday, the ship set off on her maiden overseas voy-

E-TENDER NOTICE

Bhilai Tender No. 82255346

Name of Work: Supply Installation Conditioner HVAC unit with built in vielding mounting frame and making provision of drain arrangement as per Specification No. WDG4/EL/PS/35 rocured from BLW vendors as per uthorized dealers only. Quantity: 13 Nos.). Closing of Tender: At 10:30 on 22,01,2026. 1. Tender www.ireps.gov.in and the same can fice of Sr.DMM/SECR/Raipur DRN WRS/Raipur, Pin- 492008 (C.G) or working Day Monday-Friday 9.30 AM

DMM-ELS

It is informed to the general public that I RISHABH SHRIWAS S/o RAVI SHANKAR SHRIWAS (Old Name) resident of H NO. 48 G. WARD NO. 04, KUKDUR, DIST. KAWARDHA C.G. PIN.- 491559 have changed my old name RISHABH

SHRIWAS SIO RAVI SHANKAR SHRIWAS so in future I should be recognized by my new name that is RISHABH SHRIVAS S/O RAVI SHANKAR SHRIVAS in all

Government and other documents

RISHABH SHRIVAS

Add I NO. 48 G, WARD NO. 04. KUNDUR DIST KAWARDHA CO. PIN-491559

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general blic that my client Parvinder Singh, Sit Late Iqubal Singh, resident of MIG-54. Padmanabhpur, Durg (Chhatisgarti), has lost an important original document relating to Maharashtra Scooters Limited (Maharashtra Scooters Ltd). The said Share Certificate / Original

Bond Paper, standing in the name of Surinder Kaur, bearing Folio No. S0000431. was lost/misplaced on 28-11-2025 at around 1:30 PM near Sec. 2. Market Bhilai.

In this regard, a police report has been Durg. vide Report No. 1066/25 dated 09-12-

If any person finds the above ntioned document, heishe is requested to kindly inform the undersigned at the

address or mobile number given below. The general public is hereby cautioned not to deal in any manner whatsoever with the said Share Certificate. Any person dealing with the same shall do so at his her own risk and responsibility. The owner is in

the process of applying to the company for suance of a duplicate share certificate. Informant Parvinder Singh Address: MIG-54, Padmanabhy

Durg (C.G.) Mobile No.: 9406025400



multiple masts and sails, serving as inspiration for the Indian Navy's INSV Kaundinya on its maiden voyage

the Ministry of Culture.

"The stitched ship is a rec-

reation of a 5th century CE

ship, inspired by a painting

from the Ajanta Caves," the

ing in September 2023, the

vessel's construction was

undertaken using a tradi-

tional method of stitching

by a team of skilled artisans

from Kerala, led by master

shipwright Babu Sankaran.

the team painstakingly

stitched wooden planks on

the ship's hull using coir

rope, coconut fibre and natural resin. The ship was

launched in February 2025

that I MEHAR DAS KHETWANI S/O

SEWAK RAM KHETWANI

resident of H NO. Juniar MIG

473/A, Ward No. 12, Vaishall

Nagar, Post Supela, Bhilai, Tahsil

& Distt. Durg C.G., PIN 490023

have changed my old name

MEHAR KHETWANI S/O SEWAK

RAM KHETWANI so in future I

should be recognized by my new

name that is MEHAR DAS

KHETWANI S/O SEWAK RAM

KHETWANI in all Government and

MEHAR DAS KHETWAN

Vaishali Nagar, Post Supela.

Bhilai, Tahsil & Distt. Durg C.G.,

PIN 490023

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-I/II

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR

anchar Vikas Bhawan (BSAL Building), Neo Residency Road, Jabalpur-482001 (M.P.)

SHOW CAUSE TO ATTACHMENT OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER

PROVISIONS OF THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT 1961

READ WITH RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1983.

CANARA BANK

Versus

M/S SHRI AMBA RICE PVT. LTD.

(CD2) SHRI ABHISHEK SHARMA VILLAGE-DADAR, POST-JANGIRI BMY

(CD5) SHRI ABHISHEK SHARMA PROP OF M/S SHRI AMBA RICE INDUSTRIES

Whereas the Recovery Certificate issued in QA/292/2015 passed by the Presiding

Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR an amount of Rs 86236159.94

(Rupees Eight Crore Sixty Two Lakhs Thirty Six Thousands One Hundred Fifty

Nine And Paise Ninety Four Only along with pendentellite and future interest © 12.00% Simple Interest Yearly w.e.f. 05/16/2015 till realization and costs of Rs.

150000 (Rupees One Lakh Fifty Thousands Only) has become due against you

You are directed to appear before the Recovery Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY

TRIBUNAL JABALPUR on 27/01/2026 at 10.30 A.M. and to show cause why the

below said property should not be attached. You are also restrained from creating

Detail of Property

area 0.060 hectares and Khasra Number 799/2, land area 0.210

hectares, situated at Village Limtara, RI - Murmunda, Tehsil-Ahiwara, District Durg (C.G.); property in the name of CD

Agriculture Land bearing Khata number 42, Khasra Number 2/17 land area 0.1510 hectares Part Khasra No. 2/18 land area 0.1600

hectares Total land area 0.3110 hectares, Halka Number 00015,

situated at Village Maharajpur, Tehsil Chhuriya, Dist-Rajnandgaon (C.G.); property in the name of CD No. 2 -Shri

Abhishek Sharma S/o Shri Arun Sharma. iii.) Agriculture Land

bearing Khata No. 41, Khasra No. 2/21, Total land area 0.1600

hectares, Halka No. 00015, situated at Village-Maharaspur, Tehsii

Chhuriya, Dist- Rajnandgaon (C.G.); property in the name of CD

No. 2 - Shri Abhishek Sharma S/o Shri Arun Sharma. iv.)

Agriculture Land bearing Khasra number 787/3 land area 0.0500

sectares includes 795/1 land area 0.0500 hectares situated at Village Limtara, RI Murmunda, Tehsit - Ahiwara, District -Durg

(C.G.); property in the name of CD No. 4 - Shri Amit Sharma S/o

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR

Recovery Officer

No. 2 - Shri Abhishek Sharma S/o Shri Arun Sharma.

i) Agriculture Land bearing Khasra Number -795/7 having land

(Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited), and whereas the said has not been paid.

ILLAGE-DADAR, POST- JANGIRI BMY CHAROO, DURG (C.G.)-491001

VILLAGE-DADAR, POST-JANGIRI BMY CHAROD, DURG (C.G.)-491001

VILLAGE-DADAR, POST- JANGIRI BMY CHARGO, DURG (C.G.)

any third-party interest in this property till further order(s).

Shri Arun Sharma.

3. Take notice that in default, action as per law shall be taken.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: 18/12/2025

(CO1)M/S SHRI AMBA RICE PVT LTD LIMTARA TEH DHAMCHA LIMTARA TEH DHAMDHA-

(CD3) SMT, SARIKA SHARMA

(CD4) SHRI AMIT SHARMA

Property Details

Property Type

immovable

Property

Over several months,

Following the keel lay-

Navy official said.

age, from Gujarat's Porbandar to Oman.

"The voyage retraces ancient maritime routes that once connected the western coast of India with Oman, facilitating trade, cultural exchange, and sustained civilisational interactions across the Indian Ocean," a Navy spokesperson said.

The project of building a stitched ship with an ancient technique was initiated through a tripartite agreement signed in July 2023 between the Ministry of Culture, the Indian Navy, and Hodi Innova-

tions, with funding from

PUBLIC NOTICE

After years of construction and other preparations, on December 29, it was flagged off by Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command, Vice Admiral, Krishna Swaminathan, in the presence of the Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to India, Issa Saleh Al Shibani. "Wonderful to see that INSV Kaundinya is embark-

at Hodi Shipyard, Goa.

ing on her maiden voyage from Porbandar to Muscat, Oman. Built using the ancient Indian stitchedship technique, this ship highlights India's rich maritime traditions. I congratulate the designers, artisans, shipbuilders and the Indian Navy for their dedicated efforts in bringing this unique vessel to life. My best wishes to the crew for a safe and memorable journey, as they retrace our historic links with the Gulf region and beyond. @INSVKaundinya," Prime Minster Narendra Modi posted on X.

BENGALURU: This New

Year, take a step closer to your fitness resolutions with Amazon.in's 'Get Fit Days'. Discover the latest launches from WHOOP along with a wide selection of sports and fitness essentials. Whether you're setting up a home workout routine or upgrading your fitness gear, explore products from trusted brands like Yonex, Lifelong, and more. Customers can also enjoy exciting offers on Debit and Credit cards during the event. "Our customers are increasingly prioritizing fitness, making it one of the fastest-growing categories on Amazon.in. This interest spans from sports and fitness equipment to wearables. We continue to expand our selection with new launches from leading brands, backed by AI-enabled discovery, customer ratings, and live experiences that help customers make informed choices. With exciting deals and fast delivery to every serviceable PIN code, we're making it easier for customers across India to start or sustain their journeys", Karthik Subbarayappa-Director, Kitchen, Home Improvement and Sports, Amazon India

POSSESSION NOTICE

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED ferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interes the Borrower(s) CHAWLA ROAD CARRIER (THROUGH ITS PARTNERS), SURJEET KAUR HORA (CO-BORROWER, WIFE AS WELL AS LEGAL HEIR OF LATE HARMINDER SINGH HORA) PARTNER CHAWLA ROAD CARRIER and RAJINDER KAUR CHAWLA PARTNER CHAWLA ROAD CARRIER to report the amount mentioned in the Notice being of Rs. 34,94,726.39 (Rupees Thirty Four Lakhs Ninety Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Six and Paixe Thirty Nine Only) against Loan Account No. HLAPRPR00300348 as on 12.02.2024 and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said

The Borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on 24,12,2925.

The Borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the chains of SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED Homerly brown as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED) for an amount of Rs. 34,94,726.39 (Rupees Thirty Four Lakhs Ninety Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Six and Paise Thirty Nine Only) as on 12.02.2024 and interest thereon.

The Borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Bub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Assets

PLOT NO. 0.P-10, MEASURING 1345 SQUARE FEET, BLOCK NO. 04. DR. KHUBCHAND BAGHEL SCHEME, TRANSPORT NAGAR, RAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, VILLAGE RAWASHATA, P.H. NO. 100, PART OF KHASRANO: 397/7, RAIPUR-492001, CHHATTISGARH, AND THE SAID

EAST PETROL PUMP NORTH : PLOT NO. Q.P. 11

SOUTH: PLOT NO. O.P. 09

Authorised Officer Date: 24.12.2025 Place: RAIPUR SAMMAAN CARITAL LIMITED (FORMERLY KNOWN AS INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED)

पावरग्रिड POWERGRID

Approval under Regulation-23 of CERC (Conduct of Business) Regulations'202 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tarff Regulations) 2014, CERC (Terms and Conditions of Tarff) Regulations 2019 and Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tarif Regulations) 2024 for i) Truing up of Transmission tariff for 2019-24 tariff block and Determination of Transmission tartif for 2024-29 tartif block for Petition-1: Asset-1 Conversion of 240 MVAr Non-switchable Line reactor at Raipur Pooling Statio ciated with Raipur Pooling Station -Champa Pooling Station 765 kV Ckt-1) int Switchable Line reactor along with NGR bypass arrangement and Asset-2 Conversion of 240 MVAr Non switchable Line reactor at Raipur Pooling Station (associated with Raipur Pooling Station - Champa Pooling Station 765 kV Ch-2) into Switchable Line reactor along with NGR bypass arrangement under "Western Region Expansion Scheme- XXIV (WRES-XXIV)" in the Western Region.

The beneficianes of the above mentioned Transmission system are: (1) MPPMCI, Jabelpur (2) MSEDCL, Mumbai (3) GUVNL, Vadodara (4) Electricity Departmen Government of Goa, Panaj. (5) DNHDDPCL, Silvassa (6) CSPDCL, Raipur

a) 2019-	24 B	-		. 1	Petition-1					Rs	. In lake
Asset detail	DO	00	Completio Cost as or 31.03.2024	1		2019 -20	2020 -21	-2	21	202 -23	2 2023
Asset-1	16.1	0.2023	210.72	AF	rvised C based truing up	-	+	+			41.7
Asset-2	12.1	1,2023	211.82				+	-			35.0
2024-	19 84	ock	T.	1	Patition-1					Rs.	in lakhi
Asset d	etail		letion Cost 31.83.2029	•	2024-25	2025-2	5 2026	-27	202	7-28	2028-21
Combine	ed	472.2	\$	AFC	166.93	173.52	175.	56	177	,79	180.28

4. A copy of this notice and of the application made for determination of tariff is posted on the website of the applicant at www.powergrid.in

The suggestions and objections, if any, on the proposals for determination of tariff contained in the application be filed by any person, including the beneficiary before the Secretary, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, 6th, 7th & 8th floor, Tower & B., World Trade Centre, Naoroji Nagar, New Delhi - 110029 (or other address where the office of the Commission is situated), with a copy to the applicant at the address of its corporate office within 30 days of publication of this notice.

POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED Regd, Office: 5-8, Quital Institutional Arms, Ketwaria Sarsi, New Dehi-110016 Corp. Office: "Seutemin", Plot No.2, Sector-28, Gungram-12001 (Haryana) www.powergrid.in: CIN: L401010L1989GO0038121

A Maharatna PSU

Deputy General Manager (Commercial)

Vijayakumar arrested in Sabarimala gold loss case

Vijayakumar, a former TDB member, is linked to the shrine gold loss case.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Former TDB member N Vijayakumar was arrested on Monday in connection with the Sabarimala Lord Ayyappa temple gold loss case, police said. Police sources said Vijayakumar was a member of the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) during the tenure of former president A Padmakumar, who has already been arrested in the case related to the loss of gold from the doorframes of the Sreekovil (sanctum sanctorum) of the shrine.

During the board's tenure, approval was given to hand over gold plates

Dodeja W/o Annop

to the prime accused, Unnikrishnan Potty, for

electroplating in 2019. SIT officials said that Vijayakumar, who

is also a CPI(M) member, had recently filed

FASTFACTS

Padmakumar's bail plea will be heard on Dec 31.

Vijayakumar became the 10th accused to be arrested by the SIT.

an anticipatory bail

petition at the Kollam Vigilance Court. However, he withdrew the petition and turned up at the SIT office on Monday. After the interrogation, his arrest was recorded, sources said. He was produced before the Thiruvanan-

thapuram Vigilance court and remanded to judicial custody till January 12.

rawal S/O Shri Shankar Lal Agrawal Raipu G.) for the Part of Kh. No. 31/1, 32/2, Ans 511 Hect., Shusted at Falladh, Ward No. 21 arkanya Partner Lawni Bulders & Develope

Now Shri Shubham Kankariya has apple w received within above mentioned lime

केन्श बैक Canara Bank 🔎 Ganara Bank, Specialised ARIM Branc

Plot on. 4. PSP Area. Wear AlIMS. Saket Nagar Bhopal Tel.: 8989014641

E-AUCTION (SALE NOTICE)

Appendix-IV-A (See provisio to rule 8(6) & 6(2)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securification and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Entr of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rules 8(6) & 6(2) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) & Guarantor (s) that the below d ties mortgaged / charged to the secured creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the authorises officer the Canara Bank (secured creditor) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS. AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" A WHAT EVER THERE IS* on 22/01/2026 for recovery of bank dues to the Canara Bank (secured creditor)

ne and address of the Borrower & Guarantors	Description of Property	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Dt. Dutstanding Amt.	EMD Amt.
over: Rahul Dodeja S/o op Kumar Dodeja 5 Shankar Niwas B Colony Katora 1. Raipur CG 492001 ocrower-Mrs. Kajal	Flat No. 602, 6th Floor, I Block, Green Glory, Part of Khasra No. 1211/22, 1320/21, 1216/19, 1217/19, 1218/31, 1211/23, 1320/22, 1216/20, 1217/20, 1218/32, P.H. No. 63, situated Shankar Nagar, Maharshi Valimiki Ward No. 28,R.I.CRaipur-1, Teh and Dist Raipur, CG. Boundaries of the Property- East-Colony Road, West-Colony Road, North-Flat-I,	30.08.2023 01.11.2023 as on 28/12/2825 7 1.21,82,593.07/-	₹ 18,00,000/- ₹ 1,80,000/-

TIGS/REFT in the account details as mentioned in the said chaltan, on above mentioned date of bid submission.

1) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on the sale by his/her favour and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale prior

GPS Location: Lat 21.2574699" Long: 81.68327450"

SPLSD ARM Bhopal, Canara Bank, Plot no. 4, PSP Area, Near AlfMS, Saket Nagar Bhopal. Contact no. 8989014640

8057766878, 9755569030 9691096410, 9123403299 (BHOPAL), 7905027805 (JABALPUR AND BILASPUR), 766306890 (RAIPUR), 9140476074 (GWALIOR), 9830136778 (INDORE), 8873562754 (BHDPAL) during office hours on any working day.

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of IIC Housing Finance Ltd (IJC HFL), under Securitization & Reconstruction of inancial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 [2] read with Rule 3 of he Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued Demand Notice to following Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantons calling upon hem to repay the outstanding due amount mentioned in the said notices. However The Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantons having failed o repay the said due amount, the undersigned has taken Symbolic (S) Physical (P) Passession in exercise of powers conferred U/s 18(4) and U/s 14 of the said Act and with the Rule B.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property have been mortgaged to the LIC HFL, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of LIC HFL will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" & without any recourse basis on 20-01-2026 & 29.01-2026, as par the brief particulars given here under.

KHASRA NO. 119/35, PH NO. 19/22, MAITRI KUNJ RISALI, WARD NO. 61, BHILAI, DURG, C.G., 490006.

Property No. 1) MR. TORANLAL SAHU / MRS. TEENA SAHU, Loan No.-120700003248/120700005494 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

Date of Demand Notice: 16/95/2024 Amt Demanded: Rs. 3492997i- with further interest Cost and Expenses. Beneficiary Name: LIC Housing Finance Ltd. Date of Possession (P)/(5): 14.08.2024 (Symbolic Possession) Reserve Price - 45400001- (Forty Nine Lakhs: Forty Thousand Rupees Only) Bank: Axis Bank, Centralised Collection Hub Account No: LHRP120700003248 EMD - Rs. 494000: (Four Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Rupees Only) Total Amount payable as on date - Rs. 2959967.99 (120700003248) IFSC Code: UTIBOCCH274 Rs. 1251914.39 (120700005494) LIC Housing Finance Ltd. Shop 252-254,362-264, first floor, Chauhan Estate in front of Chandra Maurya Office, Supela, Bhilai, Durg. C.G., 490006. ddress of property where documents can be inspected 16.01.2025 & From 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM Contact person: SHWETA DUBEY Contact Details: 9201260502 onbazaar.com) 63-1090'U1, 2nd floor, Part B, Umu ad House, Rajbhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad , Telanagana, India, Abhilash Namdoo, 7798830999 E-mail: contact@suctionbazaar.com / si@auctionbazaar.com / support@auct Contact details of E-Auction from the service provider Last date of submission of Online Tender / Bid 18/01/2026 & before 5.00 PM Auction Date 20/01/2026 and 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM Property No. 2) - MR. UJYALIK DAS JOSHI / MR. PRADEEP KUMAR, Loan No.-80030700001446 / 8003070001447

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY KHASRA NO. 340/113. PH NO. 23. PLOT NO. 13(PART), NEAR GALAXY HEIGHTS, SITLA NAGAR, WARD NO. 52, BORSI, DURG, C.G. Date of Demand Notice: 18/08/2025 ACCOUNT DETAILS Amt Demanded: Rs. 3970627.30/- with further Interest,

Cost and Expenses Date of Possession (P)/(S): 29.10.2025 (Symbolic Possessio Beneficiary Name: LIC Housing Finance Ltd.

Reserve Price - Rs. 5000000'- (Fifty Lakhs Rupees Only) Bank: Axis Bank, Centralised Collection Hub EMD - Rs. 500000i- (Five Lakh Rupees Only) Account No: LHRP8003070001446 Total Amount payable as on data - Rs. 2124067.19 (8003070001446) IFSC Code: UTIBOCCH274 Rs. 1911733.19 (8003070001447) LIC Housing Finance Ltd. Shop 252-254,262-264, first floor, Chauhan Estate in front of Chandra Maurya Office, Supela, Bhilai, Durg, C.G., 490006. Address of property where documents can be inspected:

Date & Time for Inspection of the Property: 22.01.2026 & From 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM Contact person: SHWETA DUBEY Contact Details: 9201260502 (auctionbazaar.com) 63-1990/1/1, 2nd floor, Part B, Umu Hyderabad House, Rajbhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad 300002, Telanagana, India. Abhilash Namdeo, 7799130999 E-mail: contract@auctionbazaar.com posal.central@auctionbazaar.com / support@auctionbazzar.com

Contact details of E-Auction from the service provider ust date of submission of Online Tender / Bid 27/01/2026 & before 5.00 PM **Auction Date:** 29/01/2026 and 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

"All other terms 5 conditions of the auction are mentioned as Annexure 2 in the Official Website - https://ionline.lichousing.com/eauction/

Authorised Officer LIC Housing Finance Ltd

Established 1974 Volume 51 No. 87

QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

"Confidence and hard work is the best medicine to kill the disease called failure"

[Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam]

| OUR VIEW |

A Dive into India's Depths of Self Reliance

hen President Droupadi Murmu descended beneath the waves aboard INS Vaghsheer on December 28, she did more than undertake a symbolic naval sortie. She reaffirmed India's growing confidence in its indigenous defence capabilities and the silent strength of its submarine arm. Only once before has a President of India ventured into the claustrophobic, high pressure world of a submarine-APJ Abdul Kalam in 2006. Murmu's dive thus carries both historic resonance and contemporary significance. INS Vaghsheer, a Kalvari class submarine built under Project 75, represents India's steady march towards self reliance in defence manufacturing. Powered by stealth, endurance, and precision, it is a reminder that maritime security is not a luxury but a necessity for a nation with vast coastlines and strategic ambitions. The President's presence onboard was not ceremonial alone; it was a message to the world that India's leadership stands shoulder to shoulder with its armed forces, even in the most demanding operational environments. The sortie also underscores the Navy's evolving role in safeguarding India's interests in the Indian Ocean Region. With rising geopolitical tensions, piracy threats, and the shadow of great power competition, submarines are the unseen guardians of sovereignty. Murmu's dive symbolically bridges the civilian leadership and the military establishment, reinforcing democratic oversight while celebrating professional excellence. Yet, beyond the optics, the event invites reflection. Defence self reliance must not remain confined to submarines or symbolic gestures. It requires sustained investment in research, innovation, and indigenous industry. It demands transparency in procurement and accountability in execution. The President's sortie should inspire policymakers to deepen reforms and citizens to appreciate the sacrifices of those who serve beneath the waves, unseen but indispensable. In saluting the Navy, Murmu saluted India's future. Her dive was not into darkness, but into the depths of national resolve. It was a reminder that true strength lies not in rhetoric, but in readiness. It was also a call to nurture innovation across sectors, ensuring India's resilience in every frontier. In the depths of the ocean, India glimpsed the

| GUEST VIEW |

Strategic Port, Seismic Risk: Burning the Future in Nicobar

he Great Nicobar project is being sold as strategic foresight. In reality, it is state-sanctioned ecological vandalism. To build a transshipment port, airport, and township, the government plans to clear close to a million trees on one of India's most biodiverse islands. These forests are not surplus land. They are living systems that sustain endemic species, protect coastlines, regulate fragile ecosystems, and support coral reefs

and turtle nesting sites like Galathea Bay. Once destroyed, they cannot be "mitigated." The project moves ahead despite Great Nicobar's location in a highly seismic zone, scarred by the 2004 tsunami. Risk is acknowledged only to be ignored. Environmental clearances have been fast-tracked, impact assessments diluted, and scientific warnings sidelined, reducing account-

ability and transparency.



Noopur Baruah, Tezpur

Most damning is the treatment of the island's people. The Shompen and Nicobarese tribes, among the most vulnerable in the country, face displacement through procedural consent and hollow consultations. Laws meant to protect forests and Indigenous rights are bent to suit timelines, not justice. A state that silences forests, erases communities, and gags voices to build infrastructure is not securing the future—it is burning it.

Comment

The Turbulence of Efficiency: IndiGo's HR Failed the FDTL Litmus Test

ndian aviation sector, known for its rapid **⊥** growth and low, cost features, faced a steep drop that was pertinently related to human capital and not engine physics. In the first week of December 2025, IndiGo, the largest airline in India, went through a systemic operational meltdown and had to cancel more than 1600 flights. The airline, however, blamed the cancellations on "unforeseen operational challenges", but the truth was very different. The new FDTL norm was the cause of the crisis. It was not just an operational malfunction; the failure to respond to a regulation change that has been known for almost two years is a disastrous defiance of strategic HR and risk management.

This lean obsession has had a very high cost, which is now very clear from the data. It was reckoned by the industry analysts that to fully comply with the new norms, which require forty-eight hours of rest per week, and limited night landings, airlines needed to increase their pilot staff by twenty to twenty-five percent just to be able to keep

the same flight schedules. The case of IndiGo turned out quite the opposite. In the middle of the December crisis, the airline's On Time Performance (OTP) dropped to an unbelievable thirty-five percent, a record low for a carrier that is usually at the forefront of the industry with a ninety percent level.

The crisis stems from

fundamental misunderstanding of human resources (HR) policies and regulations. Before the deadline, IndiGo kept up a strict 'hiring freeze' and at the same time used non -poaching agreements and six month notice periods in a rather controversial way to secure the existing staff. In effect, by treating pilots as a cost that can be cut, HR management turned pilots into a buffer against regulations and so created a shortage of their own making. Their plan did not work because it was very difficult to change restrictive notice periods when the shortage turned out to be so serious and therefore the talent tap could not be opened fast enough. "Just in time" hiring is good for spare parts but not for pilots



Siddharth, Indian Institute of Management Raipur



Dr. Sanjeev Prashar, Indian Institute of Management Raipur



Dr. Archana Parashar, Indian Institute of Management Raipur

who need months for type, rating and training before they can be used.

The IndiGo meltdown serves as a vital case study for why the HR function must move beyond administrative workforce planning and into the heart of Corporate Risk Management. Predictive Workforce Modelling: Human resources should no longer rely on traditional spreadsheets. Present day workforce management entails utilizing different scenarios in modelling, which also considers changes in regulations. In case a law is passed that mandates a twenty-five percent increase in the time of rest, HR department will have to start a recruitment campaign one year ahead.

Regulatory Risk Integration: HR leaders need to be constantly present at the "Risk Table". It is a Talent Acquisition task, when the DGCA informs about a change in duty hours. By involving HR in the different stages of compliance with regulations, companies are in a position to prevent the "show, cause" letters that are a result of the management of IndiGo, are presently being

received by the top management of IndiGo.

Abandoning the ture" Model: The heavy dependence on non-poaching agreements and long notice periods reflects a control mentality that is no longer compatible with the fast, paced world of work. In a market characterized by rapid growth, the free movement of talent can be considered as a kind of security. Rather than blocking exits, HR should be encouraged to look at the problem from the perspective of creating strong talent pipelines.

The IndiGo crisis of 2025 is a powerful reminder that in the air transport industry, the crew remains the most important safety equipment. When a company's human resources department is only concerned with cutting costs and neglects to keep up with regulations, it is like the whole organization is flying without a parachute. If India is to be the third largest aviation market in the world, our airlines need to stop treating pilots as expendable "line items' and start seeing workforce planning as an essential part of safety in the air.

The Drip of Disease - How Spitting Affects Us All

There is something else that gets very little or no emphasis — avoiding spitting in public



Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit, Freelance journalist, writer and cartoonist



Symbolic

pitting in public is a bad habit, whether You are spitting due to any problem or just out of habit. Spitting in a public place indicates both lack of civic sense and poor awareness on hygiene practices. Virus can be passed on from person to person via respiratory droplets.There is something else that gets very little or no emphasis – avoiding spitting in public. Like cough, spitting too, according to doctors and public health officials, can lead to spread of infections. There are many who use chewing tobacco and spit also posing specific dangers to themselves and hose around them. The tainted saliva can also send cancer agents into the lining of the stomach,

oesophagus and bladder. Saliva hosts a variety of diseases and infections. Droplets of mucus and saliva are often carriers of

many viruses. Spitting in public is a revolting habit that's not only unhygienic but also poses significant health risks. When people spit, they release a cocktail of bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens into the environment, contaminating surfaces, water, and air. This can lead to the spread of diseases like tuberculosis, pneumonia, and even COVID-19. Moreover, spitting can also spread infections like hepatitis A and E, and gastrointestinal diseases. Spitting in places of public work or use and public service

vehicles, mandates display of boards pinpointing that both are offences, and are punishable with fine. People should be made to feel that spitting does not reflect good on them. This coincided with greater awareness of the transmission of contagious diseases that could be spread by spitting. It is a filthy habit that can spread germs and cause health issues. Unfortunately, spitting is a means of showing off in today's so called civilised society. Ulcers, cancers and the spreading of disease are major considerations when talking about the dangers of spitting. Mental issues, such as self image problems, can also become a contributing factor in developing a spitting habit. The habit is particularly problematic in densely populated areas where people are in close proximity, making it easier for diseases to spread. It's not just the person spitting who's at risk; everyone around them is vulnerable. Plus, it creates an unpleasant environment, reflecting poorly on community hygiene and personal responsibility.

Governments and health organizations worldwide are working to curb this habit through awareness campaigns and fines, emphasizing the importance of maintaining public hygiene. Simple actions like using spittoons or tissues can make a big difference. Let's break this nasty habit and promote a

healthier, cleaner environment for all. From a health perspective, spitting can spread infectious agents to others. Other diseases that are spread through saliva include TB, hepatitis, viral meningitis, cytomegalovirus - a common virus similar to the herpes virus and the Epstein-Barr virus, which is a common herpes virus that causes many diseases such as glandular fever. Spit that carries such infections must penetrate the body somehow and reach the bloodstream such as via an open sore, mouth or even an eye, in order to become deadly. It is observed that most people find spitting a wholly obnoxious, filthy habit which can spread germs and causes health issues.

YOURLETTERS

LynchistaanVs Bangladesh

Kudos to Mehbooba Mufti for calling a spade a spade when it comes to the "Great Indian Hypocrisy." The "mainstream" remains scandalously silent on the barbaric, murderous assaults unleashed upon fellow Indians of Bengali, Muslim, and North-Eastern origin like Juyel Sheikh and Anjel Chakma, yet grows zealously vocal against "atrocities on minorities" in Bangladesh. How can "New India," fast degrading into "Lynchistaan" (as aptly termed by Mehbooba), dare to point fingers at Bangladesh instead of cleaning its own backyard first?

own backyard first? **Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata**

Accountability Key in Raigarh Mine Stir Clashes

The probe ordered into the Raigarh mine stir violence must be thorough, impartial, and transparent. Workers' grievances over safety and rights cannot be brushed aside, nor can the excesses that led to clashes be ignored. Accountability is essential to restore trust between communities, industry, and administration. Justice must prevail, ensuring both dignity of labour and rule of law. Only then can Raigarh move forward without repeating such tragic unrest.

Aparna Verma, Raigarh

Send your articles (600-650 words) and letters (70-8 0 words) for this page on: editorialcc007@gmail.com The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity

"SHANTI Bill is one of the biggest science reforms of Modi govt. India's nuclear power capacity has doubled from about 4.4 Giga Watt in 2014 to nearly 8.7 Giga Watt today.'

Dr Jitendra Singh

India's defence gains strength in tech & manufacturing

India's defence sector transformed policy vision into manufacturing power, technological confidence and expanding global exports in 2025.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The year 2025 will be remembered as a defining chapter in India's defence journey, when long-term policy translated deciinto manufacturing strength and techconfidence. record-breaking production figures and surging exports to deeper private sector participation and rapid advances in defence technology, India's push for Atmanirbharta in defence gathered unprecedented momentum during the year.

One of the most striking markers of 2025 was the all-time high defence production of around Rs 1.51 lakh crore in FY 2024-25, reflecting an 18 per cent jump over the previous year. This surge underscored the

M/S RADIUS WATER LIMITED AND ANOTHER

THROUGH ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR

RAJNANDGADN, CHHATTISGARH - 491441

1 M/S RADIUS WATER LIMITED.

VARDHMAN NAGAR GE ROAD

RAJNANDGAON, DISTRICT-

and official translation are allowed.

espondent through publication.

be filed two weeks thereafter

Delay condoned.

recess.

Dasti as well.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

Petition for Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) No. 26429 OF 2023

WHEREAS the Petition for SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) to Appeal w

OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T

CONDONATION OF DELAY IN REFILING / CURING THE DEFECTS PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURE!

bove mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the Registry by Mr. ASHUTOSH GHADE

Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner above named was listed for hearing before this

Court on 28th November, 2023, when the Court was pleased to pass the followin

"Applications for exemption from filing c/c of the impugned judgme

AND WHEREAS the Petition above mentioned was listed for hearing before this

"1. As per the service report, service on Respondent No.1 is no

2. The learned counsel for the petitioner is granted liberty to serve the first

3. Let the notice be published in two local newspapers having wid

4. Steps in that regard be taken within four weeks. Affidavit of service may

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petition will be posted for

waring before this Court on 12th January, 2026 at 10.30 O' Clock in the forenoon of

so soon thereafter as may be convenient to the Court when you may appear before the court either in person or through Counsel and show cause to the Court as to why

Special Leave and interim relief as prayed for be not granted and the resultan

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Ru

14(1) of Order XXI, S.C.R.2013 within 30 days from the date of Publication of notice

or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlie

but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law o

grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed

before the Court/Tribunal against whose order the SEP is filed and shall also set ou

the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if alread

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, n

further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of

the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in you

house No. 12 A, Block P, Third Floor, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi 110014.

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

ASSISTANT REGISTRAS

complete. The learned counsel for the petitioner prays for opportunity to

serve the said respondent by substituted mode of service i.e. publication.

circulation in District Durg and Rajnandgaon (Chattisgarh).

List this matter in the 2nd week of January, 2026."

Court on 11th November, 2025, when the Court was pleased to pass the follow

yer for interim relief along with application for EXEMPTION FROM FILING CIC

growing depth of India's defence industrial base, built steadily over the past decade through procurement reforms, indigenisation mandates and sustained budgetary support. Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) continued to anchor production, contributing about 77 per cent of the output, but the real story of the year was the rapid rise of private industry.

The private sector's share climbed to 23 per cent, with growth outpacing that of the public sector, signaling a more balanced and competitive ecosystem. MSMEs, startups and large priplayers increasbecame integral to supply chains across platforms, electronics, weapons and subsystems. 2025 also marked a turning point in India's

PID: 293913/2025 FOR RI11

IN SLP(C) NO.26429(2023)

HIGHLIGHT

- Defence production hits Rs 1.51 lakh crore; private sector share rises, indigenous ecosystem.
- Defence exports surge to Rs 23,622 crore, reaching 100 countries, cementing India's credibility.

defence exports. Shipments touched a record Rs 23,622 crore, more than 12 per cent higher than the previous year and nearly 34 times the level seen a decade ago. Indian defence products - from radars, torpedoes and electronic warfare systems to patrol boats, helicopters and missile components - found buyers in over 100 countries. The United States, France among the top destinations, reinforcing India's growing credibility as a reliable defence supplier. Simplified licensing, digital export authorizations and Open General Export Licences played a key role in helping Indian companies access global markets with greater ease. Much of the progress in 2025 was rooted in policy continuity. The Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020, with its priority for "Buy (Indian-IDDM)" categories, continued to steer major procurements indigenous platforms. Complementing streamlined procedures under updated procurement manuals improved transparency reduced timelines, benefiting both large manufacturers and MSMEs.

and Armenia emerged

Punjab government calls special **Assembly session**

Press Trust Of India

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab government has called a one-day special session of the assembly on December 30 against the Centre's Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, which replaces the 20-year-old MGNREGA.

The VB-G RAM G Bill was passed in Parliament during the recently concluded Winter Session of Parliament amid vociferous protests by the opposition. The new act has provision for 125 days of wage employment for rural workers. The Punjab Government is against the VB-G-RAM-G Act, for would harm the interest of the farmers, and BPL families said the Chief Minister

Bhagwant Mann.. Punjab Cabinet Minister Tarunpreet Singh Sond claimed that the new rural employment law will severely impact below-poverty-line (BPL) families, Scheduled Caste communities, and rural labourers who depend on the Mahatma Gandhi Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for survival.

However. Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar management company" instead of focusing development works.

Intensifying his attack, the BJP leader alleged that the AAP government was

intolerance in society: Akhilesh

LUCKNOW: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said the killing of the Tripura student in Uttarakhand's Dehradun was an outcome of the "extremely hateful and deplorable mindset" of divisive elements.

Reacting sharply to the incident, the former Uttar Pradesh chief minister said the murder reflected the dangerous consequences of growing intolerance in the society. A 24-year-old MBA student, Anjel Chakma from Nandannagar in West Tripura district, was attacked by a group of six people in Dehradun on December 9, when he objected to their racial slurs. He succumbed to his injuries during treat-

In a statement issued from the Samajwadi Party headquarters, Yadav said,



ing lives every day and such elements, enjoying political patronage, are flourishing like poisonous weeds." He claimed that such negative forces posed a serious threat to the country, its unity and integrity.Yadav said it was imperative for peace-loving and harmony-driven citizens to unite, identify such anti-social elements within the society and socially boycott them, warning that otherwise anyone could become a victim of such violence in future. He appealed to the Supreme Court to take suo motu cognisance of the incident and

assures justice

DEHRADUN: Amidst the outrage over the murder of a Tripura student in Dehradun, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami spoke to his father on phone on Monday and assured him of strict punishment for the accused, officials

Dhami, in a phone conversation Angel Chakma's father Tarun Prasad Chakma, expressed grief over murder of his son and said he is personally saddened by the incident and can understand the pain of his family, they said. The chief minister said that children from India and abroad come to Uttarakhand to study, and such an environment has never existed here before.

He said, "Therefore, this incident is sad for all of us also." Dhami said that the government will take strict action in this matter. He told Tarun Prasad Chakma that five accused have been arrested in connection with the incident, while another accused is suspected to have fled to Nepal, and efforts are being made to arrest him by declaring a reward.

7 railway staff felicitated for exemplary service

BHUBANESWAR: In recognition of exemplary dedication, alertness and commitment to operational safety, the Divisional Railway Manager of Khurda Road Railway Division, Alok Tripathi, felicitated seven Railway employees for their outperformance standing while discharging their duties. The employees honoured include Nabin Kumar Palai, Loco Pilot, Kendujhargarh; A.K. Bali-



Road; Manoj Kumar Hansdah, Track Maintainer-III, Rahama; Gorakh Behera, Track

Chandra Biswal, Track Maintainer-IV, Angul; Pradeep Kumar Sahoo, Track Maintainer-IV, Rajathgarh; and Niranjan Rana, Track Maintainer-IV, Rajathgarh These employees demonstrated exceptional presence of mind and vigilance during the course of their routine duties and took timely and effective actions that significantly contributed to the safe, secure and smooth operation.

17/25, House Sheet No. 25, RIC-Koni,

PH.No. 23/40, House Sheet No.12, Mouza

Titra, Ward No. 1, Mahariana Pratap Ward, Yadunandan Nagar Palika, Titra, RIC-Bilaspur

Teh. and Dist. - Blaspor Chhattisgarh

Regional Office, Jeevan Prakash.L.I.C. Building, Pandri, Raipur (C.G.)

Bank of Baroda PH: 0771- 4222611, 4222612, E-mail: recovery.raipur@bankofbaroda.com (Publication in the Newspapers in case of return/failure of service of 60 day's Notice Uls. 13 (2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002

Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2000 by Registered AlChoeed post, But these Notices were return by the Postal authorities due to the reason of refusal to take deliverylwrong address/berson left the place/city. These borrowers/guarantors ha given their under mentioned movable/immovable assets by way of hypothecation / mortgage as security to secure the various credit limits grante by the Bank to the borrower(s). Due to non-payment of Bank's dues and non-fulfillment of terms and conditions of the loan, default has be milted by the borrower (s) / guarantor (s) in payment of tank loan and interest and the loan account has become NPA as per RBI guideli In view of the above, a 55 days Public Notice is given to the following borrower(s)/guaranticr(s) to pay the bank dues as stated below alongwill interest till payment falling which the bank will be constrained to enforce its security interest without intervention of Court or Tribunal by take recurse to one or more of the measures under Chapter – III of the Act. The borrowerigual artions are also directed by this Notice that in terms of Section 13/13) of the Act they shall not transfer by way of sale/lease or otherwise jother than in ordinary course of business) any of the secure: assets charged to the bank without prior consent of the bank. The details of borrowerlyuarantors and secured assets is as follows, against w the bank will start initiating action after 60 days in the event of non-payment of banks' dues by them.

э	Bank Branch	Address	Amount as per	Details of Secured assets			
	& Phone No.	Name of the Guarantor & Add.		(NPA Date: 03.12.2025) (Notice Date: 12.12.2025)			
	Vivekanend Nager Branch Raipur 9752410761	Agrawal Sio Mr. Rajkumar	2-3,1107, 1108, 1110/1 Super b Mauja Multistor	Equitable Mortgage of residential property i.e. Family Unit Type Flat No. 301, Block No 08, 3 rd Floor, All That Piece and Parcel of Land Comprised in Kh No 195, 199, 207/9, 1101, 198, 1280, 1100,1101/3, 199/3, 197/25, 1100/1-3,1903/1,1104/1, 1105/1, 1112/15, 1109, 1102/2, 1281/2, 1129/5, 1103/3, 1103/2,1099, 1321/1- 1281/3, 1097/4, 1998/4, 1099/4, 1321/4,1105/2,1105/5, uilt up Area-1367 sq ft or 127,04 sq. meter, situated at ind residential Building Ashoka Ratina, Shankar Nagar, Ambedkar Ward No 27, PH No 110, RIC Ralgur,			
j				rawal S/o Mr. Babu Lal Agrawal. Bounded by - On the East - Open land, On the West - Open land.			

HDFC BANK

Opp Water Tank Vadodara, Manjalpur Gujrat 390011.

25 Mouza Khamtarai, Bilasour Chhattisparh, 495001

Alaska Tower , Lodhipara Road, Shankar Nagar, Raipur, Tel: 0771-4243149/240 CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Limited (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Honble NCLT-Mumbal vide order dated 17th March 2021 (HDFC) under Security Interest Control 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, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice's, within 60 day from the date of the respective Notice's, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the aid Boirrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Heir(s)

may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.
In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC, within 50 days from the day publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated hereinbelow in their respective names, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective date mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and /or resilisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents/settings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to HDFC by the said Borrower(s) respectively. Borrower(s) / Legal Representative(s attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (5) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset(s). | Total Amount | Date of | Description of Secured Assetis

No.	/ Legal Representative(s)/Guaranton	Outstanding (Rupees)	Demand Notice	Immovable Property (les)
(x)	(2)	(x)	(0)	(n):
61.	Mrs. Supriya Blewas, Wife of Mr. Biewas Subrat (Borrower) [Since Deceased], Successors and Assigns of Mr. Biewas Subrat (Since Deceased), Unit-8-228-Sector-1, Kaushalya Mata Vihar (Kamal Vihar), S.No. Nagarvikas Yojna No.4, Raipur, Chhattagarh 492015. Mrs. Supriya Blewas, Wife of Mr. Biewas Subrat (Borrower) [Since Deceased], Successors and Assigns of Mr. Biewas Subrat [Since Deceased], Block-Makdi, Bh SBI, Makdi - Kondagson, Chhattagarh, 494226. Miss. Jesmine Biewas, Daughter of Mr. Biewas Subrat (Borrower) (Since Deceased), Natural	as on 36-MOV-2825		All that Piece and Parcel of Freehold Unit No. 8-228, Sector-1, Khasra No. 673/4(P), RDA Vikas Yojna No. 64 Kaushalya Mata Vihar (Kamal Vihar), P.H. No114/45, S. No. Naganikas Yojna No. 4, Ravindranath Tagore Valad No. 51, Gram-Tikrapara RIC-Raipur Teh. and Dist-Raipur C.G.

Nagarvikas Yojna No. 4, Raipur Chhattisgorfi 492015 Miss Jasmine Blowas, Daughter of Mr. Blowas Subrat (Borrower) [Since Deceased), Natural Guardian (Mother) Mrs. Supriya Blowas, Successors and Assigns of Mr. Blowas

Subrat [Since Deceased], Block-Makdi, Bih SBI, Makdi - Kondagaon, Chhattisgarh, 494226. Mrs. Bela Biswas, Mother of Mr. Biswas Subrat (Borrower) [Since Deceased], Successors and Assigns of Mr. Biswas Subrat (Since Deceased), 248/249, I.G. Park (1) Block B.

Mrs. Bela Biswas, Mother of Mr. Biswas Subrat (Borrower) Since Deceased), Successors and Assigns of Mr. Biswas Subrat (Since Deceased), Unit-8-228-Sector-1, Kaushalya Mata Viher (Kamai Vihar), S No., Nagarvikas Yojna No. 4, Raipur, Chhatlagarh 492015.

82 Mr. Meghani Deepak (Borrower), Slo. Mr. Meghani Omprakash, Layout No. 09, Plot 35/13, Khassra 7 28,57,708. 16-DEC-All that Piece and Parce of Diverted House of 559/2/K/SR Old No. 559/2K/1 (P). P.H.No. 17/25. House Sheet No. 25. Mouza Khamtarai, Biliserus Plot No. 35/13, Layout No. 09, Khassra 559/2/K/59, Old No. 559/2/K/1 (P), P.H.No. 30-NOV-2025

Mr. Meghani Deepak (Borrower), Sio Mr Meghani Omprakash, Gali No. 03, Kashyap Colony, Ne Wkaskhand-Bilha, Mouza Khamtarai, The. and Sinchi Dharamshala, Bilapsur, Chhattisgarh, 495001 Mr. Meghani Deepak (Borrower), Sto. Mr. Meghani Omprakash, Mis. Gurukripa Mobile Point, Shop Dist-Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. No. AG-13, Bus Stand, Blaspur, Chhattisgarh 495001. Mrs. Meghani Sangeets (Co-Borrower) W/o. Mr. Meghani Omprakash, Layout No. 09, Plot 35/13, Khasara 559/2/K/59, Old No. 559/2/K/1 (P), P.H.No. 17/25, House Sheet No.

Mrs. Meghani Sangeeta (Co-Borrower), Wio. Mr. Meghani Omprakash, Gali No. 03, Kashyap Colony, Near Sindhi Dharamshala, Bilaspur, Chharlisgarh, 495001 83. Mr. Gafoor Abdul, Flat A-305, Floor-3rd, Sei Simran, Block A, PH.No. 40, Shankar Nagar, Raipur 2,16,56,4541-22-06C- All that Piece and Parcel of Flat A-305, Floor-Chhatlegarh, 492004.

83. Mr. Gafoor Abdul, Flat A-305, Floor-3rd, Sei Simran, Block A, PH.No. 40, Shankar Nagar, Raipur 2,16,56,4541-22-06C- All that Piece and Parcel of Flat A-305, Floor-3rd, Sei Simran, Block A, Mis. Rain Builders

Mr. Gafoor Abdul, Bennett Coleman and Company Limited, 1st Floor, Sit Water Front Complex, G.E. 39-NOV-2025 and Developers, Ward No. 28, Maharshi Valmiki "Bhavna Nagar", S.No., Kh.No. Road, Infront of Tellbandha Talab, Raipur Chhattisoarh 492001. 720/167, 1317/117, 720/16/8, 1317/11, 720/149. Mrs. Jahan Mumtaz, Wio. Abdul Gafoor, 1st Floor, Raja Talab, Opp. Koti Marzil, Near Adarst Chowk, Reipur-Chhattisgarh, 492001. 1317/138, 720/184, 720/152, 1317/161 Mrs. Jahan Mumtaz, Flat-A-305, Floor-3rd, Sai Simran, Block A. P.H.No. 40, Shankar Nagar, Raipu Nagar, Raipur Chhattisgarh. 64 Mr. Jain Prafull Kumar, Pict No. 45/2, House No. 48/2, Site 48/2, Nazul Sheet No. 48 D. Ganj Line 777,84,2781-22-0EC-All that Piece and Parcel of Nazul Plot No.46/2, Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh 491441. House No. 48/2, Site 48/2, Nazul Sheet No. 30-NOV-2025 48D, Ganj Line, Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh. Mr. Jain Prafull Kurner, Ward Number 24, Ramadhin Marg, Rainandgeon, Chhattisgarh, 491441. Mr. Jain Prafull Kumar, M/s. Erose Interprises, Ward No. 24, Ramadhin Marg, Rajnandgaon Chha Mrs. Jain Prema, House Number 109/1, Word Number 24, Gunj Line Tiranga Chowk, Rajnandgaon, Chhatlagath, 491441.

Mrs. Jain Prema, Piot No. 48/2, House No. 48/2, Site 48/2, Nazul Sheet No. 48D, Ganj Line Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh 49/1441 Mr. Jibkar Klahor Kumar, House No. Chi98, Khasara No. 583, Mouza Housing Board Dhacha, 7 11.50,1421- 22-06C- All that Price and Parcel of Freehold Pict House No. Ch-98, Khasara No. 583, Mouza Housing Board Chache Bhawan, Kurud Ward Bhawan, Khurud, Ward No. 16, Durg Chhartingarh, 490023. 30-NOV-2025 Mr. Jibkar Kishor Kumar, House No. 14/19, Ramnagar, 9 Kholi Ke Pass, Ward No. 12, Supela Bhilai, Chhattisgarh, 490023. No. 16, Teh. and Dist-Durg, Bhilai, Chhatisgarh Mr. Jibkar Kishor Kumar, Patala Trailer Service, 38/13, Transport Nagar, Hathikhoj, Bhilai Industrial Estate, Bhilai Chhattagarh 490026 Mr. Jibkar Saimulai, House No. 14/19, Ramnagar, 9 Kholi Ke Pass, Ward No 12, Supela, Bhilai - Chhatisgarh-490023.

Mr. Jibkar Sainulal, House No. Ch/56, Khasara No. 583, Mouza Housing Board Dhacha, Shawan Khunud Ward No. 16, Dung Chhatisgarh, 490023. Mrs. Jibkar Uma Bal, House No. 14/19, Ramnagar, 9 Kholi Xe Pass, Ward No. 12, Supela, Bhilai - Chhatfagaith-490023.
Mrs. Jibkar Uma Bal, House No. Ch/56, Khasara No. 583, Mouza Housing Board Dhacha, Bhawan Khurud Ward No. 16, Durg Chhatfagaith, 490023.

96. Mr. Sahu Hitesh Kumar, Flat-LIG 605. Floor-6th, Pradhammartri Awas Yojna, Block -A, S.No., Sector | ₹ 5,66,077]- | 22-06C- | All that Piece and Parcel of Flat-LIG 605. Floor

 Kamal Vihar, Town Development Scheme 04, Raipur Chhattisgarh 492004. 6th, Prachanmantri Awas Yojna, Block-A. Mr. Sahu Hitesh Kumar, 250Kh, Ambecker Nager, Ward No. 21, Camp 1, Shilai Supela, Durg. 35-NOV-2025 Chhattisgarh, 490023. Development Scheme 04, Raipur, Mr. Sahu Hitesh Kumar, Industrial Technical Consultant, O-10, Sector-II, Avanti Vihar, Ralpur Mrs. Bal Kumari, 290Kh. Ambedkar Nasar: Ward No. 21. Camp 1. Bhilai Supela, Durs. C.G., 490023.

Mrs. Bai Kumari, Flat-LIG 605, Floor-6th, Prachammantri Awas Yojna, Block -A, S.No., Sector 4 Kamal Vihar, Town Development Scheme 04, Raipur Chihattisgarh 492004 Mrs. Soni Varsha, Khassra No. 252/82, Old Kh. No. 252/12 (P), P.H. No. 23/40, Plot No. 380/3, House 7 23,21,1141- 22-06C- All that Piece and Parcel of Pict No.380/3. Sheet No. 12, Mouza Tifra, Yadunandan Nagar Palika, Tifra, Bilaspur, Chhattisgath 495001 Khassra No. 252/82, Old Kh.No. 252/12 (P).

drs. Soni Varsha, Teli Para, Nandu Gerage, Gali No. 3, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495001. 30-NOV-2025 Mrs. Soni Varsha, Mis. Shreya Jewellers, Golebazar, Bilaspur, Chhattisgart- 495001. Mr. Soni Shesh Kumar, Ward No. 06, Near Hanuman Mandir, Shyam Panahar, Titra, Bilasou

Mr. Soni Shesh Kumar, Khasara No. 252/82, Old Kh.No.252/12 (P), P.H.No.23/40, Plot No.380/3

House Sheet No. 12, Mouza Tifra, Yadunandan, Nagar Palika, Tifra, Bilanpur, Chhattegarh 495001. with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges eld incurred till the date of payment and / or realization If the said Borrowers shall fall to make payment to HDFC as aforesaid, then HDFC shall proceed against the above Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (les) under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset (s) / Immosable Property (ies), whether by way of

sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made there be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act. For HDFC Bank Limited PLACE: BILASPUR, RAIPUR, KONDAGAON, RAJNANDGAON, DURG, BHILAI Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai-400013

National Rural Employment

slammed the AAP government for convening a special assembly session to oppose the VB-G RAM G Act, saying the Bhagwant Mann dispensation was "acting like an event

preparing for yet another "propaganda exercise". In a statement here on Sunday, BJP leader Jakhar said the Mann government has "failed" on every front and has no achievements

Student's killing result of

Press Trust Of India

ment on December 26.

"A divisive mindset is tak-



ensure justice.

305, New Lawyers Chambers, Supreme Court Of India New Delhi, Delhi Legal Services of an artificial is provided by the Supreme Court Legal Service

absence.

Copy to 3

Dated: 05th December, 2025

Mr. Ashutosh Ghade (adv.)

Mr. Pramod Dayal (adv.)

Committee and the Supreme Court Middle Income Group Legal Aid Society t For further information, please contact the Secretary, Supreme Court Leg Services Committee or the Member Secretary, Supreme Court Middle Incom

Group Legal Aid Society, 107-108, Lawyers' Chambers, R.K. Jain Block - Near Por

Important Notice

LEGAL AID

Office, Supreme Court Compound, Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001 [Tel Nos. 011-23116353,23116354 (Additional Building Complex) and 011-23381257 (Fron (2) The facility of amicable settlement of disputes by trained mediators in case

pending in the Supreme Court is now available in the Supreme Court. For further information, please contact the Coordinator, Supreme Cou

Mediation Centre, 109, Lawyers' Chambers, R.K. Jain Block Near Post Office Supreme Court Compound, Titak Marg, New Delhi-110001 (Tel No. 011-23071432)





Sunil Grover perfectly imitates Aamir

Comedian Sunil Grover stunned audiences with a flawless Aamir Khan mimicry on The Great Indian Kapil Show. Fans praised his transformation, saying he looked 'more Aamir than Aamir himself," adding to his repertoire of celebrity impersonations.



Viral Meme shows Kajol versus Vecna

After Govinda memes in Avatar: Fire and Ash, Stranger Things Season 5 Volume 2 sparked viral laughter with a meme of Kajol facing off Vecna, cleverly edited from her recent film Maa, delighting fans online.



Ram Pothineni's film hits Netflix

Ram Pothineni's action-comedy Andhra King Taluka, praised for its heartfelt storytelling and strong performances, has now premiered on Netflix in multiple languages, allowing audiences to experience its emotional tale of fandom,



Amazon Prime to stream 120 Bahadur

Farhan Akhtar's military drama 120 Bahadur, depicting the bravery of Major Shaitan Singh Bhati and Charlie Company during the 1962 Indo-China war, will premiere on Amazon Prime Video from January 16, 2026, after its theatrical run.



Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat now on ZEE5

After a successful Diwali 2025 theatrical run, Bollywood romance Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat, starring Harshvardhan Rane and Sonam Bajwa, is now streaming on ZEE5, letting audiences experience its intense love story and dramatic passion online.



& Glitters

Sonam Bajwa slams 'Housefull 5' women portrayal

Sonam shares her perspective on navigating Bollywood as a female actor in ensemble films.



The actress opens up on backlash surrounding Housefull 5 and women's limited roles.

Sonam Bajwa's Bollywood debut with Housefull 5 delivered strong box office numbers but also drew criticism for its portrayal of women. Many felt the film relied on stereotypes and glamour, giving female characters little agency. Sonam says she was aware of this before signing the project and approached it with realistic expectations. She acknowledges the backlash, emphasizing that audiences have the right to voice their opinions. At the same time, she points out that mainstream commercial films often follow familiar formulas where male characters dominate, and women serve primarily as visual attractions. This, she believes, remains a common trend in big-budget cinema. Sonam knew Housefull 5 was an ensemble comedy featuring established actors and that her role would be limited. Yet, as her first Hindi film, she accepted that. For her, joining a major franchise and gaining visibility in Bollywood was more important at that stage.



Sonam Bajwa marked her Bollywood debut





with conventional debut roles before moving on to complex characters. Defending her performance, she says comedy is a difficult genre,

focused on delivering impact through timing and presence, ensuring every scene highlighted her potential and showcased her abilities.

| SMALL SCREEN |

Indian streaming series fans couldn't stop watching

with aristocratic family

secrets and unexpected

Central Chronicle News

025 proved to be extraordinary **d** year for Indian OTT, offering a mix of fan favourites and bold newcomers that kept viewers glued to their screens. Panchayat Season 4 continued from the previous cliffhanger, with village politics intensifying as Manju Devi and Kranti Devi battle for the panchayat seat, while Abhishek juggles CAT exam preparations and a budding romance with Rinki. Aryan Khan's The Ba**ds of Bollywood* made waves with its seven-episode sharp, meta-commentary on the Hindi film indus-

try, seamlessly blending

humour, drama, and insider gossip about stardom and industry politics. Thrillers and crime dramas also left a mark. Paatal Lok Season 2 moved the action to Nagaland, with Jaideep

HIGHLIGHT

From laughs to suspense, Indian OTT captured hearts and screens in 2025.

Ahlawat's Hathiram navigating political conspiracies and local insurgencies. The Family Man Season 3 raised the stakes as Srikant Tiwari faced a personal and geopolitical crisis, balancing national security with family survival.



Other standout shows romances. Meanwhile, included Black Warrant, a gritty historical prison drama, and Khauf, a chilling supernatural challenging thriller set in Delhi. The Royals offered lightplex mission yet. hearted comedy-drama

From laugh-out-loud comedies to intense thrillers, historical dramas to

Special Ops Season 2 explored cyber-warfare and internal betrayal, Himmat Singh in his most com-

cased diversity, innovation, and top-notch storytelling. These shows didn't just entertain they reflected society, politics, and human emotions in gripping ways. Fans celebrated returning favourites while embracing fresh narratives, proving that Indian streaming platforms have firmly established themselves as a powerhouse of compelling, binge-worthy content that kept audiences hooked throughout the year. With record-breaking viewer ship and buzz worthy premieres, 2025 truly redefined Indian OTT storytelling.

Indian OTT series that kept us

supernatural mysteries,

Indian OTT in 2025 show-

hooked in 2025

CineBriefs

Web Series

South Indian OTT blends feelings with digital reality

South Indian OTT storytelling is entering a new era where technology shapes emotional conflict, redefining how characters love, doubt, and make choices. This "Emotion-Tech" narrative blends everyday digital tools, algorithms, and surveillance with human psychology, making technology an emotional infrastructure rather than a backdrop. Characters measure love, seek validation through data, and navigate relationships influenced by constant digital exposure. Shows like Heartiley Battery and Nayanam explore how access, visibility, and algorithmic certainty create emotional tension.

Bollywood pairs

Tara Sutaria gives fans peek into relationship with Veer



her personal life by sharing candid selfies with her beau Veer Pahariya and close friend Orry on Instagram Stories. The first image featured Veer posing alongside Orry, while another captured Tara smiling with her friend in a cozy, intimate setting. Adding a red heart emoji, she expressed her affection for both, delighting fans with this glimpse into her off-screen moments. The photos highlight Tara's playful and affectionate side, offering a rare peek into her relationship with Veer while showcasing the warmth and camaraderie she shares with her inner circle, making fans feel part of her joyful night out.



Genelia D'Souza shows minimalism can be striking in Saree

Genelia D'Souza turned heads in a custom Picchika saree rendered in soft ivory, adorned with hand-painted floral motifs in serene shades of blue and green. Styled by Priyanka Castelino, the ensemble embraced minimalism, letting craftsmanship and subtle elegance take center stage. Gold accents traced select petals, adding shimmer without overpowering the delicate blooms. The classic silhouette and sheer drape created organic movement, while Genelia's low bun, fresh flowers, tiny bindi, and luminous makeup enhanced her natural beauty.

Trending on Insta

@kareenakapoorkhan

Bebo's latest Instagram story shows stylish vibes

Actress Kareena Kapoor shared a playful Instagram Story, posing with pouted lips and black sunglasses, proving that food and fun are always on her mind. Fans loved this stylish, candid glimpse of Bebo's off-screen personality.





Excursion

TRAVELOGUE

Canadian streets inspired by Bollywood icons

more permanent and unexpected form it appears on street signs. Two streets in the country are named after legendary Indian artists: Raj Kapoor Crescent and A.R. Rahman Street. Their presence highlights how deeply Indian cinema and music have travelled across borders and settled into everyday life

Bollywood's influence is

often measured through box

-office records, chart-topping music, or global fan followings. But in Canada, that cul-

tural impact has taken a far







Travel surprises you when

cities reveal unexpected

stories in their quiet corners.

Two Canadian streets dedicated to popular names from Bollywood

abroad. Canada is home to nearly 2.9 million people of Indian origin, making it one of the largest Indian Diasporas in the world. Over decades, Bollywood films and soundtracks have played a key role in preserving cultural roots while also introducing Indian stories to global audiences. These street names quietly reflect that shared cultural journey.

Raj Kapoor Crescent, located in Brampton, Ontario, honours Raj Kapoor, one of the most influential figures in Indian cinema. Known as the "showman of Bollywood," Kapoor was admired

HIGHLIGHT

 In Canada, two understated streets have become subtle talking points for curious travellers.

for films such as Awara, Shree 420, and Mera Naam Joker. His storytelling, filled with emotion, social commentary, and unforgettable music, resonated with viewers far beyond India, earning him a

loyal international following.
A.R. Rahman Street celebrates a more contemporary icon. The Oscar-winning com-

he first ever

themed hotel is

coming to life.



poser revolutionised Indian music with his unique blend of classical sounds, modern beats, and global influences. From Bollywood hits to Hollywood projects, Rahman's work connects cultures and generations, making his name instantly recognisable worldwide.

| TOURISM TRAVEL |

Experience wizarding at Harry Potter themed hotel stay

Central Chronicle News

Europe is about to get a magical addition for travellers and Harry Potter fans alike. The world's first fully Harry Potter-themed hotel is set to open inside LEGO-LAND Deutschland Resort in Günzburg, Germany, offering an immersive Wizarding World experience without crossing the Atlantic. Located in Bavaria, roughly halfway between Munich and Stuttgart, it's easily accessible for European travellers and just a few hours from Luxembourg. While an official opening date hasn't been announced, excitement is already building. The hotel promises rooms inspired by the four Hogwarts houses, with signature colours, crests, and playful décor to transport guests straight into the world of wizards and witches. From whimsical furniture to themed



HIGHLIGHT

 The hotel features Hogwarts house-themed rooms and enchanting wizarding experiences for visitors.

beds reminiscent of beloved characters, every detail aims to create a fully immersive



fantasy environment. Families, pop-culture enthusiasts, and travellers seeking unique stays are set to find this an unforgettable experience. Being part of the larger LEGOLAND Deutschland Resort also allows guests to combine their themed stay with park attractions, making it a fun-filled stop for families. The resort's entertainment options paired with the hotel's magic-infused design offer a perfect mix of nostalgia, adventure, and relaxation.

Before this hotel opens, Europe already has several Harry Potter-inspired stays, including country-side cottages in England, gothic hotels in London, and literary-themed suites in Edinburgh tied to J.K. Rowling's life. Yet, none of these are entirely dedicated to the Wizarding World, giving the LEGOLAND hotel a unique edge.

Window View

AROUND THE GREAT WATERFALLS



China's Shimmering Mineral Wonder

Huangguoshu Waterfall in China is a majestic cascade that occasionally shimmers in unusual

hues due to minerals dissolved in its waters. Rain and sunlight interacting with iron, copper, and other natural elements can create subtle green, blue, or reddish tints along its cliffs. As one of China's largest waterfalls, it attracts travellers seeking not only its immense size but also the dynamic colours that appear seasonally. Visiting Huangguoshu combines natural beauty, cultural significance, and the surreal sight of flowing water that seems to transform with every glance.



Turquoise Treasure among Redrocks

Havasu Creek is famous for its turquoise waters, tumbling into waterfalls surrounded

by red canyon walls. Rich in calcium carbonate and magnesium, the water reflects sunlight to create vivid blue-green shades that change throughout the day. The combination of red rocks, lush greenery, and shifting water hues makes Havasu Falls a visual masterpiece. Hikers and photographers flock here to capture the magical interplay of light and mineral-rich waters. The dynamic colours make each visit unique, ensuring travellers a constantly changing natural spectacle unlike any other in North America.



Iceland's Mighty Glacial Waterfall Spectacle

Dettifoss, Iceland's most powerful waterfall, occasionally displays subtle colour shifts from grey to brown depending on volcanic sediment

and glacial meltwater. The mineral-rich glacial waters carry volcanic ash, creating earthy tones in the torrent. Surrounded by Iceland's rugged landscape, this dramatic waterfall mesmerizes travellers with both sheer power and ever-changing hues. Misty sprays catch the light, occasionally producing rainbows that add more colour to the scene. Hiking along the trails offers different perspectives, allowing visitors to witness Dettifoss in its dynamic, almost theatrical natural setting.



Rainbow Magic Across Two Nations

Iguazu Falls straddles the border of Argentina and Brazil and boasts hundreds of cascading drops. Seasonal

rains can alter water colour from muddy brown to clear green, influenced by sediments and minerals carried downstream. Sunlight and mist create dazzling rainbow effects that change throughout the day. The lush rainforest surrounding the falls amplifies the effect, adding deep greens and earthy tones to the vibrant spectacle. Viewing platforms allow tourists to witness the falls from multiple angles, each revealing unique colours and moods, making Iguazu a natural masterpiece that constantly evolves.



Turning Vibrant Blue-Green

Hraunfossar

Lava Streams

is a series of gentle waterfalls flowing through lava fields in western Iceland.

The water appears in a stunning turquoise or blue-green shade as it emerges from beneath black volcanic rocks. Seasonal variations, sunlight, and water flow intensity create shifting colours along the cascading streams. The surrounding moss-covered lava adds contrast, making the waterfalls appear even more vibrant. Visitors can explore the pathways and viewing spots, appreciating how this unique geological formation turns simple flowing water into a dynamic visual experience. Hraunfossar offers a rare, tranquil spectacle of nature's ever-changing palette.

Sports



Gill has talent, but lazy shots and leadership burden show he is not ready for all-format captaincy yet at present.

> **Monty Panesar** Former England spinner

India women eye clean sweep, Lanka seek pride

India will chase a 5-0 whitewash while Sri Lanka fight for pride and confidence in the fifth women's T20I at Thiruvananthapuram on Tuesday evening match.



Press Trust Of India

India's aggressive rebuild ahead of the **T20 World Cup shows** promising results, despite recurring concerns over sharpness in fielding.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: India will look to round off a dominant home campaign by completing a 5-0 series whitewash against Sri Lanka in the fifth and final women's T20 International here on Tuesday.

The ongoing fivematch series has been

Shan Masood

scores fastest

first-class 200

KARACHI: Test captain Shan Masood has scored the fastest double century by a Pakistani in

first-class cricket in 177 balls, breaking batting

great Inzamam Ul Haq's

three-decade old record.

Masood set the mark

while playing for Sui

Northern Gas against

Sahar Associates on the

first day of the Presi-

dent's Cup departmental

tournament. Previously,

the record was held by

former skipper Inza-

mam, who had scored a

double hundred from 188

balls in a tour match in

England in 1992. Masood

was unbeaten on 212

from 185 balls at close

on day one of the match

on Sunday. The record

for the fastest double

hundred by a visiting

batsman is still held by

India's Virender Sehwag

who scored a double cen-

tury from 182 balls in the

Lahore Test in 2006.

a crucial component of India's rebuilding phase following their disapgroup-stage pointing exit in the 2024 T20 World Cup. With the next global event scheduled in England in June-July, the hosts have consciously adopted a more aggressive template, one that has already delivered two series victories this year.

Captain Harmanpreet Kaur has repeatedly stressed the need for higher standards and fearless intent in the shortest format, a philosophy that has been evident throughout the

series. India's bowlers laid the foundation in the early matches, keeping Sri Lanka on a tight leash and allowing the batters minimal pressure during Among the standout

performers has been explosive opener Shafali Verma, who has tormented the Sri Lankan attack with three halfcenturies in four outings at a strike rate exceeding 185. Her return to peak form has been timely, especially with the World Cup looming.

Another significant boost has been the resurgence of vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, who shrugged off a lean run with a fluent 80 in the fourth T20I. Her opening partnership with Shafali - a blistering 162-run stand - rewrote India's record books for the highest opening stand in

women's T20Is. India's bowling unit has also impressed. Pacer Renuka Singh Thakur has returned strongly after a yearlong absence, while Deepti Sharma continues to be the side's most dependable all-rounder. Young left-arm spinner Vaishnavi Sharma has made an instant impact, emerging as joint-highest wicket-taker with four scalps at an impressive economy rate.

However, remains India's only major concern, dropped catches and missed stumpings creeping into otherwise dominant performances.

Sri Lanka, meanwhile, will draw encouragement from their batting revival in the fourth T20I, where they chased India's massive 221 with unexpected

EXHIBITION SPECTACLE

Kyrgios beats Sabalenka in latest 'Rattle of the Sexes' in tennis

Press Trust Of India

Nick Kyrgios outplayed Aryna Sabalenka in a lighthearted exhibition in Dubai.

DUBAI: Nick Kyrgios emerged victorious in the latest edition of tennis' much-hyped "Battle of the Sexes," defeating world number one Aryna Sabalenka 6-3, 6-3 in an exhibition match that leaned more toward showmanship than social statement.

Played at Dubai's 17,000-capacity Coca-Cola Arena, the contest was designed as entertainment, with laughter, banter and theatrics taking centre stage. Underarm serves, exaggerated grunts and even a brief dance routine from Saba-



lenka during a timeout kept the crowd engaged, especially as premium tickets reportedly neared

Kyrgios, the former Wimbledon runner-up Nick Kyrgios, has struggled with injuries in recent years and has played only a handful

of competitive matches since 2022. In Dubai, he appeared to pace himself, while also dealing with adjusted rules aimed at balancing the contest. Sabalenka's side of the court was marginally smaller, and players were limited to a single serve per point.

FACTFILE

- Exhibition prioritised entertainment over equality debate, featuring modified rules, humour and crowd engagement throughout.
- Sabalenka views match as preparation, promising tactical improvement and revenge in future meeting.

Despite the relaxed atmosphere, **Kyrgios** admitted to feeling nervous before sealing the match on his third match point, drenched in sweat by the end. "I had to strap in," he said, calling the event a positive stepping stone for tennis as an entertainment-driven sport.

| BLACKCAPS STALWART |

NZ all-rounder Doug Bracewell retires at 35

Press Trust Of India

DURBAN: Former New all-rounder Zealand Doug Bracewell has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket at the age of 35, bringing the curtain down on a career marked by grit, versatility and memorable moments for the Black-

Playing for New Zealand and Central Districts was a privilege, and I remain grateful for every opportunity cricket gave me."

> Doug Bracewell Former New Zealand all-rounder



Bracewell represented New Zealand in 28 Tests, 21 One-Day Internationals and 20 T20 Internationals between 2011 and 2023. Across formats, he claimed 120 international wickets and scored 915 runs, establishing himself as a reliable seam-bowling all-rounder whenever called upon. His best years came in Test cricket, where he picked

up 74 wickets and contributed 568 runs. His most iconic performance came against Australia in Hobart in 2011, when he produced career-best figures of 6 for 40 in the second innings to inspire a dramatic seven-run victory. That match remains New Zealand's last Test win over Australia and a defining highlight of Bracewell's career.

PLAYOFF BOUND

Abu Dhabi Knight Riders storm into ILT20 playoffs with authority



DUBAI: Abu Dhabi Knight Riders booked their ILT20 Playoffs berth with a convincing 32-run victory over Gulf Giants in the final league match here. A dominant 131-run opening stand between Michael Pepper and Phil Salt powered the Knight Riders to a formidable 179 for 1. Pepper struck a fluent 83 off 51 balls, while Salt anchored the innings with an unbeaten 72. Defending the

target, Jason Holder struck early to derail the Giants' chase, while Sunil Narine and Andre Russell delivered decisive blows in the middle and death overs. Moeen Ali fought valiantly with 79, but lacked support as the Giants finished on 147 for 9. The Knight Riders will face Dubai Capitals in the Eliminator on January 1. Meanwhile, Desert Vipers meet MI Emirates in Qualifier 1. PTI

ASHES TEST

England's Atkinson ruled out of final Ashes test with hamstring injury



SYDNEY: England pace bowler Gus Atkinson has joined the tourists' mounting injury toll after being ruled out for the fifth and final Ashes cricket test in Sydney with a hamstring injury. Atkinson pulled up lame during the second morning of the Boxing Day test and was officially ruled-out after scans on

Monday confirmed the injury in his left leg. England have already lost star speedsters Mark Wood (knee) and Jofra Archer (side strain) during the series, with 27-year-old Matthew Potts expected to come into the team for the fifth test starting on Jan. 4 and join Brydon Carse and Josh Tongue in the attack. PTI

GOALS AND GRIT

Calvert-Lewin goal streak boosts **England hopes, Spurs find relief**



LONDON: Dominic Calvert-Lewin continued his career-best scoring run, netting for a sixth successive game to earn Leeds United a 1-1 draw at Sunderland. The striker's 47th-minute equaliser - a trademark close-range finish from Brenden Aaronson's cross took his league tally to eight, the highest among English players, strengthening his case for an England recall ahead of the 2026 World Cup. Leeds extended their unbeaten run to five matches and moved further clear of relegation trouble, despite Simon Adingra's opener for Sunderland. Elsewhere, Tottenham Hotspur edged Crystal Palace 1-0 away, with Archie Gray heading home before halftime to ease pressure on Spurs boss Thomas Frank. PTI

AMERICAN MOMENTUM

Pulisic Ends 2025 Strong, Eyes Home World Cup Brilliance Ahead



MILAN: Christian Pulisic capped an across competitions, underlining his outstanding 2025 by scoring the opening goal in AC Milan's emphatic 3-0 Serie A win over Hellas Verona, continuing what is shaping up as the best season of his career. Pulisic's close-range finish in first-half stoppage time took his tally to 10 goals and two assists in just 15 matches

growing influence for the Rossoneri. Milan's win kept them within one point of leaders Inter Milan, ensuring strong momentum heading into the new year. Since joining Milan in 2023, Pulisic has been involved in 50 goals, second only to Inter striker Lautaro Martínez. PTI

Sports News

Skipper Shardul Thakur 'Lords' over Chattisgarh

Shardul Thakur ticked all the boxes, from winning the toss to blowing away Chhattisgarh's top order, as Mumbai cruised to a nine-wicket victory to complete a group-stage hat-trick.

Press Trust Of India

Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Siddhesh Lad complete chase with unbeaten 102-run partnership.

JAIPUR: Skipper Shardul Thakur produced a match-winning performance with the new ball after a sharp decision at the toss as Mumbai registered a commanding nine-wicket win over Chhattisgarh in the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on

At the Jaipuria Vidyalaya ground, Shardul elected to field first and immediately exploited the early morning movement to devastating effect. Chhattisgarh were rocked inside the first five overs, slipping to 10 for four as Mumbai's slip cordon stayed alert and the ball did enough to trouble the batters.

Shardul struck with the second ball of the innings, inducing a thick edge from right-handed opener Ayush Tiwary, comfortably taken by Sarfaraz Khan at slips. Off the final delivery of the opening over, onedrop Mayank Verma was clean bowled, further



hopes. Sarfaraz then added two more regulation slip catches off Shardul's probing away deliveries as the collapse

While the Mumbai skipper did the early damage, it was left-arm spinner Shams Mulani who ensured there was no escape route later. Bowling a tight stumpto-stump line, Mulani claimed 5 for 31 as the last six Chhattisgarh wickets fell for just 27 runs. Chhattisgarh were eventually bowled out for 142 in 38.1 overs.

Skipper Amandeep Khare (63) and allrounder Ajay Mandal (46) showed commendable fight with a 105-run stand for the fifth wicket, briefly steadying the innings. However, once Mandal was dismissed, the resistance ended swiftly.

Chasing a modest target, Mumbai faced little difficulty. Young Angkrish Raghuvanshi, batting with a bandaged neck following an on-field injury in the previous match, looked fluent in his unbeaten 68 off 66 balls, striking six fours and two sixes. Veteran Siddhesh Lad complemented him perfectly with a composed 48 not out, as the duo added an unbroken 102 runs for the second wicket to finish the chase in just 24 overs.

With this emphatic win, Mumbai moved to 12 points, consolidating their position at the top of Group C and underlining their title credentials.

Fifties by Priyansh, Tejasvi carry Delhi to 3-wicket win over Saurashtra



Press Trust Of India

Priyansh Arya and Tejasvi Dahiya powered Delhi past Saurashtra despite Pant's poor outing and Kohli missing.

BENGALURU: Opener Priyansh Arya and Tejasvi Dahiya made aggressive fifties as Delhi rose above skipper Rishabh Pant's ordinary outing to beat Saurashtra by three wickets in a Group D match of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Monday.

Chasing 321, Arya (78, 45 balls) and Tejasvi (53, 51b) did the heavy lifting for a Virat Kohli-less Delhi as they romped home in 48.5 overs losing seven wickets at Alur 2 grounds.

Saurashtra made a challenging 320 for seven in 50 overs, courtesy a 115 (104b) by opener

Vishvarajsinh Jadeja and an unbeaten 65-ball 95 by Ruchit Ahir.

Kohli had played a stellar role in Delhi's win in the first two matches, scoring a hundred and fifty. The star batter is set to rejoin the team on January 6 for the match against Railways at the BCCI Centre of Excellence.

Pant could not make a heavy contribution, getting out for a 26-ball 22. The left-hander gave a catch to Jay Gohil off Chirag Jani.

But his teammates more than made-up for Pant's lapse and their talisman Kohli's absence. Arya was involved in a 66-run alliance for the second wicket with Ayush Doseja before falling to Chetan Sakarya.

Delhi was 115 for two then in 13.2 overs and despite losing wickets at regular intervals they did

Harsh Tvagi. Navdeep Saini finish job as Delhi top Group D standings.

not allow the asking rate to spiral out of control.

Tejasvi was involved in two crucial stands after Delhi found themselves at 160 for four -- 48 for the fifth wicket with Pant and 40 for the next wicket with Harsh Tyagi.

When Teiasvi was consumed by Ankur Pawar, Delhi still needed 73 runs in 12 overs with four wickets in hand.

But Tyagi (49, 45b) and Navdeep Saini (34 not out) knocked off those runs during their doughty seventh wicket alliance to give Delhi valuable four points from the game.

They are now leading Group D with 12 points from three games.

VIJAY MERCHANT MULTI DAY TROPHY

Chhattisgarh show grit against Punjab U16

Central chronicle News

Chhattisgarh displayed resilience after a shaky start on open-

Asked to

GWALIOR:

bat first after losing the toss, Chhattisgarh fought back to post 110 for nine at stumps against Punjab on Day One of their Men's Under-16 Vijay Merchant Multi Day Trophy match here on Sunday.

Chhattisgarh found the going tough on a responsive pitch as Punjab's bowlers maintained tight lines and lengths, picking up wickets at regular inter-



Chandransh Yadav - 40 Runs

vals to keep the scoring in check. Despite the pressure, the batting side showed character, refusing to fold cheaply

ensuring innings lasted 39 overs.

The standout performance came from Chandransh Yadav, wno neid the innings together with an unbeaten 40, showing maturity beyond his years. He was ably supported by Anshuman Thakur, who contributed 20 valuable runs, while Aniket Kujur added 15 to lift the total past the 100-run mark.

For Punjab Under-16, Shivam Matri and Jaivin led the bowling effort with three wickets each, setting up an intriguing contest heading into Day Two.

Delhi boy **Jagreet** Misra wins **FIDE Rapid Rating event**

NEW DELHI: Delhi chess prodigy Jagreet Misra racked up an impressive ChessVeda FIDE Rapid Rating Tournament in Greater Noida. The 13-year-old's performance earned him 90 rating points, highlighting his tactical sharpness and competitive maturity as he remained unbeaten in the tournament. The Mount Carmel School student received a cash prize of Rs 25,000 for the win. The tournament saw participation from 592 Indian and foreign players, including International Masters, FIDE Masters, and Candidate Masters.

Neeru Dhanda takes women's trap gold in National Shooting

Press Trust Of India

trap gold.

Neeru Dhanda con-

quered pressure and

cola to chilch wollen s

NEW DELHI: Asian Cham-

pionships gold medallist

Neeru Dhanda delivered

a composed and confi-

dent display to clinch the

women's trap title at the

National Shooting Cham-

pionship at the Karni

Singh Shooting Range

Braving chilly con-

ditions, the 25-year-old

shooter showed remark-

able control and consis-

tency in the final to fin-

ish on top with 41 hits,

here on Monday.

8.5 points in nine rounds win the inaugural



reaffirming her strong form on the domestic circuit. Delhi's Kirti Gupta mounted a stiff challenge and staved in close contention throughout before settling for the silver medal with 40 hits. Madhya Pradesh's Pragati Dubey secured the

bronze with a total of 32.

Earlier in the qualification round, Pragati topped the field with an impressive score of 117, followed by Neeru with 114 and Rajeshwari Kumari with 113, highlighting the depth of competition.

HIGHLIGHT

Neeru Dhanda holds nerve to beat strong Deini challenge in women's trap final.

Madhya Pradesh shooters dominate team events, underlining depth and consistency nationally.

In the junior men's trap event, Aryavansh Tyagi claimed gold with 42 hits, while Madhya Pradesh further stamped its authority by dominating the women's trap team event, rounding off a successful championship campaign.

| RELENTLESS RONALDO |

Ronaldo targets historic 1,000 career goals milestone

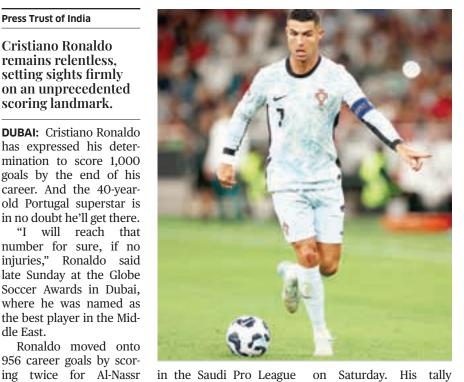
Press Trust of India

Cristiano Ronaldo remains relentless, setting sights firmly on an unprecedented scoring landmark.

DUBAI: Cristiano Ronaldo has expressed his determination to score 1,000 goals by the end of his career. And the 40-yearold Portugal superstar is in no doubt he'll get there.

"I will reach that number for sure, if no injuries," Ronaldo said late Sunday at the Globe Soccer Awards in Dubai, where he was named as the best player in the Middle East.

Ronaldo moved onto 956 career goals by scor-



HIGHLIGHT

 Ronaldo confident injuries won't stop historic 1,000-goal career landmark pursuit.

Portugal captain eyes World Cup glory alongside personal scoring milestones.

includes men's international record of 143 goals for Portugal, which Ronaldo is set to lead into next year's World Cup in the United States, Canada and Mexico. By the time the World

Cup begins, Ronaldo - a five-time world player of the year – will be aged 41. "I am still very moti-

vated to carry on," the

former Real Madrid, Manchester United and Juventus striker said on stage after receiving his award. "It doesn't matter (where) I play – Middle East, in Europe - I always enjoy to play football, to win trophies, to score goals and I want to carry on.

"You know what my goal is: I want to win more trophies and I want to reach the number that you will all know."

The World Cup is one of the few trophies missing from Ronaldo's collection. He won the European Championship with Portugal in 2016. defy age and expectation, the chase for 1,000 goals now stands as the final, defining chapter of an extraordinary career.

| PITCH CONTROVERSY |

ICC slams MCG pitch after chaotic Ashes Test

Press Trust of India

World cricket body flags excessive bowler dominance in Melbourne Test assessment.

DUBAI: The International Cricket Council has rated the Melbourne pitch unsatisfactory after match imbalance. The International Council on Monday rated the pitch used for the fourth Ashes Test between Australia and England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground "unsatisfactory", handing the venue one

demerit point under its

Pitch and Outfield Monitoring Process.

The decision followed a dramatic match that ended inside two days, with England clinching a four-wicket win after a staggering 36 wickets fell in just 142 overs. As many as 20 wickets tumbled on the opening day alone, with no batter from either side managing to register

Match referee Jeff Crowe, in his assessment report, said the surface was excessively bowlerfriendly and failed to offer a fair contest between bat and ball. "With 20 wickets falling on day one and

a half-century during the

HIGHLIGHT

ICC hands MCG one demerit point after extreme bowler dominance in Test.

Thirty-six wickets fall, no half-centuries in match decided within two days.

16 on day two, the pitch was too much in favour of the bowlers and therefore deemed unsatisfactory," Crowe stated.

Under ICC regulations, the accumulation of six demerit points can result in a 12-month suspension of international matches at the venue.



US offers Ukraine 15-year security guarantee as part of peace plan.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy

Tourists at Dubai's Museum of The Future



Interoceanic train derails in Mexico, killing 13 people

A derailment near Nizanda resulted in at least 13 deaths and 98 injuries, with five passengers curre ntly in serious condition.

Press Trust Of India

MEXICO CITY: Officials said a train accident in southern Mexico killed at least 13 people and injured dozens, halting traffic along a rail line connecting the Pacific Ocean with the Gulf of Mexico.

The Interoceanic Train linking the states of Oaxaca and Veracruz went off the rails Sunday as it passed a curve near the town of Nizanda.

BNP's Tarique

Rahman's

nomination

papers filed

DHAKA: Bangladesh Nation-

alist Party acting chairman

Tarique Rahman submitted

his nomination papers on

Monday for the upcoming

elections. The papers were

filed around 12:00 pm on

Monday at the office of the

Dhaka Divisional Commis-

sioner in Segunbagicha, the

Daily Star reported. Abdus

Salam, BNP chairperson's

adviser, accompanied by

Professor Dr Farhad Halim

Donar, chief adviser of the

Doctors Association of Ban-

gladesh (DAB), submitted

the nomination on Rahman's

behalf. Rahman will contest

the February 12 election from

the Dhaka-17 constituency.

Today is the final day for the

submission of nomination

papers for the 13th National

Speaking at a briefing, Salam

expressed gratitude to all,

saying city residents warmly

welcomed Rahman after 17

Election.

"The Mexican Navy has informed me that, tragically, 13 people died in the Interoceanic Train accident," Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum posted on X, adding that

98 people are injured,

five of them seriously. She said she instructed the secretary of the navy and the undersecretary of human rights of the Ministry of the Interior to travel to the site and personally assist the fam-

HIGHLIGHT

The accident occurred on a curve in the Tehuantepec isthmus, halting traffic on the strategic rail line connecting the Pacific and Gulf coasts.

In a message on X Sunday, Oaxaca state Gov. Salomon Jara said several government agencies had reached the site of the accident to assist

the injured. Officials said that 241 passengers and nine crew members were on the train when the accident occurred.

The

Interoceanic

Train was inaugurated in 2023 by then President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. The rail service is part of a broader push to boost train travel in southern Mexico, and develop infrastructure along the isthmus of Tehuantepec, a narrow stretch of land between

the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The Mexican government plans to turn the isthmus into a strategic corridor for international trade, with ports and rail lines that can connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

The Interoceanic train currently runs from the port of Salina Cruz on the Pacific Ocean to Coatzacoalcos, covering a distance of approximately 180 miles (290

TAIWAN CHINA AVIATION

Chinese military stages drills around Taiwan to warn 'external forces'

Press Trust Of India

China's military deployed air, navy, and rocket forces for a two-day joint exercise around Taiwan, framing it as a "stern warning" against separatist movements and "external interference."

HONG KONG: China's military on Monday dispatched air, navy and rocket troops to conduct joint military drills around the island of Taiwan, a move Beijing called a "stern warning" against separatist and "external interference" forces. Taiwan said it was placing its forces on alert and called the Chinese government "the biggest destroyer of peace." Later in the day, Taiwan's aviation



Chinese President Xi Jinping poses with newly promoted generals Yang Zhibin

authority said more than 100,000 international air travellers would be affected by flight cancellations or diversions because of the drills. The first of two days of drills came after Beijing expressed anger at US arms sales to the territory and a

statement by Japan's prime minister, Sanae Takaichi, saying its military could involved if China were to take action against Taiwan, the self-governing island that the second-biggest economy says must come under its

FASTFACTS

- The drills were triggered by recent US arms sales to Taiwan and comments from Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi suggesting potential Japanese military involvement in the region.
- Beyond the military alert, the exercises caused immediate global disruption, with Taiwan's aviation authority reporting that over 100,000 international travelers were affected by flight cancellations and diversions.

rule. The Chinese military did not mention the United States and Japan in its statement on Monday morning.

with the assistance of fami-

lies, officials said. Firefight-

ers with six trucks needed

more than two hours to

extinguish the blaze after

nearby residents reported

| INDONESIA FIRE |

Parliamentary

years in exile.

Fire at Indonesian retirement home kills 16 older residents

Press Trust Of India

MANADO: A fire at an Indonesian retirement home killed 16 older people on Sunday evening, police said. The fire in the single-story house in Manado, Indonesia's North Sulawesi Province, started while the residents were asleep, police said Monday. "The team on the ground has confirmed that the death toll currently is 16," North Sulawesi police



spokesperson Alamsyah Hasibuan said. "Fifteen of them were burned to death, while one victim's

body remains There were 15 survivors who were treated at two hospitals in Manado, Hasi-

"The team on the ground has confirmed that the death toll currently is 16."

Alamsyah Hasibuan North Sulawesi police spokesperson

buan said. The bodies of victims were taken to a hospital for identification

the fire to emergency services, officials said. Television reports Sunday showed bright flames casting an orange glow and filling the night air with smoke. Body bags were lined up outside the retirement home.

Briefs

CHINA-NEPAL BRIDE BUYING

Nepal crackdown against cross-border bride matchmaking by Chinese brokers



BEIJING: Nepalese authorities have intensified a crackdown against illegal cross-border matchmaking following revelations that brokers and online intermediaries marketed women as potential brides for Chinese nationals, a Chinese media report said. The crackdown against "bride buying" intensified after Nepal's immigration officials last month found several young Nepali women living in rented apartments with Chinese nationals in the capital, Kathmandu.

The Chinese men admitted to filming the women and sending the videos to friends in China and sharing them on social media, though they did not explicitly state the purpose of the recordings, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported. Authorities deported four Chinese

nationals for visa violations, saying there was insufficient evidence to file criminal charges over allegations that the women were being coerced into

marriages in China. The Chinese Embassy in Nepal also issued a New Year's travel advisory cautioning its citizens against what it described as "bride buying" in the country, urging them not to trust matchmaking agencies and brokers blindly and stressing that deceptive or profit-driven cross-border matchmaking is illegal under Chinese law.

"Fully understand the legal, cultural, property division and child custody risks involved in cross-border marriages," the notice said. "Do not easily believe in cross-border matchmaking ... stay away from illegal marriage brokers."

CHINA SOMALILAND

China opposes Israel's recognition of Somaliland

BEIJING: China on Monday said it firmly opposes Israel's formal recognition of Somaliland as an "independent sovereign state" and its agreement to "establish diplomatic relations" with it. Israel on Friday became the first country to recognise Somaliland, which declared independence from Somalia in 1991 amid a descent into conflict. Beijing firmly supports Somalia's sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity, and opposes any moves that undermine Somali territorial integrity, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told a media briefing here. Lin said the Somaliland issue is entirely an internal affair of Somalia and should be resolved by the Somali people in a manner consistent with their national conditions and constitution. Countries outside the region should cease inappropriate interference, and no country should incite or support separatist forces within another nation for its own selfish interests, he said.

UK LALIT MODI

'Misconstrued': Lalit Modi apologises for 'biggest fugitives' remark

LONDON: IPL founder Lalit Modi on Monday apologised for calling himself and Vijay Mallya the "two biggest fugitives" of India in a video posted on social media and said that his statement was "misconstrued". In the now-deleted video from Mallya's 70th birthday celebrations in London, Lalit Modi joked about the pair's status as the "two biggest fugitives" of India.

Issuing an apology, Lalit Modi said in an X post, "I apologise if I have hurt anyone feelings, especially the Indian Government, whom I have the highest respect and regard for." "The statement was misconstrued and was never intended to be as played out," the founding commissioner of the Indian Premier League (IPL) added. He concluded the post by offering "deepest" apologies. The apology came days after India said it is committed to bringing back from abroad economic fugitives including Lalit Modi and Mallya to face the law in the country. Both Lalit Modi and Mallya face legal challenges in India around allega tions of financial impropriety, which they both have denied.

IRAN RIAL PROTESTS

Iranian traders and shopkeepers protest as currency hits record low



TEHRAN: Iranian traders and shopkeepers staged a second day of protests on Monday after the country's currency plummeted to a new record low against the US dollar. Videos on social media showed hundreds taking part in rallies in Saadi Street in downtown Tehran as well as in the Shush neighbourhood near Tehran's main Grand Bazaar, which played a crucial role in the 1979 Islamic Revolution that ousted the monarchy and brought Islamists to power. Witnesses told The Associated Press that traders shut their shops and asked others to do the same. The semiofficial ILNA news agency said many businesses and merchants stopped trading even though some kept their shops open. There were no reports of police raids, though security was tight at the protests, according to witnesses. On Sunday, protest gatherings were

limited to two major mobile markets in downtown Tehran, where the demonstrators chanted anti-government slogans. Iran's rial on Sunday plunged to 1.42 million to the dollar. On Monday, it traded at 1.38 million rials to the dollar. The rapid depreciation is compounding inflationary pressure, pushing up prices of food and other daily necessities and further straining household budgets, a trend that could worsen with a gasoline price change introduced in recent days. According to the state statistics centre, the inflation rate in December rose to 42.2 per cent from the same period last year, and is 1.8 per cent higher than in November. Food prices rose 72 per cent and health and medical items were up 50 per cent from December last year, according to the statistics centre. Many critics see the rate as a sign of an approaching hyperinflation.