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'Seek authentication of Gandhi's claims in LS'

Shah demanded Rahul Gandhi apologise to not only the House but to the country.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday urged Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to seek verification of several claims made by Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi during his speech.

Intervening in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address in Lok Sabha after Gandhi's "not Hindu" jibe at the BJP, Shah demanded he apologise to not only the House but to the country.

"He has categorically said that those who call themselves Hindus engage in violence. Crores of people in the country proudly call themselves Hindus. Are they all speaking about violence? Linking violence to any religion, that too by somebody holding a constitutional position... I believe he should apologise," the home minister said.



Union Minister Amit Shah speaks in LS during ongoing Parl session. | Photo :PTI

HIGHLIGHT

● Gandhi asserted that his comments were aimed at the BJP and the RSS.

Gandhi asserted that his comments were aimed at the BJP and the RSS. With the Congress leader throwing a host of charges against the

Rahul making false claims and misleading the House.

Amit Shah
Home Minister

government over various issues, including the

Agnipath scheme and compensation for locals in Ayodhya during the revamp works in the holy town, Shah called for verification of his claims as treasury benches accused the opposition leader of making false claims and misleading the House.

Citing the Lok Sabha rule book, the home

minister said if any member makes comments related to factual issues and is challenged by others, then the Chair can pass directions for the verification of his assertions. Asserting that he is speaking on behalf of treasury benches, he urged Birla to seek verification of Gandhi's claims.

First case under BNS in Kabirdham district

KAWARDHA: The first case in Chhattisgarh under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which came into force on Monday, was lodged at Rengakhar police station in Kabirdham district, a police official said.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), the three new criminal laws which came into force nationwide at midnight, have replaced the

British-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively.

"The first case under BNS in state was registered at Rengakhar police station, which covers Naxalite affected area on Chhattisgarh-Madhya Pradesh border, at 12:30 am under sections 296 (obscene acts) and 351 (2) (criminal intimidation)," Kabirdham Superintendent of Police Abhishek Pallava told PTI.

5,500 CISF constables promoted

NEW DELHI: More than 5,500 CISF constables have been promoted to the next higher rank of head constable on Monday, a senior force officer said. A select number of these personnel were decorated with their new ranks by the senior officers of the paramilitary force at its headquarters here.

Civil services prelims result

NEW DELHI: The results of the civil services (preliminary) examination, 2024, conducted by the Union Public Service Commission, was declared on Monday. The examination was held on June 16, according to an official statement. Candidates are also informed that marks, cut off marks and answer keys of the examination will be uploaded on the UPSC's website only after the entire process of the civil services examination and Indian forest service examination is over.

NEWSLINE

NEW DELHI

I'm a Hindu and not violent: Patra

Firebrand BJP MP Sambit Patra on Monday hit out at Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi's remarks that ruling party members are "not Hindus" as they promote division and violence, and asserted Hindus have never committed violence.



SHIVAMOGGA

Got a call from BJP to rejoin party, says Eshwarappa

Expelled BJP leader K S Eshwarappa on Monday said he has been invited by the saffron party to rejoin it. He, however, said he is not in a hurry to join the party and would discuss it before taking a call. "A few BJP leaders approached me, asking to rejoin the party. I haven't decided yet. I am not in a hurry," Eshwarappa told reporters here.

MALAPPURAM

Viral hepatitis prevention intensified

The Kerala government has sounded the alarm on viral hepatitis, with an outbreak reported in Malappuram district claiming 11 lives this year. According to Health department, the north Kerala district has reported 1,420 confirmed cases of viral hepatitis and 5,360 suspected cases this year.

NEW DELHI

PM respond to Motion of Thanks debate today

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to respond on Tuesday evening to the debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's address, sources said.



EXCURSION

Unveiling Indian traveller preferences

In an era marked by evolving travel preferences, Indian travellers are redefining their expectations from hospitality. Gone are the days when a comfortable bed and decent room service sufficed; today, discerning travellers seek personalized experiences that cater to their individual needs.

Why did you bow to Modi, Rahul asks LS speaker

Press Trust Of India

Birla responded saying he maintains the tradition of bowing to elders.

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi and Speaker Om Birla had a verbal exchange in the Lok Sabha on Monday when the Congress leader questioned why he bowed down before Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Speaker Birla responded saying he maintains the tradition of bowing to elders.

Gandhi, however, said the Speaker is the tallest leader of the House. Participating in the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address,



LS Speaker Birla reacts as LoP Rahul Gandhi speaks in the House. | Photo: PTI

FACTFILE

● Gandhi said he respects Speaker said, but added, no one is bigger than the Speaker.

Gandhi talked about the first sitting of the 18th Lok Sabha when the Speaker

was elected, and he along with Prime Minister Modi, walked the Speaker to his podium.

"You are the final arbitrator of the Lok Sabha, you are the final word here. What you say fundamentally defines the Indian democracy. There are two people sitting in

that Chair -- Speaker of Lok Sabha and Mr Om Birla..." said Gandhi. "I noticed something. When I shook your hand, you stood straight and shook my hand. When Modi ji shook your hand, you bowed down and shook his hand," he added.

Medha gets 5 months jail in defamation case

Press Trust Of India

Metropolitan Magistrate Raghav Sharma also imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on Patkar.

NEW DELHI: A court here on Monday sentenced activist Medha Patkar to five months simple imprisonment in a 23-year-old defamation case lodged against her by Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena when he headed an NGO in Gujarat.

Metropolitan Magistrate Raghav Sharma also imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on Patkar.

The court sentenced Patkar after considering the evidence before it and the fact that the case went on for over two decades. However, the court suspended the sentence



FASTFACTS

● Court suspended the sentence for one month.

● Patkar and Saxena have been locked in a legal tussle since 2000.

for one month to enable Patkar to file an appeal against the order.

Rejecting Patkar's prayer to release her on the condition of probation, the judge said, "Considering the facts... damages, age and ailment

(of the accused), I am not inclined to give excessive punishment."

The offence entailed a maximum imprisonment of up to two years or fine or both. On May 24, the court had observed that Patkar's statements calling Saxena a "coward" and alleging his involvement in hawala transactions were not only defamatory per se but also crafted to incite negative perceptions about him. Also, the accusation that the complainant was "mortgaging" the people of Gujarat and their resources to foreign interests was a direct attack on his integrity and public service, it had said.

The arguments on sentencing were completed on May 30, following which the judgment on the quantum of sentence was reserved on June 7.

Maoists kill brother of cop in Narayanpur

Press Trust Of India

NARAYANPUR: Naxalites abducted a policeman's brother and killed him in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur district while claiming he was a police informer, an official said on Monday.

The body of Sannu Usendi (30) was found on Sunday night at Batumpara Chowk in

Orchha village of the district, a police official here said.

He was the brother of a constable of Bastar Fighters - a unit of the state police, the official said.

Usendi, a resident of Kohkameta area in the district, was staying in Narayanpur town and running a small tea shop, he said.

FORECAST

Above-normal rainfall in July: IMD

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India could experience above-normal rainfall in July, except for parts of the northeastern region, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

Addressing a virtual press conference, IMD chief Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said July rainfall averaged over the country as a

whole is most likely to be above normal -- more than 106 per cent of the long-period average of 28.04 cm. "Normal to above-normal rainfall is most likely over most parts of the country except many parts of northeast India and some parts of northwest, east, and southeast peninsular India," he said.

The Met office said maximum temperatures are



likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of northwest India and south peninsular India, except the west coast. "Above-normal

NUMBER

106

● July rainfall averaged over the country as a whole is most likely to be above normal -- more than 106 per cent of the long-period average of 28.04 cm.

maximum temperatures are likely over many parts of central India, east and northeast India, and along the west coast," it said. The minimum temperatures are most likely to be above normal over many parts of the country except some parts of northwest and the adjoining areas of central India, and some pockets of southeastern peninsular India, he said.

Raipur



Terming all the Hindu society as violent by Rahul Gandhi in the LS is strongly condemnable and objectionable.
Vishnu Deo Sai
Chief Minister Chgarh



Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai along with officials during Book release on Monday.

CM Sai releases book on New Criminal Laws

This initiative by the Chhattisgarh Police aims to assist in understanding and correctly implementing these new laws.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Monday released a significant book compiling essential information on the three new criminal laws being implemented nationwide. This initiative by the Chhattisgarh Police aims to assist in understanding and correctly implementing these new laws. In his address, Chief Minister Sai stated, "The aim of the new laws is to make the justice system

stronger and more effective. This book will be an important resource for officers and will prove helpful in establishing justice in society." This initiative marks an important achievement for the Chhattisgarh Police, facilitating the accurate and efficient application of the law. The book aims to simplify the understanding of the new legal framework for law enforcement agencies, enabling them to utilize the new criminal laws correctly and effectively.

HIGHLIGHT

• The book aims to simplify the understanding of the new legal framework.

The book will serve as a crucial reference for police officers and investigators, aiding in crime investigations.

The Chhattisgarh government has been dedicated to better implementing new laws, and this book represents a

significant step in that direction. The Indian Judicial Code, Indian Civil Defense Code, and Indian Evidence Act have come into force, replacing the old English laws and prioritizing justice over punishment. The event saw the presence of Additional Chief Secretary Home Department Manoj Pingua, DGP Ashok Juneja, Secretaries to the Chief Minister Rahul Bhagat, Basav Raju S., and other officials from the Police Department.

Cases registered under New criminal Laws

RAIPUR: The Raipur police have started registering cases under the newly implemented criminal laws. A notable case involves Amit Singh Rajput, who has been charged with abuse and threats to kill. The case was filed at the Mandir Hasaud police station under crime number 495/24, based on a report by Nohar Das Ratre. The charges fall under sections 296 and 351(2) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), replacing the earlier sections 294 and 506 of the IPC. SSP Raipur, Santosh Singh, reported another case involving an untimely death registered at the Abhanpur police station under section 194 of the new Indian Civil Security Code (BNNS).

The case, Marg No. 53/2024, was initiated following a report by Lokesh Nishad, who informed the police about the suicide of his brother, Tikam Nishad (49).

Grand Rath Yatra of Lord Jagannath on July 7th

Central Chronicle News

The festival will feature special havan and worship ceremonies at the temple.

RAIPUR: Raipur: The annual Rath Yatra festival dedicated to Lord Jagannath will be celebrated with great pomp across the country on 7th July. This major festival, observed on the second day of Shukla Paksha in the month of Ashadh, holds significant cultural and religious importance, particularly in states like Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

In Raipur, the Rath Yatra is a much-anticipated event, especially at the Jagannath Temple in Gayatri Nagar. This year, preparations have been made with immense enthusiasm. The festival will feature special havan and worship ceremonies

at the temple, and the traditional chariot pulling of Lord Jagannath will be a major highlight. Thousands of devotees are expected to gather on this occasion, including Governor Vishwabhusan Harichandan, Chief Minister Vishnudev Sai, and other prominent public figures. The Jagannath Seva Samiti has arranged for large-scale distribution of prasad to mark the event.

Purandar Mishra, the MLA of Raipur North and founder of the Jagannath

FACTFILE

• Thousands of devotees are expected to gather on this occasion.

Temple, shared insights about the Rath Yatra, highlighting the uniqueness of Lord Jagannath, who is believed to be the only deity



Purandar Mishra, MLA of Raipur North addressing scribes here.

in the universe to come out once a year to bless his devotees. Mishra explained that while the Jagannath Temple in Puri is known for its three distinct chariots for Jagannath Ji, Balabhadra Ji, and Subhadra Ji, Raipur's celebration holds a special place in Chhattisgarh's cultural landscape. The Rath Yatra commences with Snan Purnima on the day of Jyeshtha Purnima, when Lord Jagannath is bathed

Chief Justice visits newly renovated SBI Branch

RAIPUR: Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court Bilaspur, Ramesh Sinha, paid a visit to the State Bank of India (SBI) branch located within the High Court premises. The visit coincided with the establishment anniversary of SBI, which was founded on July 1, 1955. To commemorate this occasion, Chief Justice Sinha was warmly welcomed with a flower bouquet by Deputy General Manager Mr. Alok Ranjan, representing the State Bank of India.

The SBI branch has recently undergone significant renovations, including the addition of a VIP lounge. Chief Justice Sinha was given a comprehensive tour of the newly decorated branch by the bank officials, who provided detailed information about the enhanced facilities available for customers. Accompanying the Chief Justice during the visit were several prominent officials, including Registrar General Balram Prasad Verma, Additional Registrar (Administration) Awadh Kishore, Joint Registrar cum PPS M.V.L.N Subrahmanyam, Court Officer F.K. Bisen, Protocol Officer R.S. Negi, Vijay Prakash Pathak, Assistant Protocol Officer, and others.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

SERVER DISRUPTION

Food Department server disruption for three days from July 01

RAIPUR: The Food department server will be disrupted for three days from July 1st to July 3rd. Despite this disruption, the food grain distribution portal will remain fully operational, ensuring that essential services continue without interruption. Currently, all departmental online activities, except those related to the food grain distribution portal, are managed through the departmental server located in the State Data Center (SDC). The disruption is due to the process of transferring the departmental database to a new cloud server, a task undertaken to address recurring issues with the SDC server. This transition is being facilitated by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). According to information from the Directorate of Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, the new cloud server is expected to resolve the problems that have been recorded periodically with the current SDC server.

TAKES CHARGE

PK Mishra takes over as Regional Executive Director (WR-II & USSC)

RAIPUR: Pradipta Kumar Mishra has taken over as Regional Executive Director (WR-II & USSC) of NTPC Nava Raipur on July 01, 2024. Prior to this, Mishra was Executive Director-Fuel Management, NTPC Corporate Centre.

An Electrical Engineer from VSSUT (UCE), Burla, Mishra has joined NTPC in 1986 as an Executive Trainee. To his credit, Mishra completed his Masters in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. He has rich and varied experience in the areas of Electrical Maintenance, Technical Services, Maintenance, Operation & Maintenance and Fuel Management. He held several important positions in a career spanning around 38 years.



State govt fails to maintain law and order

Tribal community unsafe under tribal Chief Minister's rule: Deepak Bajj



RAIPUR: State Congress President Deepak Bajj raised serious questions about the state's law and order during a discussion with journalists at Rajiv Bhawan. Bajj criticized the BJP government for recent incidents and questioned the role of the Chief Minister. Bajj highlighted the tragic case of 21-year-old Mangal Muraya, a tribal resident of Lohandiguda in Bastar, who was beaten to death while studying in New Raipur. "His only fault was that he was a tribal and had asked for directions. The killers snatched his ATM card and, when he did

not reveal the PIN, they killed him," Bajj said.

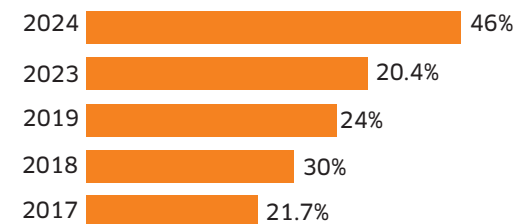
He accused the state government of failing to maintain law and order, citing incidents of arson in SP and Collector offices, mob lynching, and stabbings in police stations. Bajj stated, "The government claims good governance, but in reality, there is no rule of law, only jungle raj."

Bajj further alleged that in the six months of BJP's governance, there have been over 300 rapes, 80 gang rapes, and more than 200 murders in the state.

The Day's NUMBERS

CG State universities BCA first year exam

UG FIRST YEAR RESULTS IN PERCENTAGE



Source : Agencies

FUND'S APPROVED

Rs 80 crores approved for 17 colleges on Finance Minister's Initiative

RAIPUR: In a significant move towards enhancing higher education in the state, Finance Minister O.P. Choudhary, under the directives of Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai, has approved a substantial amount of Rs 79.19 crores for 17 colleges across Chhattisgarh. This funding aims to improve the quality and scope of education and research capabilities in these institutions, providing students with opportunities to access advanced and specialized education.

This initiative reflects Finance Minister Choudhary's commitment to advancing the educational prospects and career growth of the state's youth. He has emphasized the importance of enhancing the quality, equality, and level of educational facilities, recognizing this as a crucial step for the future development of Chhattisgarh's young population. The allocated funds will benefit colleges in both plain and tribal-dominated areas, including Bastar and Surguja. This decision is a critical step towards providing quality education services and fostering academic excellence, ensuring the youth of Chhattisgarh have access to the latest educational advancements and specialized knowledge.

COURTESY VISIT

Rajwada pays courtesy visit to Union Women and Child Development Minister



RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh's Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Rajwada paid a courtesy visit to Union Women and Child Development Minister Annapurna Devi in New Delhi. During the meeting, Union Minister Annapurna Devi assured that under the double engine government, there will be no shortage of resources for women and child development programs in Chhattisgarh. Minister Rajwada extended her congratulations to Annapurna Devi on taking the oath as an MP in the Lok Sabha and discussed the ongoing programs for women and children in the state. Minister Rajwada also highlighted the Mahtari Vandan Yojana, an initiative aimed at women empowerment in Chhattisgarh, during the discussions.

|BASTAR'S KOSA|

'Bastar's Kosa cloth is also getting famous abroad'

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Tribal Development Minister Ramvichar Netam said that the Kosa cloth of Bastar is now getting famous in India as well as abroad. With the opening of Raipur showroom of Kosa cloth of Bastar, famous for its special qualities, now Kosa cloth can be easily obtained here too. On the instructions of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Minister Netam said these things on the occasion of the



inauguration of the retail showroom of Kosa Centers in Indravati Bhawan located in Nava Raipur.

Minister Netam said that Bastar Rally Kosa has

a unique identity not only in India but also at the world level for its special qualities. Its demand is continuously increasing. The special bio-geograph-

Bastar Rally Kosa has a unique identity not only in India but abroad also.
Ramvichar Netam,
Tribal Development Minister

ical diversity of Bastar has a special contribution in this.

He appreciated the contribution of farmers, voluntary organizations and government agencies engaged in Kosa cloth

manufacturing work, especially Chhattisgarh State Self-Employed Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation.

Secretary of Tribal Development Narendra Dugga said that the main objective of promoting the Kosa Centre is to train the youth of the Scheduled Tribe category of Bastar region in Kosa weaving, thread production, dyeing, printing etc. and employ them in the centre itself.

Focus should be laid on quality of studies: Sai

CM directed to present a proposal for rationalization of teachers, schools soon.



review meeting (Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai addressing review meeting of school education department).

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Education is the basic mantra of progress and that quality education should be provided to the children and discipline should be maintained in schools, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said in the review meeting of the School Education Department here on Monday. Block Education Officer should go to the field and monitor the quality of teaching and learning in schools, he said. The Collectors should also visit two to three schools every month and inspect them, he said.

Good governance and transparent administration is the goal, he said, adding that his

FASTFACTS

● Collector and departmental officers should continuously inspect schools

● CM instructs to prepare proposals for rationalization of teachers and schools

government will try to make available better school buildings and good arrangements for studies for the children. Expressing strong displeasure over the slow pace of renovation work of schools, the Chief Minister said that laxity in the renovation work of dilapidated schools will not be tolerated. The Collectors should monitor the

Mentors will be appointed to prevent drop outs under RTE

Mentors will be appointed to stop drop out of students being admitted in unaided private schools under RTE, it was informed at the review meeting. To this end School Education Secretary has written a letter to all the collectors. The officers appointed as mentors will ensure the admission of students selected under RTE. If children face any problem, steps will be taken for redressal by holding meetings with their parents, school management and administration and children will be encouraged to continue their studies.

strength of school buildings, he said. The Chief Minister said that the renovation work under the School Jatan Yojana started for the renovation of dilapidated schools should be inspected and the work should be completed using the amount

allocated in the School Jatan Yojana. The Chief Minister directed to present a proposal for rationalization of teachers and schools in the next cabinet meeting. He said that this will help in removing the shortage of teachers in schools.

Judicial remand of Saumya Sahu, till 12th

RAIPUR: The judicial remand of the accused of the 450 crore coal scam has been extended by 11 more days and they have been sent to jail. EOW, on Monday, presented the extortionists Jaiswal brothers and five others in a special court after questioning them. Suspended officers Ranu Sahu, Saumya Chaurasia attended the hearing through video conferencing from the jail itself. Sameer Vishnoi, Suryakant Tiwari and all others were presented in the court.

Shiv Sena burns effigy of cattle smugglers

RAIPUR: Shiv Sena Raipur unit burnt an effigy of cattle smugglers at Raipura Chowk to protest against increasing incidents of cow smuggling.

District President Kamgar Sen Sanju Sahu informed that the incidents of cattle smuggling are on the rise and these smugglers are also active on social media. So it is by burning the effigy of cattle smugglers that they registered protest and asked them to leave this business and raised slogans in protest.

Transfer Amount in RYMC accounts to treasury: Collector

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: 'The amount deposited in Rajiv Yuva Mitran Club (RYMC) accounts should be transferred to the government treasury immediately and the utilization certificate of the amount used earlier should be submitted. All SDMs should take concrete steps on this subject and submit the report', said Collector Dr Gaurav Singh in the weekly time-limit meeting.

Collector Dr. Singh said that on the coming 5th July, a plantation campaign will be run in every government complex, building, offices of the district. Saplings should be planted in the hospital, school premises wherever there is space so that their growth is

HIGHLIGHT

● Plantation campaign will be run on July 5

● Panel box installed in electric pole should be closed

quick, he said. Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita has come into force from July 01 and in such a situation, all officers and employees should get information about the new law and make people aware, he said. He also instructed to close the doors of the panel boxes installed in the transformers or electricity poles on the roads. If old vehicles are seen on the roadside, then information should be immediately given to Municipal Corporation and the Traffic Police, he said.

Connect 100% children with education: Kashyap

RAIPUR: Forest and Climate Change Minister Kedar Kashyap today participated in Shala Pravesh Utsav in various schools of Narayanpur district. He gave sweets to the newly admitted students and got them admitted to the schools besides welcoming them by applying tilak and sandalwood. Kashyap provided uniforms and textbooks to the students on this occasion.

Speaking on the occasion Kashyap said that as per the wishes of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, 100% school-going children will be connected with education. He said that apart from education, health and security, the continuous development of the people of the state would be the priority of the government. Schools have been opened in every village of the district, he said.

Seminar and Quiz Competition held at NIT Raipur

Central Chronicle News

National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur organised an awareness seminar and Quiz Competition on Three Criminal Laws (BNS 2023) on 1st July, 2024.

RAIPUR: The event was graced by Dr RK Tripathi, Director(I/C), NIT Raipur. In this event Dr Sameer Bajpai, Head (CDC), NIT Raipur, Dr Shrish Verma, Dean (Academics), NIT Raipur and Dr Nitin Jain, Dean (SW), NIT Raipur were present. This event is coordinated by Dr Y Vijaya Babu, Asst. Professor, HSS Department and Nodal Officer, BNS NIT Raipur. Dr Parvesh Kumar Rajput, Asst. Professor of Law, HNLU Raipur served as the Chief Speaker. The program was attended by Faculty

Members, Staff members, PhD scholars, and students.

The Seminar was organised to spread awareness of the 3 new criminal laws, The Bharatiya Nyaya Sahita (BNS-2023), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS-2023) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA-2023), which would be enacted from 1st of July, 2024.

Dr RK Tripathi emphasised the need to update British-era laws and ensure that criminals are punished appropriately under the new legal framework. Chief Speaker Dr. Parvesh Kumar Rajput highlighted the significance of laws in shaping society. He traced the historical formation of the first Law Commission in India and the development of key legislations such as the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC).

Five SAS officers get fresh posting

RAIPUR: Five senior officers of state administrative service have been transferred to new department with immediate effect. The Department of General Administration has transferred the Deputy and Under Secretaries of the Ministry cadre. Neelam Toppo will now be the Deputy Secretary of the Parliamentary Affairs Department.

Similarly, DS Dhruve has been posted in place of Under Secretary (Home) Manoj Srivastava who retired on 30 June. Under Secretary Rakesh Dhruva has been transferred to Higher Education department in the same capacity. Additional charge of Higher Education department has been withdrawn from Under Secretary Kirti Vardhan Upadhyay and he has been given the additional charge of Medical Education department in the same post.

'New laws will bring revolution in judicial system'

Central Chronicle News

New laws will not only speed up the investigation of crimes but the culprits will also get punishment as soon as possible, Sharma said.

RAIPUR: Expressing delight over implementation of three criminal laws in the country Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma said that new laws will bring a new revolution in the Indian judicial system. New laws will not only speed up the investigation of crimes but the culprits will also get punishment as soon as possible, Sharma said at Sahaspur Lohara of Kabirdham district. He inaugurated the new police station building in Sahaspur Lohara.

According to him it will



Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma inaugurating new police station building in Sahaspur Lohara.

FASTFACTS

● Vijay Sharma inaugurates the newly constructed police station building in Sahaspur Lohara

● Celebration in Kabirdham on the implementation of three new laws

be even easier for common citizens to get justice

through the new laws. Superintendent of Police Dr Abhishek Pallav, Additional Superintendent of Police, public representatives, officers-employees and dignitaries were present.

The purpose of the Indian Civil Security Code is to improve civil security, Deputy Chief Minister Sharma said. Under this, the rights and duties of citizens have been clearly mentioned,

which will make it easier to follow and protect the law, he said. The main objective of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita is to make the justice system more effective so that citizens can get quick justice, he said, adding that this will speed up the hearing of cases and reduce the number of pending cases in the courts.

The Deputy Chief Minister gave detailed information about the three new laws that have come into force from Monday - Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita 2023 and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam 2023. All three new laws have been brought for justice and civil security, he said. 'If we move forward with a positive attitude with the new laws, we will be able to do better work', he said.

HEALTH SERVICES |

Promotion of institutional deliveries top's priority

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Under the leadership of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai and the guidance of Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal, health facilities are being significantly expanded across the state, resulting in a notable increase in institutional deliveries.

Primary Health Center Katgi in the Kasdol development block and Ayushman Arogya Mandir Saloni in the Palari development block



have emerged as leaders in institutional deliveries in Balodabazar district. From April 2023 to March 2024, Katgi conducted 488 deliveries, exceeding the annual target of 120, while Saloni recorded 178 deliveries against a

target of 36. Notably, all deliveries were normal. Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr MP Mahiswar stated "Promoting institutional deliveries is the top priority of the government aimed at reducing maternal and infant

"Promoting institutional deliveries is top priority of govt aimed at reducing maternal and infant mortality rates"

Dr MP Mahiswar
CMHO, Balodabazar

mortality rates. Through various government schemes, comprehensive services ranging from conception to post-delivery are provided to women. This includes arrangements for transport to ensure a safe return home after delivery, along with Rs. 1400 financial assistance provided under the 'Janani Suraksha Yojana' in rural areas. Essential medicines and tests are also provided free of cost."

Fifth installment of MVY released

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has released the fifth installment of Mahtari Vandan Yojana on July 1. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs 653 crore 85 lakh has been transferred to the accounts of about 70 lakh beneficiaries. It is noteworthy that Chief Minister Sai had promised to give Rs 1000 every month to married mothers and sisters under Mahtari Vandan Yojana as per the guarantee of Prime

Minister Narendra Modi. Work on this great scheme started within three months of taking oath. The administrative staff completed the survey work quickly and got the forms filled from the beneficiary women and Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the first installment of Mahtari Vandan Yojana on March 10. Women are very happy due to the regular receipt of this amount. Some women are able to manage their household budget with this.

NEWSLINE

WEIGHTLIFTING

District Weightlifting Ch'ship concludes



RAIPUR: The two-day Raipur District Sub Junior, Junior and Senior (Boys/Girls) (Men/Women) Weightlifting Championship 2024 and Summer Training Camp organized at Kharun Rail Vihar Fafaadih Raipur from 29 to 30 June 2024 concluded successfully. The chief guest in the closing ceremony of the competition was MLA of Raipur Rural Assembly, Motilal Sahu and the prizes were distributed to the winning players from his hands and to encourage the players of Raipur district participating in the national competition, financial assistance of 50000 to the District Weightlifting Association was also announced by Motilal Sahu ji.

SENTENCE

Man sentenced to life imprisonment

RAIPUR: The seventh additional session judge of Raipur presiding officer Smt Vandana Deepak Dewangan sentenced one Shripati Mongraj to life imprisonment on June 27, 2024. The verdict brings closure to a case that has been under scrutiny since March 2022. Public prosecutor Rajendra Jain provided detailed insights into the proceeding and the events that led to conviction, saying the case, register under Section 307 attempt to murder and then 302 Murder of Indian penal code, revolves around an incident that occurred during a family celebration on March 9, 2022 Khobo Mongraj. A rickshaw puller and the complainant reported a violent altercation to the Telibandha police station. The altercation took place at a reception party held on March 10, 2022 near Shiv Mandir in Telibandha following a family marriage.

BLOOD DONATION

Blood donation camp organized by Model Blood Bank Center



RAIPUR: Model Blood Bank Center located at Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Smriti Hospital and Nirankari Mandal Rajim organized a blood donation camp at Sindhi Dharashala, Ganj Road, Gobara Navapara, Rajim. As many as 77 units of blood were donated at this camp. On behalf of Nirankari Mandal, the charge of the camp was taken over by Gurbaksh Kalra and on behalf of Model Blood Bank Center, Dr Aviral Mishra took over the charge of the camp. This program was conducted under the guidance of Dr Vijay Kapse, in-charge of Model Blood Bank.



Citizens will get timely justice with the new laws
Gajendra Yadav
MLA Durg (City)

'New laws prioritise justice over mere punishment'

Out of the court settlement will not be easy now in serious crimes.



Collector Chaudhary addressing the workshop at Police Control Room.

Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

- Evidence collection at crime scene will be mandatorily videographed
- Facility of online summon and appearance to witnesses

BHILAI: Durg Police hosted a workshop at the Police Control Room to mark the implementation of new criminal laws on Monday. The new criminal laws - Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam replaced the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Indian Evidence Act respectively. Durg Police has started registering FIRs as per the new laws. Under the new laws, it will not be easy

for the accused of serious offences to threaten or lure the victim and witnesses for compromise or turning hostile. Now the police are bound to collect video recording and scientific evidence at every step of

Dedicated chapter for crimes against women

Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary said that offences against women will be taken care of before anything else. With enhanced focus on offences against women and children, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita now features a dedicated chapter. She assured that the district administration will take action in accordance with the changed provisions so that the purpose of new laws can be fulfilled.

investigation which will be strong evidence during the court trial. MLA Gajendra Yadav said that citizens will get timely justice with the new laws. MLA Rikesh Sen appealed to all the citizens

to read and understand the new laws. Divisional Commissioner Satyanarayan Rathore highlighted and appreciated the provisions introduced under the new laws.

Medical Store owner robbed at village Funda

BHILAI: Four masked ruffians robbed a medical store owner at village Funda on Patan - Durg Road late evening on Saturday. The victim resides in Supela Bhilai and runs a medical store at village Bathena of Patan. After closing the shop, he was returning back home on his scooter when four masked ruffians moving on a bike intercepted him at Funda and started beating the victim. They escaped after robbing Rs 800 cash from him. Patan Police lodged an FIR.

Youth fatally injured in bike accident

BHILAI: Two youth moving on a bike were hit by a speeding bus at Power House. One of the bikers suffered serious injuries in the mishap. The victims Pramod Singh and Sunil Sharma were moving towards Railway Station when a speeding bus bearing registration number CG07-E-1385 dashed them at Power House Square. Sunil suffered serious injuries and is recuperating at Mittal Hospital.

First FIR under new law lodged in Patan

BHILAI: The first FIR of the district under the new criminal law was lodged at Patan Police Station regarding theft of electric cables from a solar pump setup. SP Jitendra Shukla informed that after 00:00 hrs on July 01, Durg Police has started lodging FIRs under the new criminal laws. The victim Nakul Lal Satyam (40) son of Late Sukhdev Satyam is a resident of village Rakhi (Patan). A solar cell panel and other setup has been installed at his agricultural land for the operation of an irrigation

pump. On reaching his fields on Monday morning, Nakul found that the cables of the solar pump setup were stolen

HIGHLIGHT

- Under section 302 (2) of BNS 2023

by unknown thieves on the intervening night of July 01. On his complaint, Patan Police Station lodged an FIR under section 303 (2) of Bharatiya Byay Sanhita. According to the victim, about 135 meters of power cable worth Rs 10000 were stolen.

Unidentified person found dead in Bhilai Steel Plant

BHILAI: An unidentified man was found dead between the power cables near Blast Furnace 6 of Bhilai Steel Plant on Monday morning. It is suspected that the deceased was trying to cut and steal the copper cables and died due to electric shock. According to the information received, an unknown person was found lying in Sub-Station 15F behind Blast Furnace-6 in the Power System Department of Bhilai Steel Plant. The control room received information at 7:50 am after which an ambu-

lance was immediately dispatched from the main medical post. Sub-station 15F was shut down and the body was taken out. The deceased was aged around 30 years. Gate pass of the plant or any other kind of identity card was not found. It is suspected that the deceased had come with the intention of theft and must have trespassed by making a hole in the wall of the sub-station. The body was taken out and brought to the Main Medical Post and thereafter sent to Sector-9 mortuary.

Mayor welcomes children at school



Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Under the School Chale Hum Abhiyan being run within the Durg Municipal limits, Dheeraj Bakliwal along with Ajay Sharma and Headmaster Nitin Agarwal and school staff welcomed the children by applying tilak on Shala Pravesh Utsav in Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Government Primary School.

The school admission festival was celebrated with great joy. Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal welcomed the children by lighting a lamp in front of the oil painting of Goddess Saraswati and wished them a bright future

and also distributed pencil boxes to the children for encouragement. He said that better education is the basis for the development of children's lives. Mayor Dheeraj Bakliwal also applied gulal and distributed sweets and performed aarti.

There was a smile on the faces of children. He extended best wishes to the children, the bright future of the city and state. During the program, Principal Nitin Agarwal, other members of the teaching staff, Sushma Sahu, Megha Jain, Bhavna Rajput, Nidhi Jain, Govind Prasad, Runa Khadan, Neelima Srivastava and others were present.

Bike stolen from Sector 1

BHILAI: Bike of a retired BSP employee was stolen from Sector 01. The victim, Shesh Narayan Dwivedi had parked his bike bearing registration number CG07-LH-9408 on the roadside at Central Avenue to visit the State Bank of India Sector 01. He returned back after 45 minutes and found the bike missing. Bhatti Police Station lodged a case.

Man held with illicit liquor

BHILAI: Police arrested a man and seized illicit liquor from his possession. Acting on a tip off, Khursipar Police nabbed a person who was peddling illicit liquor near Dabrapara Flyover. On searching, police recovered 61 quarters of liquor from the possession of the accused identified as Shivendra Singh (39) son of Dharendra Chandra Singh a resident of Balaji Nagar, Khursipar.

Stone laid for Ch'garh's first 15 MW floating Solar Plant

FLOATING SOLAR PLANT

Central Chronicle News

This project shall be a big step towards supplying green energy

BHILAI: As a major step towards the installation of a 15 MW capacity floating Solar Plant in Maroda-1 reservoir of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (SAIL-BSP), along with Ravindra Kumar, Chairman (NSPCL-Bhilai) & Director (Operations-NTPC) laid the foundation stone of the project at Maroda-1 reservoir on June 30, 2024.

Anirban Dasgupta, and Ravindra Kumar performed Bhumi Pujan and unveiled the plaque to initiate this project. Green balloons were released into the sky to commemorate the foundation-laying ceremony



Director I/c (SAIL-BSP) and Chairman (NSPCL-Bhilai) lay foundation stone for Chhattisgarh's first 15 MW floating Solar Plant (1).

FASTFACTS

- The floating Solar Plant shall reduce water loss due to evaporation
- It will help reduce carbon emissions and dependency on coal for power

of the installation of this 15 MW floating Solar

Plant, which is the first floating solar plant in the state of Chhattisgarh.

Director I/c (SAIL-BSP) stated that this project shall be a big step towards supplying green energy to the Plant. The floating Solar Plant projects that we have envisioned, shall be completed in two phases at the Maroda-1 and Maroda-2 res-

ervoirs. Also, another Solar Power Plant of 35 MW is proposed through NSPCL in the next phase at Nandini. The floating Solar Plant shall not only reduce water loss due to evaporation but also help reduce our carbon emissions and dependency on coal for power, thereby helping in producing Green Steel, he stated.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

Stop Diarrhoea Campaign 2024 launched at District Hospital

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Stop Diarrhoea Campaign 2024 was inaugurated in the District Hospital on Monday. Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary was present as chief guest in the programme.

The health department has set a target to reduce the mortality rate due to diarrhoea in children below five years of age.

Under this program, ORS packets and zinc tab-



Collector distributing ORS packets and zinc tablets to women.

lets will be distributed in the houses of small kids. The Mitaniins will identify such houses and visit

the families to distribute ORS and Zinc tablets. Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary appealed to

all the general public to take maximum advantage of this programme. She distributed ORS packets and zinc tablets to the patients admitted in the District Hospital. The inauguration cer-

"The campaign aims to achieve zero child deaths due to diarrhoea",
Richa Prakash Chaudhary
Collector

emony was attended by CMHO Dr Manoj Dani, Dr Hemant Kumar Sahu (Civil Surgeon), Dr Divya Srivastava (DIO), Dr RK Malhotra, Dr Seema Jain (Pediatrician), Dr Akhilesh Yadav (RMO), Ajay Parihar (DPO) Women and Child Development Officer Sandeep Tamrakar, Dr Om Prakash Verma (Hospital Consultant), Sanjeev Dubey (CPM), Dr Rashmi Bhosle, officials of CMHO and district hospital staff were present.

Retired government servants honored

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Pension authority letters were issued to 30 superannuating government employees district before their retirement. Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary honored them with bouquets and handed over the pension authority letters. The retiring employees were delighted with the program organized by the District Treasury. The District Treasury Officer informed that the Divisional Joint Director of Fund-Accounts and

Pension Durg issued PPO/GPO of a total of 196 government servants for the entire division this month, which includes 63 government servants of Durg district. Government servants of School Education, Revenue, Police, Health, Water Resources and Panchayat Department participated in the ceremony. Dr Diwaker Singh Rathore, Divisional Joint Director, Raghavendra Kumar, Senior Treasury Officer Durg; Chandrabhusan Sahu, Accountant, and retired government servant officers were present.

NEWSLINE

INSPECTION

BMC Comm conducts surprise inspection



BHILAI: Bhilai Municipal Corporation Commissioner Devesh Kumar Dhruv conducted a surprise inspection at Anganwadi of Mangal Bazaar Chhawani on Monday morning.

He checked the attendance of children and spoke to them. He also checked whether the prescribed nutritious food is being distributed. He questioned about nutritious food for pregnant women, the amount of nutritious food provided to malnourished children, etc.

WEATHER

101.7 mm rainfall recorded

BHILAI: An average rainfall of 101.7 mm has been recorded in the district from 01 June to 01 July. The maximum rainfall of 212.0 mm has been recorded in Patan Tehsil and the minimum of 49.4 mm in Bori. Apart from this, 68.3 mm rainfall has been recorded in Durg, 60.4 mm in Dhamdha, 74.2 mm in Bhilai 3 and 146.0 mm in Ahiwara. On July 01, 10.0 mm rainfall was recorded in Durg, 4.1 mm in Dhamdha, no rainfall in Ahiwara and Bori, 3.0 mm in Bhilai 3 and 1.1 mm in Patan.

ADMINISTRATION

IAS Bhargava gets independent charge

BHILAI: Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary has given independent charge of Commissioner of Municipal Corporation Bhilai 3 Charoda to the Probationary IAS Officer M Bhargava, who is positioned as Assistant Collector Durg to complete the District Training Program. Assistant Collector Bhargava (IAS) has been attached for training practice with the Commissioner of BMC for a period of four weeks from 01 July 2024 to 28 July 2024. During the training period, BMC Commissioner Dashrath Singh Rajput will provide necessary support.

VISION DOC

Suggestions invited for Amrit Kaal Vision

BHILAI: State NITI Aayog is preparing "Amrit Kaal: Chhattisgarh Vision @ 2047" towards making Chhattisgarh a developed state. The NITI Aayog has invited valuable suggestions from the common people to prepare the vision document. The suggestions can be sent on NITI Aayog portal - <https://sdgspc.cg.gov.in/viksitcg>.

N-E-W-S



“Safety of people and property is the top priority during floods. Effective coordination and swift action are essential for flood relief and rescue operations.”

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, UP

Opposition MPs protest in Parliament premises



New Delhi: Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi with other MPs of INDIA bloc stages a protest against the alleged misuse of probe agencies by the central government, during ongoing Parliament session, in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

MIGRATION

People finding it hard to get labourers due to increased income: MP govt

BHOPAL: The Madhya Pradesh government on Monday denied reports of migration from the state, attributing the difficulty in finding labourers to an increase in people's income. This claim was made in a written reply in the state assembly on the first day of the Budget session, in response to a question by BJP MLA Rajesh Kumar Shukla. Shukla had asked if the government was aware that, due to migration and other reasons, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find farm labourers in the Bundelkhand region. The MLA sought information about government schemes to provide farm equipment, noting that the input costs and production of farmers would increase if various agricultural tasks such as weeding, hoeing, irrigation, and harvesting were done with both human labourers and mechanical equipment. **PTI**

INITIATIVE

Engineer Rashid gets permission for oath; I 'm relieved : Mehbooba



SRINAGAR: People's Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said she is relieved to know that Sheikh Abdul Rashid, who won the Lok Sabha polls from Baramulla, has been granted permission to take oath as a member of Parliament. The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister also demanded that Rashid, popularly known as Engineer, should be released along with other Kashmiri men lodged in various jails. **PTI**

Animal protection groups for proposed ban on foreign dogs

The proposal aims to ban the sale and breeding of 23 breeds of ferocious dogs, including Pitbull Terrier, American Bulldog, amid rising instances of people dying due to pet dog attacks.

Press Trust Of India
NEW DELHI: In a united front, 21 animal protection organisations have expressed strong support for the central government's proposed ban on Pit Bulls and similar foreign dog breeds amid surge in illegal dog fighting and attacks, a statement said on Monday.

among others. The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, on May 2, sought public comments on its March 12 circular, which was addressed to the chief secretaries of all states and Union territories.

The proposal aims to ban the sale and breeding of 23 breeds of ferocious dogs, including Pitbull Terrier, American Bulldog, Rottweiler and Mastiffs, amid rising instances of people dying due to pet dog attacks. The central government's proposal aims to stop Pit Bull-type breeds from being torn apart in illegal dogfights

HIGHLIGHT

- The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry has sought public comments on its circular, which was addressed to the chief secretaries of all states and Union territories.
- The central government's proposal aims to stop Pit Bull-type breeds from being torn apart in illegal dogfights and protect citizens from being attacked by dogs

and protect citizens from being attacked by dogs bred to be unstoppable weapons, Shaurya Agrawal, Advocacy Associate at PETA India, said in the statement. "Animal protection groups support the central government's effort to protect these vulnerable dog breeds, who are sold by breeders without warning that they were bred to be aggressive and used in fights, Agrawal said.

Pit Bulls and similar breeds are the most abused, often kept on heavy chains as attack dogs, leading to aggressive and defensive behaviours.

Many of these dogs endure illegal physical mutilations, such as ear-cropping and tail-docking, to prevent injuries during fights. Injured dogs from these illegal fights are rarely taken to veterinarians, one another organisation member said. Despite the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, which makes inciting dogs to fight illegal, organised dog-fights have become prevalent in parts of India. India faces an issue with stray animals, with 80 million dogs and cats suffering on the streets and many more in overcrowded shelters, it said.

survey at Ellora Caves to be addressed only after funds: ASI

SAMBHAJINAGAR : The security recommendations made by Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar Rural police for the Ellora Caves complex, a World Heritage site, in Maharashtra remain unaddressed because of lack of funds, an Archaeological Survey of India official said here on Monday.

The suggestions, made after a security survey was conducted of the site, included installation of door frame metal detectors, baggage scanners at the entry point of the caves and CCTVs in some areas, a Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar rural police official said.

The survey had also suggested urgent repairs to some damaged sections of the compound wall as well as grille covers to close water outlets, the police official added.

VERBAL CLASH IN PARLIAMENT

Rajya Sabha Chair expunges Kharge's remarks on PM, RSS

Press Trust Of India
Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge criticised PM Narendra Modi for his poll speeches and also levelled allegations against the ruling BJP.

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday for his poll speeches and also levelled allegations against the ruling BJP's ideological parent RSS but most of his remarks were expunged by Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar. Dhankhar also defended the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh



Kharge's remark triggered stir in Rajya Sabha t oday. m.PTI.

(RSS), calling it an organisation engaged in working for the nation.

During his speech in the Upper House of Parliament on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address, Congress chief Kharge mentioned comments made by Modi in his election rallies and presented statistics showing the number of times the prime minister referred to minorities and Pakistan. The Rajya Sabha chairman asked

him to authenticate his assertions and refused to accept newspaper clippings that the Congress leader showed to buttress his points. Kharge was backed by his party colleague and former finance minister P Chidambaram, who asked how an opposition MP could authenticate what the prime minister has said other than by citing news reports.

The Chair, however, did not accept the arguments and expunged the remarks

FACTFILE

• "Is it a crime to be a member of an organization? The RSS is an organization working for the nation. They have a lot of intelligent people," Dhankhar said.

made by Kharge from the records. Kharge insisted that he was only seeking to highlight the divisive nature of the speeches delivered by the prime minister. He also said no other prime minister before Modi had ever made such comments. In his nearly 90-minute speech, which also saw several disruptions by the treasury benches and intervention by the Chair, Kharge repeatedly referred to the RSS and personalities associated with it.

AMIT SHAH ASSURES

'Oppn can meet for grievances on new laws'

Press Trust Of India
Shah denied that the new laws were draconian and repressive. He said the laws were modern, and in the interest of the victims, and fix accountability on police forces.

force on Monday amid protests from members of opposition parties, Union Home Minister Amit Shah asked them to meet him to discuss their grievances and asserted that he is open to hearing their suggestions.

"I am ready to meet anyone who wants. We will meet and also review. But please do not do politics," he said at a press

“I am ready to meet anyone who wants. We will meet and also review. But please do not do politics.”

Amit Shah
Union Home Minister



conference, replying to questions about protests from opposition leaders. Shah rejected criticism that the three new crimi-

nal laws were draconian and repressive. He said the laws were modern, protect the rights of the victims, and fix accountability on police forces.

These are parochial and jaded arguments, aimed at misleading the people. These laws were passed after debates in both the Houses and scrutinised by a parliamentary committee, he said.

The Day's NUMBERS

LONGEST TENURE AS CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

YV Chndrachud	7 years, 139 days
Bhuvaneshwar Prasad Sinha	4 years, 122 days
Ajit nath Ray	3 years, 276 days
Sudhi Ranjan Das	3 years, 241 days
Adarsh Sein Anand	3 years, 21 days

Source: Agencies

INSTRUCTION

Follow time limit and liquor serving rules: Thane police to bars

THANE: Thane police commissioner Ashutosh Dhumbre has issued prohibitory orders with regard to 21 items for restaurants, bars and permits rooms till August 27, an official said on Monday.

The notification under section 144 of CrPC was issued on June 29 because serving notices individually was not possible, he added.

"It has come to our notice that certain incidents affecting public peace and order are frequently occurring in and around bars, permit rooms, restaurants. It has also been pointed out that some owners of such establishments are either not taking proper precautions to prevent these incidents or are deliberately engaging in actions that lead to such incidents," the notification said.

"Some owners are blatantly violating mandatory rules and regulations, creating a fertile ground for offensive incidents. **PTI**

BOOK RELEASE

Despite all the diversities, India is one, says RSS chief Bhagwat



GHAZIPUR : Despite its differences, India has functioned as one nation for thousands of years and this unity was apparent whenever it faced attacks from Pakistan or China, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat said Monday at the launch of a book on war hero Abdul Hamid. The event was held at Ghazipur's Dhamapur village, where Hamid was born. The soldier was posthumously bestowed with the Param Vir Chakra for his bravery during the India-Pakistan war in 1965. **PTI**

We are all part of the government and before ensuring the compliance of the law, we must have information about the law.

Ajit Vasant
Collector Korba



Chhattisgarh



Secretary W&CDD holds review meeting on implementation of schemes of W&CDD.

Make Bastar region malnutrition-free: Secy

Instructions were also given to discharge the responsibilities with sensitivity to make pre-school primary education, supplementary nutrition result-oriented.

Central Chronicle News

JAGDALPUR: Secretary of Women and Child Development Department (W&CDD), Shammi Abidi held a detailed review meeting on the implementation status of departmental activities and schemes in the Prerna meeting room of the Collectorate and took information about the progress happening on the ground. She stressed upon the officers to work on mission mode and take extensive partici-

pation in making Bastar region malnutrition free. She also said that by providing 100% benefit to mothers and sisters from all the schemes of the government, the wind of development in Bastar area should also be improved in the social sector.

While giving instructions to make integrated child development services available on the ground in an effective manner, Secretary Abidi said that the women of the area should also be

HIGHLIGHT

Secretary stressed upon the officers to work on mission mode and take extensive participation in making Bastar region malnutrition free.

benefited from other welfare schemes of the government in a planned manner. In this direction, effective initiatives should be taken for the quality of services and expansion of services including cre-

ating public awareness to make the services effective.

The Secretary directed the officials that all the beneficiaries should get the benefits of Mahtari Vandana Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana, Ready-to-Eat, Noni Suraksha Yojana of the Women and Child Development Department. She asked for health check-up, vaccination and weighing of pregnant, lactating mothers, children and adolescent girls at regular intervals.

No arrests after one month in murder case

KHAIRAGARH: Even after more than a month, the murder of a 37-year-old youth in Dewaribhat has not been solved. On 19th May, someone brutally murdered 37-year-old Rajeshwar, son of Alakhram Verma, in Dewaribhat, located just 3 km from Khairagarh. Rajeshwar left his house in the middle of the night of 18th May to close the tubewell of the field but he did not return home the whole night. In the morning, when the family went to the fields to look for Rajeshwar, they found him dead. Even after 1 month and 12 days of the incident, the police have not been able to catch the murderer, while the post-mortem report has directly confirmed the murder of the victim and the cause of death is strangulation and internal injury in the body, but why the police engaged in investigation has not been able to reach the murderer till now has become a big question now and the family of the deceased is also accusing the police of lethargy. In the last few months, the rise of murder cases in the village have been a challenge for the district police, but in almost all the cases, they have caught the murderer within one or two days. But this is the first case where the police are sweating to reach the murderer and far from reaching the accused of murder, the police is not even able to suspect the accused properly.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

FIRST FIR

Ch'garh's naxal-hit Kabirdham registers first FIR under new law

KABIRDHAM: Soon after the implementation of the new law, Indian Justice Code (BNS) to be implemented from Monday, on receiving information about the incident of assault on the victim in the Naxal-affected district Kabirdham, under the basic spirit of the new law (quick justice to the victim), Kabirdham Police took immediate action to provide immediate relief to the victim in the said incident and registered the first FIR under section 296,351(2) of BNS.

The registration of the country's first FIR under the new law BNS in Thana Rengakhar District Kabirdham symbolizes the beginning of implementation of the basic spirit of new laws by providing quick justice to the common citizens through the new laws of India.

COURTYARD LEARNING

Primary schools embrace courtyard learning



DHAMTARI: Education in the courtyard will be organized on 02nd July under the Sughghar Padhwaiya program to improve the quality of education among children. The program has received a good response to support children in learning at home by involving mothers in the state.

In the current educational session, education in the courtyard will be organized so that children in as many schools as possible can reach the expected level set in the Sughghar Padhwaiya program. During this time, programs will be organized in all the primary schools of the district.

Training programme

Block teachers complete ambitious FLN training programme



KHARORA: 657 teachers working in primary schools of all clusters under Vikaskhand Palari were given 5 days FLN training in online mode, which was again completed in 03 zones Jarve, Kusmi and Palari in block level FLN training in four phases from 10th to 28th June 2024, in which district level trainers Dilip Kumar Sahu, Rajesh Kannauje, Anil Adil, Vishwanath Mandale, Maniram Turkane and others discussed 4 block models of imparting language and numeracy to children, especially based

on the principles of NCF-FS suggested by NEP 2020, to make the teachers teaching in primary schools acquire linguistic and numerical competence in children.

The use of exercise book for children to practice and the use of Shikshak Sandarshika for helping teachers in managing the class were introduced.

The training was successfully conducted under the guidance of BEO. Also, guidance was given by BRC J.L. Joshi for the necessary material and arrangements.

ABC Public School hosts admission festival!

KHARORA : Kharora: School admission festival was celebrated with great joy in ABC Public School Saragaon. On this occasion, the guests present welcomed the children by presenting them flowers, applying tilak and feeding them sweets.

During this, School Management Committee President Anita Verma, CEO Vibhishan Verma, Principal Kumud Mishra and Coordinator Mohan Lal Verma were present. The guests told the children that culture and discipline are very important for education. Discipline is the identity of the students. Mental and physical development takes place by participating in sports and other activities along with studies.

On this occasion, the Principal, all the teachers, parents and students were present.

Three-member team to investigate Gumodi Panchayat

Central Chronicle News

It is known that the District Panchayat members and villagers complained to the former Sukma District CEO Laxman Tiwari, accusing Secretary Barse Budhram of misappropriation of funds worth crores.

SUKMA: Assistant Project Officer Balwant Singh Marko, who had done a cover-up in the investigation of irregularities worth lakhs of crores in Gumodi Panchayat of Konta block of Sukma district, has been removed from the investigation team. As per the direction of Sukma Collector Harish S., a three-member team led by Konta SDM Shahbaz Khan will investigate Gumodi Panchayat.



Gram sachiv playing game of corruption in naxal areas'

Showing the fear of Naxalism, the employees and village reps are playing the game of corruption in the interior tribal areas.

HIGHLIGHT
There is no water in any pond, the entire amount has been withdrawn by just village gets salary, and his salary is also given by the Secretary by deducting half the money. The necessary came twice in 2023 and has not visited the area.

FACTFILE

Balwant Singh Marko, Assistant Project Officer, has been removed from this investigation.

It is known that the District Panchayat members and villagers complained to the former Sukma District CEO Laxman Tiwari, accusing Secretary Barse Budhram of misappropriation of funds worth lakhs of crores for development works from 2018 to 2024 in the deeply Naxal-affected area Gumodi Panchayat. In which, most of the 10 approved ponds were constructed on paper and some ponds were made with machines and the amount was misappropriated on a large scale. Recently, in the investigation, Assistant Project Officer Balwant

Singh Marko was colluding with the Gumodi Secretary and was trying to cover up the matter by completing the formalities in the investigation. As soon as Sukma Collector Haris S. came to know about this, the controversial Assistant Project Officer Balwant Singh Marko has been removed from the said investigation.

The investigation will be conducted by a three-member team under the leadership of Konta SDM Shahbaz Khan.

As per the order of Sukma Collector, the investigation of the irregularities in Gumodi Panchayat will be conducted under the leadership of Konta SDM. In which Additional District Panchayat CEO Bhagat Sai, RES SDO HD Mishra have been included.

CHRONICLE IMPACT

MOBILE POLICE STATION

Bastar police set up a mobile station to check crime

Central Chronicle News

JAGDALPUR: In order to curb the criminal elements, the police of Bastar district, under the direction of Superintendent of Police Bastar Shalabh Kumar Sinha and under the guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police Maheshwar Nag, through the police stations run by the station-in-charge, are coming out of the police sta-



tions and reaching out to the public and the police.

Mobile police stations are being operated in cities and villages to establish cooperative and comfortable relations between them. Through



these, efforts are being made to reach out to people and listen to their problems and find solutions.

Along with this, the public is being appealed to provide information

Mobile police stations are being operated in cities and villages to establish cooperation and comfortable relations with them.

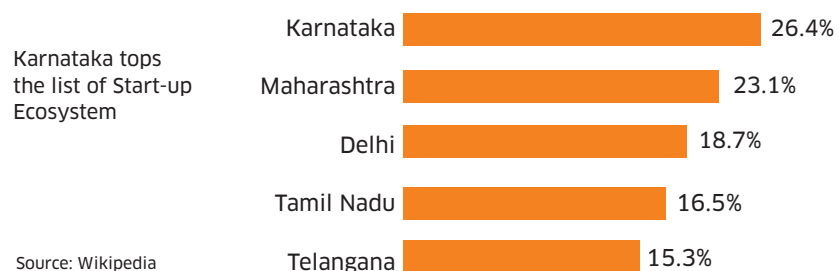
Shalabh Kumar Sinha
SP Bastar

about criminal elements and cooperate with the police in catching the criminals. Along with this, efforts are being made to make the public aware to prevent cyber crimes, road accidents and drug use in the current context.

At the same time, a campaign is also being run to create awareness about the new law which will come into effect from July 01, 2024.

The Day's NUMBERS

LEADING STATES IN TERMS OF STARTUP ECOSYSTEM IN INDIA IN 2024



APPOINTED

AK Verma appointed district president CJPWC, Kharora

KHARORA: As per the orders of Manoj Verma, National President, Chhattisgarh Journalist Public Welfare Committee (CJPWC), India and on the recommendation of Mithilesh Verma, Senior Journalist, Baloda Bazar Bhatapara, Ajay Kumar Verma, Kharora has been appointed as the District President of Chhattisgarh Journalist Public Welfare Committee. Chhattisgarh Journalist Public Welfare Committee expected with hope and confidence from the Honorable District President Ajay Kumar Verma that with the development, improvement and openness of Chhattisgarh, the programs set by the Government Administration of the region will be supported for the welfare of poor families and through health related and Chhattisgarh Swabhiman Public Works, he will be taking everyone along in the state, and fighting for their rights and respect, along with fighting for the social upliftment of brothers-sisters, poor families and every section of the society and by working according to the rules of Chhattisgarh Journalist Public Welfare Committee, he will oblige the organization by strengthening it.



AWARENESS DRIVE

Dy CM launches campaign for new laws

KAWARDHA: Deputy Chief Minister of the state, Vijay Sharma flagged off the awareness chariot from the new police station building complex of Sahaspur Lohara to promote the three new laws - Indian Justice Code (BNS), Indian Civil Defense Code (BNSS) and Indian Evidence Act (BSA). Deputy Chief Minister Sharma went on a one-day visit to Kabirdham district on Monday.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that the purpose of these laws is to ensure security, development and social justice of the area. Through the awareness chariot, the public will be given detailed information about these laws, so that they can understand their benefits and importance.

The government is fully committed to the effective implementation of these laws and we hope that these will bring positive change in the society.

Potholes and water clogging main roads

Long wavy potholes and water clogged street patches in the middle of Kurud's bypass road are becoming dangerous for the residents.

Central Chronicle News

KURUD: Long wavy potholes and water clogged street patches in the middle of Kurud's bypass road are becoming dangerous for the residents of Kurud city and common pedestrians and accidents have become common in the region. Due to water logging in the rainy season, the risk of life in serious accidents has also increased, but the responsible officers of ADB are still to take charge of the deteriorating condition of the streets and do the repair work and needful.



Due to water logging in the rainy season, the risk of life in serious accidents has also increased on Kurud by-pass road.

People living in Priyanka Colony, Surya Namaskar Chowk, Sun City, GAD Colony located near the bypass say that many people are getting injured due to the potholes every day and a major accident can happen any day if the rain fall density increases. Narendra Sahu, Murari Mahav, Gopal Chandrakar, Vinod Chandrakar etc. told that they have also escaped from this pit many times, because these pits are visible during the day, but they are not visible at night and people become victims of accidents. People told that the

FASTFACTS

● People living in the colonies near the bypass say that many people are getting injured due to the potholes every day.

departmental officers, administrative officers and public representatives look at the pits on the road every day, but they do not seem to care about the problems and risk to life of the people and due to rain, the pits are getting filled with mud and water, due to which the risk of serious accidents and life

Contractors asked to make improvements:

People of Kurud subdivision area including Kurud Nagar keep coming and going on Bypass Road from SBI, Bank of Baroda, HDFC etc. banks to Block Education Department, Public Works Department Office, Registry Office, 132 KV Electricity Station, Krishi Upaj Mandi to Civil Court, which is big question to the maintenance of this road in total. Meanwhile ADB SDO L.N.S. Rathore has said that the road has been inspected and the concerned contractors have been instructed to make improvements.

of motorcycle and scooter riders has increased. This particular route is very busy, and from the crowd coming to the banks to the people going towards Dhamtari and Raipur

on the National Highway, people from dozens of villages including Rakhi, Charmuriya, Bhatgaon, Bagaud, Thuha, Banjari etc. travel through this route.

School Entrance Festival celebrated

MUNGELI: School Entrance Festival was celebrated in Nagar Palika Government Higher Secondary School, in which Nagar Palika Vice President Mohan Mallah, Sandeep Kashyap, Praveen Soni, Badri Khandekar, Jitendra Davda, Mohit Banjara and the Principal of the school were present as guests. Guest Vice President Mohan Mallah in his address sent his best wishes to the newly admitted children on the occasion of Shala Pravesh Utsav and welcomed the newly admitted children by applying Tilak and distributed textbooks.

Also, children were motivated to study diligently and the school's principal Vijay Kumar Soni told the newly admitted children how every small habit in life gives dimension to student life in future. On behalf of the school, the children who secured first position in 10th and 12th examination were honored by giving certificates and shields. On this occasion, the teachers of the school Kishan Lal Devangan, Lata Thakur, Preeti Parihar, Priyanka Paikara, Ratna Sonwani, Chandni Kesharwani, Indrani Yadav, Radheshyam Rai, Prakashchand Netam, Baldev Dhruv, Manoj Kumar Rathore, Khubchand Baghel, Monu Beldar and students were present.

1500 candidates appear for Pre- B.Ed, Pre D.El.Ed exams

Central Chronicle News

RAJIM: Pre B.Ed and Pre B.Ed exams were conducted by Chhattisgarh Professional Examination Board in four centers of Rajim, viz; Government Rajiv Lochan Mahavidyalaya Rajim, Government Ram Vishal Pandey Utkrisht English Medium School Rajim, Government Girls Higher Secondary School Rajim, Saraswati Higher Secondary School Rajim.

In these four examination centers, seating arrangements were made for 965 candidates for Pre B.Ed in the morning shift and 1250 candidates for Pre D.El.Ed in the afternoon shift. A total of 600 candidates were present in the Pre B.Ed exam held in the morning shift in

three examination centers of Rajim, while 356 candidates were absent.

HIGHLIGHT

● In the Pre D.El.Ed exam held in the afternoon shift, a total of 895 candidates were present in four examination centers of Rajim, while 355 candidates were absent.

In the Pre D.El.Ed exam held in the afternoon shift, a total of 895 candidates were present in four examination centers of Rajim, while 355 candidates were absent. After evaluation of the answer sheet of the examination the merit order will be determined on the basis of marks obtained.

Govt. Primary School celebrate Praveshotsav

MUNGELI: School Admission Festival was held with enthusiasm in Government Primary School Madanpur and before the program, the school premises and the school were made clean, beautiful and attractive. The children were welcomed at the entrance itself by applying the traditional tilak and feeding them sweets. On the day of school admission festival, Assistant Project Officer (Samagra Shiksha) Aakash

Parihar, local Sarpanch Smt. Savita Anchal, Deputy Sarpanch Kanhaiya Singh Bais, local Panch Smt. Alakhnandani Parihar, Rampujan Parihar, Damini Parihar, Vikram Singh, Naresh Sahu, Nileshwari Sahu, Tulshwar Yadav, Dwarika Yadav, Vinod Yadav, Deepak Yadav, Rambhadra Chauhan and members of the committee and dignitaries were present, along with a large number of children.

NEWSLINE

SHALA PRAVESH

School Entrance Festival celebrated with pomp in Gullu



ARANG: School Entrance Festival was organized in primary school Gullu under the joint aegis of Government Primary, Pre-Secondary School Gullu and Primary School Patel Para Gullu. The newly admitted children were welcomed from their homes with aarti, sandalwood, roli, raksha sutra and flowers with band music and decorated bullock cart, and thereafter after roaming the streets, they reached the primary school, where they were also given a grand welcome by SMC members, parents, teachers and dignitaries of the village.

INSPECTION

MLA Rohit Sahu inspects Community Health Center



RAJIM: Rajim Assembly Constituency MLA Rohit Sahu inspected the Community Health Center Rajim located at the subdivision headquarters and when many types of irregularities came to the fore, the MLA also instructed the hospital management to improve them. During this, the MLA inspected the delivery room, operation room, outpatient room, laboratory, X-ray, general ward, Jan Aushadhi Center etc. one by one and inquired about the condition of the patients admitted in the ward, and also took information from the health officials present about the services being provided to them, the food given to the pregnant women etc.

'MANN KI BAAT'

MLA listens to 11th 'Mann Ki Baat' of PM Modi



ARANG: The 'Mann Ki Baat' program of the world's most popular Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a bridge of communication between the public and the Prime Minister. On Sunday, Arang MLA Guru Khuswant Saheb along with the citizens of Mandir Hasaud Nagar Palika listened to the live broadcast of Mann Ki Baat with full enthusiasm and giving information on the 11th edition of 'Mann Ki Baat', MLA Guru Khuswant Saheb said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi started the 'Mann Ki Baat' program today by congratulating the Election Commission and all the employees associated with it for its successful operation. He further said that the Prime Minister has appealed for tree plantation while giving the message of environmental protection.

SDM discusses new judicial law introduced from July 1

Central Chronicle News

SDM Arpita Pathak of Rajim subdivision said that the new Indian Judicial Code has been made to provide justice to the general public.



FINGESHWAR: While discussing about the new law to be implemented from July 1, SDM Arpita Pathak of Rajim subdivision said that the new Indian Judicial Code has been made to provide justice to the general public so that there is no delay in getting justice to the general public and the victim and under this, time has also been fixed for the police and the court. She further said that under the new law, separate clarifications are made for crimes related to women and children and the definition has been unified in which the definition of children has been given that who

is a child. By making provision for punishment in crimes related to women, crimes related to women have been made stricter and in any crime, the witness's photo and videography will be done which will be valid in the court, which will make it easier for the victim to get justice. She also told that under the Indian Civil Security Code, if a crime is committed somewhere and you are not present there, in that case, wherever you are, it is the responsibility of the police to file an FIR from the nearest police station; they will not refuse to do so.

Heavy rains bring respite for farmers

RAJIM: Heavy to heavy rains along with continuous drizzle, brought respite for the farming community who were waiting for the farming season to commence. On the last day of the month, on 30 June, at 6:30 pm, as soon as the clouds started hovering, it rained heavily and the common man had difficulty reaching back to their destinations. As per the farmers, at present the paddy sowing work has been completed by about 40% and all the other farmers were looking towards for good water. Farmers Tejaram Sahu and Kaushal Sahu of Kaundkera said that only those who sow in Khurra have been able to sow paddy, but those who sow by doing matai have not started yet, as it will be completed after filling water in the field. Farmers Bhola Sahu and Ramkumar Sahu of Rajim said that they have sown paddy and are hoping for a good yield.

Law has impt contribution in the devp of country: Collector

WORKSHOP ON NEW LAWS

Central Chronicle News

In the workshop, while giving information about the new law to the advocates of the district, their role in providing justice to the victims was outlined.



One-day workshop was organized today in the auditorium located at the Collectorate to give information about new laws.

KORBA: A one-day workshop was organized today in the auditorium located at the Collectorate to give detailed information about the three new laws to be implemented in India from July 1, 2024, the Indian Justice Code 2023, the Indian Civil Defense Code 2023 and the Indian Evidence Act 2023 and to discuss the provisions related to it.

In the workshop, while giving information about the new law to the advocates of the district, their role in providing justice to the victims was outlined.

FASTFACTS

● The role of advocates is to assist the court as well as to get justice to the victims and advocates are an important link in the judicial process.

On this occasion, the Chief Guest Satyendra Sahu, District and Sessions Judge in his address said that the

objective of the new law is to remove the process of delay in justice and to provide speedy justice to the victims. A time limit has also been prescribed in the new law and along with this, the loophole of the judicial process which is affected due to lack of witnesses has also been removed in the new law. In the workshop, District and Sessions Judge Mr. Sahu further said that

under the guidelines of the Hon'ble High Court, everyone is being informed about the new laws to be implemented from July 1. The role of advocates is to assist the court as well as to get justice to the victims and advocates are an important link in the judicial process. If any work is done with dedication and honesty, then the work is definitely completed on time.

POTHOLAS

Rains expose roads full of potholes

Rohit Verma

KHARORA: The road connecting Raipur to Padkidih to Mohrenga has become famous as a dilapidated road for miles between Kathiya and Mohra. As soon as it rains, the potholes filled with mud on the Padkidih, Raveli, Dha Ravan, Kathiya and Mohra roads start turning into ponds. At the same time, as soon as the mud dries up, the dust flying from the road after the passing of

heavy vehicles is becoming a problem for the passengers. The pebbles uprooted from this road are bouncing off the tyres of heavy vehicles and injuring the passersby, but the PWD is not concerned about this road. The 25 km long Mohrenga road through Kathiya connects the area directly to Shiv Rajdhani Raipur via Kharora, Bangoli, on which hundreds of vehicles weighing 28 to 30 tonnes ply 24 hours a



day. Due to this, this concrete road has become so dilapidated that walking on foot is a courageous

task, let alone driving two-wheelers and four-wheelers. Seeing the big potholes on the road, even truck drivers change their route. Due to the shapeless potholes on the road, the situation is such that an accident can happen as soon as one takes his eyes off it. If a four-wheeler with passengers goes on this road due to hurry or by mistake, then he is considered lucky if there is no breakage or defect in that vehicle.

Villagers- Padkidih & Mohrenga



Newly introduced criminal laws will protect rights of people
K Sapdanga
 Mizoram Home minister

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

REVIEW IN PROGRESS

Railways extends existing train time table till December 31, 2024

NEW DELHI: Railway zones have issued circulars informing the extension of the existing time table of trains till December 31, 2024 after the Railway Board asked them to do so.

Every year Railways releases the working time table of trains, known as Trains At A Glance (TAG) before June 31, which is effective from July 1 till the next June 31. "The Railway Board is reviewing the timings and running status of trains. The Board wants to make it more efficient hence the release date of the new time table has been extended to January 1, 2025 and till then the old time table will continue," a Railway Board official said.

The Railway Board on June 27, 2024 issued a circular to all the general managers of 17 zones and asked them to extend the existing TAG till December 31, 2024. **PTI**

FAR-REACHING CHANGES

Delhi Police books street vendor in first FIR under new criminal law



NEW DELHI: Delhi Police registered its first FIR under provisions of the new criminal code Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) against a street vendor for allegedly obstructing a public way in central Delhi's Kamala Market area on Monday, officials said. The BNS and two other new criminal laws came into effect on Monday, bringing far-reaching changes in India's criminal justice system. **PTI**

Allegation raised

NEET a 'commercial' exam designed to suit rich students: Rahul Gandhi in LS



NEW DELHI: Medical entrance test NEET is not a professional exam but a "commercial" one that has been designed for the rich and not for meritorious people, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi alleged in the Lok Sabha on Monday.

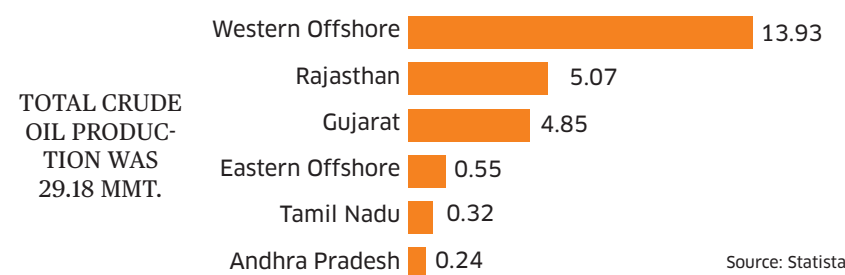
Hitting out at the government over alleged irregularities in the conduct of NEET this year, Gandhi claimed that there have been 70 paper leaks in seven years but the government was not allowing a discussion on this because it is not interested in the future of students. The Congress leader's remark came during a discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the Presi-

dent's address to a joint sitting of Parliament. "NEET students spend years and years preparing for their exams. Their families support them financially and emotionally, and the truth is that NEET students today do not believe in the exam because they are convinced that the exam is designed for the rich and not for meritorious people," he said.

"I have met with several NEET students. Every single one of them tells me that the exam is designed to create a quota for rich people and a passage for them into the system... it is not designed to help poor students," Gandhi claimed. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

STATE WISE PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL (IN MILLION METRIC TONNES)



BIENNIAL ELECTIONS

Congress retains MLC Pradnya Satav for Maha Legislative Council polls

MUMBAI: The Congress on Monday re-nominated MLC Pradnya Satav as its candidate for the July 12 biennial elections to the Maharashtra Legislative Council from the MLA quota.

Tuesday (July 2) is the last date of filing nominations for elections to 11 seats in the Upper House of the state legislature. These elections are being held to fill 11 seats which will fall vacant on July 27 when sitting members will retire. Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) will vote in the polls. Out of the 11 retiring MLCs, two are from the Congress. But given the Congress's current strength in the assembly, the opposition party can get only one candidate elected to the Upper House.

Pradnya Satav is the wife of late Congress MP Rajeev Satav. She was elected unopposed to the council in 2021 when a bypoll was necessitated after the death of sitting Congress MLC Sharad Ranpise. **PTI**

WATER LOGGING

Delhi mayor requests Khattar to get debris removed from Barapulla



NEW DELHI: Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi on Monday wrote to Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Manohar Lal Khattar requesting him to issue necessary directions to the concerned department to get the debris or 'malba' removed from Barapulla drain which is resulting in waterlogging.

In a letter to the Union minister, Oberoi said due to an ongoing construction work of the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) near the Barapulla drain, the debris and construction material have filled the drain creating obstruction. **PTI**



A couple being assaulted by an alleged TMC leader Tajumul, nicknamed 'JCB', in North Dinajpur. | Photo: PTI

Public flogging: West Bengal Governor seeks report

The man seen in a viral video beating up the couple with a bamboo stick was identified as Tajumul alias 'JCB', purportedly a TMC leader of Chopra area.

Press Trust Of India

KOLKATA: The public flogging of a couple in West Bengal's Uttar Dinajpur district has sparked outrage, with Governor CV Ananda Bose seeking a report from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, while the BJP accused the ruling TMC of "unleashing Taliban rule" in the state.

The man seen in a viral video beating up the couple with a bamboo stick was identified as Tajumul alias 'JCB', purportedly a TMC leader of Chopra area. He was arrested on Sunday night.

When produced before a local court, Tajumul was remanded to five days of

police custody.

Police registered a case on Sunday after a video clip of the incident, which occurred on Friday, went viral on social media. PTI could not independently verify the video.

The BJP alleged that Tajumul had ties to Chopra MLA Hamidul Islam, who reportedly defended him despite the TMC's condemnation of the incident.

A new video has also emerged, showing Tajumul beating up another couple a few days ago.

Governor Bose, who has had strained relations with the state government over various issues, expressed shock at the

HIGHLIGHT

● **Governor expressed shock at the incident and described it as 'barbarous'.**

● **BJP women MLAs staged a protest on the Assembly premises over the assault.**

incident and described it as "barbarous," according to a Raj Bhavan official.

"He condemned the incident and has requested an immediate report from CM Banerjee," the official told PTI.

BJP women MLAs in West Bengal staged a protest on Monday on the Assembly premises over

the assault on the couple and alleged atrocities against women in various parts of the state.

"The appeasement politics of the TMC government has turned the state into a den of anti-social activities. It seems the ruling TMC and its goons have unleashed Taliban rule in the state," BJP MLA Agnimitra Paul said.

The West Bengal police on Monday said malicious efforts are being made from certain quarters to spread misinformation and lend political colour to the incident.

"The fact is, on knowing about the incident, police have promptly identified the culprit and

arrested him. A suo motu case has been started into the matter and an investigation is on. The victim has been provided with police security. IC Chopra has been show-caused over the incident," the West Bengal Police posted on X.

Senior TMC leader Shantanu Sen condemned the incident and stated that the state government is taking all necessary actions to address the situation.

"We do not support such incidents. The victims have been provided with security. Anyone else involved will also not be spared," said the TMC spokesperson.

| SEEK FORGIVENESS |

Rebel SAD leaders apologise for 'mistakes' before Akal Takht

Press Trust Of India

The leaders sought forgiveness for the "four mistakes" during the former SAD regime between 2007 and 2017.

AMRITSAR: Rebel Shiromani Akali Dal leaders on Monday appeared before the jathedar of the Akal Takht and apologised for the "mistakes" committed when their party was in power in the state.

They handed the apology letter to Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh at the Akal Takht Secretariat at the Golden Temple in Amritsar. The Akal Takht is the supreme temporal seat of the Sikhs.



Rebel Shiromani Akali Dal leaders appearing before the Akal Takht. | Photo: PTI

FACTFILE

● **While the rebels targeted Badal, in Chandigarh, the SAD's women wing expressed faith in his leadership.**

The leaders sought forgiveness for the "four mistakes" during the former SAD regime between 2007 and 2017, including the failure to punish those responsible for the 2015 sacrilege incidents, and pardoning Dera Sacha

Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh in the 2007 blasphemy case. They also held SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal, who was the deputy chief minister at that time, responsible for the "mistakes".

and also ensuring justice to the victims of crimes.

"People should feel safe and secure so that a peaceful society can be ensured," he said.

Stating that Puducherry was becoming a tourist destination, the chief minister said that there was every need to protect law and order. The government was going ahead with ensuring a peaceful environment.

| EFFECTIVE FROM JUL 01 |

New criminal laws to curb crimes: Pondy CM

Press Trust Of India

PUDUCHERRY: Puducherry Chief Minister N Rangasamy said that the three new criminal laws which came into force across the country on Monday are well-designed to curb crimes, particularly heinous crimes.

The three new criminal laws are Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha 2023

and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam 2023. Addressing a special meeting of the Departments of Law and Police at the Indira Gandhi Government Medical College and Hospital here marking the launch of the three new criminal laws, Rangasamy said, "The territorial government is keen that there should be no room for crimes and more particularly heinous

People should feel safe and secure so that a peaceful society can be ensured.

N Rangasamy
 Puducherry CM

crimes". Thanking the Central government for imple-



mentation of the new laws, the chief minister said that they are aimed at imposing deterrent and stringent punishment on the culprits



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE
Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever
come to you without leaving happier
[Mother Teresa]

Comment

Recession's impact on technical skills and employment

| OUR VIEW |

Airport Collapse: Wake-up call for urban devp standards

The roof collapse at Delhi's bustling airport on Friday is not just an isolated incident but a glaring manifestation of the deep-rooted issues afflicting India's infrastructure. Occurring during the heaviest rainfall in Delhi in 88 years, the collapse resulted in one death and multiple injuries, severely disrupting airport operations and eroding public trust in the safety of our infrastructure. This tragic event is symptomatic of a nationwide problem. We have witnessed similar failures, from bridge collapses in Bihar to water leakage in the newly constructed Ram Temple and the havoc wreaked by monsoons in Himachal Pradesh. These incidents starkly highlight the flaws in the planning, execution, and maintenance of infrastructure projects across India. The issue transcends mere weather conditions; it lies in inadequate drainage systems. As urban landscapes expand, green spaces give way to concrete jungles, exacerbating rainwater flooding. Many new developments lack proper stormwater drains, while existing ones are often repurposed for sewage. Elevated green belts and tiled roadsides hinder natural drainage, resulting in persistent urban flooding, a man-made disaster demanding urgent reevaluation of urban planning. The Delhi airport incident also spotlights the critical need for stringent oversight of major projects. While the Modi government has emphasized infrastructure development as a pillar of economic policy, planning over Rs 44 trillion in investments over the next two years, the focus on rapid construction appears to overshadow the necessity for rigorous standards and maintenance. The haste to inaugurate projects, frequently timed to coincide with election cycles, often compromises quality, reducing these feats to mere electoral stunts. To prevent such tragedies, regular audits, adherence to international standards, and robust accountability mechanisms are essential. Infrastructure should prioritize the well-being and safety of the people, not just economic growth. The roof collapse must serve as a wake-up call, driving a comprehensive overhaul of infrastructure policies to ensure long-term safety and sustainability.

| GUEST VIEW |

Psychotherapy's crucial role in treating depression

The rise in anxiety and depression is alarming, particularly the spike in depression rates associated with suicide and anxiety disorders. Globally, one person dies by suicide every forty seconds, highlighting the severity. In India, around five crore individuals suffer from depression, with thirty-six percent experiencing symptoms. Effective management of depression and anxiety remains uncertain. England's National Institute for Health and Care Excellence advocates prioritizing psychotherapy or counseling in treatment due to concerns over side effects from medications like SSRIs and benzodiazepines—such as confusion, sleep disturbances, anxiety, sexual dysfunction, and heightened suicide risk. Psychotherapy goes beyond temporary relief, addressing underlying issues and proving beneficial post-bereavement or during acute distress. Whether used alone or with medications, it consistently enhances mental health outcomes, restores well-being, and fosters confidence in those dealing with depression.



Dr Ganapathi Bhat

The issue of unemployment is becoming increasingly challenging in India, exacerbated by global economic circumstances. This has had a significant impact on the job market, particularly affecting the employment prospects of students. The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), among the most prestigious educational institutions in the country, are now witnessing a concerning trend: a growing number of their graduates are struggling to find jobs.

Admission to IITs is highly competitive, and a degree from these institutions has traditionally been seen as a guarantee of a bright future. However, in recent years, this assurance has been eroding. In 2023, the unemployment rate among IIT graduates reached 38%, a significant rise from previous years. This situation is alarming and points to several underlying issues. The ongoing global recession is one of the primary factors affecting employment rates. The COVID-19 pandemic caused widespread economic disruption, impacting trade, tourism, and supply chains. Additionally, the Russia-Ukraine war has led to increased fuel prices, inflation, and instability in global financial markets, further straining economies. As a result, inflation is on the rise, reducing purchasing power and slowing economic growth worldwide. Many central banks have increased interest rates to combat inflation, making loans more expensive and hindering business expansion and hiring.

In India, the effects of the global recession are evident in the job market, particularly in the engineering sector. Many companies have halted recruitment, directly impacting graduates from institutes like IITs. The rise in interest rates has also affected startups, making it more challenging for them to secure capital and sustain their operations. Consequently, job opportunities have decreased, and many new enterprises have been forced to lay off employees due to financial constraints. Another significant issue is the mismatch between the expectations of IIT graduates and the realities of the job market.



Vijay Garg

Retired Principal
Educational Columnist
Malout Punjab

Many students from prestigious institutions have high salary expectations and are unwilling to accept lower-paying jobs. This leads to delays in securing employment. Furthermore, the increasing number of engineering colleges in India has resulted in a surplus of engineering graduates, but job creation has not kept pace.

A crucial factor contributing to the unemployment problem is the lack of essential non-technical skills among IIT students. Many graduates possess excellent technical knowledge but lack communication, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, which are vital in the modern workplace. Additionally, students have shown limited interest in entrepreneurship and fields beyond traditional engineering, impacting job prospects in departments like computer science and engineering, which have traditionally enjoyed strong placement rates. To address these challenges, IITs need to strengthen their relationships with companies to create more employment opportunities for students. Integrating entre-

preneurship education into the curriculum can equip students with the knowledge required to start their own businesses, covering aspects such as market research, financial management, and legal considerations. Networking opportunities with industrialists, entrepreneurs, and successful startup founders can also provide valuable connections for students.

Encouraging research and development can help students develop innovative ideas and solutions, potentially leading to successful business ventures. By fostering an entrepreneurial mindset, IITs can not only help students find jobs but also contribute to making India an innovative and entrepreneurial economy. It is also crucial for IIT graduates to stay updated with the latest technological trends and continuously develop their skills to remain competitive in the evolving job market. As new technologies emerge, the demand for certain skills will increase, while others may become obsolete. Staying adaptable and continually learning will be key to maintaining employability.

Protect domestic and gig workers

A recent court case in Switzerland highlights the need for effective laws and justice to protect domestic and gig workers from exploitation and ensure fair treatment. by *Sujit De*



Workers loading and unloading goods from a truck. | Photo AP

Recently, a Switzerland court sentenced four members of a fabulously wealthy family to around four and half years in prison after finding them guilty of exploiting domestic workers at a luxury villa in Geneva. It also ordered them to pay about \$9,50,000 in compensation, as well as about \$3,00,000 in procedural fees.

The Sunday Times of London estimated the family's net worth at 37 billion pounds, or \$47 billion, and listed them as Britain's richest family.

The judgement, therefore, exemplified equality before the law and the equal protection of the laws where members of the most powerful class were penalised for the violation of labour and human rights of the most vulnerable class.

This is in sync with the Human Development Index rank and score of Switzerland. It has at present got the number one rank in the HDI with a score as high as 0.967.

Prosecutors alleged that the family had confiscated the domestic workers' passports and told them not to leave the villa, where they slept in a windowless basement room.

Some domestic workers, who took care of children or housework, were paid as little as Rs 10,000, according to the indictment. Many of the workers were from poor backgrounds in India and it was alleged that they had toiled "from dawn until late in the evening" without overtime pay and their salaries below Geneva's minimum wage for domestic workers.

We see that Switzerland has well-defined labour laws for workers, and there is a will to execute the laws, even

against the most powerful.

We need to zero in on another important aspect of the trial. The lead prosecutor in the closely watched trial that began on June 10, claimed that the family had budgeted more for a pet than it had for the salary of one domestic worker.

Love for a pet and animals is welcome. In fact, there is no quarrel between the love for poor workers and the love for a pet and animals. However, the latter cannot justify the absence of the former.

The most common problems domestic and gig workers have been facing in our country are low wages, long hours of work, lack of proper breaks, lack of holidays, and lack of social security.

The National Human Rights Commission has recently sought a report from the Union labour and employment ministry on allegations against an e-commerce giant in Haryana's Manesar. The allegations include forcing workers not to take even toilet or water breaks until they complete unloading packages

from six trucks, each 24 feet long!

One of the workers, who worked 10 hours a day for five days a week and earned Rs 10,088 per month, said that even if they worked continuously without breaks, including the 30-minute lunch and tea breaks, they could not unload more than four trucks per day.

A woman worker claimed that she had to keep standing for 9 hours daily and was required to evaluate 60 small or 40 medium-sized packets per hour during duty. A female employee at the Manesar warehouse reportedly said that no restroom facilities were available at the working sites.

A few days ago, in Bangalore, the same e-commerce giant posted a casual note, "sorry to know about the inconvenience", after it sent to a couple a highly venomous cobra instead of the item they had ordered. Given the disregard for human rights, this is a natural outcome.

We need effective laws, prompt justice delivery, and the will to act even against the most powerful, as has been practiced in Switzerland, to protect vulnerable gig and domestic workers of our country.

YOUR LETTERS

Speaker's key responsibilities

A good Speaker unites all parties, ensuring sobriety and impartiality, which is crucial for effective parliamentary functioning. Exceptional Speakers have graced the Lower House of Parliament since 1956. Om Birla, elected for a second term, promises impartiality but must avoid offending past leaders and maintain transparency in proceedings. Being a great communicator, a Speaker can be a significant asset to parliament. Birla has vowed "impartial" conduct towards all members.

MK Nair, Raipur

Opposition's crucial role

In India's democracy, opposition parties play a significant role in parliament. The recent general election ensured a reasonable strength of opposition. Their task is to support beneficial actions and oppose harmful decisions by the government. Their role should be positive, contributing to public welfare. However, instead of constructive criticism, frequent disruptions and chaos often prevail. Simply making noises and causing pandemonium will not serve any purpose. We must wait and see how these opposition parties will fulfill their responsibilities in parliament.

Rakesh Gupta, Korba

Send your articles (600-650 words) and letters (70-80 words) for this page on: editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com
The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity.

Business



Supplies will normalise and will better serve customer demand.

Balbir Singh Dhillon
Head, Audi India

Launch of Instax Fujifilm camera



Actor Kriti Sanon poses for photos during the launch of Instax Fujifilm camera, in Mumbai, Monday, July 1, 2024.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

FUEL PRICE

ATF price hiked 1.2%, commercial LPG cut by Rs 30

NEW DELHI: Jet fuel or ATF price on Monday was hiked by 1.2 per cent while that of commercial LPG used by hotels and restaurants cut by Rs 30 per 19-kg cylinder in line with international oil price trends. Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) price was hiked by Rs 1,179.37 per kilolitre, or 1.2 per cent, to Rs 96,148.38 per kl in the national capital, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. The increase followed a steep 6.5 per cent (Rs 6,673.87 per kl) reduction effected on June 1. The ATF rate in Mumbai was increased to Rs 89,908.30 per kl from Rs 88,834.27. Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes. Alongside, oil firms cut the price of commercial LPG by Rs 30 to Rs 1,646 per 19-kg cylinder. This is the fourth straight monthly reduction in rates. The price was last cut by Rs 69 per cylinder on June 1. **PTI**

INDICATORS

Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	79,476	+0.56
Nifty	24,141.	+0.55
Nifty, MidCap	56,292	+1.00
Nifty SmallCap	18,593	+1.51
Nifty Bank	52,574	+0.44

Closing rates as on July 1, 2024 at 5:30p.m. (IST)

Forex RATES

Foreign currency Vs Rupee

US Dollar	83.42 (+)	↗
Euro	89.71 (+)	↗
Chinese Yuan	11.47 (-)	↘
UAE Dirham	22.71 (+)	↗
Pakistan Rupee	0.29 (-)	↘
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.27 (+)	↗

On July 1, 2024

World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	39,324	+0.52%
FTSE 100 Index	8,217	+0.66%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)	225: 39,631	+0.12%
CSI 300 (CHN)	300: 3,478	+0.48%

Index at 05:30 p.m. (IST, July 1, 2024)

How the markets behave today?

Sensex, Nifty close at fresh record highs on gains in IT, banking shares



MUMBAI: Benchmark Sensex rose by 443 points to close at a new record high while Nifty settled above the 24,100 mark on Monday on buying in banking and IT shares in line with gains in Asian and European markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex rebounded by 443.46 points or 0.56 per cent to close at an all-time high of 79,476.19. During the day, the barometer soared 528.27 points or 0.66 per cent to 79,561. As many as 20 Sensex shares closed higher while 10 stocks declined. The broader Nifty rose by 131.35 points or 0.55 per cent to close

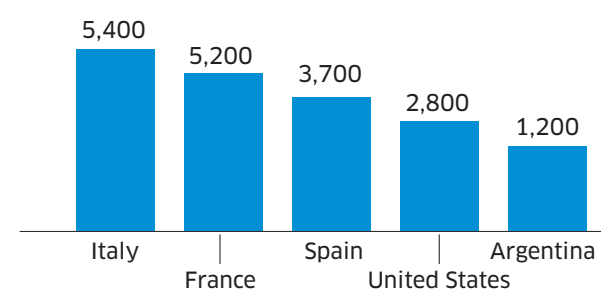
at a fresh lifetime high of 24,141.95. Intra-day, the index hit a high of 24,164, just 10 points short of its lifetime high of 24,174 hit on Friday. Sensex and Nifty had hit intra-day record high levels on Friday but closed lower due to profit-taking in blue-chips. **MAJOR GAINERS:** Tech Mahindra, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever, TCS, JSW Steel, Infosys, HDFC Bank, Tata Motors and ICICI Bank **MAJOR LOSERS:** NTPC, State Bank of India, Larsen & Toubro, Sun Pharma, IndusInd Bank and Axis Bank. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

(in million liters) in 2023-2024

Source: Statista

TOP COUNTRIES BY WINE PRODUCTION



AI SUMMIT

Government to organise 'Global IndiaAI Summit' on July 3-4

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology will organise a global AI summit on July 3-4 to discuss issues related to artificial intelligence with India firmly committed to ethical and inclusive growth of this new-age technology. Through the 'Global IndiaAI Summit 2024', India aspires to establish itself as a global leader in AI innovation, ensuring that AI benefits are accessible to all and contribute to the nation's socio-economic development. The two-day event being organised by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) in the national capital highlights the government's "unwavering commitment to the responsible development, deployment, and adoption of artificial intelligence", the release said. Key speakers at the event include Minister for Electronics and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw; Minister of State for Electronics and IT Jitin Prasada, as well as industry leaders. **PTI**

BULLION MARKET

Gold flat at Rs 72,350 per 10g, silver rises by Rs 200 in local market

NEW DELHI: Gold prices traded flat at Rs 72,350 per 10 grams while silver gained Rs 200 per kg in the local market on Monday, according to HDFC Securities. Silver prices rose by Rs 200 to Rs 90,300 per kg from the previous close of Rs 90,100 per kg. "In Delhi markets, spot gold prices (24 carats) are trading flat at Rs 72,350 per 10 grams, unchanged from the previous close," Saumil Gandhi, Research Analyst at HDFC Securities, said. In the overseas markets, spot gold at Comex was trading at USD 2,327 per ounce, slightly up USD 1 from the previous close. **PTI**



'GST has brought happiness, relief to every home'

GST has enhanced the ease of living with every household saving on expenditure on food items and items of mass consumption after GST implementation.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Goods and Services Tax (GST), which completed 7 years of implementation on Monday, has brought happiness and relief to every home through reduced taxes on household appliances and mobile phones, the finance ministry said on Monday. GST, which subsumed about 17 local tax and cesses, was rolled out on July 1, 2017. The

theme of the 7th GST Day is Sashakt Vyapar Samagra Vikas (empowered trade overall growth). "With reduced tax rates on household goods after GST implementation, #7years-of-GST has brought happiness and relief to every home through lower GST on household appliances and mobile phones," the ministry said in a post on X. The GST taxpayer base has increased to 1.46 crore in April 2024 from 1.05

NUMBER

17

● GST taxpayer base has increased to 1.46 cr in April 2024 from 1.05 cr as of April 2018.

● We have witnessed a quantum jump in taxpayers base.

crore as of April 2018. "We have witnessed a quantum

jump in taxpayers base along with improved compliance," Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal said. Giving comparative charts of pre- and post-GST tax rates of household goods, the ministry said GST has enhanced the ease of living with every household saving on expenditure on food items and items of mass consumption after GST implementation. The rate

of food items like unpacked wheat, rice, curd, and lassi, which were taxed at 2.5-4 per cent before GST implementation, is at nil after the GST rollout.

Household goods like cosmetics, wrist watches, sanitary plastic ware, doors and windows, furniture and mattresses are taxed at a lower rate of 18 per cent in the GST regime, lower than 28 per cent in the erstwhile excise and VAT regime.

BUSINESS ACQUISITION |

Home, personal care business acquisition by Patanjali Foods

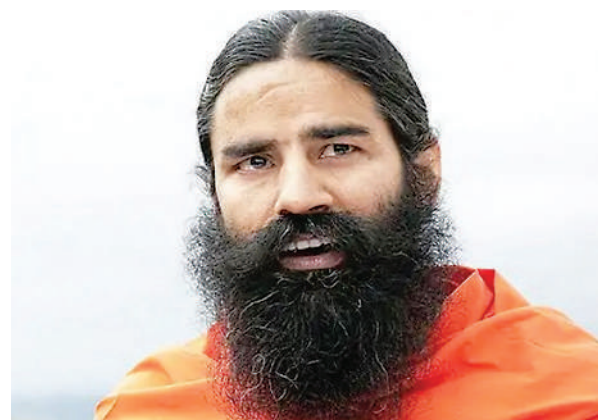
Central Chronicle News

Patanjali Ayurved to sell home, personal care biz to group firm Patanjali Foods for Rs 1,100 cr

NEW DELHI: Baba Ramdev-led Patanjali Ayurved has decided to sell its home and personal care business to listed group firm Patanjali Foods Ltd for Rs 1,100 crore.

The acquisition will help edible oil firm Patanjali Foods to become an FMCG company.

In a regulator filing, Patanjali Foods informed that the board has approved the "acquisition of the entire non-food business undertaking i.e. hair care, skin care, dental care and home care carried out by Patanjali Ayurved, including but



Baba Ramdev.

FACTFILE

● The acquisition will help edible oil firm Patanjali Foods to become an FMCG company

not limited to all movable assets, immovable properties, contracts, licenses, books and records, employees and certain assumed liabilities of PAL through a

slump sale arrangement on a going concern basis". This is subject to the approval of shareholders, lenders and other necessary approvals.

The deal will accelerate the company's transition into a leading FMCG company, Patanjali Foods said. The home and personal care business of Patanjali Ayurved currently has strong brand equity in India's

FMCG space and enjoys a loyal consumer base, the filing said. Presently, it caters to four key segments - dental care, skin care, home care, and hair care.

Patanjali Foods and Patanjali Ayurved have also agreed to enter into a licensing agreement, permitting the company to use the trademarks and associated intellectual property rights, owned by the latter.

"The transfer of the home and personal care business has been mutually negotiated between the company and Patanjali Ayurved (basis valuation exercises conducted by independent valuers) for a lump sum consideration of Rs 1,100 crore only". The acquisition will lead to a consolidation of the 'Patanjali' brand FMCG products portfolio.

DEMONETISATION |

Rs 2000 notes: 97.87 pc returned; 2.13 pc still with public

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday said 97.87 per cent of the Rs 2000 denomination banknotes have returned to the banking system, and only Rs 7,581 crore worth of the withdrawn notes are still with the public. On May 19, 2023, the RBI announced the withdrawal of Rs

2000 denomination banknotes from circulation. The total value of Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation, which was Rs 3.56 lakh crore at the close of business on May 19, 2023, has declined to Rs 7,581 crore at the close of business on June 28, 2024. "Thus, 97.87 per cent of the Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation as on May 19, 2023, has since been returned,"



the central bank said in a statement. The facility for deposit and/or exchange of the Rs 2000 banknotes was available at all bank branches in the country till October 7, 2023. The facility for the exchange of the Rs 2000 banknotes

has been available at the 19 issue offices of the Reserve Bank since May 19, 2023. From October 9, 2023, RBI issue offices are also accepting Rs 2000 banknotes from individuals and entities for deposit into their bank accounts. Further, members of the public are sending Rs 2000 banknotes through India Post from any post office within the country

to any of the RBI issue offices for credit to their bank accounts. The 19 RBI offices depositing/exchanging the banknotes are in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Belapur, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kanpur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Patna and Thiruvananthapuram.

"Crakk did not perform well and with losing money comes a lot of advice, from loved ones. Okay, I've lost so many crores, now what do we do?"

Vidyut Jammwal
Actor



& Glitters

CLOSE UP

Hina Khan battles breast cancer: Actress diagnosed with stage 3

Last Friday, TV and Bollywood actress, Hina Khan through her Instagram account, shared shocking news for her fans as she revealed a stage 3 breast cancer diagnosis.

Central Chronicle News

In her latest social media post, Hina Khan announced that she has been diagnosed with stage three breast cancer. The actress penned a long note informing fans about the same.

Popular TV personality Hina Khan, renowned for her enduring role in the beloved TV serial "Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai," bravely shared a heartfelt update on Friday. In a candid Instagram post, the 36-year-old actress disclosed her recent diagnosis of stage three breast cancer, stunning her legion of fans and colleagues. Despite the daunting news, Khan's message resonated with strength and determination as she assured her supporters, "I am strong, determined and fully committed to overcoming this disease." Emphasizing her proactive approach, she added, "My treatment has already begun, and I am ready to do everything necessary to emerge from this even stronger." Khan also appealed for privacy during this challenging time while expressing profound gratitude for the outpouring of love and support she has received from her devoted fan base.



Actress Hina Khan on Friday confirmed that she is diagnosed with stage III cancer



Strength in Numbers: Industry stands with Hina Khan following diagnosis

Messages of encouragement flooded social media following Hina Khan's candid revelation about her battle with stage three breast cancer. Colleagues in the entertainment industry, including actress Jennifer Winget and producer Guneet Monga, expressed their solidarity and

offered heartfelt wishes for Khan's recovery. Winget conveyed her belief in Khan's resilience, while Monga shared comforting words, "Sab Achhahoga... You will be fine and healthy." The overwhelming support from fans and peers alike highlights Khan's influential presence and the collective hope for her well-being during this challenging chapter.



| HOLLYWOOD |

Dino dreams realized! Johansson in Jurassic World

Central Chronicle News

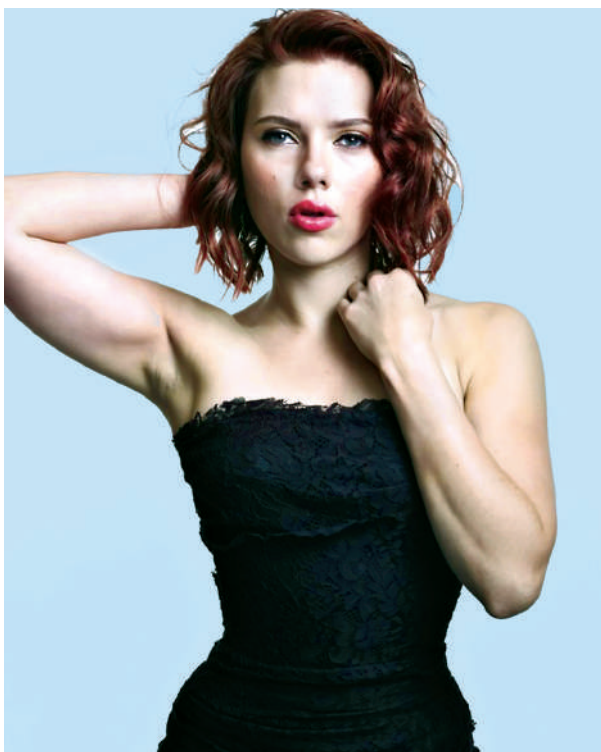
Scarlett Johansson, celebrated for her iconic roles in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, is eagerly preparing to embark on a thrilling new journey as she joins the cast of the highly anticipated 'Jurassic World' sequel, directed by Gareth Edwards. In an exclusive interview with ComicBook.com, Johansson revealed her deep-seated passion for the 'Jurassic Park' franchise, confessing that she has been actively pursuing a role in it for over a decade. "I've been trying to break into this franchise in any capacity for more than 10 years," she shared with palpable enthusiasm,

emphasizing her willingness to embrace any character, no matter how brief or challenging. The excitement amplifies with the return of esteemed screenwriter David Koepp after a hiatus of three

HIGHLIGHT

● Scarlett Johansson opened up about her involvement in the Jurassic World universe in a new film directed by Gareth Edwards and penned by David Koepp.

decades, who Johansson lauded for crafting an "incredible" script that promises a fresh narrative distinct from the previous



Scarlett Johansson will star in the next Jurassic World movie

trilogy. Reflecting on the profound impact of 'Jurassic Park' on her childhood, Johansson recalled it as a formative cinematic experience that left an indelible mark.

'Jurassic World 4' is poised to captivate audiences with breathtaking visuals filmed in picturesque locations such as Thailand, Malta, and the UK, promising to elevate the grandeur of the dinosaur saga. Johansson's involvement underscores her versatility and dedication to cinematic excellence, poised to enrich the franchise's storied legacy with her acclaimed talent.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

Raghu Khanna rises again! Emraan Hashmi's 'Showtime' returns

The trailer for the remaining episodes of the streaming show 'Showtime' was unveiled on Friday, showcasing the resilience and spectacular comeback of Raghu Khanna, played by Bollywood actor Emraan Hashmi. Speaking about the new episodes, Hashmi emphasized Raghu's passion and drive, likening him to a rare producer in the industry. Co-star Mouni Roy discussed her character Yasmin's journey, reflecting on the challenges faced by actresses in the business. She highlighted Yasmin's inner battle and teased a new dynamic with Raghu Khanna.

The Kid Laroi's new single Laroi's Throwback Anthem: 'Girls' brings back retro flavour



The Kid Laroi has once again made waves in the music scene with his latest single "Girls," accompanied by an engaging music video featuring surprise guest appearances. Released on June 28, the track blends groovy vibes with hip-hop elements, resonating with summer vibes and heartfelt nostalgia reminiscent of early 2000s pop. The music video, set in a mansion party atmosphere, surprises viewers with appearances by Alix Earle among others, evoking a 90s and early 2000s MTV aesthetic. Laroi's infectious smile and charismatic gestures enhance the party atmosphere, making it a compelling watch.



Fashion

Effortlessly Chic: Kajol wows in brick red midi dress

Kajol has recently impressed with her choice of a chic brick-red midi dress, perfect for relaxed weekends or casual outings. The actress, known for her impeccable fashion sense, accessorized minimally with a brown buckle belt, defining her silhouette. The dress features full sleeves and an off-shoulder design, adding to its appeal and versatility. Whether for casual Fridays or weekend brunches, it's a stylish addition to any wardrobe. Kajol completed her look with natural makeup and side-parted curls, highlighting her timeless beauty.

Trending on Insta

@egupta

Esha Gupta enjoys pool day with her dog

Actress and former beauty queen Esha Gupta enjoyed a leisurely Saturday morning with her furry friend in the pool, as seen on her Instagram stories. She rocked a chic earthy-toned cut out monokini paired with gold drop earrings, captioning the video simply: "Saturday Morning."



OTT Watch



Binge alert! New Netflix show arrives July 18

Netflix unveils "Tribhuvan Mishra: CA Topper" on July 18, starring Manav-Kaul and Tillotama Shome. Produced by Ram Sampath, it promises a mix of comedy and gangster chaos, helmed by showrunner Puneet Krishna.



Nicolas Cage on Lionsgate Play: Stream Arcadian now

Nicolas Cage's creature horror "Arcadian" hits Lionsgate Play India on July 19. Directed by Benjamin Brewer, it stars Cage as Paul in a post-apocalyptic tale where he fights deadly aliens, with his sons stepping in after he's injured.



Stuck in July? Watch 'Loop' 11:47 on Zee5

Akashdeep Arora, Qabeer Singh, and Keshav Sadhna star in 'Loop 11:47', a Hinglish sci-fi comedy thriller blending genres. The series follows three friends trapped in a time loop during a getaway, promising an immersive experience.



Dark Matter fans wait: Season 2 update expected soon

Joel Edgerton and Blake Crouch discuss potential Dark Matter Season 2, exploring new dimensions and time travel. They're open to continuing if audience interest aligns with the series' expansive creative vision.



Coming Back? The Crooks season 2 update

Netflix's "The Crooks" Season 1 soared in popularity, reaching the top 10 in 84 countries with 87.40 million hours watched. Fans await Season 2 news as Netflix evaluates viewer feedback and metrics for a potential renewal.

“A guest is a jewel on the cushion of hospitality.”

Rex Stout
American writer



Excursion

HOSPITALITY

Unveiling Indian traveller preferences: Beyond basic hotel amenities

In today's hospitality industry, guests want more than just a comfy bed and meals; they want unique experiences and long-lasting memories.



In an era marked by evolving travel preferences, Indian travellers are redefining their expectations from hospitality. Gone are the days when a comfortable bed and decent room service sufficed; today, discerning travellers seek personalized experiences that cater to their individual needs. At the forefront of this transformation is the demand for flexible check-in and check-out timings. Recognizing the constraints of rigid schedules, hotels are increasingly offering flexible timings to



accommodate late arrivals or early departures, ensuring a hassle-free experience for guests. Moreover, the desire for authentic local experiences is steering travellers away from cookie-cutter accommodations towards boutique hotels and homestays. Indians are keen to immerse themselves in the culture of their destination, often preferring accommodations that reflect the region's heritage and offer a glimpse into local life. The emphasis on wellness is another significant trend. Travellers are prioritizing properties that offer holistic wellness amenities such as yoga sessions, spa

“Courteous treatment will make a customer a walking advertisement.”
James Cash Penney
American businessman and entrepreneur

treatments, and healthy dining options. This shift underscores a broader movement towards mindful travel, where rejuvenation and self-care play integral roles.

Furthermore, technology is playing a pivotal role in enhancing guest experiences. From digital check-ins to smart room features, Indian travellers appreciate the convenience and efficiency that technology brings to their stay. As the landscape of travel evolves, hotels and hospitality providers are embracing these preferences, crafting bespoke experiences that resonate with the desires of today's Indian traveller. By prioritizing flexibility, authenticity, wellness, and technology, the industry is poised to meet and exceed the expectations of this discerning demographic.



India ranks as the fourth-largest contributor to the tourism carbon footprint globally, following the United States, China, and Germany.

| WILDLIFE ADVENTURE |

A Cloud-Kissed Escape: Discovering Mainpat, the “Shimla” of Chhattisgarh

Central Chronicle News

Perched at 1099m above sea level, Mainpat emerges as Chhattisgarh's own Shimla, celebrated for its verdant landscapes, undulating hills, and the serene Tibetan settlements that dot its picturesque plateau. Encompassing 226 sq. km. of dense forests, Mainpat offers a tranquil escape from the state's tropical climate, attracting travelers seeking cooler temperatures and unspoiled natural beauty. Mainpat captivates visitors with its peaceful ambiance and the rich cultural tapestry woven by Tibetan exiles who have called it home since the 1960s. The village hosts a serene Buddhist monastery and temple complex, enhancing its spiritual charm amidst breathtaking vistas. Adventure enthusiasts find paradise in Mainpat's rugged terrain, ideal for trekking expeditions to scenic waterfalls such as Ulta Pani and Tiger Point.



Explore Chhattisgarh's very own Shimla without burning your pocket.

HIGHLIGHT

● Experience the serene allure of Mainpat, hailed as the “Shimla of Chhattisgarh,” amidst lush landscapes and Tibetan cultural richness.



The gravity-defying phenomenon at Ulta Pani, where water seemingly flows upwards, adds an intriguing allure to the landscape. Visitors can delve into a variety of experiences in Mainpat, from exploring Tibetan camps and local handicrafts to indulging in thrilling activities like paragliding and rock climbing at Tiger Point. Nature lovers can unwind amidst the cascading Mercury Falls or savor captivating sunsets at Parpatiya Sunset Point nearby. Conveniently accessible from Ambikapur and other major cities via picturesque routes, Mainpat beckons travelers to uncover its hidden treasures and immerse themselves in its pristine natural splendor throughout the year. Whether seeking cultural enrichment, adrenaline-pumping adventures, or a serene retreat, Mainpat promises an unforgettable journey into the heart of Chhattisgarh's untouched wilderness.

Window View

The hidden gem hunt continues!
Unveiling treasures from each state



Orchha

Where Rajput majesty meets Mughal grandeur
Located in Madhya Pradesh, Orchha

is a hidden gem steeped in history and architectural splendor. Explore its ancient palaces, majestic temples, and the serene Betwa River, offering a glimpse into India's regal past. Orchha Fort Complex, with its intricate Rajput architecture and stunning views of the surrounding countryside, stands as a testament to the region's rich heritage. The Raja Mahal and Jahangir Mahal are architectural marvels adorned with vibrant murals depicting mythological tales and historical events, transporting visitors back in time.



Bhedaghat

A journey through India's majestic marble rocks
Bhedaghat, renowned for its Marble Rocks and Dhuandhar Falls, is a

scenic marvel along the Narmada River. Cruise through the breathtaking marble canyon and witness the cascading waters amidst tranquil surroundings. The Marble Rocks, rising up to 100 feet on either side of the river, display a mesmerizing interplay of sunlight and shadows, creating a surreal experience during boat rides. Dhuandhar Falls, known for the thunderous roar of water plunging down amidst marble cliffs, offers a thrilling spectacle especially during monsoon when the river is in full flow.



Pachmarhi

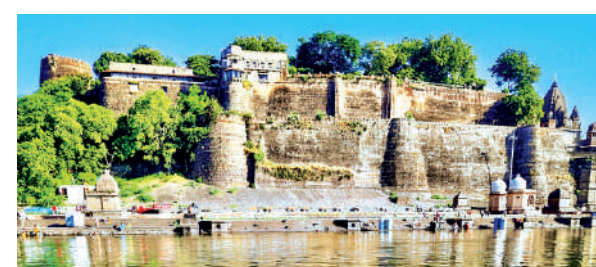
Jewel in the crown of the Satpura
Discover Pachmarhi, fondly called the Queen of Satpura, nestled amidst lush greenery

and scenic landscapes. Explore its serene waterfalls, ancient caves like Pandav Caves, and the panoramic viewpoints offering vistas of Satpura ranges. Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO designated site, is home to diverse flora and fauna, attracting nature enthusiasts and wildlife photographers. The Apsara Vihar waterfall and Bee Fall are popular spots for picnics and relaxation, surrounded by dense forests echoing with the sounds of birds.



Mandu

A paradise for nature lovers and history buffs
Mandu, steeped in Afghan architecture, boasts the iconic Jahaz Mahal, a ship-like structure overlooking the picturesque Munj Talao Lake. The sprawling Mandu Fort complex, with its royal baths and romantic legends, transports visitors to an era of opulence and cultural richness amidst scenic vistas.



Maheshwar

A spiritual sanctuary on the Narmada river
A cultural hub by the Narmada River, Maheshwar entices with its ancient temples like Maheshwar Fort, intricately carved ghats, and vibrant local markets. The town's spiritual aura and riverside tranquility make it a favored destination for pilgrims and heritage enthusiasts alike. Maheshwar is also renowned for its handloom weaving traditions, producing exquisite Maheshwari sarees that reflect the town's rich cultural heritage and craftsmanship.

Sports



I had the impression in the first game that I was playing in 3D
Kylian Mbappe
Soccer player

India thump South Africa by 10 wickets in one-off Test



Indian team with the winners trophy.

India secured a commanding 10-wicket victory over South Africa in the one-off women's Test in Chennai, successfully chasing a modest target of 37 runs.

Press Trust Of India

India were required to chase a modest 37 after bowling out South Africa for 373.

CHENNAI: India secured a commanding 10-wicket victory over South Africa in the one-off women's Test on Monday, despite a resilient century from Laura Wolvaardt. On the fourth and final day, India chased a modest target of 37, completing the task in 9.2 overs without losing a wicket. Shubha Sathesh (13 not out) and Shafali Verma

(24 not out) comfortably steered India to victory. This marks India's second 10-wicket triumph in Tests, replicating their win over South Africa in Paarl in 2002.

South Africa, after being bowled out for 266 in their first innings, put up a stronger fight in the second innings, scoring 373.

Hundred-makers Laura Wolvaardt (122, 314b, 16x4) and Sune Luus (109, 203b, 18x4) led the charge. Resuming at 232 for two, trailing India by 105 runs, Wolvaardt and Marizanne Kapp

HIGHLIGHT

- The opening duo of Shubha Sathesh (13 not out) and Shafali Verma (24 not out) steered their side home comfortably.

- This is India's second 10-wicket triumph in Tests after a scoring a similar win over the Proteas at Paarl in 2002.

looked in good form. Wolvaardt reached her maiden Test century, becoming the first woman to score a century in Test, ODI, and T20I in the same year.

However, Kapp was trapped leg-before by Deepti Sharma for 31, and Sneha Rana dismissed Delmi Tucker for a duck, reducing South Africa to 266 for four. Wolvaardt's dismissal at 122 by Rajeshwari Gayakwad further dented their efforts. Despite their best attempts, South Africa's middle and lower order struggled to maintain partnerships. Nadine de Klerk (61) and Sinalo Jafta (15) showed resistance, helping their team to a total of 373, their highest against India in Tests.

In the post-lunch ses-

sion, Jafta retired hurt due to cramps, and Anne Dercksen joined De Klerk but soon departed for five. The Proteas reached 316, surpassing their previous highest score of 315 against England in 2003. South Africa eventually conceded the lead, with De Klerk and Masabata Klaas contributing 23 runs before the latter was bowled by Shafali. De Klerk's valiant effort ended at 61, dismissed by Gayakwad. Despite South Africa's spirited fight, India's dominance ensured a decisive 10-wicket victory.

Sports Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CRICKET

India to tour Australia for multi-format Women's A series in August

SYDNEY: India and Australia will lock horns in a multi-format women's A series in Queensland next month, in what is seen as a preparation for the upcoming T20 World Cup in Bangladesh in less than four months' time. The tour will comprise of three T20Is in Brisbane, three ODIs in Mackay and a four-day match at Gold Coast. Cricket Australia on Monday confirmed the schedule and named three Australia A squads for the series. Australia vice-captain Tahlia McGrath will lead the 20-over and 50-over sides, while Charli Knott will be in charge of the four-day game. "I'm really looking forward to being a part of this series and for the challenge that India A will pose," McGrath said in cricket.com.au. "It presents those of us not playing in The Hundred with the chance to prepare for a huge summer against a strong opposition," she added. **PTI**

SHOOTING

Siachen warrior Sandeep now aims for Paris glory in shooting



NEW DELHI: Indian shooter Sandeep Singh's steely resolve to fight his inner demons and come back stronger as a sports shooter came in the hostile environment of Siachen, the highest battle-field in the world, where he endured temperatures as low as -40 degrees C and stayed in a tent cooking his own food like a caveman. Sandeep, the 10m air rifle shooter, who showed great determination to hang on in the face of stiff challenge from rival shooters to win the Olympic Selection Trials and secure a Paris berth earlier this year, said that grind in the tough environment, will help him achieve success in Paris. **PTI**

Karthik's New Chapter

Royal Challengers Bengaluru appoint Dinesh Karthik as batting coach, mentor



BENGALURU: Former India wicket-keeper-batter Dinesh Karthik, who announced his retirement from all forms of cricket last month, on Monday was appointed as batting coach and mentor by Royal Challengers Bengaluru. "Welcome our keeper in every sense, Dinesh Karthik back into RCB in an all new avatar. DK will be the batting coach and mentor of RCB Men's team," RCB posted on 'X', formerly twitter. "You can take the man out of cricket but not cricket out of the man! Shower

him with all the love, 12th Man Army," the post added. Terming this an exciting opportunity, Karthik stated: "Coaching at a professional level is incredibly exciting for me and is something I'm truly passionate about as a new chapter in my life. Hopefully, the breadth of my experiences as a player can contribute to the development of the group and bring added value. "I believe that cricket success hinges not only on technical proficiency but also on match intelligence and composure." **PTI**

India go down 2-3 to Malaysia

NEW DELHI: India ran powerhouse Malaysia close but eventually went down 2-3 in the quarter-finals of the Badminton Asia Junior Mixed team championships on Monday. The Indians will now participate in the individual championship, beginning from Wednesday. India made yet another change to their mixed doubles pairing in the quarterfinals, combining Sanskar Saraswat with Shravani Walekar. The duo gave the team the lead with a 21-16, 13-21, 21-17 win over Kang Khai Xing and Noraqilha Maisarah. Senior Nationals runners-up Tanvi Sharma then doubled India's lead when she got the better of Siti Zulailha 21-15, 15-21, 22-20 in girls' singles. India looked on course of an upset win when Pranay Shettigar clinched the opening game against Muhammad Faiq.

New era begins: India preps for 2026 World Cup cricket

Press Trust Of India

The T20 retirement of India's big guns ushers in a new cricketing era.

BRIDGETOWN: The T20 retirements of Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, and Ravindra Jadeja mark the end of an era in Indian cricket. Their timely exit allows selectors and the new team management to plan for the 2026 World Cup at home. Kohli and Rohit bowed out with the World Cup trophy, followed by Jadeja.

Replacing these match-winners will take time, starting with a second-string Indian team facing Zimbabwe in five T20Is from July 6. Hardik Pandya, rested for



Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Ravindra Jadeja marks the end of an era.

FACTFILE

- Kohli, Rohit, Jadeja retire; Pandya likely captain as India eyes 2026.

this series, is expected to succeed Rohit as T20I skipper and will monitor the progress

of fringe players during his break.

For the two opening slots, options include Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Ruturaj Gaikwad, and Abhishek Sharma. Likely, Gill and Jaiswal will open in Harare. Jadeja's

retirement elevates Axar Patel as the leading spin-bowling all-rounder, having already performed crucial roles in the World Cup.

Jadeja's departure also provides more opportunities for Washington Sundar.

SENIORS TO STAY

Seniors will be there in CT and WTC: Jay Shah

Press Trust Of India

BRIDGETOWN: BCCI Secretary Jay Shah on Monday asserted that "seniors will be there" in next year's Champions Trophy and the World Test Championship final if India qualifies for it, while a decision on whether Hardik Pandya succeeds Rohit Sharma as the next T20 captain will be taken solely by the selectors.

Talking to select media here, Shah lauded the contribution of senior players in the side's T20 World Cup triumph at the end of which skipper Rohit, senior batting star Virat Kohli and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja announced their retirement from the shortest format's international assignments.

"Transition has already happened with



The way this team is progressing, our target is to win the World Test Championship final and Champions Trophy.

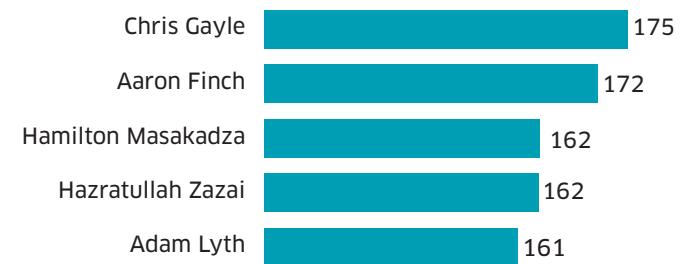
Jay Shah
BCCI Secretary

three greats retiring," Shah said when asked about his thoughts on the team's next phase following the retirement of the seasoned trio.

"The way this team is progressing, our target is to win the World Test Championship final and Champions Trophy. There will be a similar squad playing there. The seniors will be there," he added.

The Day's NUMBERS

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORERS IN MEN'S T20 CRICKET



Source: Wikipedia

ICC TEAM

Six Indians in ICC Team of the Tournament; no spot for Virat Kohli

DUBAI: The International Cricket Council has picked six Indians in its 'Team of the Tournament' for the just-concluded T20 World Cup but there was no place for star batter Virat Kohli, who played a match-winning knock in the final against South Africa. In his new role as an opener, Kohli had an underwhelming World Cup before rising to the occasion in the big final where he was adjudged man-of-the-match for his 59-ball 76. India pipped South Africa by seven runs in a sensational comeback in the death overs to win their second T20 World Cup title after 17 years. The ICC XI featured Indian skipper Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel and two pacers in Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh. Rohit led from the front with 257 runs at a splendid strike-rate of 156.7 to his name. He was the second most leading run-getter after Afghanistan's Rahmanullah Gurbaz. **PTI**

GYMNASTICS

Anand beats Jaime Santos Latasa 3-1 to win Leon Masters for the 10th time



LEON: Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand proved his mettle once again and defeated Spaniard Jaime Santos Latasa 3-1 in the finals to win the Leon Masters for a 10th time here. The 54-year-old Anand, who lived in Spain for many years before shifting his base back to Chennai, proved yet again that this was one of his favourite hunting grounds. It was in 1996, or 28 years back, that Anand won his first title here. The format featured four players with his compatriot Arjun Erigaise, the world number four, as the fourth seed and Bulgarian Veselin Topalov being the other two players in the tournament. **PTI**

Sports News

Spain beats Georgia 4-1 to reach Euro 2024 quarters

Spain triumphs 4-1 over Georgia, securing a Euro 2024 quarterfinal spot against Germany after an early own-goal setback in a thrilling and dramatic match.

Press Trust Of India

Spain will play host nation Germany in the quarterfinals on Friday in Stuttgart.

COLOGNE: Spain overcame an early own-goal to defeat Georgia 4-1, advancing to the Euro 2024 quarterfinals and ending one of the tournament's most compelling underdog stories. Georgia took a surprising lead in the 18th minute when Robin Le Normand scored an own-goal. However, Spain rallied with goals from midfielders Rodri and Fabián Ruiz. Nico Williams and Dani Olmo sealed the victory with late goals amid heavy rain.

Spain will face host nation Germany in the quarterfinals on Friday in Stuttgart. This loss concludes Georgia's first-ever major tournament campaign, highlighted by a 2-0 upset over Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal. Despite the scoreline, Georgia's goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili stood out with nine saves.



Spain's forward #10 Daniel Olmo and Georgia's midfielder #10 Giorgi Chakvetadze run after the ball.

HIGHLIGHT

● Goalkeeper Giorgi Mamardashvili shines with nine saves despite Georgia's 4-1 loss.

Though Spain had beaten Georgia 7-1 in qualifying last year, this game was competitive until the final 20 minutes, showcasing Georgia's improvement under coach Willy Sagnol. Spain

had not conceded in the tournament until Otar Kakabadze's cross led to Le Normand's own goal. Rodri, returning from suspension, equalized in the 39th minute with a low shot. Ruiz headed

in a cross from 16-year-old Lamine Yamal in the 51st minute, giving Spain the lead. Georgia's defense opened up, allowing Williams and Olmo to score in the 75th and 83rd minutes.

Bellingham's heroics secure England's victory

Press Trust Of India

GELSENKIRCHEN: Jude Bellingham's extraordinary overhead kick rescued England from the brink of elimination, securing a 2-1 victory over Slovakia in the Euro 2024 round of 16.

Trailing 1-0 deep into stoppage time at Veltins Arena, England faced a major upset until Bellingham's acrobatic goal in the fifth of six added minutes forced extra time.

Harry Kane then clinched the win, keeping England's hopes for their first major trophy since 1966 alive.

"I think it was 30 or 20 seconds until we were out of the European Championship," said Bellingham, who turned 21 on Saturday and recently completed a stellar debut season at Real Madrid.

England, pre-tournament favorites and Euro 2020 runners-up, fell behind to Ivan Schranz's 25th-minute goal. Slovakia, ranked 45th, held the lead as time dwindled.

With a long throw from Kyle Walker, Marc Guehi flicked the ball on, and Bellingham executed a perfect overhead kick, equalizing in dramatic fashion.



England's midfielder #10 Jude Bellingham celebrates with England's midfielder #04 Declan Rice after scoring his team's first goal.

HIGHLIGHT

● England had faced fierce criticism for its performances in the group stage and boos rang around the stadium.

● Harry Kane sealed a 2-1 win that keeps alive England's hopes of a first major trophy since 1966.

Bellingham's goal, England's first shot on target, was soon followed by Kane's header, his seventh goal in seven knockout games at major tournaments, and a record-extending 65th for his country.

England now faces Switzerland in the quarterfinals on Saturday in Dusseldorf, seeking to advance further.

| DIAMOND LEAGUE |

Neeraj Chopra opts out of Diamond League

Press Trust Of India

Chopra withdraws from Paris Diamond League due to persistent adductor injury.

NEW DELHI: Olympic and world champion javelin throw star Neeraj Chopra has opted out of this Sunday's Paris Diamond League, citing the adductor niggle that has been troubling him for the past couple of months, according to a report.

Speaking to 'ESPN', Chopra said he is focusing on training and strengthening his blocking leg.

"I need to strengthen my blocking leg when I throw because that's when my groin gets pulled. We're working on that to see how we can reduce the impact on the groin and control



HIGHLIGHT

● I could have competed in more events for sure and that was the plan. But I have realised that my health is paramount, that comes first.

sure and that was the plan. But I have realised that my health is paramount, that comes first. Even if I feel the slightest discomfort or like I am pushing myself too much in training, I've learnt to pause for a bit," he added.

The block phase is a crucial maneuver as it is the point at which the pace generated by the run-up is transferred to the throwing arm before the javelin is sent flying.

Wolvaardt to lead SA in T20I series against India

JOHANNESBURG: Opener Laura Wolvaardt will lead the 15-member South Africa women's team in the upcoming three-match T20 International series against India to be played at Chennai from July 5. Chloe Tryon, who missed the ODIs and one-off Test, is the only addition to the squad as she marks her return from a back injury. All-rounders Delmi Tucker and Nondumiso Shangase will leave the touring group following the ODIs and the one-off Test, which South Africa lost by 10 wickets on Monday. South Africa were also whitewashed by India in the three-match ODI series which was played before the one-off Test. "We're excited with the 15-player squad that has been selected for the T20I series. We also have Chloe back in the team after recovering from an injury.

Eduard Bello leads 2nd-half charge in Venezuela's 3-0 victory



Eduard Bello of Venezuela celebrates after scoring the team's second goal.

Press Trust Of India

AUSTIN (US): Eduard Bello opened the scoring in the 49th minute and Venezuela completed Group B play with a perfect record, beating Jamaica 3-0 in Copa America.

Venezuela (3-0-0) on Sunday night played without coach Fernando Batista after he was handed a one-match suspension by CONMEBOL

FASTFACTS

● Eric Ramirez scores in the 85th minute, sealing Venezuela's victory with a right-footed shot.

● By winning Group B, Venezuela avoided a quarterfinal matchup against tournament favorite and defending champion Argentina.

for his team's late arrival to the field in a victory over Mexico.

By winning Group B, Venezuela avoided a Thursday matchup in the quarterfinals against tournament favourite and defending champion Argentina. Instead, the Venezuelans will take on Group A runner-up Canada on Friday in Arlington, Texas.

Bello took a crossing

pass from Jon Aramburu and sent a header to the bottom right corner of the net from the right side of the 6-yard box. It was the second goal of the tournament for Bello, who scored the winner in a 2-1 victory over Ecuador in the opener.

In the 56th minute, Salomón Rondón used an assist from Yangel Herrera to send a left-footed kick from the center of box to the middle of the net. It was also the second goal for Rondón, who scored on a penalty kick in a 1-0 victory over Mexico in the team's second match. Eric Ramírez completed the scoring when he took a through ball from Kervin Andrade in the 85th minute and drilled a right-footed shot from the center of the box to the center of the goal.

| CRICKET |

Dravid to Virat Kohli: One red to go

Press Trust Of India

BRIDGETOWN: Staying true to his no-nonsense taskmaster image, outgoing India head coach Rahul Dravid had an assignment for star batter Virat Kohli even on his last day at work and within hours of India winning the T20 World Cup. "All three white ticks off, one red to go. Tick it," Dravid told Kohli in a video of the Indian dressing room celebrations shared by the ICC on its Instagram page.

By three white he meant the limited-overs global trophies -- the T20 World Cup, the ODI World Cup and the Champions Trophy -- all of which Kohli has col-



lected as a player.

What's left now is winning the World Test Championship Final.

India have lost the WTC Final twice (against New Zealand in 2021 and Australia in 2023).

The 35-year-old Kohli, who retired from T20 Internationals after the World Cup triumph here on Saturday, merely

smiled at Dravid as he repeated himself to assert his point, albeit with a warm smile on his face. "Go tick it."

The 51-year-old Dravid, who was appointed India coach in 2021, ended his tenure with this event.

India defeated South Africa by seven runs in the humdinger to claim

their second overall T20 world crown, having won the title in its inaugural edition in South Africa back in 2007 under Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

In the ODI format, India won the 1983 and 2011 World Cups before snaring the 2013 Champions Trophy.

The congratulatory video also featured Suryakumar Yadav, whose blunder of a catch to dismiss David Miller proved crucial in the final here.

The Mumbaier said it would take him at least two days to fully grasp the enormity of the achievement.

"No feelings right now, I don't know what to say," he said.

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World



I'm fighting very hard and I think people are waking up to the real danger of what a Labour government means.

Rishi Sunak
UK Prime Minister

People unite at Republique to protest far-right election gains



People gather at Republique square to protest the far-right National Rally, which came out strongly ahead in first-round legislative elections in Paris. | Photo: PTI

Ticking time bomb in ISIS camps

VICTORIA: The so-called ISIS caliphate established in 2014 may no longer exist, and its leadership gone, but the security outlook in its former territories remains bleak. On June 29, 2014, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi stood at the podium of the al-Nuri Mosque, in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

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Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

LANKA INDIA SAILOR

Sri Lanka voices concern to India over naval sailor's death

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka has voiced its concern to India over the death of a naval sailor who was killed in a recent operation to seize an Indian trawler allegedly engaged in illegal fishing in the island nation's territorial waters. The Sri Lankan High Commissioner in Delhi Kshenuka Seneviratne has conveyed the message to External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar, sources in the foreign ministry here said on Monday. On June 25, off the coast of Point Pedro in the north, a senior sailor from the Navy Special Boat Squadron sustained critical injuries due to "the aggressive manoeuvres of the Indian trawler, resisting its seizure", a statement issued by the Sri Lankan Navy said last week.

"Unfortunately, the senior sailor succumbed to his injuries after being admitted to the Teaching Hospital, Jaffna," it added. The Navy said that 10 Indian fishermen were arrested and their trawler was seized. **PTI**

BOLIVIA ECONOMY

Economic turmoil in Bolivia fuels distrust in govt



LA PAZ (BOLIVIA): Signs reading "I'm buying dollars" line the doors of Victor Vargas' shoe shop in the heart of Bolivia's biggest city, a desperate attempt to keep his family business alive. Just a few years ago, the 45-year-old Vargas would unlock the doors at 8 am to a crush of customers already waiting to buy tennis shoes imported from China. Now, his shop sits hopelessly empty. **PTI**

EU accuses Facebook owner Meta of breaking digital rules

Meta faces EU scrutiny for violating Digital Markets Act by offering ad-free Facebook and Instagram subscriptions for 10-13 euros, forcing users to choose between ads or payment.

Press Trust Of India

LONDON: European Union regulators accused social media company Meta Platforms on Monday of breaching the bloc's new digital competition rulebook by forcing Facebook and Instagram users to choose between seeing ads or paying to avoid them.

Meta has been giving European users the option since November of paying for ad-free versions of Facebook and Instagram as

a way to comply with the continent's strict data privacy rules. Desktop browser users can pay about 10 euros (USD 10.50) a month while iOS or Android users will pay roughly 13 euros to avoid being targeted by ads based on their personal data.

The US tech giant rolled out the subscription option after the European Union's top court ruled that under strict EU data privacy rules, Meta must first get consent before showing ads to users.

HIGHLIGHT

● Desktop browser users can pay about 10 euros a month while iOS or Android users will pay roughly 13 euros to avoid being targeted by ads

● Meta's "pay or consent" advertising model was in breach of the 27-nation bloc's Digital Markets Act

The European Commission,

the EU's executive arm, said preliminary findings of its investigation show that Meta's "pay or consent" advertising model was in breach of the 27-nation bloc's Digital Markets Act.

The commission said Meta's model doesn't allow users to exercise their right to "freely consent" to allowing their personal data to be used to target them with online ads. The commission had opened its investigation shortly after the rulebook, also known as the DMA,

took effect in March. It's a sweeping set of regulations aimed at preventing tech "gatekeepers" from cornering digital markets under threat of heavy financial penalties. "The DMA is there to give back to the users the power to decide how their data is used and ensure innovative companies can compete on equal footing with tech giants on data access," European Commissioner Thierry Breton, who oversees the bloc's digital policy, said in a statement.

Mauritania's President Ghazouani wins reelection

NOUAKCHOTT : Mauritania's President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani will be reelected, provisional results from all polling stations showed on Sunday, after positioning the country as a strategic ally of the West in a region swept by coups and violence. Ghazouani, who campaigned on a pledge of providing security and economic growth, obtained 56.1% of votes, the country's independent electoral commission said late on Saturday. His main rival, anti-slavery activist Biram Dah Abeid, received 22.1% of votes, but earlier on Sunday rejected the results, alleging fraud. The country's constitutional court is now expected to review the results to announce the final outcome of the election, but it remained unclear when it would happen.

US lawmakers assure Hindus against discrimination

Press Trust Of India

Prominent American lawmakers have pledged their support to Indian Americans to fight against increasing Hinduophobia and discrimination against minority Hindu community in US.

WASHINGTON: Organised by the Coalition of Hindus of North America (CoHNA), the 3rd National Hindu Advocacy Day attracted several Hindu students, researchers, and community leaders on June 28 to discuss the concerns faced by the Hindus living in the US. "We are here, and we are fighting," Congressman Shri Thanedar said in his address at the day-long advocacy here.



The Coalition of Hindus of North America (CoHNA) Team at Capitol Hill for the 3rd National Hindu Advocacy Day, in USA.

FAST FACTS

● Congressman McCormick welcomed growing engagement of Hindu American and Indian American community in policy making

● Congressman Miller spoke about importance of freedom of religion

"The voice you all have, the voice the Hindu com-

munity has in Congress," said Thanedar, a Democrat, who has introduced House Resolution 1131 (H.Res 1131), which condemns Hinduophobia and attacks on temples, while celebrating the contribution of the Hindu American community. He said that he would not tolerate Hinduophobia, discrimination, or other forms of hate.

Congressman Rich McCormick welcomed the continued and growing engagement of the Hindu American and Indian American community in policy making and its potential to transform the future of America.

The Republican Party lawmaker called attention to his support for House Resolution 1131, honouring the contributions of Hindu Americans, and asked the community to continue pursuing the American dream, which celebrates innovation, hard work, success, and its traditions.

Republican Congressman Glen Grothman expressed solidarity with the community, and Congressman Ro Khanna celebrated the growth of the community's advocacy over the past decade.

SKOREA MISSILE ATTACK

North Korea test-launches 2 ballistic missiles

Press Trust Of India

SEOUL: North Korea test-fired two ballistic missile Monday, South Korea's military said, a day after the North vowed "offensive and overwhelming" responses to a new US military drill with South Korea and Japan.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missiles were launched 10 minutes apart

in a northeastern direction from the town of Jangyon in southeastern North Korea. It said the first missile flew 600 kilometres (370 miles) and the second missile 120 kilometres (75 miles), but didn't say where they landed. North Korea typically test-fires missiles toward its eastern waters, but the second missile's flight distance was too short to



reach those waters. South Korean media said an unidentified South Korean military source reported that it was highly likely the second missile crashed in an inland area of the North. Possible damages on the North's ground weren't immediately reported. The reports said the first missile landed in the waters off the North's eastern city of Chongjin.

FROM AROUND THE WORLD

A centre-right coalition in Bulgaria is tapped to form a new government



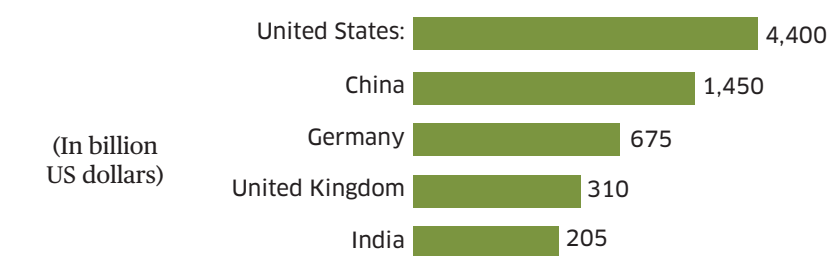
SOFIA: Bulgarian President Rumen Radev on Monday tapped the largest group in parliament, the centre-right GERB-UDF coalition, to form the country's new government. Accepting the mandate, Prime Minister-designate Rosen Zhelyazkov presented a proposal for a Cabinet and asked the president to send it to parliament for approval. The 56-year-old lawyer and former parliament speaker, who has served in different ministerial positions in previous governments, said that the new Cabinet was "a team of experts and seasoned politicians from GERB". He outlined stabilising of public finances as a priority and stressed

the need for continuity in Bulgaria's European perspective.

The GERB-UDF coalition finished first in the June elections but only has 68 legislators in the 240-seat National Assembly. The coalition picked Zhelelyazkov to head a new government over its leader, Boyko Borissov, who led three governments between 2009 and 2021, when his third Cabinet resigned following major anti-corruption protests. Trying to find coalition partners in the fragmented legislature, Borissov said immediately after the vote that he didn't want to be prime minister and invited his political opponents for talks. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

TOP COUNTRIES BY HEALTHCARE EXPENDITURE IN 2023-2024



PAK FUEL HIKE

Petrol and high-speed diesel prices hiked in Pakistan after Eid

ISLAMABAD: Weeks after slashing the prices of fuel ahead of the Eid ul Adha festival, the cash-strapped Pakistan government on Monday sharply hiked their prices for the next fortnight as it began the new fiscal year. According to a notification, the prices of petrol and High-Speed Diesel (HSD) were

raised by Rs 7.45 and Rs 9.56 per litre respectively on the first day of a tax-laden budget for 2024-25, The Express Tribune newspaper reported. Last month, the government slashed the prices of petrol and HSD by Pakistani Rs 10.20 and Pakistani Rs 2.33 per litre respectively, ahead of Eid ul Adha.

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