

Central Chronicle

Champai quits as J'khand CM, Hemant stakes claim

Hemant told media all formalities to form the government are complete.

Press Trust Of India
RANCHI: Jharkhand Chief Minister Champai Soren on Wednesday resigned from his post, following which JMM leader Hemant Soren called on Governor CP Radhakrishnan and staked a claim to form the government.
Earlier in the day, leaders and MLAs of the ruling coalition at a meeting at Champai Soren's residence here unanimously decided to elect Hemant Soren as the JMM legislative party leader.
"I have resigned as per the decision of the JMM-led alliance. Our alliance is strong," Champai Soren said after coming out of Raj Bhavan.
"All know what had happened with Hemant Soren Ji... I was given the responsibility by the coalition partners. Now, the alliance has decided in favour of Hemant Soren



Jharkhand Guv Radhakrishnan receives the resignation letter from CM Champai Soren.

HIGHLIGHT
● Hemant had resigned as the CM shortly before his arrest on January 31.
"I've resigned as per the decision of the JMM-led alliance."
Champai Soren
J'khand CM
JMM executive president said when asked about the swearing-in. He will

be the chief minister of Jharkhand for the third time.
The ruling coalition delegation which met the governor included state Congress in-charge Ghulam Ahmad Mir, state Congress president Rajesh Thakur, RJD minister Satyanand Bhokta, CPI(ML) legislator Vinod Singh, besides Champai Soren and Hemant Soren.
After spending around five months in jail, Hemant Soren was released on June 28 after the high court granted him bail in a money laundering case linked to an alleged land scam.
He had resigned as the CM shortly before his arrest on January 31.

Two masked men loot ornaments from shop employees

RAIGARH: Two masked men looted gold and silver ornaments worth Rs 31.50 lakh from two women employees of a jewellery shop in Raigarh district, police said on Wednesday. The incident occurred on Tuesday night at Chakradharnagar Chowk when the employees were heading to their owner's house to deliver a bag of ornaments. "While closing the shop, the two employees were en route to the owner's

house located in front of the shop to drop off jewellery, a routine task. Two motorcycle-borne men with their faces covered suddenly appeared and snatched the bag from the employees on the road," the official said. According to preliminary information, the bag contained gold and silver ornaments valued at Rs 31.50 lakh. Upon being alerted, a police team arrived at the scene and initiated an investigation.

NEWSLINE

NEW DELHI
Re-fixing of pension under OROP proposed
The Union Cabinet is learnt to have considered a proposal to re-fix pension under the OROP scheme. Sources in the know pointed out that pension under the One Rank One Pension scheme is re-fixed or revised every five years. The last revision took place with effect from July 2019. They said the proposal was part of the agenda of Wednesday's Cabinet meeting. But there was no official word.

Situation under control

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) R R Swain said on Wednesday that law-enforcement agencies and security forces have full control of the Union Territory's security situation. The DGP maintained that the degree of fear is significantly less compared to three-four years ago and emphasised that the law-and-order situation is much better in Kashmir now.

Sexual offences

NEW DELHI: The newly enacted Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, which replaces the British-era Indian Penal Code, has made sexual offences "gender neutral" for the victim and the perpetrator, according to official documents. "Both boys and girls could get procured for sexual exploitation. The word 'minor girl' in section 366A of the IPC has been replaced with the word 'child' in clause 96 of the BNS to cover both male and female children below the age of 18 years and the offence of procurement has been made punishable," an explanatory note for the new criminal law said.

NEW DELHI

LS Speaker amends rules

With some Lok Sabha members resorting to sloganeering during oath taking, Speaker Om Birla has amended the rule which now bars MPs-elect from adding any remark to the oath as members of the House. Birla added a fresh clause to 'Direction 1' to the 'Directions by the Speaker' for regulating certain matters related to the functioning of the House that are not specifically provided in the rules.

HUA extends deadline

NEW DELHI: The Union housing and urban affairs ministry on Wednesday said it has extended the deadline for the Smart Cities Mission till March 2025, allowing cities to complete ongoing projects, which account for around 10 per cent of the total projects. In a statement, the ministry said the mission has been getting multiple requests from some states to grant some more time to complete the remaining projects. These projects are in the advanced stage of implementation and got delayed due to various on-ground conditions, the statement said. This is the second time that the mission deadline, which was earlier June 2024, has been extended. "As on July 3, 2024, the 100 cities have completed 7,188 projects (90 per cent of total projects) amounting to Rs 1,44,237 crore as part of the mission.

Cabinet committees formed, BJP allies get due share

Press Trust Of India
Cabinet committees are country's highest decision making bodies on security, economic and political affairs.



Union Cabinet

NEW DELHI: The Modi government on Wednesday constituted various cabinet committees, including the country's highest decision making bodies on security, economic and political affairs. The members of the cabinet committees included Union ministers from the BJP and its NDA partners like Janata Dal (U), Telugu Desam Party, Janata Dal (S), Shiv Sena and Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas). According to an official notification, the Cabinet Committee on Security comprises Prime

Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. Apart from PM Modi, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has Rajnath Singh, Shah, Sitharaman, Jaishankar, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Heavy Industries and Steel Minister H D Kumaraswamy

FACTFILE
● Union Minister of State for Skill Development Jayant Choudhary is the special invitee.
as its members. Others in the committee are: Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Minister of Panchayati Raj and Fisheries Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh. The Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs comprises

Modi, Rajnath Singh, Shah, Gadkari, Sitharaman, Goyal, Health Minister J P Nadda, Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Jitan Ram Manjhi, Ports and Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, Women and Child Development Minister Annपूर्णा Devi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju and Coal Minister G Kishan Reddy.

RARE SURGERY |

Docs remove 25 paise coin stuck in man's windpipe

Press Trust Of India
VARANASI: In a rare surgery doctors at Sri Sundarlal Hospital in Banaras Hindu University (BHU) removed a 25 paise coin that was stuck in the trachea (windpipe) of a 40-year-old man for the last eight years. A team of doctors led by cardio-thoracic surgeon Prof Sidharth Lakhota and Prof

SK Mathur removed the coin from the trachea in a procedure that lasted for 20 minutes on Tuesday.
Dr Lakhota said, "It is very unusual for objects to enter the trachea of adults due to the presence of a strong cough reflex in adults. It is common in children. A case where a foreign body has been lodged in the trachea for the past 8 years is very



rarely reported, especially in adults." "Such foreign bodies are life-threatening and patients may suffocate, develop pneumonia, and damage the lungs. Patients can also die due

NUMBER
8
● Coin stuck in the windpipe for 8 years was removed by a procedure that lasted for 20 minutes.

to difficulty breathing or other complications. The entire procedure took 20

minutes and the patient is now fine and will be discharged from the hospital within a day of the procedure," he said.
Dr Amrita Rath of the Department of Anesthesiology, who played a key role in removing the coin, said, "Such procedures require a very high level of precision and even the slightest error can pose a threat to life."

SAWANSUKHA

FLAT
शुद्धी की मीठी तैयारी
55% OFF
on making charges of all jewellery
30 June onwards

Sadar Bazar, Raipur ©91470 75332

Raipur



"I extend greetings to nine youths of state who have qualified in the prelims of UPSC exams studying in Tribal Hostel."

Vishnu Deo Sai
Chief Minister Chhattisgarh



CM Vishnu Deo Sai and Home Minister Vijay Sharma flagged off school bus for children of police families.

CM flags off school bus for children

CM Vishnu Deo Sai and Home Minister Vijay Sharma, handed over the bus keys to Maria Bhatpahari, a young member of the police family.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: "This is your father's boss, and it is because of his efforts that you all have got a school bus. Now all of you can come to school comfortably and safely," said Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai while introducing the Home Minister during a discussion with the school children of police families today. The children clapped in joy upon receiving the school bus and expressed gratitude to Chief Minister and Home

Minister. Chief Minister encouraged the children, stressing the importance of studying well and making progress in their lives.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai and Home Minister Vijay Sharma, handed over the bus keys to Maria Bhatpahari, a young member of the police family, at a ceremony held at the Chief Minister's residence. The occasion was marked with a ceremonial 'pooja' attended by members of the police families before the bus was officially flagged off. Expressing his

HIGHLIGHT

● Maria Bhatpahari receives school bus keys from Chief Minister.

● Police Colony Residents thank Chief Minister and Home Minister for bus facility.

satisfaction, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai stated "This is a commendable initiative. It addresses the children's concerns and

guarantees their safe transportation to school. Our police personnel serve diligently round the clock, and this effort undoubtedly alleviates their worries." The bus was made possible through CSR funds, with the Chief Minister urging other industrial entities to support similar initiatives. Following this, Chief Minister and Home Minister interacted with the children, inquiring about their well-being and the facilities at the Police Residential Colony, including the bus service.

CM Sai's second Jandarshan today

RAIPUR: The second 'Jandarshan' of Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai will be organized on Thursday, July 4. Chief Minister Shri Sai will directly engage with citizens from across the state and will also accept applications related to their problems.

It is worth mentioning that the first Jandarshan was held at the Chief Minister's residence last week, with a large number of citizens participating and submitting applications concerning various problems and demands to the Chief Minister.

Hathras: CM expresses deep sorrow

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has expressed deep sorrow over the accident in Hathras, Uttar Pradesh. He stated, "The loss of life in the unfortunate accident in Hathras district is extremely sad and heart-wrenching. My condolences are with the bereaved families. May God give strength to the families of the deceased to bear this grief". Sai has also wished for the speedy recovery of those injured in the accident.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

PROGRAMME

Brigadier Aman Anand pays courtesy visit to CM for "Know Your Army"

RAIPUR: Brigadier Aman Anand of the Indian Army paid a courtesy visit to Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai at his residence office today. Brigadier Anand currently commands the Chhattisgarh and Odisha Sub Region of the Indian Army. At the meeting, Brigadier Anand discussed with Chief Minister the upcoming plans of Indian Army in Chhattisgarh. Brigadier Anand revealed that the Indian Army will organize "Know Your Army" program on October 5th and 6th in Raipur. This program will provide an opportunity for local residents, especially children, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Army. He mentioned that selected children from the region will be taken on educational tours to various significant military institutions across the country. This initiative aims to instill discipline, patriotism, and awareness of the Army's contributions among these children, fostering enthusiasm for military service.

NABBED

Youth nabbed with 34 quarter bottles of illicit liquor near city



RAIPUR: It is as per instructions by the senior police officers, the Mandir Hasoud police team nabbed a person trying to sell illicit liquor near Jindal turn in Mndir Hsoud and seized 34 quarters bottles from his possession. The youth nabbed is Raju Chelak, S/o Kunju Chelak (28), R/o Bade Mungi Thana, Mandir Hasoud, Raipur. The accused was transporting the illicit liquor in his bike bearing No. CG 04/MA/6563 costing around Rs 40000 and was in search of customer. A case under section 34 (2) of Excise Act.

Enhancement of devp works

Development works in Health and Nutrition sectors to gain impetus with support of UNICEF



RAIPUR: The Department of Health and Family Welfare has invited UNICEF to support and enhance the development works of the health and nutrition sectors in Surguja Division. Under this collaboration, UNICEF will primarily provide technical support in the newly formed district of Manendragarh - Chirmiri - Bharatpur. This biennial program, spanning from July 2024 to July 2026, is the result of Health Minister and Manendragarh MLA, Shyam Bihari Jaiswal's tireless efforts. Under his guidance, the extensive implementation of this project will be undertaken. UNICEF will not only offer technical support in the health and nutrition sectors in the newly

constituted district of Manendragarh - Chirmiri - Bharatpur but will also work on other components affecting health and nutrition, such as education, sanitation, child protection, and disaster management. All the departments at district-level will provide required financial and administrative support. Through this project, the health and nutrition initiatives in the Surguja Division, particularly in the district of Manendragarh - Chirmiri - Bharatpur, will gain significant momentum. Representing UNICEF at the meeting were the Acting State Head, Mr. William Hanlon, Health Specialist Dr. Gajendra Singh, and Nutrition Specialist Dr. Aparna Deshpande.

CM remembers Swamy Vivekanand

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai offered rich tributes to the great visionary, philosopher and spiritual guru Swamy Vivekanand death anniversary on July 4.

Sai in his message has said that Swamyji introduced about the Indian philosophy and spiritualism to entire world and showed them path of progress and welfare of humanity.

Chhattisgarh too has adopted the practical, benevolent and reformistic principles of Swamyji. Some time of Swamyji's childhood was spent in Raipur and it is an honour for Chhattisgarh.

Today's Chhattisgarh is surging ahead on path and principles shown by Swamyji. Sai said that the valuable ideology and thoughts of Swamyji will continue to motivate people for years to come.

| DIST ADMIN ACTION |

Illegal encroachment removed from govt land in Sejbahar

Central Chronicle News

Raipur district admn removed encroachment from a 5 acre plot in Sejbahar

RAIPUR: Taking swift action on the complaint received during Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai's Jandarshan last week, the Raipur district administration has removed encroachment from a five-acre plot adjacent to the main road in Sejbahar.

During the Chief Minister's Jandarshan programme, locals complained that Santosh Dahariya, a resident of Banarsi village in Mana, had illegally occupied nearly five acres of land along the main road in Sejbahar. He had constructed permanent structures and was involved



Revenue department took action against the encroachment in Sejbahar area.

FACTFILE

● Villagers complain about land encroachment in Chief Minister's Jandarshan

in the illegal sale of the land. Sai took the complaint of government land encroachment seriously and instructed Raipur Collector Dr. Gaurav Singh

to investigate and take immediate action. Collector Dr. Singh assigned Raipur SDM and his team to investigate the matter. After the revenue staff conducted their investigation, it was confirmed that the land was indeed encroached upon. The illegal occupant had erected shop-like structures on the land and there were complaints of illegal land sales

to others. Besides, farmers faced difficulties accessing their fields behind this land during the current farming season. Today, with the assistance of JCB machines, shop-like structures illegally built on this land were demolished in the presence of SDM Nandkumar Choubey, Tehsildar Pawan Kosma, Additional Tehsildar Tulsi Rathore, police, and revenue staff.

| MOU SIGNED |

ICAR signs MoU to promote new technologies

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Dhanuka Agritech has signed an unprecedented and historical-umbrella Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Talking to media persons here, Chairman of Dhanuka Agritech R G Agrawal said that Dhanuka Agritech signed a MoU with ICAR in a bid to promote new technologies in agriculture sector.



The MoU would enable leveraging the resources and expertise of the R&D giant ICAR and one of the potential industries like Dhanuka, having its own R&D, to join hands strengthen extension and research activi-

ties. This partnership is aimed at making the Indian agriculture more vibrant through joint dissemination of advanced agricultural technologies through demonstrations, training programmes and field days.

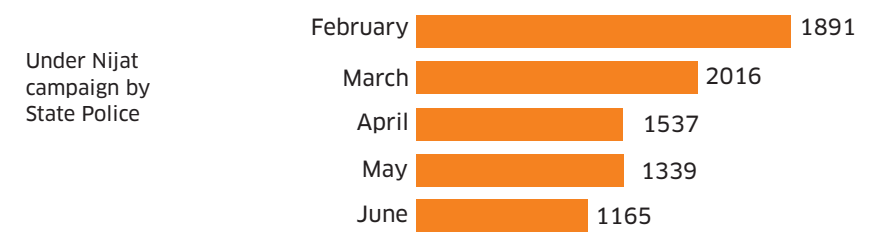
With beginning of this collaborative effort, experts from ICAR and Dhanuka will share their knowledge and technologies for the betterment of farmers.

R G Agrawal
Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech

The upcoming workshop marks the beginning of this collaborative effort, where experts from ICAR and Dhanuka will share their knowledge and technologies for the betterment of farmers, said the Chairman. Dhanuka Agritech's commitment to innovation is further underscored by its collaborations with six Japanese companies, empowering it to introduce the latest technologies to combat exotic pests.

The Day's NUMBERS

MONTH-WISE REGISTERED CRIMES (EXCISE/NDPS ACTION) IN STATE IN 2024



Source : Agency

SPORTS AWARDS

Applications for Sports Awards invited by Sports Department till July 10

RAIPUR: The talented sports players and trainers of state can submit applications for Sports Award by July 10. The Sports & Youth Welfare Department has invited applications for different categories for 2021-22 and 2022-23 and its last date earlier was June 30. Those interested can submit applications for the sports awards in the names of personalities viz. Shaheed Rajiv Pandey Award; Shaheed Kaushal Yadav award; Veer Hanuman Singh award, Shaheed Pankaj Vikram Award and Shaheed Vinod Choubey award; Mukhyamantri Trophy and others.

Asst. Director Sports & Youth Welfare Deptt Pravesh Joshi informed that the state government every year honours the sports players, trainers and coaches of different sports with 'Rajya Khel Alankaran' award. This award is presented to the sports players, trainers, coaches giving remarkable performances in various sports.

RENOVATION

Schools buildings renovated with library and laboratories



RAIPUR: As per instructions by the Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, the work of renovation of school buildings in state has intensified. In the dilapidated schools buildings, necessary repair works have been carried out and as per need, additional rooms too have been constructed. In these classes, the classes of the school children is taking place and it is more convenient compared to earlier. In some places either libraries have been made and in some place laboratories and in some sitting arrangements for school staff. Construction work in 298 schools in the district has been completed and it is in progress in other 76.

Provision of Rs 3321 cr for NH upgradation

Road widening and upgradation work will be done for 31 km from National Highway 130D Kasturmeta to Maharashtra border.



Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao talking to reporters over road construction.

Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

RAIPUR: Union Road and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has made a provision of Rs 3321 crore for the upgradation and widening of the National Highway, Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao said.

Talking to the journalists at his Raipur residence on Wednesday, Sao said that Chhattisgarh got from the Government of India regarding road construction. This provision has been made for the year 2024-25, Sao said.

Sao said that road widening and upgradation work will be done for 31

• **Development work in Chhattisgarh has accelerated due to the double engine government.**

• **Congress government has ruined the roads in five years'.**

km from National Highway 130D Kasturmeta to Maharashtra border.

This will connect Narayanpur district with Maharashtra, he said and added that a provision of Rs 178 crore had been made for this. Similarly, four-

lane road widening and upgradation work will be done for 42 km from Vidhan Sabha Chowk to Khartora road on Raipur-Baladabazar road and this construction will be done at a cost of Rs 844 crore, Sao said. Sao

Previous Cong got ruined roads

Alleging that previous Congress government ruined the roads of the state in five years, he said that central government did not discriminate in approving the amount. During the 5-year tenure of the previous government, an average provision of Rs 861 crore per year was made for the upgradation and widening of the National Highway in the state of Chhattisgarh and an average approval of Rs 927 crore per year was received.

lane road widening and upgradation work will be done for 42 km from Vidhan Sabha Chowk to Khartora road on Raipur-Baladabazar road and this construction will be done at a cost of Rs 844 crore, Sao said. Sao

said that on Raipur-Baladabazar road itself, Khartora Chowk to Baladabazar four-lane road widening and upgradation work (Package 2) will be done for 33 km and a provision of Rs 650 crore had been made for this.

BJP to re-start public grievances meeting

RAIPUR: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) would re-start the Assistance Centre at the party headquarters for taking up public grievances of party workers and public from July 5. Cabinet Minister Lakhanlal Dewangan and BJP General Secretary Bharat Verma would be available to take up public grievances on July 4 whereas Minister for Food & Civil Supplies Dayaldas Baghel and State BJP Vice President Shivratna Sharma would be present on July 5. Similarly, Deputy CM Arun Sao and Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal would be present on July 8 and 9 respectively.

Deputation of ITS Officer Poshan ends

RAIPUR: State Government has returned the services of Indian Telecom Services (ITS) Officer Poshan Chandrakar to his original cadre ending his deputation.

Chandrakar is the fourth ITS Officer whose services have been returned back by state government. Earlier, ITS Officer AP Tripathi and Manoj Soni were suspended following their arrest in Excise Scam and Custom Milling Scam recently.

Nineteen SAS Officers given fresh posting in Admn reshuffle

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: State Government on Wednesday issued fresh posting orders of 19 State Administrative Services Officers. The 2013 batch SAS Officer Shailabh Kumar Sahu has been posted as Deputy Secretary in Mantralaya, Janjgir-Champa Additional Collector Lavina Pandey too has been shifted to Mantralaya as Deputy Secretary and 2014 batch SAS Officer Yamini Pandey Gupta working as Registrar at RERA has been posted as Joint Director Sports & Youth Welfare. Similarly, Umashanker Agrawal has been posted as Upper Commissioner at Raipur Municipal Corporation, Padumlal Yadav has been posted

HIGHLIGHT

• **SAS Officer Sunil Kumar Sharma posted as Registrar KTU and Arun Verma to be RERA Registrar.**

as Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) Durg, Joint Collector Rajnandgaon Umesh Kumar Patel has been posted as Under Secretary in Mantralaya and Arun Kumar Verma would be new Registrar of RERA Raipur. Joint Collector Bastar Sunil Kumar Sharma has been posted as Registrar at Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism & Mass Communication Raipur whereas Joint Collector Bijapur Kailash Prasad Verma has been posted as Manager at Naya Raipur Development Authority (NRDA).

Mayor seeks suggestions for cleanliness survey

RAIPUR: The Mayor and Commissioner sought suggestions from representatives to ensure success of cleanliness survey in Raipur city. Mayor Dhebar emphasized importance of public feedback and noted that Raipur city had secured 11th position in previous cleanliness survey. He highlighted necessity of receiving public feedback on cleanliness efforts, especially through Ramky company

vehicles, which played a crucial role in this regard. Mayor Dhebar proposed that cleanliness competitions should be organized among wards to foster a spirit of healthy competition, which would significantly improve cleanliness standards. Mayor also suggested extending the cleanliness competition to markets, ponds, schools and colleges to raise awareness among people.

RMC floats EOI for corporate partner to establish AI Lab

Central Chronicle News

Raipur Municipal Corporation has floated an Expression of Interest for selection of a corporate partner to establish and operate a cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence lab in Raipur.

RAIPUR: This strategic initiative is aimed at fostering technological innovation, enhancing educational opportunities and driving economic growth within the region.

The AI lab will be a pioneering facility designed to promote advanced research, development and application of AI technologies. It will serve as a hub for innovation, providing a platform for local talent, researchers and businesses to collaborate on

transformative AI projects. The establishment of the AI lab underscores Raipur's commitment to becoming a leader in the digital economy and ensuring its citizens are well-equipped for the future. The AI lab will offer training programs, workshops and internships, thereby equipping the local workforce with advanced skills in AI and related fields. This will create numerous job opportunities and attract top talent to the city.

By providing access to cutting-edge AI technologies and expertise, lab will empower local startups and established businesses to innovate and compete on a global scale. This will lead to increased investment and economic growth in region. The collaboration will result in development of customized AI applications and services for Municipal Corporation.

Quickly resolve revenue cases: Verma

RAIPUR: The work of the Revenue Department is connected to the common people and in accordance with the goal of better and transparent administration by Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, people's revenue related work should be done with full alertness and sensitivity, Revenue Minister Tankaram Verma said.

He said that Revenue Fortnight was being organized in the state from 6th to 20th July for the resolution of revenue cases and all revenue officers must resolve pending revenue cases quickly during this fortnight.

Verma was addressing the review meeting of district level departmental works at Collectorate Baladabazar. Verma said that in the Revenue Department, there were very small works like transfer, partition, demarcation which were related to everyone.

Ch'garh College organises training prog on 'NEP 2020'

| TRAINING PROGRAMME |

Central Chronicle News

The presentation provided a road map for the present and coming sessions.

RAIPUR: Govt J Yoganandam Chhattisgarh College's NEP 2020 Implementation Cell organised a training programme for the teachers and employees of the institution on 1st July 2024 under the able guidance of the Principal, Dr Amitabh Banerjee. (As per the instructions of Directorate Higher Education).

Dr Kavita Sharma, nominated by the Department of Higher Education, CG Government, was the master trainer.

Dr Sharma touched upon all the aspects of NEP 2020 in lucid language and effective manner. She highlighted the salient features of Choice



Dr Kavita Sharma as master trainer addressing the college professors.

FASTFACTS

• **Dr Kavita Sharma, nominated by the Department of Higher Education, CG Government, was the master trainer.**

• **She touched upon all the aspects of NEP 2020 in lucid language and effective manner.**

Based Credit System and Learning Outcome Based Curriculum Framework where students will be able to choose from multidisciplinary course curriculums and shall have the options of multiple exit and multiple entry. The undergraduate programs will follow semester pattern and will be of three or four years

duration. Passing Marks would be 40 percent. It will be implemented uniformly in all the institutions of Higher Education in Chhattisgarh, she informed.

Dr Kavita Sharma's presentation was highly appreciated by the participants as she satisfied all the queries and cleared the doubts of them.

| WORKSHOP |

Workshop on Electric Vehicle Technology held

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: National Institute of Technology Raipur's Department of Electrical Engineering (EE) inaugurated a SERB sponsored High-end Workshop titled "Emerging Trends on Electrical Vehicle Technology and Charging Station Infrastructure".

Dr. Shubhrata Gupta present as guest, addressed the audience, describing electric vehicles as an emerging technology that could impact

transport infrastructure for sustainable development. Dr. Prabhat mentioned that many companies are transitioning to electric vehicles, which offer more choices and optimize energy sustainability through exciting trends like Vehicle to Grid (V2G) and Vehicle to Home (V2H).

Dr. Saurabh Saxena discussed machine learning-enabled battery health management and research on electric vehicles established



I highlighted the potential applications of linear motors and magnetic levitation for electric vehicles.

Dr. Shailendra Jain Professor, MANIT Bhopal

at IIT Delhi's Battery Research Center for Automotive Research & Tribology (CART) in 2019. Dr. Shailendra Kumar addressed the challenges

and future directions of Multi-Spot EV Charging Stations. Dr. Alleshetty Hemchander from NIT Puducherry emphasized the emerging trends and

challenges in EVs in India.

Dr. Shailendra Jain, Professor, MANIT Bhopal delivered an insightful talk on Hydrogen Fuel Cell-based EV propulsion systems. He highlighted the potential applications of linear motors and magnetic levitation for electric vehicles and high-speed transit systems, providing attendees with a comprehensive understanding of these advanced technologies. Following this, the workshop hosted an industry session.

Govt schools in villages get facelift

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Govt schools in villages, much like cities, are getting facelifted to enhance the learning environment for children. Renovation works of a total of 1991 schools have been completed in Mahasamund, Kanker, Surguja, and Rajnandgaon districts under the 'Mukhyamantri School Jatan Yojana'.

During a recent review meeting of the education department, CM Vishnu

Deo Sai instructed all collectors to expedite repair and renovation of schools in their districts. Following his directive, renovation work across all districts has gained momentum, with schools being decorated attractively. Ongoing renovations include providing concrete roofs in primary, pre-secondary, high school, and higher secondary schools, installing tiles in classrooms, laying paver blocks in school premises, and painting.

NEWSLINE

SPORTS

LIC Divisional Volleyball team announced



RAIPUR: D Santosh Kumar from Jagdalpur Branch Office, Karan Sonkar from Raipur Divisional Office, Bhuraj Kahar from Kanker and D Shori from Jagdalpur would be representing the Raipur Division LIC team in the Central Regional Volleyball Tournament to be held at Indore from August 28. Providing the above information, Joint Secretary of LIC Sports & Recreation Committee Vinay Baiswade said that above players have been selected on basis of their performances at Selection Trials held at Raipur Sapre School-based Volleyball Ground recently.

RECRUITMENT

Physical Test for SI exam on July 9

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh Board of Professional Examination would conduct Physical Efficiency Test for the appointment to the post of Subedar/Sub Inspector/ SI (Special Branch)/ Platoon Commander on July 9 at Swami Vivekananda Stadium Kota in Raipur. Physical Test would be conducted for the 370 Additional Male candidates.

AWARD CEREMONY

CSCS to organize Annual Award Ceremony on 5th

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh is going to organize Annual Award Ceremony - 2024 on 5th July 2024. CSCS will facilitate its players with excellent performance in state level and district level tournaments during year 2023-24. Awards will be given according to performance in different tournaments and age categories.

RAMLALA DARSHAN

Health Minister flags off special train for Ram Darshan



RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh government, led by Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, has launched the Ramlala Darshan Yojana following the construction of the grand Ayodhya temple, to facilitate pilgrimage to Ayodhya Dham for the state's devotees seeking Darshan of Ram. State Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal, along with MLAs Purandar Mishra and Anuj Sharma, flagged off a special train carrying 850 devotees from five districts of Raipur division at platform no. 1 of Raipur Railway Station today. Devotees will first reach Varanasi and visit Kashi Vishwanath before proceeding to Ayodhya.



Hawala operator's office raided, Rs 80 lakh seized

Accused being interrogated to expose the entire racket.



SP Jitendra Shukla addressing media persons at Police Control Room.

Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

● **Illegal funds of online cricket betting were transferred**

● **Rs 80 lakh cash, cash counting machines, etc seized**

fund transfer.

SP Jitendra Shukla informed that they had arrested Ruabandha resident Vinay Yadav while accepting online bets on June 28 at Supela. During interrogation, Vinay disclosed that he had sent the money of online

Office belonged to Ahmedabad based operator

During interrogation, they confessed to illegally transferring funds of online cricket betting. They also explained the modus operandi of transferring illegal funds. They disclosed that the office is owned by Dinesh Bhai Vyas of Ahmedabad. Police arrested the accused Shakti Singh Jateja (26); Jayendra Singh Jateja (21) and Akash Kumar Dave (31); all residents of District Patan Gujarat.

betting through a hawala operator.

The top members of the racket had provided token numbers to Vinay through WhatsApp group and he deposited the

cash at Raipur office with these token numbers. Acting on this information, police raided the Hawala operator office in Raipur and nabbed three persons.

Retired man loses Rs 1.12 lakh in ATM card fraud

BHILAI: A retired man lost Rs 1.12 lakh in ATM card fraud. After a failed transaction at ATM Kiosk in Old Bhilai, the victim Atma Ram (68) took help of an unknown person standing behind him in the queue.

The accused replaced the original ATM card with another one and later withdrew Rs 1.12 lakhs from the victim's account.

Police lodged a case under section 303 (2) of BNS.

Thief decamp with cash and gold from locked house

BHILAI: Unknown thieves trespassed into a locked house in Charoda and escaped with gold and cash.

The victim Dipesh Kumar Samant and his family had gone to Odisha to attend a marriage.

On the intervening night of July 02, unknown thieves burgled 30 grams of gold coins, Rs 6000 cash and a scooter.

Police lodged an offence under section 305(a), 331 (4) of BNS.

13 quarters by gun firing accused freed

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: BSP Enforcement Department team freed 26 quarters in Sector 6 from illegal occupants including 13 houses captured by the gun firing accused and notorious goon Ankur Sharma, who is presently in jail. Buttoned knives and other weapons were also recovered from his house.

After evicting the illegal occupants, the enforcement squad removed the doors and windows of the houses and cut the water and electric supply. These houses were occupied by illegal occupants for a long time and some were

given on rent by influential and criminals. A phenyl and incense stick factory was also operating in one house. A large number of

HIGHLIGHT

● **Illegal constructions made by Ankur Sharma bulldozed**

firecrackers have also been seized from this house. Apart from this, in compliance with the decree order number -59/2024 of the Estate Court, house 7B/38/6 was vacated from illegal occupation and handed over to the licensee.

SC/ST Vendor Devp Prog held in Bhilai Steel Plant

BHILAI: A Vendor Development Programme was organized in the Chief General Manager (MM) Conference Hall of the Materials Management Department of Bhilai Steel Plant on Wednesday, with the aim of providing assistance to the SC/ST vendors at Bhilai Steel Plant. Vikas Kulkarni, GM I/c (Purchase), was the Chief Guest on this occasion.

The main objective of this program was to provide a platform for discussion with SC/ST vendors and provide

an opportunity for networking between buyers and sellers. Valuable insights on BSP's procurement policy, various schemes for MSME units, registration processes and materials to be purchased, etc., were shared during the programme.

Prashant Janaki, AGM (VDC), and P Jagbandhu Deputy Manager (AD & VD) along with other senior officials from the Purchase Department and various vendors participated in this programme.

Initiative to make women Lakhpati Didi

Central Chronicle News

Beneficiary women will be linked with the departmental schemes

BHILAI: Administrative initiative will be taken to make Lakhpati Didis by giving equal opportunity to families involved in livelihood activities as well as such families which are already covered under agricultural / non-agricultural activities through SHGs. Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary conducted a detailed discussion on the identification and action plan of Lakhpati Didi. Collector Chaudhary said that the beneficiary women associated with livelihood activity in the district are to be benefited by linking them with the schemes run by various departments. The departments have to ensure their

participation in making these women Lakhpati Didi. She directed all the Janpad CEOs to apprise them of the action plan in the departmental meeting. District Panchayat CEO Ashwani Dewangan informed about the proposed action plan to identify opportunities for training, capacity building and exposure visits for potential Lakhpati Didi. He informed that under the action plan, beneficiary women will be linked with the departmental schemes of Animal Husbandry Department, Agriculture Department, Fisheries Department and the activities of the Finance Department. ADM Arvind Ekka, BMC Commissioner Devesh Dhruv, Assistant Collector M Bhargava, Additional Collector BK Dubey, Commissioners of all Municipal Corporations, all SDMs and Janpad CEOs and other officials were present.

Laptop stolen from house

BHILAI: A laptop was stolen in broad daylight from a house in Sector 2 Bhilai. The victim Harsh Dewangan complained that he had seen the laptop on the table before leaving for the temple on June 29. When he returned after two hours, he found that the laptop was missing. Other family members were unaware about the incident. Bhatti Police have lodged a case.

Corporator's husband thrashed

BHILAI: Husband and brother-in-law of a Corporator were beaten by locals in Ward 15 Mauhari of Risali late evening on Tuesday. Corporator Ishwari Sahu's husband and brother-in-law entered into an altercation with people at a retirement party after which they were thrashed by the locals. Police have lodged a case.

NCOA demands strategic merger of steel sector PSUs

Central Chronicle News

NCOA and SEFI delegation meets Steel Minister HD Kumaraswamy

BHILAI: The core team of National Confederation of Officers Association (NCOA) led by Executive President Narendra Kumar Banchhor, met Heavy Industries and Steel Minister HD Kumaraswamy on 01 July. NCOA office bearers thanked him for ending the suspension of senior officers in SAIL and discussions were held regarding the future of RINL and FSNL, which are proposed for disinvestment. The Minister accepted the request letters and assured of taking appropriate steps to protect the PSUs. SEFI and NACO demanded a strategic



Steel sector executives interacting with Steel Minister Kumaraswamy.

FASTFACTS

● **Executives protest disinvestment of SAIL units**

● **Minister assures positive decision within two months**

merger of Steel Sector PSUs.

It needs to be mentioned here that SAIL is working

to achieve the 35 Million Tonne production target by 2030.

Rs One Lakh crores will be invested for this expansion. On the other hand, the 7 MT RINL and 3 MT Nagarnar Steel Plant are proposed for privatization. SEFI and NACO have been opposing the privatization of these plants and these national assets

can be operated and managed in a better way after merger with SAIL. Banchhor gave detailed information about FSNL and presented a proposal to merge the small but very important unit, which is always in profit, with SAIL. The Steel Minister assured to take a concrete decision within a period of 2 months.

HEALTH CAMP |

Special medical camp on National Doctor's Day - 2024

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: A special medical camp was organized at the Rajhara Mines Hospital of BSP's Iron Ore Complex on the occasion of National Doctor's Day. A team of 10 specialist doctors from JLN Hospital & Research Centre, under the guidance of Dr Kaushlendra Thakur, CMO (M&HS), conducted the camp. The doctors examined and provided consultation to more than 400 patients. During the health check-up, three



Doctors with executives and union representatives at Rajhara.

patients were found suffering from serious ailments. It needs to be mentioned here that BK Giri, ED (Mines) and Dr Ravindranath M, CMO I/c (M&HS) had conducted a

meeting with union representatives of Rajhara Mines on June 04 and it was decided to organize a medical camp in Rajhara to mark National Doctor's Day 2024.

“Initiatives will be taken to provide better health facilities in mines areas”,

RB Gaharwar
(CGM, Mines)

It was the first time that a medical camp by specialist doctors was organized in Rajhara.

Dr Kaushlendra Thakur

expressed his desire to organise similar camps in the future as well.

The team of specialist doctors included Dr Rajshankar Rao (Surgery), Dr Emmanuel Messi (Orthopedics), Dr Chitra Sunao (Ophthalmology), Dr Shweta Verma (E&T), Dr Himani Gupta (O&G), Dr Shikha Agarwal (Anaesthesia), Paromita Dasgupta (Dietician), Dr Digvijayendra Kishore (Physiotherapy), Dr Vanita Sharma (Dental), and Dr Subodh Saha (Paediatrics).

Saplings planted under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: As part of the Van Mahotsav 2024, saplings were planted at Steel Authority of India Limited's (SAIL's) Corporate Office on Wednesday. This plantation is part of the company's commitment towards sustainability and greener steel making. Saplings were planted by Amarendu Prakash, Chairman, SAIL & VS Chakravarty, Director (Commercial), AK Tulsiani, Director (Finance), KK Singh, Direc-

tor (Personnel) and SN Gupta, CVO, SAIL. Senior officials and employees also joined in the event.

Van Mahotsav, the country's annual tree plantation festival celebrated from July 01 to 07, is aimed at urging citizens to join hands in planting trees for a greener planet. Earlier on World Environment Day, this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam' campaign strengthening India's quest towards sustainable development.

NEWSLINE

PMAY

19 illegal occupants evicted



BHILAI: Houses have been constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana at Amrapali Society in Bhilai. On Wednesday, BMC team freed 19 houses from illegal occupants at this colony. The houses were handed over to the original allottees. Some allottees, instead of staying in their own allotted houses, had captured other houses as per their wish. These houses were also vacated. On the instructions of BMC Commissioner Devesh Dhruv, action was taken by a joint team of BMC, Police and Public Works Department and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

BK Verma, Ajay Gaur, Deepak Devangan, Vidyadhar Devangan, Aditya Thakur, Utpal Sharma, Hariom Gupta and others were present with their team.

MONSOON

104.4 mm rainfall recorded

BHILAI: An average rainfall of 104.4 mm has been recorded in the district from 01 June to 03 July. The highest rainfall of 214.0 mm has been recorded in Patan Tehsil and the lowest 49.4 mm in Bori. Apart from this, 72.9 mm rainfall has been recorded in Durg, 60.4 mm in Dhamdha, 79.6 mm in Bhilai 3 and 149.8 mm in Ahiwara. On 03 July, 1.0 mm rainfall was recorded in Durg, 0.0 mm in Dhamdha, 0.0 mm in Ahiwara, 0.0 mm in Bori, 2.0 mm in Bhilai 3 and 0.0 mm in Patan.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Calf dragged for two kms

BHILAI: A drunken car driver dragged a calf for 2 km in Supela. The rashly moving car ran over the calf after which it got trapped beneath the vehicle. Animal lovers Sanjay Sahu and Aditya Nag witnessed the incident and chased the car. They tried to rescue the calf with the help of other people but the animal succumbed to injuries. Police lodged a case under section 325 of BNS and Chhattisgarh Krishak Pashu Parikshan Act 2004.

OBITUARY

P Shardamma

BHILAI: P Shardamma, wife of Late P Tata Rao, left for heavenly a b o d e on the intervening night



of Wednesday. Funeral procession will be taken out from her residence located at 42-A, H Pocket, Maroda Sector on July 04 around 10:00 hrs and last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Ranagar Muktidham. She is survived by P Rama Rao, P Shankesh, M Venkat Rao and family.

N-E-W-S



"Incidents like Hathras keep happening but accountability is not fixed by the government. Instead, it is only interested in covering up these matters."

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra
Congress leader

CM Yogi Adityanath arrives in Hathras



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during his visit, on Wednesday, at the site of the Hathras stampede which broke out at a religious congregation during the incident in Hathras.PTI

MP budget focuses on infra, women and tribal welfare; no new tax

MP government today presented the state budget for 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs 3.65 lakh crore, marking major allocations for welfare of women and tribals

Press Trust Of India

BHOPAL: Madhya Pradesh government on Wednesday presented the state budget for 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs 3.65 lakh crore, marking major allocations for the infrastructure development and welfare of women and tribals.

No new taxes were announced in the budget, which state Finance Minister Jagdish Devda termed as "sarvparshi" (all-inclusive). Devda presented the budget in the state legislative assembly amid ruckus created by the opposition Congress over the issue of

an alleged nursing college scam.

The CBI is probing the alleged scam pertaining to gross irregularities in the functioning of several nursing colleges that lacked infrastructure while some existed only on paper. Talking to reporters after presenting the budget, Devda said the behaviour of the opposition members in the House was highly condemnable.

"The budget for the year 2024-25 has been made keeping in view the doubling of the budget size in next five years, increasing capital invest-

HIGHLIGHT

- No new taxes were announced in the budget, which state Finance Minister Jagdish Devda termed as "sarvparshi" (all-inclusive).

- mid continuous sloganeering by the opposition, the government presented an outlay of Rs 3.65 lakh crore for the financial year 2024-25, which is 16 per cent more than that of the previous year.

ment, expansion of roads, irrigation and electricity facilities, quality health

facilities, attracting investment for employment generation and good governance," Devda said in his speech. Amid continuous sloganeering by the opposition, the government presented an outlay of Rs 3.65 lakh crore for the financial year 2024-25, which is 16 per cent more than that of the previous year.

The budget for the women and child development department has been substantially raised to Rs 26,560 crore from 14,686 crore in the last fiscal. Devda said there will be an estimated increase in capital expenditure by

15 per cent in 2024-25, compared to the budget estimate for 2023-24.

The capital outlay for 2024-25 is estimated at 4.25 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product. The minister said the fiscal deficit in 2024-25 is estimated to be 4.11 per cent of the GSDP. The allocation for infrastructure sector has been increased to Rs 53,460 crore from Rs 49,009 crore in the previous fiscal, while the allocation for the urban and rural development sectors has been increased to Rs 44,588 crore from Rs 39,326 crore in the last FY.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

VERDICT

HC order limiting period of bail to two months "incorrect", says SC

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has termed as "incorrect" an order of the Orissa High Court which limited the period of bail granted to an accused in a case lodged under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act to two months.

The bench, while referring to a verdict passed earlier by the top court, said it is now well settled that the right to speedy trial is recognised as a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution and is closely tied to the right to life and personal liberty.

A vacation bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and Ujjal Bhuyan noted that the petitioner had filed a bail application in the high court which had taken notice of the fact that the petitioner was in custody since May 11, 2022 and only one witness was examined so far. **PTI**

LEADERSHIP

Hemant Soren likely to return as Jharkhand CM with MLAs ready to support



RANCHI: JMM executive president Hemant Soren is set to return as chief minister of Jharkhand for the third time following consensus among legislators of the party-led alliance in the state, sources said on Wednesday.

Leaders and MLAs of the alliance during a meeting at Chief Minister Champai Soren's residence here unanimously decided to elect Hemant Soren as JMM legislature party leader, they said. **PTI**

Treasury bench targeted

BJD joins opposition against Govt. YSR Con. slams Oppn. bench for disrupting PM's speech



NEW DELHI: Two unaligned and key regional parties charted separate political paths in Parliament's first session in the Modi government's third term as the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) joined the opposition in targeting the treasury benches, while the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) kept away from such protests and remained sympathetic to the Centre. Both the parties have suffered serious setbacks in the recent Lok Sabha polls and lost power in their respective states, where Assembly elections were held simultaneously. Both had supported the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on key

legislative matters in Parliament during its previous term at the Centre.

The Andhra Pradesh-based YSRCP and Odisha's BJD continue to have a sizeable presence in the Rajya Sabha, where the BJP-led NDA does not have a majority, and their stand on issues can tilt the balance of power.

BJD leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sammit Patra led his party colleagues on Wednesday in walking out of the Rajya Sabha, along with the opposition parties, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reply to the Motion of Thanks on the president's address to a joint sitting of Parliament. **PTI**

Ex-Assam Cong leader Romen Chandra Borthakur joins AAP in Delhi

NEW DELHI: Former Assam Congress leader Romen Chandra Borthakur joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) here on Wednesday. Senior AAP leader and Delhi cabinet minister Atishi and the party's northeast in-charge Rajesh Sharma welcomed Borthakur and presented him with a party cap and sash. At a press conference, Atishi said, "He (Borthakur) has been the general secretary of Assam PCC, senior spokesperson and in-charge of Assam Congress. He contested the 2021 election from the Jalukbari assembly seat against the Chief Minister of Assam Himanta Biswa Sarma." "Romen Chandra Borthakur has been continuously raising his voice against the corruption and 'bulldozer politics' of Himanta Biswa Sarma.

Congress slams Modi for not visiting flood-ravaged Assam

GOVT SHOULD FULFILL PROMISES

Press Trust Of India

Appealing to all party workers to help the flood-hit people in Assam, the opposition Congress on Wednesday slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not paying any visit to the s



Telangana CM Revanth Reddy is against drug abuse. PTI.

GUWAHATI: Appealing to all party workers to help people suffering due to the devastating flood in Assam, the opposition Congress on Wednesday slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not paying any visit to the state during the ongoing crisis.

The All India Congress Committee general secretary Jitendra Singh also criticized the BJP-led

FACTFILE

- During this hour of need, the Congress party must stand by the people of the state and extend all possible help and support in the affected areas, AICC general secretary said.

government in the state for "failing" to fulfill its promises regarding controlling the perennial

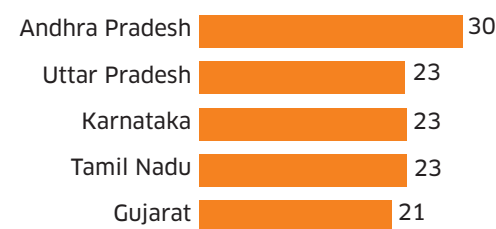
flood. "During the Congress government, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh came and visited the flood-affected areas and extended all possible help from the Central government. But unfortunately, no central leader of the NDA government has come to visit Assam as yet. "It is extremely condemnable that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who can travel multiple

times to Assam for election campaigns but cannot take time out to visit during this time of devastating floods in Assam," said Singh, who is also the in-charge of Assam Congress.

In a letter addressed to all Congress workers and leaders of Assam, he stressed that the state is reeling under unprecedented floods, affecting almost all districts causing immense distress to the people and damage to property. "We have observed that the Government of Assam has not been able to rise to the occasion as expected. Promises made by the government to the people of Assam for flood control have all failed," Singh said.

The Day's NUMBERS

STATES WITH MAXIMUM NO. OF STATE PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES



Source: Agencies

GROWTH

Revenues of top 18 states to grow 8 to 10 per cent this fiscal: CRISIL

KOLKATA: Revenues of top 18 states, which account for 90 per cent of India's gross state domestic product, are likely to grow at a pace of eight to 10 per cent during the current financial year at Rs 38 lakh crore, according to a CRISIL Ratings report. Last fiscal, the revenues of the 18 states grew by seven per cent, it said. The growth will be primarily driven by robust GST collections and devolution of finances from the Centre, which comprise around 50 per cent of the aggregate state revenues, according to the report. It said while revenue on liquor sales, which is ten per cent of the states' revenues, is expected to remain stable, collections of sales tax imposed on petroleum products and grants recommended by the 15th Finance Commission will be modest. Senior director of CRISIL Ratings Anuj Sethi said that the biggest impetus to revenue growth will continue to come from aggregate state GST collections and also from improved tax compliance and greater formalisation of the economy. **PTI**

PROTEST

NEET UG row: Youth Cong workers demand probe in to the case



NEW DELHI: Raising slogans against the BJP-led Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA), the student outfits of some INDIA bloc parties staged a protest at the Jantar Mantar here against alleged irregularities in several competitive exams and demand probe in to the case. In a separate protest, the Congress' youth wing, Indian Youth Congress (IYC), staged a demonstration against the irregularities near the protest site. Several Youth Congress workers shaved their heads as a sign of protest while raising "anti-Modi" slogans. **PTI**

PARTY WORKERS' MEETING IN JAMMU

Nadda to gear up BJP for assembly polls

Press Trust Of India

BJP national president JP Nadda will address the BJP's executive meeting starting on July 5 to be attended by over 2,000 senior party leaders and officials.

JAMMU: BJP national president and Union Minister J P Nadda will visit

Jammu on July 6 to set the party into motion by announcing plans for the upcoming assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir. "We have to mobilize the aparty workers for the forthcoming elections in the state, said JP Nadda . Nadda, who will receive a warm reception in Jammu following the BJP's third consecutive victory, will review the party's

"We have to set the party into motion for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir."

J P Nadda
BJP president



operations. This move is crucial as the Election Commission of India (ECI) begins updating the electoral rolls in the

Union Territory, paving the way for the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir along with other states. "Nadda is arriving in Jammu to assess the party's functioning and discuss strategies for the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir," Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief Ravinder Raina told PTI.

Take effective steps to reduce elephant-human conflict in the forest areas of the district and to prevent any loss of life due to wild elephants.

Ajit Vasant
Collector Korba



Chhattisgarh

Stop Diarrhea Campaign launched by MLA

KORBA: Stop Diarrhea Campaign will be organized in the district from 1st July to 31st August 2024 with the aim of preventing deaths due to diarrhea in children. MLA Katghora Premchand Patel on Monday launched Stop Diarrhea Campaign and ORS and Zinc Corner at the Community Health Center of Katghora. He said that diarrhea is also a major cause of death in children aged 0 to 5 years. Infant mortality rate can be reduced by early diagnosis and treatment.

Block level Pravesh Utsav prog held

PANDARIYA: Block level Pravesh Utsav was organized in the community hall of Pandaria-Nagar on Tuesday. Addressing the children, Pandaria MLA Bhavna Bohra, who was present as the chief guest in the program, said that after studies, think about what you want to become in the future and make efforts in that direction. One can achieve the destination only by preparing for the set goal. Telling about her school life, she said that she always used to think about becoming a good leader.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

SHALA PRAVESHOTSAV

School entrance festival held at Dhaniram Sahu high school

DONGARGAON: Newly admitted students of class 9th and 11th in the academic session 2024-25 were welcomed by applying gular and feeding sweets in Dhaniram Sahu Government Kisan High School of the region. Textbooks were distributed to the newly admitted students and cycles were distributed to the eligible students of Saraswati Free Cycle Scheme. Dinesh Sahu, former District Vice President Dongargaon and Hirendra Kumar Sonkar, Village Head were specially present in the school entrance festival. Dinesh Sahu encouraged the students to come to school regularly and study by staying disciplined. Principal Mrs. Vibha Pandey motivated the students to study by staying disciplined.

JANDARSHAN

Collector holds Jandarshan, listens to public concerns



GAURELLA PENDRA MARWAHI: Collector Mrs. Pendra Kamlash Mandavi on Wednesday heard people who came with various demands and problems during Jandarshan. Taking the applications of Jandarshan seriously, she instructed the officials of the concerned department for quick resolution. 21 applications were received in Jandarshan. These mainly include applications related to drinking water problem, removal of transformer, salary payment, wage payment, ration card, admission in school, installation of signboards on twisty roads, demarcation, map division, transfer, land correction etc.

Skating competition

Ch'garh team boosted by 6 athletes from Baikunthpur win medals in Skating competition



BAIKUNTHPUR: Six children from Korea represented Chhattisgarh in the skating competition held in Belgaum, Karnataka. By skating non-stop for 75 hours in 100 meters, the children have registered their name in the Guinness Book of World Records. The children also won medals. 856 children from all over the country participated in the competition. According to the information, Arish Gupta, Pihu Rajwade, Ishan Bhagat, Sankalp Beck, Anupam Gupta from the district have won medals in the competition. All of them had come to participate

in the competition under the guidance of coach Anjali Singh. Despite the lack of skating ground and proper facilities, with the efforts of coach Anjali, the children are bringing glory to the district in skating. However, the district administration has assured that soon the facility of skating ground will be made available in the district. Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh said that 6 children from the district participated in the skating competition held in Belgaum and registered their names in the Guinness Book of World Records.



The smugglers have illegally excavated the diamond mine in such a way that only well-like tunnels and big pits are visible.

Illegal excavation in diamond mine on rise!

The smugglers have illegally excavated the diamond mine in such a way that only well-like tunnels and big pits are visible far and wide.

Sheikh Hassan Khan

MAINPUR: It will be surprising to know that not even a guard is posted for security in the country's largest diamond mine. Here, precious diamonds like Alexander and precious gems are scattered in the jungles and what's more, the smugglers have illegally excavated the diamond mine in such a way that only well-like tunnels and big pits are visible far and wide. For the safety of the diamond mine, security fences of iron wires and angles were installed

from all sides. A huge main iron gate was installed in front of the mine. The diamond smugglers have made the security fences, wire fences and even the main gate disappear. And on the road leading to the diamond mine, large pits have been dug and trees have been felled so that the administration staff cannot reach their easily. Illegal excavation has been done in the diamond mine in such a way that if you see the list of illegal diamond smugglers in the police station

HIGHLIGHT

- There is not a single guard to protect the diamond reserves scattered in the jungles of Gariaband.

- The smugglers have dug up the walls of the diamond mine and made it sieve-like.

for the last 10 years, hundreds of diamond smugglers have been arrested by the police of Gariaband and border areas Dham-

tari and Mahasamund and thousands of precious diamond stones have been confiscated from them. The estimated value of the diamonds seized is said to be more than 8-10 crores. The administration came to know about the diamond mines of Pailikhand and Behradih under the development block Mainpur of Gariaband district about 36-37 years ago in the era of undivided Madhya Pradesh. Since then, the business of diamond smuggling has been going on in the area for a long time.

PROGRAMME ON NEW LAWS

Nagpur Chowki hosts block-level prog on new laws

Soumya makes a mark in chess

BIRKONI: Last month, state level open rated chess competition was organized in Pithora from 07 June to 10 June. Soumya Kumar Sahu participated in it and gave a great performance in classical and got International FIDE rating by defeating four rated players and got Open rating with 1618 points. Chess players are identified by their FIDE rating and the first aim is to become a rated player. Soumya Kumar Sahu, grandson of Narayan Lal Sahu, resident of Birkoni, is a student studying in Kendriya Vidyalaya Mahasamund and is the son of teacher couple Ishwar Sahu and Lekhni Sahu. On this achievement, Chhattisgarh Chess Association Secretary Hemant Khunte, Sports Officer Manoj Ghritalhar, Vinesh Dultani Raipur, Harikrishna Reddy Rajnandgaon, Sandeep Patle, teachers, friends and family members expressed their congratulations and best wishes.

Central Chronicle News

Block level programme on new laws was held to provide appropriate legal remedies for new types of crimes.

MCB NAGPUR: In the digital age, new types of crimes like cyber crime, data security and technical fraud are coming to the fore.

New laws provide appropriate legal remedies for new types of crimes. Their aim is to eliminate irrelevant laws and improve the conviction rate as well as provide timely justice.

Outpost in-charge Dinesh Chauhan, who was present as a speaker in the program, gave his lecture about the new provisions on crimes against women and children in which he



A Block level programme on new laws was held here on Tuesday.

FACTFILE

- Outpost in-charge Dinesh Chauhan gave his lecture about the new provisions on crimes against women and children.

gave detailed information about the new sections added in the new criminal laws, sections removed from the old law and necessary changes.

In his lecture, he told that the new laws are important steps towards making the legal system of our country modern, contemporary and effective.

Through these codes, transparency, promptness and fairness can be ensured in the judicial process. After this, ASI Ram Roop informed about the general provisions/changes brought in the new law that the

Indian Penal Code 2023 has replaced the Indian Penal Code 1860, which includes 358 sections. Most of the provisions of the IPC have been retained, new crimes have been introduced, sections interrupted by the court have been abolished and punishment for various crimes has been increased.

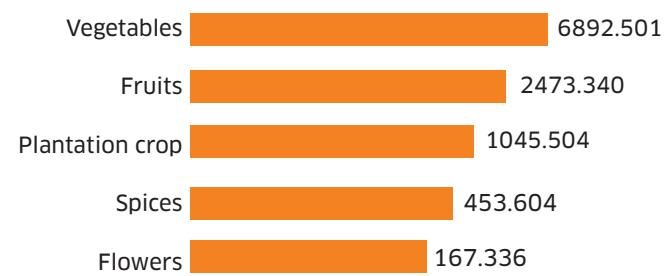
In the said public awareness program, public representatives of Gram Panchayats around Nagpur like former MLA Champa Devi Pawale Manendragarh, Vice President Rajesh Sahu, BJP senior speaker Jamuna Pandey, Shyam Bihari Jaiswal, Sanjay Rai, members of Peace Committee, voluntary organization, Kotwar, intellectuals, and members of electronic and print media were present.

The Day's NUMBERS

(Production in '000 MT as on 2022-23)

(Source Directorate of Horticulture & Farm Forestry, Ch'garh)

TOP FIVE PRODUCTION OF HORTICULTURE CROPS IN CH'GARH



NEW LAWS

'New law is focused on justice instead of punishment'

RAJIM: On the implementation of three new laws from July, former MP Chandulal said that the new law made by the Government of India is focused on justice instead of punishment which has come into force from 1 July. The three old laws, Indian Penal Code, Indian Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Evidence Act, were telling the story of slavery, in place of which now new laws Indian Justice Code, Indian Civil Defense Code and Indian Evidence Act are being implemented. All this has been possible only under the able leadership of Honorable PM Narendra Modi. I express my gratitude to PM Modi for this initiative. Mr. Sahu further said that terrorism has been defined for the first time in the new law, and treason has been made a crime. Provision of strict punishment has been made in the case of mob lynching. And to ensure quick justice in criminal laws, from FIR to judgment has been bound by time limit. Also, the full use of modern technology and making electronic evidence a part of the law will make it easier to settle cases quickly, and now there will be no complaint of adjournments in the case.

MEETING

Top Gaurella officials hold meeting with CM and Dy CM



GAURELLA: Gaurela Municipal Council President Mrs. Gangotri Govardhan Rathore, Vice President Sandeep Jaiswal, and councilor team made a courtesy visit to Chief Minister, Mr. Vishnu Dev Sai and Deputy Chief Minister Mr. Arun Sao. First of all, they requested for final publication in the gazette for upgrading Gaurela Municipal Council to Nagar Palika. A demand letter was submitted for beautification of the pond located in Municipal Council Gaurela, mini indoor stadium for expansion of sports facilities, upgradation of the garden located at Lohara Ghorki and for basic facilities. The CM and Deputy CM assured to fulfill the demands. The councilor team met BJP candidate from Kota region Prabal Pratap Judeo at his residence. He expressed gratitude for giving him a historic lead from Gaurela Nagar Panchayat and Gaurela Pendra.

NEWS IMPACT

'Public pressure paves the way for repairs'

Central Chronicle News

KURUD: Now commuters on the bypass road will get relief from potholes and wavy roads, accidents will stop, people traveling on this route on bicycles, scooters and motorcycles will not fall. Warning ADB about the accidents, troubles and injuries caused to school children, women and working people due to the long and wavy potholes on the roads, Central



Chronicle prominently brought the concerns of the people of Kurud to the fore, prominently raising the issue of the road not being repaired soon and the possibility of a huge loss of life and

property due to potholes. The responsible officials of ADB had published a news talking about the solution to the problems of the people on which ADB's SDO LNS Rathore immediately asked the construc-

Overloaded vehicles carrying sand etc. put more weight on the road, due to which such potholes are formed.

ADB's SDO Kurud

tion agency to repair the road and today the road is being repaired by filling

the potholes. The busiest area of the road built by ADB from the welcome gate of Kurud Guru Nagar on the National Highway to Panduka is from the Kurud National Highway 30 access to Surya Namaskar Chowk bypass where State Bank, Canara Bank, Yes Bank, Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank are located where people from the entire area including Kurud keep coming and going throughout the day.

Bakshi School in dilapidated condition

The condition of this historic educational institution deteriorated further.

Central Chronicle News

KHAIRAGADH: The condition of Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi Swami Atmanand School, which was operational under different names since 1885 back since princely era, is presently in a very poor condition. In the princely era, before independence, this institution was renowned as Victoria School among the best schools of Central India, but in today's current circumstances, the truth is

The school management has been continuously corresponding with the higher officials of the government and administration for the renovation and improvement of the school, currently the construction work of 10 rooms is going on.

RL Verma, Principal in charge

The construction work has been delayed due to the negligence of the contractor. The work of construction of rooms will be completed in about 1 month.

LW Tirkey, EE PWD Khairagarh

Earlier, the funds were not available at the government level in time, so the contractor had stopped the work, now the construction is going on.

Sanjay Jagrut, SDO PWD Khairagarh



Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi Swami Atmanand School is presently in a very poor condition.

FASTFACTS

● The school does not have enough teachers and staff, while the institution is struggling with the lack of classrooms along with the building.

that after independence, under government supervision, the condition of this historic educational institution deteriorated further.

Even today, this biggest school of the district, which provides education to about 1600 students, is waiting for the mercy of the admin-

School building given by 'Diwan of Khairagarh'

The story of the construction of the school in 1885 is also very interesting. As per history, the then Diwan of Khairagarh, gave way to the institution under the patronage of the royal family, on public demand to have a good school in Khairagarh Raj region. The Diwan Bada or compound is where the school first started and Raja Kamal Narayan Singh was admitted here as the first student. This is the same school where the first Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla and Sahitya Vachaspati Dr. Padumlal Punnalal Bakshi has also served as teachers.

istration so that it can save its existence and its ability to shape the future of promising students for the last 139 years can be saved.

The school does not have enough teachers and staff, while the institution is struggling with the lack of classrooms along with the building.

Saraswati Yadu becomes acting Sarpanch

KHAIRAGARH: Saraswati Yadu has been selected as acting Sarpanch of panchayat Pandadah, on Monday, after all the panchs unanimously elected Yadav, the Panch of Ward No. 10, as the acting Sarpanch of the village.

As per information, due to a no-confidence motion in the village panchayat Pandadah, the woman Sarpanch Manorama Sanjay Yadav lost her chair, after which on Monday, in the presence of the officials who arrived from the district panchayat to conduct the Sarpanch elections, the Panchs of all the wards unanimously agreed on the name of Saraswati Yadav and elected her as the Sarpanch of the village panchayat Pandadah.

Girija Chandrakar becomes acting president

KHAIRAGARH: BJP Mahila Morcha Mandal President and councilor for the second time in a row from Ward No. 12 Amlipara of the city, Girija Nand Chandrakar has been nominated by the Urban Administration Department of Chhattisgarh Government to the post of acting president of Khairagarh Municipality till further orders.

There is a great need for fish based value added products: Dr. Singh



Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

DHAMDHA: A one day training and practical work for farmers on value added products was organized at Fisheries Polytechnic, Rajpur-Dhamdha functioning under Dau Shri Vasudev Chandrakar Kamdhenu University, Durg. Vice Chancellor, Dr. R.R.B. Singh, speaking as the chief guest, said that there is a great possibility of value-added products from fish in the state and eatables like fish

● A one day training and practical work for farmers on value added products was organized at Fisheries Polytechnic, Rajpur-Dhamdha functioning under DSVCKU, Durg.

cutlet, fish magondi, fish papad, fish pickle and fish samosa etc., which provides employment opportunities to the people as well as also fulfils the nutritional requirements.

Prevent hoarding of pulses: Collector

KOBA: As per the gazette published by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India on 21 June 2024, a stock has been determined to prevent hoarding of pulses tur/arhar and urad.

Regarding preventing hoarding of pulses, Collector Ajit Vasant has directed the pulse traders to register on the Government of India portal (fcainfoweb.nic.in/psp) and all Sub-Divisional Officers Revenue, Food

Inspectors / Assistant Food Officers to conduct regular inspection and to widely publicize the instructions given regarding the stock of pulses. The Government of India has determined the stock for pulses Tuar/Arhar and Urad, in which wholesalers should not have more than 200 metric tonnes of each pulse, retail traders 5 metric tonnes, big chain retailers and each retail outlet 5 metric tonnes and depots 200 metric tonnes.

NEWSLINE

PLANTATION

'Tree plantation by Arang Jan Seva Samiti



ARANG : Tree plantation drive was done by Arang Jan Seva Samiti, in the memory of late Ashok Ahuja in Arang playground area. Sectional Officer Arang Pushpendra Sharma, Chief Executive Officer Kumar Singh Lahare, Tehsildar Sita Shukla and children of Shriradha Krishna Vidya Mandir were present in the program. Also present were prominent citizens Dr. Santosh Agarwal Ashok Ahuja, Roop Chaudhary, Pankaj Shukla, Suraj Sharma, Pradeep Chandrakar, Anand Dwarkani, Rohit Ahuja and Prahlad Dwarkani, Shrawan Agarwal, Shrikant Agarwal, Rohit Ahuja from Arang Jan Seva Samiti and employees from Nagar Palika Parishad.

PLANTATION

'Tree plantation in Baihar School



ARANG: As per the instructions of the government, 100 saplings were planted under the tree plantation program in Government Primary and Pre-Secondary School Baihar on 02 July. Saplings of guava, mango, papaya, munga, gulmohar, karonda, amla, sindoor, almond etc. were planted. The program was completed with the cooperation of School Development Committee Chairman Manmohan Gupta, parents Hem Kalyani Sahu, Domeshwari, Kamal Sahu, Satrupa Sahu, Yogeshwari Sahu, Pre-Secondary School Head Teacher Vinod Chandrakar, Primary School Head Teacher Sangya Chandrakar, teacher staff Pokhanram Sahu, Nagenra Devangan, Shailendra Dhurandhar, Anju Gupta Amrita Pradhan, Tumesh Bharti Sahu, Krishna Tan don etc.

INSPECTION

NQAS certificate awarded after inspection of health centres



MUNGELI: The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued NQAS certificate after inspection and evaluation of three health centres of the district. The three health centres include Primary Health Center Dashrangpur, Urban Primary Health Center Mungeli and Ayushman Arogya Mandir Temri for providing high level quality health services.

In the standard of 100 marks, Primary Health Center Dashrangpur has scored 89.55 percent and Urban Primary Health Center Mungeli has scored 82.52 percent and Ayushman Arogya Mandir Temri has scored 90.29 percent marks.

Discrimination in allocation of inhabited land



Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

ANWARI: Grass land of Gram Panchayat Supela of Bhakhara Tehsil area Khasra number - 79 area - 20.81 hectares, in a area of 1.20 hectare which was declared inhabited on 3 August 2023 by changing the name from government grass item under section 237 (2) of the Land Revenue Code 1959, is in controversy owing to beneficiaries being asked to pay a certain amount in lieu of the land.

The Gram Panchayat had proposed the names of 130 beneficiaries for

● Along with this, the villagers allege that discrimination and favoritism is being done by the Panchayat.

distribution of inhabited land, in which the Panchayat representatives decided to distribute the inhabited land by selecting 90 beneficiaries. But as per information, the beneficiaries selected for the distribution of inhabited land, in lieu of providing land, are paying Rs.16,000 each by Sarpanch's husband Chetan Devangan.

Keshla Mata Pahani prog concludes

KHARORA: Keshli Mata Pahani program organised by Keshla Mahamaya Committee in the courtyard of the Maa Sheetla Mata temple conclude here with devotion. On the occasion, villagers thronged to offer prayers and devotees queued up to take the darshan.

Pravesh Utsav 2024 celebrated

KHARORA: Pravesh Utsav 2024 was celebrated in Century Cement School with enthusiasm under the presence of Devashish Rai Chaudhary, Secretary, Century Cement Education Society and Ashok Kumar Sinha FH Ultratech Baikunth Mines from Century Cement Management Committee. In his address Principal of the school, GP Sharma also presented the outline of the proper conduct of the session 2024-25 to the parents.

'Historic day for the judicial system of country'

Central Chronicle News

Changes have been made in this new law as per the needs of the society and through this, people will be able to get timely justice.

MUNGELI: 'Today is a historic day for the judicial system of the country and a new law has been implemented by abolishing the old law and when a law is made, what is the thinking of the law maker in it, what is the purpose, it is of great importance'. The above were said by Deputy CM Arun Sao in his address in a program organized on the occasion of the launch of new laws at Thana City Kotwali of District Headquarters Mungeli.

He further said that changes have been made in this new law as per



Deputy CM Arun Sao addressing in a program organized on the occasion of the launch of new laws.

FASTFACTS

● Mungeli MLA Punnul Mohle said that in the new law, people can now register online reports sitting at home.

the needs of the society and through this, people will be able to get timely justice with complete transparency. He con-

gratulated the people of the district on the implementation of the Indian Judicial Code, Indian Evidence Act, and Indian Civil Defense Code and explained in detail about the background of the making of the law.

Mungeli MLA Punnul Mohle said that in the new law, people can now register online

reports sitting at home and many new provisions have been included in it, due to which people will now get quick justice. He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the implementation of the new law and encouraged the police department to do more and more work in providing justice to the society.

PLANTATION

Plantation drive by MLA in village Bade Mungi

Central Chronicle News

ARANG: Arang MLA Guru Khuswant Saheb, took part in plantation drive in the villages of Bade Mungi and Bahanakadi of his assembly constituency on Tuesday, and in his address to the villagers said that the temperature of the earth is continuously increasing due to the deteriorating environment, due to which human life, animals and plants are getting adversely affected,



therefore trees should be planted.

He appealed to the citizens and said that the environment can be saved by reducing pol-

lution, therefore we all should come forward to protect the environment and everyone should plant as many trees as possible. The more trees

The environment can be saved by reducing pollution, therefore we all should come forward to protect the environment

Guru Khuswant Saheb MLA Arang

there are, the cleaner the environment will be, he said. Also, on the occasion of Shala

Pravesh Utsav, students were given admission by presenting them copies, books and sweets and all the teachers, parents and students were congratulated.

In Bade Mungi, 151 saplings were planted in the reserved ground by the women's group and with the cooperation of the village sarpanch and village of Bahanakadi, 251 saplings were planted in the primary, secondary school, gram panchayat and playground.

Purshottam Yadav organizes invitation feast

Central Chronicle News

DONGARGAON: Under the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman for the good health of children, the Chhattisgarh government started the tradition of invitation feast in all primary and secondary schools and in the sequence starting this tradition, an invitation feast was organized on the auspicious occasion of the birthday of Harika Yadav (Prachi), daughter of social worker



Purushottam Yadav of the village, in the secondary and primary school Sanginkachhar of Dogargaon block. Various dishes were included in the daily menu of the school's mid-day meal under the arrangement of Ghanaram Patel.



Cong. INDIA bloc spreading lies on NEET issue.

Dharmendra Pradhan
Union Education Minister

Flood situation grim in Assam



A herd of goats stand atop a higher ground amid floods, in Morigaon district, Wednesday.

NTA working on CUET-UG results, date soon: UGC

The results for the crucial test, which is a gateway for admission to undergraduate courses, were scheduled to be announced by June 30. NTA confirmation awaited.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman M Jagadish Kumar on Wednesday said the date for declaration of results for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET)-UG will be announced soon.

The results for the crucial test, which is a gateway for admission to undergraduate courses, were scheduled to be announced by June 30. However, there has been no update yet from the National Testing Agency (NTA). The delay in announcement of CUET

results is also likely to impact the academic calendar in the universities.

"NTA is working on CUET results and will announce a date soon," the UGC chairman said.

The delay in results come amid a raging row over alleged irregularities in the competitive exams, including NEET and NET.

The exam conducted in a hybrid mode for the first time was cancelled across Delhi, a night before the exam citing logistical reasons. The exam was conducted later in the national capital. The NTA had earlier announced that the third edition of the CUET-UG

HIGHLIGHT

● Exam was conducted in a hybrid mode for the first time.

● Over 13.4 lakh candidates had this year registered for the common entrance test.

will be completed in seven days and there will be no normalisation of scores as all exams will be conducted in a single shift.

For 15 subjects, the tests were in pen-paper mode and for the other 48 subjects, the exam was held in computer-based mode.

Over 13.4 lakh candidates had this year registered for the common entrance test for admission to undergraduate courses in 261 central, state, deemed and private universities.

In the first edition of the exam in 2022, the test was plagued by technical glitches. Also, as a result of tests for a subject being conducted over multiple shifts, the scores had to be normalised during the announcement of results.

In the line of fire over alleged irregularities in the medical entrance exam NEET and the PhD entrance NET, the Centre removed NTA Director

General Subodh Singh last week and notified a high-level panel headed by former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chief R. Radhakrishnan to ensure a transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations through the NTA.

While the NEET is under the scanner over several irregularities, including alleged paper leak, the UGC-NET was cancelled as the education ministry received inputs that the integrity of the exam was compromised. Both matters are being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

INQUIRY INITIATED

Woman accuses Goa policeman of assault, forcing to lick his shoes

PANAJI: A woman has accused a sub-inspector of Goa Police of assaulting her and forcing her to lick his shoes following which an inquiry has been initiated, an official said on Wednesday. A First Information Report (FIR) would be registered against the police officer after a preliminary probe, he added.

The issue was raised by AAP MLA Venzy Viegas who on Tuesday met Superintendent of Police (South) Sunita Sawant with the woman complainant.

As per the complaint, the police sub-inspector (PSI) attached to Colva police station called her and her husband to a spot on the border of Benaulim and Nuvem on June 22 after they were involved in an altercation with a truck driver following a minor road accident. **PTI**

COURTESY MEETING

IFFCO Paradeep Unit Head K J Patel meets Odisha CM Majhi



PARADIP: IFFCO Paradeep Unit Head K.J. Patel recently met with the Chief Minister of Odisha, Mohan Charan Majhi, at the Rajya Atithi Bhawan. During the meeting, Patel discussed IFFCO's pivotal role in the fertilizer industry and its pioneering efforts in nano fertilizer innovations. He highlighted IFFCO's significant contributions to both State and National development, particularly in the farming sector. **PTI**

Word of Caution

Rijiju slams Congress for disruptions during PM Modi's speeches in Parliament



NEW DELHI: Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Wednesday slammed the opposition Congress-led INDIA bloc for intentionally disrupting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speeches in both Houses of Parliament. Addressing a press conference here, Rijiju said the Congress and other opposition parties had been allocated adequate time to raise all issues during the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and yet they chose to disrupt the prime minister's reply in both houses of Parliament.

Rijiju's remarks came as the opposition trooped to the well and raised

slogans throughout the prime minister's over two-hour reply to the debate in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. Similar scenes were witnessed in the Rajya Sabha, where the opposition members walked out of the House after brief protests and sloganeering. "Some interruptions during the speech are okay but disrupting the entire two-hour speech of the prime minister by raising slogans is definitely not done. This has never happened," Rijiju said. The minister said the government will never allow the Congress strategy to stall Parliament proceedings to succeed. "We will continue to run the House as per the rules," he said. **PTI**

EC notice to Engineer Rashid over poll expenses

STINAGAR: The Election Commission has sent a notice to newly elected MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid, also known as Engineer Rashid who is in jail in a terror funding case, over a significant disparity in his election expenditure report for the Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency in Jammu and Kashmir.

The election authority has asked for a response within two days. The notice was served by the deputy district election officer in Baramulla Tuesday, highlighting the expenditure register submitted by Rashid showed Rs 2.10 lakh, while the actual amount recorded in the shadow register maintained by observers amounted to Rs 13.78 lakh. Rashid, incarcerated in Delhi's Tihar Jail following his arrest.

MORAL BOOSTER

Army chief reviews security situation along LoC

Press Trust Of India

This was his first visit to the Jammu region after taking charge as the 30th chief of the Indian Army on June 30.

JAMMU: Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi reviewed the security situation along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, exhorting the troops to remain steadfast to meet all security challenges, officials said.

This was his first visit to the Jammu region after taking charge as the 30th chief of the Indian Army on June 30, and it assumes significance in view of the ongoing Amarnath Yatra and massive anti-terror oper-



Chief of Army Staff General Dwivedi during his visit to the forward locations of White Knight Corps along the LoC.

FACTFILE

● Gen Upendra Dwivedi was briefed on the operational preparedness by the commanders on the ground.

ations underway, especially in hilly districts.

The Army chief reached Jammu in the morning and flew to the border district of Poonch to review the security situation and operational preparedness along the

LoC, the officials said.

In a post on 'X', the additional directorate general of public information of the Army said Chief of Army Staff Dwivedi, reviewed the security situation along the LoC.

JAILED RADICAL PREACHER

Amritpal Singh likely to take oath as MP on July 5

Press Trust Of India

AMRITSAR: Jailed radical Sikh preacher Amritpal Singh, who recently won the Khadoor Sahib parliamentary seat in Punjab, is likely to take oath as Lok Sabha member on Friday.

The chief of the 'Waris Punjab De' outfit, who is currently lodged in Assam's Dibrugarh jail along with nine associates

under the National Security Act, has been granted a four-day parole to enable him to take oath, officials in Amritsar said.

Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa, an Independent MP from Faridkot, said Amritpal Singh is likely to take oath as MP on July 5.

"I went to meet Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla at his residence in Delhi on Wednesday. He said

I went to meet Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla at his residence in Delhi on Wednesday.
Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa
Independent MP



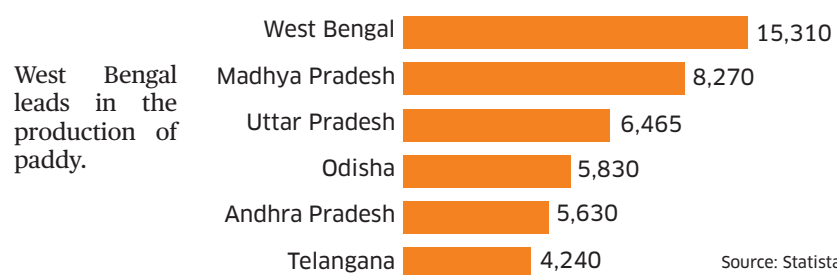
the oath will be administered on July 5," Khalsa told PTI over phone.

He also said that clearances and permissions from various quarters to enable Amritpal Singh to take oath have come.

"I understand that he will be flown in from the prison for taking oath, which will be in the private chamber of the Speaker," he said.

The Day's NUMBERS

STATE WISE DATA OF PADDY PRODUCTION (IN THOUSAND METRIC TONS)



HEALTHY SIGN

Violence declining in Manipur, schools reopened: PM in RS

NEW DELHI: PM Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that violence in Manipur is continuously declining and educational institutes along with businesses have opened in most parts of the state. He asserted that all efforts are being made to ensure a return of complete peace in the state. Replying on the Motion of Thanks on the President's address to a joint sitting of Parliament, Modi said the Centre is working with the state government and others to restore normalcy in the state. The prime minister noted that more than 500 people have been arrested and over 11,000 FIRs have been registered in Manipur. Modi further said Manipur is facing flood situation as well, and the Centre has dispatched two teams of the National Disaster Response Force to the state. Recalling his elaborate speech concerning Manipur in the previous session of Rajya Sabha, Modi reiterated that the "Government is continuously making efforts to bring normalcy in Manipur". **PTI**

EMINENT SPEAKERS

Shashi Tharoor, Shobhaa De among speakers at Literature and Arts Fest



NEW DELHI: Politician-author Shashi Tharoor, novelist Shobhaa De, Turkish Ambassador Firat Sunel, and bestselling author Ashwin Sanghi are among the eminent names taking part in the upcoming 13th edition of Drukyul's Literature and Arts Festival, starting August 3. To be held at the Royal University of Bhutan in Thimphu, the three-day festival, under the patronage of Her Majesty the Queen Mother, Gyalum Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, aims to transform the capital city into a vibrant tapestry of storytelling and artistic expression. **PTI**

Hathras stampede: Baba's native villagers praise him

Residents of his village said, preacher never asked for donations from anyone.

Press Trust Of India

KASGANJ: A day after the stampede in Hathras where more than 100 people were killed, the residents of controversial preacher Bhole Baba's native village Bahadurnagar in Kasganj district praised him for never asking for any donation or "chadhava" (offerings) from anyone.

Baba Narayan Hari, also known as Saakar Vishwa Hari Bhole Baba, used to work in the police department. However, he left his job and became a religious preacher after he discovered that the people got attached to his ideas and congregated for his 'satsang' (religious congregations).

Earlier, he used to conduct 'satsang' at his village Dham under Patiyali tehsil but he stopped after the programmes started getting crowded and the poor people's crops were getting ruined.

The residents of his village said the preacher never asked for donations or "chadhava" from anyone.

When the PTI Videos team asked how Baba made a 'Bhavya Dham', the villagers said it was built out of the donations he received from the devotees, and added that he



Devotees at the satsang.

has not asked for anything from them.

The women residents of his village said Baba's conduct was very good and he only talked about things related to God.

Dhan Singh and Mohit Kumar said Baba lives near the ashram.

Dhan Singh told PTI Videos that "till now nothing untoward had happened in Bhole Baba's satsang. Bahut badhiya mahaul hota tha unke satsang ka (The atmosphere in his 'satsang' used to be very nice)".

Controversy revolves around Baba's presence in ashram

The locals said Baba is more than 60 of age and does not have any children. They said he had adopted a girl, who died around 16-17 years back. Baba had kept her body at home for two days hoping she would come alive. The police had to intervene and the girl was cremated thereafter, the locals said. Baba is said to be present an ashram

HIGHLIGHT

● Villagers said, Baba's conduct was very good and he only talked about things related to God.

● Officials remained tight-lipped when asked if Baba was inside the ashram.

in Mainpuri. A large number of police personnel has been deployed outside the ashram a day after a stampede at his 'satsang' in Hathras district that killed 121 people and injured 31.

However, the officials remained tight-lipped when asked if Baba was inside the ashram. Some police sources said he indeed was inside.

| APEX COURT DECISION |

SC upholds constable's lifer for killing wife's 'partner'

Press Trust Of India

SC refused to interfere with the judgments of the trial court and the Delhi HC.

NEW DELHI: Terming the offence "brazen", the Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the conviction and life imprisonment of a constable who shot dead his brother-in-law with his service weapon inside a police station more than two decades ago as he was irked over the victim's alleged illicit relations with his wife.

A bench comprising Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Rajesh Bindal trashed the plea of convict Suren Singh that the victim had come to kill him and the offence was committed in self-defence and



Supreme Court of India.

FASTFACTS

● The convict contended that he committed the crime in self-defence.

● Court said, by no stretch of logic is it a case of any lesser magnitude.

hence, cannot be termed murder under the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

"On every possible count, the case is nothing but a case of murder. The nature of the weapon used, the number of gunshots fired at the deceased, the part of the body where the gunshots were fired -- all point towards the fact

that the appellant was determined to kill the deceased. Ultimately, he achieved his task and made sure that the deceased was dead. By no stretch of logic is it a case of any lesser magnitude and definitely not culpable homicide not amounting to murder," Justice Dhulia said in the 23-page judgment.

Sweetness of relations and odd bonds

MUMBAI: 'Rishte wakt se nahi did se bante hain.' Those were the old good days when relationships held profound meaning and joy was found beyond blood ties. In this age of fleeting connections, COLORS gears up to launch 'Mishri', a story that brings back 'rishthon ki mithaas'. With circumstances playing the villain, the lives of Mishri, Vaani, and Raghu intertwine as they become each other's chosen family and emotional oasis. Armed with their dreams, they face life's hurdles, knowing that they've won the greatest jackpot - each other. In a world often marred by self-interest, their selfless regard for one another proves beyond doubt that rishte halaton se bade hote hain.

Two DMK Mayors in TN resign

COIMBATORE: Coimbatore Mayor A Kalpana on Wednesday resigned from her post citing personal reasons, an official here said. DMK's Kalpana was the first woman Mayor of the city. Corporation Commissioner Sivaguru Prabakaran told reporters that Kalpana quit citing "personal reasons." Asked by reporters if she had cited any health issues for her decision, he said, "she has mentioned that it is due to health and family situation."

Kalpana was elected Mayor after the local body polls in February 2022 after the DMK and its allies emerged victorious. Meanwhile, Tirunelveli Mayor DMK's P M Saravanan also resigned from the post, an official said.

The resignation has been accepted, the official said, without divulging details.

न्यायालय कलेक्टर, जिला-सर्गुजा (अम्बिकापुर) छत्तीसगढ़
रा.प्र.क्र. 202402020300017 / 25 / 4-121 / 2023-2024
// ईशतार / सूचना पत्र //

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा द्वारा प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, व्यापार विहार शाखा विलासपुर जिला विलासपुर (छ.ग.)

विवेक
आयवेक के विरुद्ध इस न्यायालय में आवेदन संख्या बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, व्यापार विहार शाखा विलासपुर (छ.ग.) के प्रतिभूतिकरण एवं पुनर्गठन और प्रतिभूतिकृत का प्रवर्तन अधिनियम 2002 के तहत इस आशय का आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत किया गया है। वर्तमान में उक्त प्रकरण अनावेदकगण (1) मेसर्स महामाया फीड इंडस्ट्री प्रोप. सुभाष राय आ. गुरुपाद राय, गौधीनगर धाना के सामने, अम्बिकापुर, जिला-सर्गुजा (छ.ग.) (2) निरंजन राय आ. गुरुपाद राय, नितासी वॉर्ड नम्बर-2 अम्बिकापुर, जिला-सर्गुजा छ.ग. के इस न्यायालय में उपस्थिति के लिये प्रकरण दिनांक 11.07.2024 को नियत है।

अतः सभी अनावेदकगण को सूचित किया जाता है कि वे स्वयं अथवा अधिवक्ता के माध्यम से नियत तिथि दिनांक 11.07.2024 को इस न्यायालय में दिन के 12:00 बजे अनिवार्य रूप से उपस्थित होंगे। नियत तिथि एवं समय पर उपस्थित नहीं होने पर अनावेदकगण के विरुद्ध प्रकरण में एकपक्षीय कार्यवाही कर अग्रिम कार्यवाही किया जायेगा। आज दिनांक 28/06/2024 को मेरे हस्ताक्षर एवं न्यायालयीन पदमुद्रा से जारी है।

(कलेक्टर सर्गुजा द्वारा आदेशित)

न्यायालय जिला दण्डाधिकारी, विलासपुर, छ.ग.
विवेक प्रकरण क्रमांक 23 / 4-121 / 2023-24
पेशी तारीख 08 जुलाई, 2024

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया द्वारा प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, व्यापार विहार शाखा विलासपुर जिला विलासपुर (छ.ग.)

विवेक
आयवेक के विरुद्ध इस न्यायालय में आवेदन संख्या बैंक ऑफ इंडिया, व्यापार विहार शाखा विलासपुर (छ.ग.) के प्रतिभूतिकरण और पुनर्गठन तथा प्रतिभूतिकृत का प्रवर्तन अधिनियम 2002 प्रस्तुत एवं जिला विलासपुर, छ.ग. के विरुद्ध प्रकरण क्रमांक 23 / 4-121 / 2023-24 के तहत इस आशय का आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत किया गया है। वर्तमान में उक्त प्रकरण अनावेदकगण (1) मेसर्स महामाया फीड इंडस्ट्री प्रोप. सुभाष राय आ. गुरुपाद राय, गौधीनगर धाना के सामने, अम्बिकापुर, जिला-सर्गुजा (छ.ग.) (2) निरंजन राय आ. गुरुपाद राय, नितासी वॉर्ड नम्बर-2 अम्बिकापुर, जिला-सर्गुजा छ.ग. के इस न्यायालय में उपस्थिति के लिये प्रकरण दिनांक 11.07.2024 को नियत है।

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(कलेक्टर सर्गुजा द्वारा आदेशित)

NEWSLINE

SRINAGAR

EC sends notice to Engineer Rashid



The Election Commission has sent a notice to newly-elected MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid, better known as Engineer Rashid, who is in jail in a terror funding case, over a significant disparity in his election expenditure report for the Baramulla Lok Sabha constituency in Jammu and Kashmir.

The election authority has asked for a response within two days.

The notice was served by the deputy district election officer in Baramulla Tuesday, highlighting the expenditure register submitted by Rashid showed Rs 2.10 lakh, while the actual amount recorded in the shadow register maintained by observers amounted to Rs 13.78 lakh.

NEW DELHI

ED arrests 3 including CA

The ED said on Wednesday that it has arrested three persons including a chartered accountant and a resolution professional as part of a money laundering probe linked to an alleged bank loan fraud related to regaining control of an insolvent company from the NCLT.

Chartered accountant (CA) Rakesh Kumar Gulati, Ajay Yadav of resolution applicant firm Umaiza Infracon LLP and a person identified as Paramjeet were taken into custody on July 1 by the Gurugram zonal office of the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

CBI court sentences man to lifer for killing two CMOs

Press Trust Of India

CBI claimed that various issues related to the alleged expenditure of NRHM funds were the motive behind the killings.

LUCKNOW: A special CBI court in Lucknow on Wednesday sentenced a man to life imprisonment for killing two chief medical officers of the Uttar Pradesh family welfare department in 2010 and 2011, officials said.

The court also imposed a fine of Rs 58,000 on the convict Anand Prakash Tiwari who was hired by Y S Sachan, the then deputy CMO in the UP family welfare department. Two other accused in the case, Vinod Sharma and R K Verma, were acquitted by the court for lack of evidence. The CBI had claimed that various issues related to the alleged expenditure of NRHM funds were the motive behind the kill-

ings. Chief Medical Officers V K Arya and B P Singh were killed while on a morning walk in the posh Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow in 2010 and 2011, respectively. They were shot dead by bike-borne assailants six months apart -- October 27, 2010, and April 2, 2011. It was alleged that Sachan had hired "contract killers", including Anand Prakash Tiwari, to eliminate Arya and Singh, a CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

संचालनालय खेल एवं युवा कल्याण छत्तीसगढ़

सरदार वल्लभ भाई पटेल अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हॉकी स्टेडियम, जी.ई. रोड रायपुर
फोन 0771-2262178, 2262177
वेबसाइट :- www.sportsyw.cg.gov.in ई-मेल :- dir-sportsyw.cg@gov.in

क्रमांक / कें. यो. -117ए-2/2024-25/554ए रायपुर, दिनांक 02/07/2024

खेलो इंडिया स्टेट सेंटर ऑफ एक्सिलेंस (KISCE) बहतराई, बिलासपुर हेतु विभिन्न पदों पर भर्ती के विज्ञापन

खेलो इंडिया स्टेट सेंटर ऑफ एक्सिलेंस बहतराई, बिलासपुर हेतु 1. High Performance Manager 2. Strength & Conditioning Expert (Grade II) 3. Young Professional 4. Masseur-Grade-I (Female) पद पर अर्हताधारियों से दिनांक 02.07.2024 समय पूर्वान्ह 10:00 बजे से दिनांक 16.07.2024 तक समय अपरान्ह 05:30 बजे निर्धारित प्रारूप में केवल स्पीड / रजिस्टर पोस्ट से आवेदन आमंत्रित की जाती है। विज्ञापित पद हेतु आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप विभाग के वेबसाइट:- <http://sportsyw.cg.gov.in> से डाउनलोड की जा सकती है तथा आवेदन पूर्ण रूप से भरकर संचालनालय खेल एवं युवा कल्याण सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हॉकी स्टेडियम जी.ई. रोड रायपुर पिन कोड-492010 को दिनांक 16.07.2024 समय अपरान्ह 05:30 बजे तक प्रेषित किया जा सकता है। निर्धारित समयवधि के पश्चात् प्राप्त होने वाले आवेदनों पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।

उप संचालक (वित्त) खेल एवं युवा कल्याण छत्तीसगढ़, रायपुर
G-242500781/1

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda

Katghora Branch, Distt- Korba (C.G.)
POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties)
[Under Rule-8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued Demand Notice on the date, mentioned below calling upon the Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagees to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice / date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagees having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagees and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned below.

The Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagee's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

The Borrowers/ Guarantors / Mortgagees in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for the amounts and interest thereon.

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower/Guarantor	Description of the Property Mortgaged & Owner of the Property	Date of Demand Notice	Amount outstanding as on the Date of Demand Notice
1.	Mr. Trilok Kumar Singh S/o. Mr. Vashishtha Narayan Singh	All that part and parcel of the property in the name of Mr. Trilok Kumar Singh having land and building, situated at Kharsa no. 85/5, Total area 0.03½ acre of 0.014 hectares or 1526 Sq.ft. PH. No. 08, Mohline Bhatta, RNM-Katghora and Tehsil- Katghora, Distt- Korba (C.G.) 495445. Property is bounded by: North- Remaining land of seller, South- Land of Anil Chhabra, East- 15'0" wide road, West- 20'0" wide road.	09.11.2023 02.07.2024	₹ 38,30,217.00 and interest thereon

Date: 03.07.2024 Place : Katghora (C.G.)



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

[Nelson Mandela]

Comment

India's biggest secular festival: Cricket unites the nation joyfully

OUR VIEW |

Implementing new criminal laws an onerous task ahead

The introduction of three new criminal laws — Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam — has sparked significant debate and controversy. The ruling BJP hails these statutes as symbols of India's progress and resilience, designed to replace draconian colonial laws with ones prioritizing justice and rights protection. In contrast, the Congress and several legal experts have raised concerns about potential misuse and the hasty manner in which these laws were passed in Parliament, following the suspension of 146 MPs. The Congress-led INDIA bloc has vehemently opposed what it terms as 'bulldozer justice' and has vowed to challenge the implementation of these laws. This opposition underscores the deep-seated mistrust and dissatisfaction with the legislative process that led to the enactment of these statutes. Moreover, there is a palpable fear that the new legal framework might trigger a surge in litigation, with appeals for re-evaluation of existing cases or a review of the new laws. The government's assertion that these new laws will transform India's justice system faces a critical test. The implementation phase will be fraught with challenges, as law enforcement agencies, judicial officers, and legal professionals adapt to the changes. For litigants, navigating the new legal terrain could prove daunting, introducing layers of complexity to an already intricate system. Amidst these challenges, the government must ensure clarity and transparency to mitigate uncertainty and confusion. Engaging with various stakeholders, including the legal community and civil society, will be crucial in refining and fine-tuning the laws. Ignoring the legitimate concerns raised by these groups could lead to widespread dissent and operational difficulties. Drawing parallels to the three farm laws, which were repealed after extensive protests, the government must tread carefully to avoid a similar debacle. Comprehensive stakeholder consultation and a willingness to make necessary amendments are essential to avoid widespread backlash and ensure smooth implementation.

GUEST VIEW |

Embracing a green lifestyle for our future

Witnessing the extreme weather in Delhi this year, with unprecedented heatwaves followed by heavy rainfall, I can't ignore the reality of climate change. It's clear that we need to adopt a green lifestyle to mitigate carbon emissions. At the foundation stone-laying ceremony for new trial court buildings in Delhi, I emphasized this urgency. These new structures will incorporate heat-island mitigation techniques and focus on reducing environmental footprints, reflecting our commitment to a sustainable future. Our legal system, rooted in justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, must adapt to these environmental challenges. By investing in eco-friendly infrastructure and ensuring the comfort and safety of our judges, lawyers, and litigants, we can build a more efficient and just system, ready to address both current and future issues. I was particularly moved by the story of Rama Kamati, which reminds us that true justice must be thorough and principled. Our courts are not just places of power but are essential public service providers. Each case represents a hope for justice, and it is our duty to uphold the virtues of justice and the rule of law.



D Y Chandrachud (CJI)

June 29, 2024, will forever be etched in India's memory. On this day, India clinched the 2024 Twenty-20 Cricket World Cup in Bridgetown, Barbados, by defeating South Africa in a thrilling match.

This historic victory ignited a nationwide celebration, transforming into India's largest secular festival. A nation of 1.4 billion people erupted in joy, marking the occasion with music, dance, and spectacular fireworks.

The jubilation extended beyond India's borders, uniting people regardless of class, caste, or sexual identity. Women and girls participated in large numbers, lighting up cities and villages with fireworks.

The Indian diaspora led the largest festivities, with supporters gathering in cities like Paris, Lisbon, Jakarta, Dubai, Beijing, Sydney, and Singapore. Iconic landmarks like Times Square in New York and London Bridge were adorned with the Indian tricolor, symbolizing the unity and pride of the Indian people.

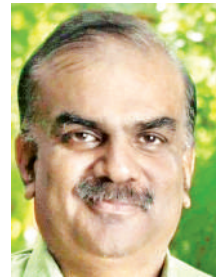
India's cricketing history boasts three previous World Cup victories. Under Kapil Dev's leadership, India won the 60-over World Cup for the first time in 1983.

A long 24-year wait ended with M.S. Dhoni's team clinching the inaugural 20/20 World Cup in 2007 and another World Cup in the 50-over format four years later.

Celebrations followed each of these triumphs, but none matched the unprecedented fervor of June 30, 2024. Cricket in India is more than a pastime; it is a cultural phenomenon, originally introduced by the British, that has taken deep root in the Indian psyche.

The Indian cricket team epitomizes secularism, cultural diversity, and pluralism. Players hail from various castes and creeds, united under the Indian jersey. This unity transcends individual identities, showcasing a team spirit that represents the very fabric of India's diverse society.

Catches win matches, and



Dr. Vasisht M.C

this adage held true for India's World Cup victories. Kapil Dev's remarkable catch to dismiss Sir Vivian Richards in the 1983 final, Sreesanth's catch of Misbah Ul Haq in 2007, and Surya Kumar Yadav's iconic catch to dismiss South Africa's Miller in 2024 were pivotal moments that led to these historic triumphs.

These victories have significantly impacted the trajectory of Indian cricket.

The 1983 World Cup win sparked widespread interest in the sport. The 2007 triumph led to the inception of the IPL, making the BCCI a powerhouse in global sports.

The prize money awarded by both the ICC and BCCI for the 2024 T20 World Cup champions will undoubtedly inspire more children to take up cricket.

For millions of Indians, cricket represents a pathway to a better future. This victory, coinciding with cricket's inclusion in the Olympic, Asian, and Commonwealth Games, will further elevate the sport in India.

Indian women's cricket will

also look to emulate their male counterparts' success in the upcoming T20 tournament in Bangladesh in October 2024.

The Indian cricket team faces more challenges in the coming months. Their greatest test will be against Australia in a five-match Test series scheduled for December and January 2024/2025.

Additionally, they will travel to Pakistan in February 2025 to participate in the Champions Trophy. Despite these challenges, the aspirations and enthusiasm of the Indian nation remain unwavering.

As India basks in the glory of its cricketing achievements, let us celebrate the unity and spirit that this sport brings to the nation. The future of Indian cricket is bright, and with continued dedication and passion, more historic moments await.

Cricket's ability to unite such a vast and diverse nation is unparalleled, serving as a reminder of the power of sports to bring people together, transcending barriers and fostering a shared sense of national pride.

Universal access to safe drinking water

Access to clean drinking water in India remains a critical issue, impacting public health and daily life. Addressing this requires urgent, coordinated efforts across multiple fronts. by Manoj Kumar



Challenges of accessing clean drinking water in a rural Indian village. | Photo AP

Access to clean drinking water is a fundamental human right, yet many communities in India continue to struggle with water quality issues, posing significant public health risks. As the most populous country in the world, India faces a unique set of challenges in delivering universal access to safe drinking water. Understanding the root causes, the impact on daily life, and potential solutions is critical to addressing this pressing issue.

India's water crisis is multifaceted, encompassing both scarcity and contamination. Several factors contribute to the poor quality of drinking water in India, including rapid urbanization, industrial pollution, inadequate infrastructure, and climate change. The over-extraction of groundwater, which accounts for 85% of India's drinking water, has led to severe depletion, further exacerbating the problem.

Contaminants such as arsenic, fluoride, and nitrates are prevalent in many water sources, particularly in rural areas. Industrial effluents and agricultural runoff containing pesticides and fertilizers also pollute water bod-

ies, making the water unsafe for consumption. Additionally, inadequate sanitation facilities and the improper disposal of waste contribute to the contamination of drinking water sources.

The lack of access to clean drinking water has profound implications for daily life in India, particularly for vulnerable populations. Rural communities, where access to safe water is often limited, are the most affected. Women and children bear the brunt of this burden, as they are typically responsible for fetching

water, often traveling long distances to reach the nearest source. This not only affects their health but also limits their opportunities for education and employment.

Contaminated water is a major source of waterborne diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid, leading to high morbidity and mortality rates, especially among children under five. The healthcare costs associated with these diseases place a significant financial burden on families and the healthcare system.

In urban areas, the situation is slightly better, but not without challenges. Rapid urbanization has outpaced the development of water infrastructure, resulting in frequent water shortages and unreliable supply. The urban poor, living in informal settlements, often lack access to piped water and rely on unsafe sources.

To achieve universal access to safe drinking water in India, a multifaceted approach is necessary, involving government initiatives, community partic-

ipation, and technological innovation.

Strengthening Infrastructure: Upgrading and expanding water supply infrastructure is crucial. This includes building more treatment plants, repairing and maintaining existing pipelines, and investing in desalination and rainwater harvesting systems.

Sustainable Water Management: Implementing sustainable practices such as efficient irrigation techniques, watershed management, and the promotion of water conservation can help manage water resources better.

Government Policies and Programs: The Indian government has launched several programs aimed at improving water access, such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, which aims to provide piped water to all rural households by 2024.

Technological Innovations: Innovations in water purification technologies, such as low-cost filters and solar-powered desalination units, can provide immediate relief to affected communities. Mobile applications and data analytics can help monitor water quality and supply more effectively.

YOUR LETTERS

Cyber Financial Fraud

Despite warnings, people are losing money to cyber criminals via stock market investments and online purchases. Fraudsters target all age groups through attractive social media ads. Innocent investors are deceived into pumping money by showing fake profits. The scam becomes evident when substantial commissions are demanded, and queries go unanswered. Victims realize the fraud only after losing their money and report it to cyber police. It's crucial to verify SEBI or RBI licenses, avoid sharing OTPs, and report quickly to combat these scams.

Dr Ganapathi Bhat, Akola

Rahul Gandhi's illustrious speech

Rahul Gandhi's first speech as Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha covered diverse subjects, highlighting the Samajwadi Party's victory in Ayodhya and BJP's dismal performance in assembly seats. He criticized BJP's Agniveer scheme, demonetization, and GST implementation. Gandhi addressed farmer protests, the Manipur crisis, and Jammu and Kashmir's status change. Despite interruptions from BJP leaders, he continued to level charges, underscoring his commitment to strengthening democracy through critical speeches.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

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



India's approach in the AI Mission will be all about democratising technology
Ashwini Vaishnaw
 Union Minister CIEL.

GM Trucks shine: Best Quarterly sales since 2020, up 6%



In an aerial view, brand new GMC trucks are displayed on the sales lot at Hanlees Hilltop GMC in Richmond, California.

India's rating upgrade hinges on fiscal deficit falling to 4%

India's sovereign rating could be upgraded within 24 months if the central government reduces the fiscal deficit to 4% of GDP, says S&P Global Ratings' official.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: A sovereign rating upgrade for India in the next 24 months is possible if the central government is able to prudently manage its finances and bring down fiscal deficit to 4 per cent of GDP, an S&P Global Ratings official said on Wednesday.

S&P Global Ratings Director, Sovereign Ratings, YeeFarn Phua, said

the trigger for upgrade would be general government (Centre + states) deficit falling below 7 per cent of the GDP, and a lot of this would have to be driven by the central government.

"If the central government is able to bring down fiscal deficit to 4 per cent of the GDP, we will consider a rating upgrade over the next 24 months," Phua said.

The central govern-

NUMBER

5.1%

● Government aims to reduce fiscal deficit to 5.1% of GDP from 5.63%.

● US-based rating agency had in May upgraded outlook for India to positive

ment estimates to bring down fiscal deficit to 5.1 per cent of the GDP in the current fiscal, from 5.63 per cent in 2023-24.

As per the fiscal consolidation roadmap, the deficit -- the difference between government expenditure and revenue -- will be brought down to 4.5 per cent by 2025-26.

The US-based rating agency had in May upgraded outlook for India to positive, from

stable, while retaining the rating at 'BBB-'. Phua further said the Indian economy has clocked an average of 8 per cent growth in the last three years, driven by domestic consumption and infrastructure investment that has made real difference on the ground.

"We see the medium-term growth potential for India at 7 per cent," Phua said.

HCL Tech Opens Global Centre in Patna

NEW DELHI: IT services company HCL Technologies (HCLTech) announced the launch of its global delivery centre in Patna. In a release, the company said the centre will focus on delivery of IT and engineering services for hi-tech and semiconductor companies. This is HCLTech's first centre in Bihar. "Going forward, the centre will also house specialised labs and centres of excellence to boost HCLTech's technology innovation engine and will offer a wide range of services to global clients," it said.

The new global delivery centre is in line with HCLTech's strategy of accessing talent through expansion to new locations in India. Located inside the Udyog Bhawan Complex in Patna, the centre will offer modern workspaces to employees, along with training and growth opportunities across HCLTech's global network, according to the company.

Boost capital investment for growth: Anand Mahindra

Press Trust Of India

Anand Mahindra urges Indian companies to boost capital investment for growth opportunities domestically and internationally.

NEW DELHI: Indian companies need to enhance capital investment in order to take advantage of the growth opportunities available in India and abroad, according to Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra.

Addressing shareholders in the company's annual report for 2023-24, the leading industrialist noted that the interplay of geopolitics and economic linkages in the post-COVID era has seen India's position strengthen.



Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra.

FACTFILE

● India's geopolitical position strengthens post-COVID. Private industry must seize growth opportunities by increasing capital investment.

India's emerging role as one of the vital nodes in future-proofed supply chains across industries opens the door

for growth within the country and expansion beyond, he stated.

"How can we, in private industry, ensure that we ride this upsurging tide? ..In the spirit of 'ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country', I would argue that the most important thing industry can do at this critical juncture is to increase private investment," Mahindra said.

Private capital investment is the key to capitalising on this opportunity as it is a key driver of growth, jobs, and demand, he stated.

After the economic reforms of the 1990s, private investment rose from around 10 per cent to around 27 per cent of GDP, however, from 2011-12 onwards, private investment as a percentage of GDP has been falling to a worrisome level, Mahindra stated.

"We need to remedy that situation," he added.

Mahindra noted that the problem is not one of resources--rather, it is one of mindset.

Particularly after COVID, Indian companies have become increasingly risk averse, sticking to the tried and true rather than blazing new trails, he said.

INDIA'S CULINARY BOOM

India's food market to reach Rs 10 lakh cr by 2030

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The food services market in India is expected to reach up to Rs 10 lakh crore by 2030 with the addressable customer base estimated to expand to up to 45 crore, according to a report.

The online food delivery segment is estimated to grow at 18 per cent CAGR (compound annual growth



rate) and penetration is set to rise from 12 per cent in 2023 to 20 per cent by 2030, said the report titled 'How India Eats' by Bain &

Company and Swiggy.

The food services market in India, which encompasses dining out and ordering in, is currently

valued at Rs 5.5 lakh crore. The market is poised to grow at 10-12 per cent annually over the next seven years, reaching Rs 9 lakh crore to Rs 10 lakh crore by 2030, it said.

"This growth trajectory will be driven by robust fundamentals, including an expanding customer base, growing consumption occasions, and a rise in supply. Additionally,

online food delivery is expected to grow faster at (around) 18 per cent CAGR, contributing 20 per cent to the overall food services market by 2030," the report said.

Swiggy Food Marketplace CEO Rohit Kapoor said the Indian food services market, especially food delivery, has witnessed buoyant growth over the last few years.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

DISMISSED

Jaiprakash Associates Insolvent: Lenders reject one-time settlement

NEW DELHI: Lenders of Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (JAL) led by ICICI Bank on Wednesday rejected the modified one-time settlement proposal, in which the debt-ridden group had offered a higher upfront payment and sales of its cement assets. During a hearing before the insolvency appellate tribunal NCLAT, senior advocate Sajeev Sen representing ICICI Bank informed the bench about the rejection of the OTS (one-time settlement) scheme by the lenders. "The OTS proposal has been rejected by the lenders," said Sen urging the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) to proceed further in the matter over the merit. The NCLAT was hearing a petition filed by Sunil Kumar Sharma, a member of the suspended board of JAL, challenging an order of the Allahabad bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). **PTI**

INDICATORS

Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	79,986.80	+0.69
Nifty	24,286.50	+0.67
Nifty, MidCap	56,293.30	+0.79
Nifty SmallCap	18,700.55	+1.03
Nifty Bank	52,168.10	+1.77

Closing rates as on July 03, 2024 at 5:30p.m. (IST)

Forex RATES

Foreign currency Vs Rupee

US Dollar	83.48 (+)	↗
Euro	90.02 (+)	↗
Chinese Yuan	11.48 (+)	↗
UAE Dirham	22.73 (+)	↗
Pakistan Rupee	0.29 (-)	↘
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.27 (+)	↗

On July 03, 2024

World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	39,331.85	+0.41%
FTSE 100 Index	8,160.12	+0.48%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)	40,580.76	+1.26%
CSI 300 (CHN)	3,463.41	-0.24%

Index at 05:30 p.m. (IST, July 03, 2024)

How the markets behave today?

Sensex hits historic 80,000-mark, Nifty ends at record high as banking shares advance



MUMBAI: Benchmark BSE Sensex breached the historic 80,000 level intraday for the first time while Nifty raced more than 162 points to a fresh lifetime high on Wednesday following heavy buying in banking and FMCG shares amid firm global market trends. The 30-share Sensex hit the historic 80,000 mark for the first time earlier in the day. It surged 632.85 points or 0.79 per cent to hit a record intraday high of 80,074.30. The index later closed near the 80,000 level at 79,986.80, up by 545.35 points or 0.69 per cent over the last close. The BSE

Sensex breached the 78,000 level on June 25 and 79,000 for the first time on June 27. The Nifty climbed 162.65 points or 0.67 per cent to an all-time high of 24,286.50. During the day, it zoomed 183.4 points or 0.76 per cent to hit a fresh intraday record peak of 24,307.25.

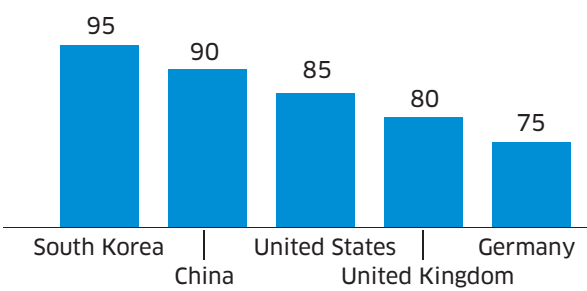
Major Gainers: Adani Ports, Kotak Mahindra Bank, HDFC Bank, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank, State Bank of India and Power Grid

Major Losers: Tata Consultancy Services, Titan, Reliance Industries, Tata Motors and Larsen & Toubro. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

(Percentage of population covered)

TOP COUNTRIES BY 5G NETWORK COVERAGE IN 2023-2024



Source: Statista

PACT

Jakson Green signs pact with NHPC for supply of 400 MW solar power

NEW DELHI: New energy transition platform Jakson Green on Wednesday said it has inked a pact with state-owned NHPC for the supply of 400 MW solar power. Jakson Green has signed its first Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with NHPC Ltd, a company statement said. This agreement marks a significant milestone for Jakson Green, solidifying its position as a fast-growing Independent Power Producer (IPP) with a total portfolio of 1 GW under development, the statement added.

"We are thrilled to embark on this agreement with NHPC, the first of many more to come. This 400 MW PPA, our largest to date, with NHPC is a monumental achievement for Jakson Green," Kannan Krishnan, Joint Managing Director, Jakson Green Pvt Ltd said.

This new project will be located in Rajasthan and connected to the central grid, with an expected clean energy generation sufficient to power around four lakh households annually. **PTI**

BULLION MARKET

Gold rises Rs 50; silver jumps Rs 300 in line with firm trends in intl markets



NEW DELHI: Gold prices rose Rs 50 to Rs 72,550 per 10 grams in the national capital on Wednesday in line with firm trends in the international markets, according to HDFC Securities. The precious metal had closed at Rs 72,500 per 10 grams in the previous session. Additionally, silver prices also jumped Rs 300 to Rs 91,300 per kg. It had settled at Rs 91,000 per kg in the previous session. "In Delhi markets, spot gold prices (24 carats) are trading at Rs 72,550 per 10 grams, up Rs 50 from the previous close," Saumil Gandhi, Research Analyst at HDFC Securities, said. **PTI**

"They wrote a new story for my life and gave me a new direction. That was my second birthday. I am dedicating that day and my story to all the doctors."

Sushmita Sen
Actress



& Glitters

CLOSE UP

Bobby Deol: Back in the spotlight after shopaholic days

Recently, Bobby Deol has opened up about his bond with Salman Khan and how he has made a comeback after being out of the spotlight for several years.

Central Chronicle News

Bobby Deol's dynamic career shift unfolds as he dives into the YRF Spy Universe alongside Alia Bhatt and Sanya Malhotra, marking a monumental leap in his acting journey.

Bobby Deol, a stalwart of Bollywood since the '90s, recently grabbed attention with his role in "Animal," showcasing a rejuvenated persona on social media with his dapper looks and toned physique. He acknowledges Salman Khan for steering his career trajectory with the offer to star in "Race 3," a move that rekindled interest among younger audiences. Admitting to being a self-professed shopaholic, Deol reminisced about his childhood disdain for shopping due to size issues but later developed a passion, especially for sunglasses inspired by his father, Dharmendra. Currently, Bobby Deol is actively engaged in multiple film projects across different languages. He is filming Anurag Kashyap's upcoming movie alongside Sanya Malhotra and has also joined the YRF Spy Universe, starring alongside Alia Bhatt and Sharvari in an untitled female spy film.



Bobby Deol talked about his bond with Salman Khan and how it changed his life.



Second act on screen: Bobby Deol finds success thanks to OTT

Deol was also seen in the TV series Aashram, which, according to him, made a huge difference in his career. "I think OTT was something where I, as a character, got a chance

to do characters that I was dying to do. It started with Class of 83, then I got Aashram, got Love Hostel, and it all collectively helped him move forward," he stated, adding that one photograph of him made Sandeep Reddy Vanga cast him as Abrar in Animal.



| HOLLYWOOD |

Back to Kidhood: Lohan on 'Freaky Friday 2' set

Central Chronicle News

Lindsay Lohan has joyfully returned to the Disney sets for "Freaky Friday 2", reprising her iconic role alongside Jamie Lee Curtis as her on-screen mother, Tess Coleman. This reunion holds deep nostalgia for Lohan, who fondly reflected on her Disney journey, including standout films like "The Parent Trap", "Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen", and "Herbie: Fully Loaded". Returning to the Disney lot evoked cherished childhood memories and emotions for her. In an interview on "Nightline", Lohan expressed excitement and emotional connection to the project,

feeling like a kid again on the familiar lot. She emphasized the profound impact these films had on her career and personal life, shaping her into the

HIGHLIGHT

● **Lindsay Lohan, reminisces about her Disney film days as she steps back into the role of Anna Coleman for 'Freaky Friday 2.'** Reuniting with Jamie Lee Curtis, Lohan felt nostalgic on the Disney lot, recalling her roles in 'The Parent Trap'.

actress she is today. Lohan spoke warmly about her bond with Jamie Lee Curtis, likening their relation-



Lindsay Lohan was hit with a major sense of déjà vu on the set of her upcoming sequel.

ship to best friends who effortlessly reconnect after years. She cherished moments filming the original "Freaky Friday" and now its sequel, both of which explore themes of family, identity, and personal growth. Directed by Nisha Ganatra, the original "Freaky Friday", helmed by Mark Waters, captivated audiences with its comedic premise of a mother and daughter swapping bodies. The sequel promises to continue this beloved storyline, offering new dynamics, adventures, and heartfelt moments while retaining the humor and magic that made the original a hit.

OTT Watch



New pairings on Laughter Chefs!

In a new twist on Laughter Chefs, host Bharti Singh shakes things up as participants swap partners in the latest promo. The show blends comedy and cooking, promising a hilarious ride with celebrity contestants trying their hand at both.



Sprint: Champions on the move

"Sprint" on Netflix offers an inside look into elite sprinters Sha'Carri Richardson, Noah Lyles, and Shericka Jackson's journey from the 2023 World Championships in Budapest to the 2024 Paris Olympics.



Garudan: Friendship's End

"Garudan" on Prime Video: Action-packed Tamil thriller directed by R.S. Duran Senthilkumar, based on a story by acclaimed filmmaker Vetrimaaran. Stars Soori, M. Sasikumar, and Unni Mukundan in lead roles, promising gripping entertainment.



Power Book II: Ghost says goodbye

Power Book II: Ghost Season 4 heats up with Tariq navigating new conflicts and alliances. Split into two parts, the season promises intense drama as Tariq faces the consequences of his choices.



Kapoor dazzles on dance show

Karisma Kapoor dazzles as new judge on India's Best Dancer 4, bringing fresh energy and style to the popular dance reality show. Premieres July 13, 2024, and airs weekends at 8 PM, promising a season of spectacular performances and fierce competition.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

Kritika Kamra: "Matka King" offers a glimpse into India's gambling past

Kritika Kamra praises 'Matka King' as "historically significant," sharing her thrill to collaborate with acclaimed filmmaker Nagraj Manjule. Inspired by India's real-life Matka gambling era from the 1960s to 1990s, the series stars Vijay Varma in the titular role, with Kamra in a pivotal part. Directed by Manjule, known for 'Fandry' and 'Sairat,' the series promises a gripping narrative. Kamra, buoyed by the positive reception of her role in 'Bambai Meri Jaan,' looks forward to portraying another impactful character.

Beyonce's new disciple: Megan Thee Stallion

Queen Bee's Protege: Megan Thee Stallion learns



Megan Thee Stallion credits Beyonce and Jay-Z for guiding her toward independence in her career, encouraging her to start business ventures like her own tequila brand. On the Club Shay Shay podcast, she revealed their advice helped her navigate leaving her record label, emphasizing they empowered her to make her own decisions and be her own boss. The rapper expressed gratitude for their mentorship, admiring how they handle challenges. She described feeling part of their family and appreciates learning from their experiences. Currently on tour and recently performing at the BET Awards, Megan continues to make waves in the music industry.



Fashion

Versace party perfection: Triptii Dimri's look

Triptii Dimri turned heads at the Bad Newz trailer launch in a stunning black Versace dress worth Rs. 4,21,600. The cowl-necked LBD was embellished with tonal crystals and featured iconic Medusa hardware on the straps. Paired with golden Versace hoop earrings worth Rs. 27,500 and black strappy pumps, her ensemble exuded luxury and glamour. Triptii's minimal yet chic makeup highlighted her natural beauty, complementing her side-parted curly hair. Her look is perfect for weekend parties, offering timeless elegance suitable for any occasion.

Trending on Insta

@nargisfakhri

Nargis Fakhri's scarlet symphony: A vibrant visual feast

Actress Nargis Fakhri delighted fans on Saturday, sharing a series of vibrant photos in a stunning red dress on Instagram. She described red not just as a color but also a "mood," captivating her followers with her dazzling appearance in the photoshoot.





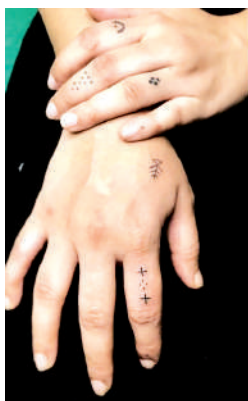
Art & Culture

GODNA ART IN CHHATTISGARH

Godna: Exploring the intersection of art, tradition, and identity

Chhattisgarh's tribes are famous for their godna art in which women participate enthusiastically while also maintaining their identity and culture.

In the heartlands of Chhattisgarh, the ancient art of Godna flourishes as a living canvas of cultural heritage. Practiced predominantly by women, Godna transcends mere body adornment—it is a profound expression of identity and tradition. The word itself, meaning “piercing with needles,” reflects the meticulous craftsmanship and deep cultural significance embedded in each design. For centuries, Godna has marked significant life events among tribal communities, from rites of passage to symbols of social identity. Today, its evolution is palpable as artisans in villages like Jangala innovate, transferring traditional motifs onto textiles and canvases. This adaptation not only preserves the art form but also empowers women economically and socially, fostering a resur-



Almost every woman in Chhattisgarh, bordering Dindori in Madhya Pradesh have Godnas.

HIGHLIGHT

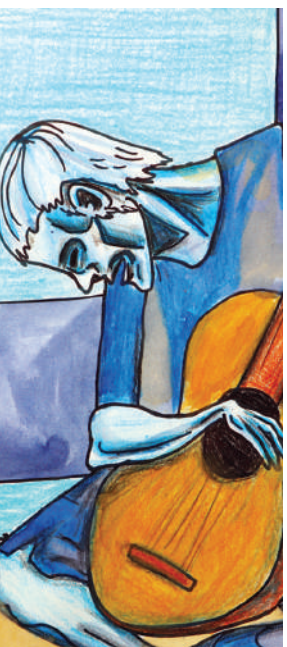
Explore how Godna artisans in Jangala are revitalizing ancient tattoo traditions by transforming them onto textiles and canvases, preserving cultural heritage in innovative ways.

As urbanization challenges traditional ways of life, Godna stands as a beacon of resilience and adaptation. It speaks volumes about the vibrant tapestry of Chhattisgarh's cultural landscape, where each stroke on skin or fabric tells a story of endurance, creativity, and the timeless spirit of its people. In essence, Godna isn't just an art form; it's a living testament to the intersection of tradition and innovation, where ancient practices meet modern resilience, creating a legacy that transcends generations.

gence of cultural pride. The resurgence of Godna goes beyond aesthetics; it embodies a movement of indigenous feminism—a defiance against oppressive norms while celebrating cultural heritage. Through initiatives like the Nari Shakti self-help group, women artisans have reclaimed their narrative, transforming tradition into a tool for empowerment.

Picasso's Legacy: A digital art archive awaits

The Picasso Museum in Paris has launched an expansive online archive, making thousands of the Spanish artist's works accessible globally. This digital portal includes not only Picasso's artworks but also essays, poems, interviews, and previously unseen memorabilia. The museum plans to further enrich this archive, aiming to digitize an additional 200,000 documents. Accompanying this initiative is the current exhibition, “Picasso: Consuming Images,” which explores his diverse inspirations, from Rembrandt to everyday objects. This virtual collection serves as a precursor to the museum's upcoming study center, set to support researchers and artists exploring Picasso's profound impact on modern art.



MASTERPIECE

Climate change sinks Apollo's birthplace: Delos disappearing



Delos, birthplace of Apollo in Greek mythology, faces a dire future. Rising sea levels, worsened by climate change and tectonic shifts, threaten its existence. Inhabited since 3rd millennium B.C.E., Delos once drew pilgrims and traders. Today, ancient sites like the Sanctuary of Apollo are at risk, with sea damage already visible. Efforts to protect it include reinforcing ancient walls with wooden beams, but more drastic measures are needed.

Cultural Hues

Delhi's secret gardens: A guide for nature lovers

Delhi's lush gardens unfold in “Gardens of Delhi,” a new book by Swapna and Madhulika Liddle with photographs by Prabhas Roy, published by Niyogi Books. It delves into historic palace gardens, high road creations, and royal patrons' legacies, spotlighting their rich histories and horticultural treasures. The authors explore renowned sites like Lodi Garden, Roshanara Bagh, and Nehru Park, blending tales of their origins with insightful tidbits—like Balban's tomb's architectural firsts or Buddha Jayanti Park's revered Bodhi tree.



Unveiling a First: Dolley Madison's portrait joins Smithsonian collection

The Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery has acquired an 1846 daguerreotype of Dolley Madison, the earliest known photograph of an American First Lady. This portrait, purchased for \$456,000, captures Madison in her later years, clad in a crocheted shawl and trademark turban. Known for her role during the War of 1812, Madison saved a portrait of George Washington from British forces.



Beyond the Pyramids: Unveiling the struggles of ancient Egyptian scribes

Ancient Egyptian scribes, highly respected for their ability to read and write in a society where few could, suffered from physical strain, a new study shows. Researchers found skeletons of 30 scribes buried in Abusir, Egypt, who had arthritis likely caused by their long hours of writing in uncomfortable positions. These scribes were crucial in managing official records and overseeing households, despite their privileged status, they faced health problems similar to today's office workers, revealing ancient challenges in the workplace.



From dust to Deity: A vase's homecoming

Anna Lee Dozier discovered a Maya vase at a Maryland thrift store for \$3.99, later realizing its archaeological value. The vase, estimated to be between 1,200 and 1,800 years old, resembled artifacts at Mexico's National Museum of Anthropology. After contacting the museum, she returned the vase to Mexico. Dozier, a human rights advocate, saw it as a symbol of her work with Indigenous communities in Mexico. Mexico's Cultural Institute in D.C. hosted a ceremony to celebrate its return, acknowledging her gesture with gratitude.



Caligula's comeback: Lost bust of Roman emperor found after centuries

Curator Silvia Davoli found a lost Roman-era bronze bust of Emperor Caligula at Strawberry Hill House in London. Missing for two centuries, the small statue was originally unearthed in Herculaneum in the 18th century and later owned by Horace Walpole. Its identity was rediscovered by Davoli, who matched it to an old drawing. Only seven similar busts of Caligula exist. The artifact will be showcased in an upcoming exhibition, marking its return to public view after decades in private collections.



More than Muses: The untold story of the Bach women

Anna Magdalena Bach, wife of Johann Sebastian Bach, is renowned for her role in preserving his music. Historically, women like her were overshadowed in classical music. In the 1970s, scholars began recognizing women composers and musicians associated with famous men. Despite limited historical records, Anna Magdalena's influence is evident from Bach's letters. She was highly regarded at court for her singing prowess and managed Bach's music after his death.



Raja Parba: An Odia festival celebrating womanhood and mother nature

| ODISHA'S MITHUNA SANKRANTI |

HIGHLIGHT

Odisha's Raja Parba: More than a festival, it embodies a gentle nudge towards social change by prioritizing women's well-being and challenging entrenched gender norms with grace and tradition.

of their households. On “Raja Sankranti,” the second day, gratitude fills the air as farmers pay homage to Mother Earth for the life-sustaining monsoon showers. This day resonates deeply with themes of sustainability and respect for nature, highlighting the festival's roots in agrarian traditions and eco-



While women take center stage, Raja Parba is a celebration for everyone.

logical consciousness. The climax arrives with “Doli Khela,” the swing play, where women dressed in resplendent attire sway on beautifully adorned swings. Amidst folk songs and playful showers of kumkum, they celebrate sisterhood and solidarity, embodying the resilience and joy that define the feminine spirit.

While Raja Parba elevates women to the forefront, it is a celebration for all. Men join in, fostering a spirit of equality and communal joy. Families reunite, weaving bonds strengthened by love and laughter, creating a tapestry that underscores the festival's essence of unity and community spirit.

Sports



If you defend as a team and attack as a team, everyone has a role to play

Viren Rasquinha
Former hockey captain

T20 WC winning team to take part in open bus road show



India's captain Rohit Sharma with Suryakumar Yadav and Mohammed Siraj pose with the ICC Men's T20 cricket World Cup 2024 trophy aboard a flight as they depart for India. Photo: PTI

The T20 World Cup-winning Indian cricket team will participate in an open bus road show and felicitation ceremony at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on Thursday.

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The T20 World Cup-winning Indian cricket team will be celebrated with an open bus road show and a felicitation ceremony at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Thursday. The team is scheduled to arrive in New Delhi early Thursday morning at 6:20 AM, after departing from Barbados' Grantley Adams International Airport on a chartered flight with the special call sign - AIC24WC -

Air India Champions 24 World Cup. The departure was delayed due to Hurricane Beryl, but the team, its support staff, players' families, some board officials, and Indian media eventually left Barbados early Wednesday morning.

BCCI Vice-President Rajeev Shukla confirmed the arrangements, stating that the Indian squad, along with BCCI President Roger Binny and Secretary Jay Shah, managed the travel logistics. The

HIGHLIGHT

● The Indian team is expected to reach New Delhi early on Thursday morning (6:20am).

● BCCI secretary Shah welcomed all fans to join the victory parade on Thursday evening from 5:00 pm onwards to celebrate the victory

flight is expected to land at Delhi airport at 6 AM, where the team

will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi at 11 AM at his residence. After the meeting, the team will fly to Mumbai for the scheduled celebrations.

The victory parade will start from Nariman Point in an open bus, leading to the Wankhede Stadium, where the players will be honored with a prize money of Rs 125 crore. BCCI Secretary Jay Shah invited fans to join the victory parade, urging them to head to Marine Drive

and Wankhede Stadium on July 4th from 5:00 PM onwards. Captain Rohit Sharma also welcomed fans to celebrate the special moment with the team.

This celebration echoes the similar road show held 14 years ago when Mahendra Singh Dhoni's team won the inaugural 2007 World T20. Rohit Sharma's team clinched the title with a thrilling seven-run victory over South Africa in the final at Kensington Oval.

CricBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

CHAMPIONS TROPHY

CT Draft: Indo-Pak match on March 1 in Lahore, BCCI yet to give consent

NEW DELHI: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has slotted its team's marquee Champions Trophy match against arch-foes India in Lahore on March 1 next year but the BCCI is yet to give its consent to the tentative schedule, a senior ICC Board member told PTI on Wednesday. The tournament is slated from February 19 to March 9 with March 10 as Reserve Day. It is understood PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi, who was invited to watch the T20 World Cup final in Barbados, submitted a 15-match schedule with all of India's games kept in Lahore for security and logistical reasons. "The PCB has submitted the draft of the 15-match ICC Champions Trophy. Seven games in Lahore, three in Karachi and five in Rawalpindi," an ICC Board member said. "The opening match will be held in Karachi with two semifinals in Karachi and Rawalpindi, final in Lahore. PTI

CRICKET

Taskin was dropped from T20 WC match after missing team bus



DHAKA: Bangladesh allegedly dropped vice-captain Taskin Ahmed from the crucial Super Eights clash against India at the T20 World Cup as he overslept and missed the team bus, a claim the pacer refuted, stating it was for team combination reasons. Bangladesh lost the game, held on June 22 in North Sound, Antigua by 50 runs with the Tigers making only one change, replacing Taskin with Jaker Ali. "I was a little late, but I reached at the ground before the toss," ESPN Cricinfo quoted Taskin as saying to Dhaka-based newspaper Aiker Patrika. PTI

Messi Misses Olympics

No Messi in Argentina's Olympic soccer squad; Álvarez and Otamendi selected for Paris Games



BUENOS AIRES: Lionel Messi won't be in Argentina's squad at the Olympics starting later this month in Paris. Coach Javier Mascherano included four World Cup winners in the squad he announced Tuesday, including striker Julián Álvarez and defender Nicolás Otamendi. The 37-year-old Messi, who has struggled with injuries this year, is now playing at the Copa America, aiming to defend the continental title he won in 2021. That victory served as a springboard for Argentina to lift the World Cup in 2022. Messi won the gold medal at Beijing in 2008 in his only Olympic

campaign. The Olympic men's soccer tournament is for under-23 teams, but three older players are allowed on each squad. Mascherano, who won the Olympic gold medal as a player in 2004 and '08, will add goalkeeper Gerónimo Rulli, Otamendi and Álvarez to his squad after Copa America is finished. Midfielder Claudio Echeverri, a recent signing for Manchester City from River Plate, will also join. Argentina will play two friendlies in France before its Olympic soccer tournament opener against Morocco on July 24. Argentina and Morocco are in Group B along with Iraq and Ukraine. PTI

Elite swimmers to train at IIS

BELLARY: As many as 30 "high-potential" swimmers have been identified for training as part of a newly-launched 'Mizuho Elite Programme' at the Inspire Institute of Sports here to prepare them for the 2026 Asian Games and the 2028 Olympic qualifiers. Inspire Institute of Sports has entered into a partnership with Mizuho Bank for this. The two entities have identified swimming as one of the key sports which can be developed at the grassroots level and announced a partnership to support 30 swimmers. Launched in 2023, the IIS Swimming Programme features two state-of-the-art pools, and promises technical coaching, competition exposure, and support in sports science, strength and conditioning, nutrition, education, mental health, and residential facilities.

Novak Djokovic, Zverev cruise; Andrey Rublev exits

| WIMBLEDON |

Press Trust Of India

Djokovic eases into Wimbledon second round with victory over Kopriva despite knee concerns.

WIMBLEDON: Seven-times Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic eased concerns about his knee with a clinical performance to dismantle Czech qualifier Vit Kopriva 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 on Tuesday and reach the second round. Playing with a support on his right leg following a minor operation less than four weeks ago after a meniscus tear ended his French Open, the 37-year-old never faced a break point and needed a little less than two hours to prevail. "I tried to really



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Czech Republic's Vit Kopriva. | Photo: PTI

focus on the game and not think about the knee too much. Everything that I could do, I have done over the last three weeks along with my team to be able to play here for you today," Djokovic said.

Fourth seed Alexander Zverev eased to a 6-2, 6-4, 6-2 victory over

Roberto Carballes Baena in the first round of Wimbledon on Tuesday to get his latest bid for a maiden Grand Slam triumph up and running. The German came up against a spirited Carballes Baena, who is 60 places below him in the world rankings, but his powerful serve and

FACTFILE

● Zverev advances with straight-sets win against Carballes Baena in Wimbledon first round.

● Rublev upset by unseeded Comesana, exits Wimbledon in first-round shock.

whipped forehand sent him through in straight sets. A nervy Carballes Baena had to save three break points in the first game of the match but recovered to hold. The 31-year-old sent a backhand long in the fifth game to give Zverev the break and the German broke once more before wrapping up the set in little more than 30 minutes.

RONALDO'S LAST EUROS |

Playing in last European Championship: Ronaldo

Press Trust Of India

HAMBURG: Cristiano Ronaldo has confirmed this year's European Championship will be the last of his career.

The Portugal superstar, who is 39, is playing at the Euros for a record sixth time and has helped his country reach the quarterfinals - where Kylian Mbappé and

France await in Hamburg on Friday.

Speaking to Portuguese public broadcaster RTP after the penalty-shootout victory over Slovenia on Monday, Ronaldo said: "It is, without doubt, my last European Championship. "But I'm not emotional about that. I'm moved by all that football means - by the enthusiasm I have for the

It is, without doubt, my last European Championship. "But I'm not emotional about that.

Cristiano Ronaldo
Portugal Player

game, the enthusiasm for seeing my supporters, my



family, the affection people have for me."

Ronaldo, who is one of the most prolific scorers in soccer history and has a record 14 goals at European Championships, said his main motivation now was "making people happy."

He was reduced to tears during the Slovenia game after having a penalty saved in extra time.

The Day's NUMBERS

MOST SIXES IN ODI CRICKET

Chris Gayle	352
Shahid Afridi	351
Rohit Sharma	331
Sanath Jayasuriya	270
MS Dhoni	261

Source: ICC

CRICKET

Hardik becomes first Indian to occupy top spot in ICC T20I all-rounders' rankings

DUBAI: Hardik Pandya rose two places to become the first Indian to occupy the number one spot in the ICC's T20I all-rounders' rankings on Wednesday, as the country's cricketers improved their standings following their title-winning performance in the just-concluded World Cup. The 30-year-old, who handed telling blows to South Africa in the T20 World Cup final on July 29 by dismissing half-century Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller in his 3/20 effort, climbed up two places to go level with Sri Lankan star Wanindu Hasaranga as the top-ranked men's T20I all-rounder. Following a topsy-turvy IPL where he was the target of fans' boos as Mumbai Indians' new captain, Pandya turned it around in style in the T20 World Cup in the USA and the Caribbean. Pandya made impactful cameos down the order with the bat and made breakthroughs with the ball when the team needed him to.

HISTORIC

Jyothi Yarraji set to be first Indian 100m hurdler in Olympics



NEW DELHI: Jyothi Yarraji is set to be the first Indian 100m hurdler to compete in the Olympics while shot putter Abha Khatua made a surprise cut through world rankings for the upcoming Paris Games. The World Athletics on Tuesday published the list of those who made the cut through direct qualification by breaching entry standard as well as through world ranking quota. It will, however, be up to the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) to select among those who made the grade through the world ranking quota. The National Olympic Committees must inform WA of their intention to decline a quota by July 4 midnight. PTI

Sports News

Demiral's double sends Turkey to Euro quarterfinals

Merih Demiral's two goals and Mert Gunok's last-second save propel Turkey to a 2-1 victory over Austria, setting up a Euro 2024 quarterfinal against the Netherlands.

Press Trust Of India

Demiral's double and Gunok's crucial save secure Turkey's Euro quarterfinal spot.

COLEIPZIG: Merih Demiral's two goals and Mert Gunok's crucial last-second save propelled Turkey to a 2-1 victory over Austria, securing a spot in the Euro 2024 quarterfinals against the Netherlands. Demiral opened the scoring just 57 seconds into the match after Austria's defense failed to clear a corner, making it the second-fastest goal in Euro history.

Turkey's coach Vincenzo Montella praised his team's spirit, while Austria's Ralf Rangnick lamented missed opportunities, noting his team's 21 attempts compared to Turkey's six. Despite Austria's vigorous efforts, including a strong second half and numerous chances, Gunok's impressive reflexes kept them at bay, particularly with a critical save from Christoph Baumgartner's close-range header deep into injury time.

Demiral's second goal



Turkey's defender #03 Merih Demiral shoots and scores his team's first goal.

HIGHLIGHT

● Turkey to face Netherlands in Euro 2024 quarterfinal after defeating Austria.

came in the 59th minute, heading in from a corner delivered by Arda Guler, amid showers of beer cups from the crowd. Austria managed to pull one back through Michael Gregoritsch, but it wasn't

enough.

Both teams were missing their captains, with Turkey's Hakan Calhanoglu suspended and Austria's David Alaba recovering from a knee injury. Alaba, however, was present to

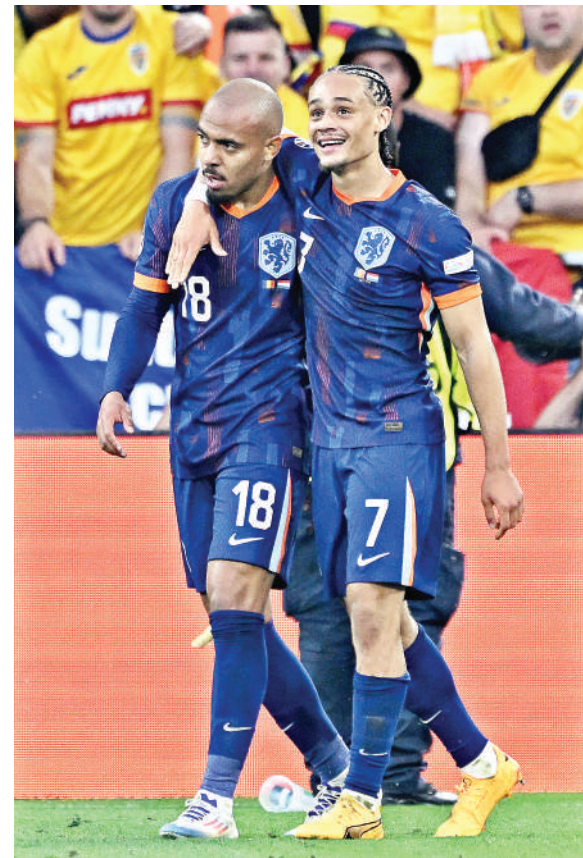
support his team, sharing a warm moment with his Real Madrid teammate Guler before the match.

Turkey will now prepare to face the Netherlands, who advanced after a 3-0 win over Romania.

Netherlands reaches Euros quarterfinals again

Press Trust Of India

Netherlands secures first Euros quarterfinal in 16 years with a 3-0 win over Romania.



Netherlands' forward #18 Donyell Malen celebrates with Netherlands' forward #07 Xavi Simons (R) after scoring his team's third goal.

MUNICH: The Netherlands reached their first European Championship quarterfinal in 16 years with a 3-0 victory over Romania, following their best performance at Euro 2024. Cody Gakpo opened the scoring in the 20th minute, and substitute Donyell Malen added two late goals, sending the Dutch to their first quarterfinal since 2008.

Coach Ronald Koeman praised the team's outstanding performance, noting the importance of maintaining this level to continue in the tournament. The Netherlands missed several earlier chances, with captain Virgil van Dijk hitting the woodwork, but improved significantly compared to their group stage struggles.

Romania, supported by a loud and colorful fanbase, dominated possession early but failed to test Dutch goalkeeper Bart Verbruggen. Gakpo's goal, his third of the tournament, boosted Dutch confidence. Despite numerous opportunities, good goalkeeping from Florian Nita kept Roma-

HIGHLIGHT

● Cody Gakpo and Donyell Malen lead the Dutch to a dominant 3-0 victory over Romania.

● Dutch coach Ronald Koeman praises team's outstanding performance, eyes potential rematch with Austria in quarterfinals.

nia in the match until Malen's goals sealed the win. Romania's coach Edward Iordanescu commended his team's effort and the fans' support, acknowledging the journey over the past two years. The Netherlands will face either Turkey or Austria in the quarterfinals, with Koeman emphasizing the need to stay sharp and focused.

PARIS OLYMPICS |

Satwik-Chirag eyeing great things at Olympics

Press Trust Of India

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty focus on physical and mental conditioning for Paris Olympics.

NEW DELHI:

The star Indian men's doubles pair, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, is focusing on comprehensive physical and mental conditioning to ensure peak performance at the upcoming Paris Olympics.

The duo has tackled the challenge of varied serves from opponents, mainly Koreans and Indonesians, and is confident in their strategy. Their Tokyo Olympics experience has provided valuable lessons in handling pressure and adapting to different condi-



HIGHLIGHT

● Indian men's doubles pair addresses service variation challenge, confident for Paris Olympics.

tions. Recently, they have achieved remarkable success, including winning the Commonwealth Games gold, a bronze at the World Championships in 2022, and gold at the

Hangzhou Asian Games.

They have also won the French Open and Thailand Open this year. As the Paris Olympics approach, they are fine-tuning their game, developing specific strategies for potential opponents, and enhancing their on-court positions and shot selections.

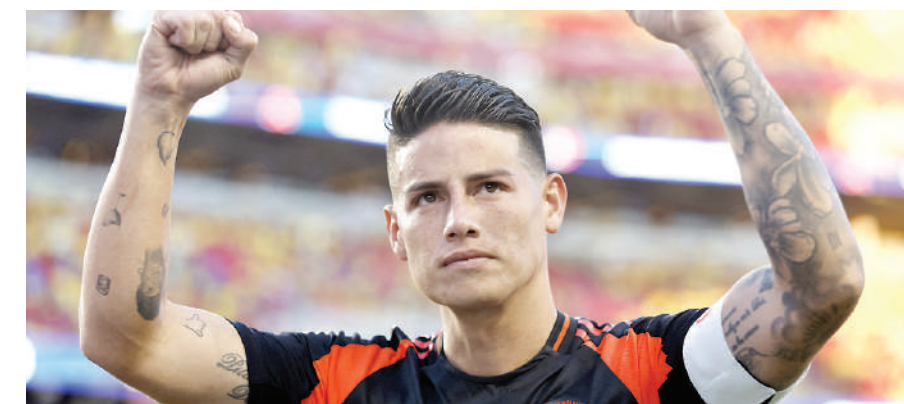
They aim to enjoy the experience without succumbing to pressure, focusing on playing their best game.

Advani triumphs in Asian Billiards

RIYADH: Ace Indian cueist Pankaj Advani started his campaign at the 2024 Asian Billiards Championship on a high, notching victories over Aung Phy and Yuttapop Pakpoj here. The 38-year-old, who is vying for a hat-trick of Asian Billiards titles, first beat Myanmar's Aung Phy 4-2 and then emerged victorious in a thrilling clash over Thailand's Pakpoj 4-3. "It is always good to start a tournament on a positive note. These two victories have boosted my confidence and I have my eyes set on my target. Given that the sport is quite unpredictable, I am not taking anything for granted," Advani said. In the first match against Aung Phy, Advani took an early lead with a strong performance, winning Frame 1 with a score of 100(86)-35. Continuing his momentum in Frame 2, Pankaj dominated the frame, finishing 104-34.

Colombia draws Brazil, advances to Copa America quarterfinals

COPA AMERICA |



James Rodriguez of Colombia reacts after a 1-1 draw with Brazil

Press Trust Of India

SANTA CLARA: Daniel Muñoz scored the equalizer in first-half stoppage time, securing a 1-1 draw for Colombia against Brazil and winning their first-round group at the Copa America. This result extended Colombia's unbeaten streak to 26 games. Goalkeeper Camilo Vargas made a crucial save on Andreas

FASTFACTS

● Daniel Muñoz's stoppage-time goal helps Colombia top their group and extend unbeaten streak to 26.

● Brazil faces Uruguay in quarterfinals after a challenging 1-1 draw against Colombia at Copa America.

Pereira's shot in the fifth minute of second-half stoppage time to preserve the draw.

Colombia will face Panama in the quarterfinals on Saturday in Glendale, Arizona, while Brazil will have a more challenging match against Uruguay later that night in Las Vegas. Los Cafeteros topped their group with seven points, while Brazil finished with

five. Despite back-to-back scoring opportunities in the 84th minute, Colombia couldn't capitalize.

Brazil took an early lead in the 12th minute when Raphinha scored a stunning left-footed free kick into the upper right corner of the net. The match, held at Levi's Stadium, home of the NFL's San Francisco 49ers, was an entertaining and tense affair, with Brazil's Bruno Guimarães describing Colombia as "a stone in our shoe." The match featured five yellow cards and drew a crowd of 70,971.

James Rodriguez had Colombia's best early chance, hitting the bar in the eighth minute and missing another shot in the 16th. The midfielder, who turns 33 on July 12, has three assists in the tournament.

SUPERBET CLASSIC |

Praggnanandhaa draws with Bogdan

Press Trust Of India

BUCHAREST: Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa was held to a draw by lowest ranked Deac Bogdan-Daniel of Romania in the sixth round of the Superbet Classic tournament, a part of the grand chess tour here.

Iranian-French Grandmaster Alireza Firouzja shined with his moves against Wesley So of the United States.

With the World Championship on his mind, India's D Gukesh seemed to keep in reserve his real weapons and signed for peace with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave of France. Praggnanandhaa tried



his hand against the ever-solid Nimzo Indian defense. But it was an off day for the Indian who was confidently breached by the Romanian.

Bogdan-Daniel matched Praggnanandhaa move for move and the game was drawn through repetition after 38 moves. It was not so

easy for Gukesh as well as he seemed to withheld his true preparation for the World Championship match against Ding Liren, scheduled in November this year in Singapore.

Alireza stole the show on a dull day in the grand chess tour. He was at his best and crawled back with his second win of

the tournament to be in striking distance of tournament leader Fabio Caruana of the United States.

With just three rounds remaining in the USD 350000 prize money tournament, Caruana seems to be sitting pretty at the top, with three aspirants in Gukesh Praggnanandhaa and Alireza in pursuit.

Results after round 6: R Praggnanandhaa (IND, 3.5) drew with Deac Bogdan-Daniel (ROM, 2); Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (FRA, 3) drew with D Gukesh (IND, 3.5); Fabiano Caruana (USA, 4) drew with Ian Nepomnichtchi (FID, 3); Alireza Firouzja (FRA, 3.5) beat Wesley So (USA, 2).

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World



No topic off-limits for Modi's upcoming talks with Putin
Dmitry Peskov
Kremlin spokesman

General election campaign trail at West Regwm Farm in Wales



Labour Party leader Keir Starmer with First Minister of Wales Vaughan Gething for a visit to West Regwm Farm Events Venue in Whitland, Carmarthenshire, while on the General Election campaign trail, in Wales.

Employer arrested for farm worker's death

ROME: Italian police have arrested the owner of the agriculture company who dumped a 31-year-old Indian worker on the road without medical assistance after his arm was severed by heavy farm machinery, causing his death, a tragic incident that shocked the country.

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Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

UK PARLIAMENT

UK election set to deliver more diverse Parliament

LONDON: The UK general election on Thursday is expected to deliver the most diverse Parliament in the country's history, including in the number of parliamentarians of Indian heritage likely to be elected from across the nation.

According to an analysis by the British Future think tank, the Labour Party is set to have by far the largest number of ethnic minority MPs if the party wins an overall majority and even more in a landslide scenario.

With around 14 per cent of MPs coming from an ethnic minority background this time, the analysis finds that the new Parliament will be closer than ever to reflecting the diversity of the British electorate. "This election will see the biggest rise in ethnic minority representation and the most diverse Parliament ever," said Sunder Katwala, Director of British Future. **PTI**

INDIAN REPUBLICAN DELEGATE

Indian-American attorney elected as alternate delegate to Republican Convention

WASHINGTON: Indian-American community leader and attorney Hardam Tripathi has been elected as an official alternate delegate for the Republican National Convention in Wisconsin later this month that would formally nominate former US president Donald Trump as the party's presidential candidate.

Trump, 78, is the presumptive Republican Party candidate for the presidential election and is pitched against 81-year-old incumbent President Joe Biden from the Democratic Party. The Republican National Party (RNP) convention in Milwaukee from July 14 to 18 would formally nominate Trump as its nominee for the November 5 presidential elections. **PTI**



Mumbai terror accused Rana extraditable to India: US attorney

India has established probable cause to prosecute Tahawwur Rana for his role in the 2008 Mumbai attacks, causing 166 deaths and 239 injuries, says US attorney.

Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana, who is sought in India for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack, is extraditable under the plain provisions of the US-India extradition treaty, a US attorney has told a federal court.

Assistant US Attorney, Criminal Appeals Chief Bram Alden was making

a closing argument before the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, where Rana has appealed against the order by a US District Court in California that denied the writ of habeas corpus.

In May, Rana, 63, had filed a writ of habeas corpus challenging the court order, which acceded with the request of the US government that the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks accused

HIGHLIGHT

● Rana, currently lodged in a jail in Los Angeles, faces charges for his role in the Mumbai attacks

be extradited to India. "Rana is extraditable to India under the plain provisions of the treaty, and India has established probable cause to prosecute him for his role in terrorist attacks that resulted in 166 deaths

and 239 injuries," Alden said.

In his deposition before the court on June 5, Alden, who left the position last week, said both India and the United States have agreed on the meaning of the treaty provision, the non-bis provision in Article 6-1.

"Both parties have now stated what they intended, that that provision be interpreted based on the elements of the

offence and not based on the conduct underlying those crimes. That is consistent with long-standing Supreme Court double jeopardy precedent," he argued. Rana, currently lodged in a jail in Los Angeles, faces charges for his role in the Mumbai attacks and is known to be associated with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman Headley, one of the main conspirators of the 26/11 Mumbai attacks.

Najib's House Arrest Bid Rejected

KUALA LUMPUR: A Malaysian court on Wednesday dismissed a bid by imprisoned former Prime Minister Najib Razak to serve his remaining corruption sentence under house arrest. In an April application, Najib said he had clear information that then-King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah issued an addendum order allowing him to finish his sentence under house arrest. Najib claimed the addendum was issued during a Jan 29 pardons board meeting chaired by Sultan Abdullah, which also cut his 12-year jail sentence by half and sharply reduced a fine. Najib's counsel, Mohamed Shafee Abdullah, said it was disappointing for the High Court to rule Wednesday that the government has "no legal duty" to verify if such an order existed.

| ISRAEL WEST BANK |

Israel makes largest ever West Bank land seizure

Press Trust Of India

An anti-settlement watchdog says Israel has approved the largest seizure of land in the occupied West Bank in over three decades.

JERUSALEM: The Israeli group Peace Now said Wednesday that authorities recently approved the appropriation of 12.7 sq km (nearly 5 sq miles) of land in the Jordan Valley. The group's data indicate it was the largest single appropriation approved since the 1993 Oslo accords at the start of the peace process.

The land appropriation was likely to worsen already soaring tensions linked to the ongoing Israel-Hamas war in Gaza.



Israel (A bulldozer cleared rubble from a road destroyed in Israeli raids at the Nur Shams refugee camp near Tulkarem).

FASTFACTS

● Israel's current government considers the West Bank to be the historical and religious heartland of the Jewish people

● Israel captured the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war

Bank in March and 2.6 sq km (1 square mile) in February. That makes 2024 by far the peak year for Israeli land seizure in the West Bank, Peace Now said. The parcels are contiguous and located north-east of the West Bank city of Ramallah, where the Western-backed Palestinian Authority is headquartered.

Violence has surged in the West Bank since the start of the war, with Israel carrying out near-daily military raids that often spark deadly gunbattles with Palestinian militants.

The land seizure, which was approved late last month but only publicised on Wednesday, comes after the seizure of 8 sq km (roughly 3 square miles) of land in the West

By declaring them state lands, the Israeli government has opened them up to being leased to Israelis and prohibited private Palestinian ownership. The Palestinians view the expansion of settlements in the occupied West Bank as the main barrier to any lasting peace agreement and most of the international community considers them illegal or illegitimate.

| JAMAICA WEATHER |

Hurricane Beryl roars powerfully toward Jamaica

Press Trust Of India

KINGSTON (JAMAICA): Hurricane Beryl was roaring toward Jamaica on Wednesday, with islanders scrambling to make preparations after the powerful Category 4 storm earlier killed at least six people and caused significant damage in the southeast Caribbean.

boarded up windows, fishermen pulled their boats out of the water before sitting around a table to play dominoes beside a bay, and workers dismantled roadside advertising boards to protect them from the expected lashing winds to come.

A hurricane warning was in effect for Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Little Cayman and Cayman



Brac. Beryl was forecast to weaken slightly over the next day or two, but still be at or near major-hurricane strength when it passes near or over Jamaica on Wednesday, near the Cayman Islands on Thursday and into Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula on Friday, according to the US National Hurricane Centre.

NEPAL POLITICS

Nepali Congress urges PM Prachanda to step down after power-sharing deal with CPN-UML



KATHMANDU: The Nepali Congress on Wednesday urged Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' to pave the way for the formation of a new government, a day after the Himalayan nation's largest political party struck a power-sharing deal with the CPN-UML to replace the incumbent government led by the former guerilla leader.

The Nepali Congress Central Work Performance Committee (CWC) met at party president Sher Bahadur

Deuba's residence at Budhanilkantha to discuss the current political situation and the party's future strategy.

The meeting of the party's key committee came a day after the Nepali Congress President Deuba and Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML) chairman K P Sharma Oli finalised an agreement on Monday to form a new government to replace the ruling coalition led by Prime Minister Prachanda.

US TRUMP FUNDRAISING

Trump campaign outraises Biden by \$67 million in second quarter fundraising efforts, surpasses expectations

WASHINGTON: Republican presumptive nominee and former president Donald Trump has outraised incumbent President Joe Biden by over USD 67 million in the second quarter of this year by raising USD 331 million. Trump, 78, the presumptive Republican Party candidate, is pitched against 81-year-old incumbent President Joe Biden from the Democratic Party

for the November 5 presidential elections. The Trump Campaign raised USD 331 million against the USD 264 million raised by the Biden-Harris Campaign during the second quarter of this year, according to the figures released by the two campaigns. However, the Biden-Harris Cam-

paign outraised Trump in June, raising a record USD 127 million. Of this, USD 38 million was raised in the four days following the first presidential debate in Atlanta on June 27. The Biden-Harris Campaign has USD 240 million in cash on hand - up from USD 212 million last month. Team Trump's cash on hand at the end of June is USD 284.9

million. "President Trump's campaign fundraising operation is thriving day after day and month after month.

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