

Central Chronicle



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Raipur



Both mother and earth are important and precious part of our life
Brijmohan Agarwal,
 MP, Raipur.



Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao inaugurated blood donation camp at Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital.

'Blood Donation gives spiritual satisfaction'

The event saw a significant turnout of donors and supporters.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao inaugurated the Mega Blood Donation Camp at Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital on Sunday. The event, organized by the Helping Hands Club Foundation, saw a significant turnout of donors and supporters.

During his address, Sao congratulated and thanked the Foundation for organizing the camp. He emphasized the spir-

itual satisfaction and inner energy that blood donation brings, describing it as a virtuous act. "Such works give a person spiritual satisfaction and inner energy. This is a very virtuous work," Sao stated. He highlighted the critical support these events provide to patients and their families, noting that a single blood donation can save multiple lives.

Reflecting on Indian culture, Sao remarked on the rich and generous nature of the coun-

HIGHLIGHT

• A single blood donation can save multiple lives.

try's traditions. He cited the motto 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam,' which translates to 'the world is one family,' as a guiding principle for such philanthropic activities. "Organizing such blood donation camps highlights the spirit of philanthropy and service to society that is deeply rooted in our culture," he added.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by several notable figures, including State President of Helping Hands Club Foundation Sudhir Agarwal, Patron Manoj Goyal, Dr. Naveen Bafna, social worker Sanjay Agarwal, Vishal Khandelwal, Ankit Agarwal, Amit Agarwal, and Mrs. Sharda Agarwal. The event saw active participation from the Foundation's officials, members, and a large number of blood donors, all contributing to the success of the camp.

Blood Donation Camp inaugurated

RAIPUR: In a significant event at Ambedkar Hospital (Mekahara) in the capital, a blood donation camp organized by the Helping Hands Club Foundation was inaugurated by Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal. The Minister, addressing the media, extended his congratulations to all the members of the Helping Hands Club Foundation. He also appealed to the public to donate blood generously.

Speaking on the ongoing strike by health workers, Minister Jaiswal affirmed the rights of individuals in a democracy and recognized the striking workers as an integral part of the healthcare system. He assured that their concerns would be addressed through dialogue.

Central Chronicle News

As part of the CSR initiatives, wheelchairs were provided to AIIMS Hospital, Raipur

RAIPUR: On the occasion of its 117th Foundation Day, Bank of Baroda, Raipur, inaugurated several Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities. The event was conducted under the guidance of Bharatkumar Chavda, Deputy General Manager (Business Development) and In-charge of Chhattisgarh, Dr. Ramesh Kumar Mohanty, Deputy General Manager (Compliance & Assurance), and Kislay Prasad, Regional Head of the Raipur Region. As part of the CSR initiatives, wheelchairs were pro-



Bharatkumar Chavda, DGM, BoB along with other officials while providing wheelchairs to AIIMS.

FACTFILE

• Additionally, various branches across the region organized large-scale CSR activities.

vided to AIIMS Hospital, Raipur. The event saw the presence of notable figures such as Dr. Alok

Agarwal, Dean of AIIMS Raipur, and Dr. Renu Rajguru, Medical Superintendent, along with other staff members.

Additionally, various branches across the region organized large-scale CSR activities. The program was coordinated by Mr. Pradeep Kumar Yadav,

Chhattisgarh Riders meet on August 4

RAIPUR: Excitement is building as Mara Club, the Chhattisgarh Riding Club (36RC), prepares to host the grand "Chhattisgarh Riders Meet" on August 4. Formed in 2020, 36RC has grown to include over 125 members, embarking on rides to some of the most challenging and picturesque locations in India, such as Leh-Ladakh, the North East, Rajasthan, and the southern states. This year, the club is organizing Central India's largest biking event, set to attract more than 350 riders and over 1,000 attendees for a day of community, competition, and celebration. For the first time in Chhattisgarh, this event aims to unite various biking clubs and enthusiasts on one platform. The main focus is to raise awareness about road safety, with experts from the traffic department providing crucial information on traffic rules. Scheduled from 11 am to 10 pm at a venue near Airport Road Golden Shot, Raipur, the event promises to be both informative and entertaining. In support of Raipur Police's campaign against drug addiction, the Chhattisgarh Riders Meet will also spread awareness about the dangers of substance abuse. Attendees can look forward to an array of exciting activities, including arm wrestling, tyre throw, quiz competitions, and a slow race, ensuring fun and engagement for everyone.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

TELIBANDHA FIRING

6 accused arrested by police in firing incident, pistol, cartridges recovered

RAIPUR: Police has arrested 6 accused in the firing incident outside PRA India Pvt. Ltd. located near Ring Road No. 01 Udyog Bhawan Telibandha under Telibandha police station area on July 13. Two masked persons attacked with pistols and fled, after which a case was registered against unknown accused.

In view of the seriousness of the case, Inspector General of Police Raipur Range Raipur Amresh Kumar Mishra and Senior Superintendent of Police Santosh Kumar Singh seriously reviewed all the aspects and appointed specific teams for specific tasks.

On the basis of information, an interstate operation was conducted by establishing high level coordination in Gumla, Lohardaga and Ranchi of Jharkhand and Sirsa of Haryana. In this operation, 3 accused from Jharkhand and 3 from Haryana were arrested. Identity of two other accused has been ascertained.

NARROW ESCAPE

Tree falls on Scooter, rider narrowly escapes, no serious injury



RAIPUR: A significant accident occurred in the capital on Sunday morning when a tree fell in front of Jai Narayan Pandey Government School, burying two scooters and an auto. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured. Eyewitnesses reported that the rider of one scooter had parked his vehicle on the road and was standing nearby when it began to rain. This fortunate positioning meant he was unhurt, though his scooter was completely buried. Another scooter rider saw the tree falling and abandoned his vehicle, running to safety and narrowly escaping harm.

Against deteriorating Law and Order

Congress to gherao assembly on July 24, says Cong president Deepak Baij



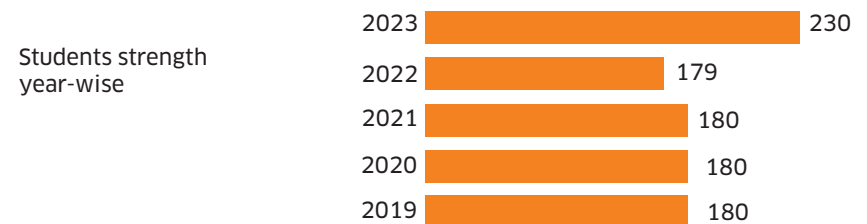
RAIPUR: The Congress party has launched a protest against the deteriorating law and order situation and poor health services in the state. State Congress President Deepak Baij has announced plans to gherao the assembly on July 24th.

Baij leveled serious allegations against the BJP government, claiming that law and order have completely collapsed over the past seven months. "There have been four incidents of firing in the capital, and interstate gangsters have become active in

the state. Over 300 rapes, 80 gang rapes, and more than 200 murders have occurred during this period," he stated. He further criticized the government's handling of health services, highlighting the deaths from common diseases such as malaria and diarrhea in regions like Bastar and Surguja. "More than 22 deaths have occurred due to diarrhea and malaria in the last 10 days," Baij added, noting that the High Court has taken the issue seriously and issued a notice to the state government.

The Day's NUMBERS

NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN PT JAWAHARLAL MEDICAL COLLEGE, RAIPUR



Source : Agency

ROAD WIDENING PROJECT

Meenal Chaubey accuses RMC Mayor of politicking in road widening case

RAIPUR: RMC Leader of Opposition Meenal Chaubey has leveled serious allegations against RMC Mayor Aiyaz Dhebar regarding the road widening project at Tatyapara Chowk. Chaubey accused Dhebar of engaging in political maneuvering and trying to claim credit for the project, which she asserts was initially demanded by her party. "Mayor Dhebar is in a race to take credit for the road widening," Chaubey said. "He's constantly seeking attention by approaching the Governor, the Chief Minister, and various Ministers. The people of Raipur see through this political posturing." Chaubey criticized Dhebar for his inaction during the tenure of the Congress government, stating that he remained silent and failed to initiate the project until there was a change in power. "As soon as the power dynamics shifted, he began advocating for the widening, but only under the guise of political strategy," she remarked. She urged the Mayor to refrain from such "petty politics" and emphasized the Bharatiya Janata Party's commitment to the project, assuring that it will proceed and that all affected individuals will receive proper compensation.

FELICITATION

Respecting Safai Mitras is the duty of every citizen: Brijmohan Agarwal



RAIPUR: Raipur MP Brijmohan Agarwal was felicitated by citizens at the Triloki Maa Kalibari Complex, Dr. Rajendra Nagar.

During the event, Agarwal honored 50 Safai Mitras and awarded three outstanding players. Addressing the gathering after felicitating the Safai Mitras with shawls and Shriphal, Brijmohan Agarwal emphasized the crucial role of the city's Safai Karamcharis in making Raipur a smart city.

He highlighted that the cleanliness of the streets and colonies is maintained by these workers who labor in challenging conditions to ensure a clean environment for everyone.

| GURU PURNIMA |

CM Sai attended the Guru Purnima festival

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai reached Jandi Pateshwar Dham Ashram in Doondilohara development block of Balod district on Guru Purnima on Sunday.

The Chief Minister met Saint Yogi Balakdas at the Satsang Sthal Kaushalya Dham there and took his blessings. On this occasion, apart from MP Bhojraj Nag, Devlal Thakur and other guests, IG Ramgopal Garg, Collec-



tor Indrajit Singh Chandrawal, SP JR Thakur and many public representatives were present.

Chief Minister Sai reached the Samadhi

Sthal of Brahmalin Saint Ram Janaki Das ji and offered floral tribute and planted a Rudraksha plant in the Satsang Sthal premises.

Wished for the happiness, prosperity and well-being of the state
Vishnu Deo Sai,
 Chief Minister, CG

The Chief Minister prayed at the Shiva temple and wished for the happiness, prosperity and well-being of the state.

The Chief Minister addressed the Guru Purn-

ima Mahotsav organized on this occasion and welcomed all the people present.

He announced to construct the Samadhi of Brahmalin Gurudev Ram Janaki Das in Pateshwar Dham and to install high mast lights in the temple premises and to construct a shed for the devotees in the temple premises. The Chief Minister announced to increase the seats of Jugendra Pre-Matric Boys Hostel from 50 to 100.



Central Chronicle

Oppn raises eatery, NEET rows; govt for smooth Parl

Rajnath Singh spoke against disruptions in Parl and said its sanctity must be maintained.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Opposition parties drew the battle lines on the eve of Parliament's Budget session on Sunday as they asked the government at an all-party meeting to allow discussion on a host of contentious issues such as the Uttar Pradesh government's order to eateries on the Kanwar Yatra route and exam paper leaks, including of the prestigious NEET.

The government, which breaking from the recent practice invited a number of smaller parties for the meeting to signal its political outreach, conveyed its willingness to discuss all issues but Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju stressed that it should be in accordance with the rules. He called for cooperation from all parties for running Parliament smoothly, saying it is a collective responsibility.



An all-party meeting ahead of the Budget session of Parliament, in New Delhi.

HIGHLIGHT

● The govt, which breaking from the recent practice invited a number of smaller parties for the meeting to signal its political outreach.

Chairing the meeting, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh spoke against disruptions in Parliament and said its sanctity must be maintained.

BJP allies as well as opposition parties came

Ready to discuss all issues but in accordance with the rules

Kiren Rijju
Parliamentary Affairs Minister

together in seeking special category status for different states, presenting the government with a tricky issue to negotiate during the session, Representatives from

the JD(U), a BJP ally, the BJD and the YSR Congress Party demanded the status for Bihar, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, respectively, at the meeting of 44 parties, including some having only one MP. Opposition RJD and BJP ally LJP (Ram Vilas) echoed the demand for Bihar. Congress leader K Suresh told reporters that his party was joined by other INDIA bloc members in seeking the Lok Sabha deputy speaker's position for the oppo-

sition according to convention. He said they also flagged the need for discussion in Parliament on a host of other issues, including the spate in terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, the Manipur situation, train accidents, unemployment and price rise. The Congress flagged the issue related to alleged irregularities in the exams conducted by the Union Public Service Commission, whose chairperson resigned recently for reportedly personal reasons.

The stand of several opposition parties, including the Congress, the DMK and the AAP, made it all but certain that the political heat sparked by the Uttar Pradesh government's order asking eateries and carts selling eatables to display their owners' names on the route of kanwaris will reach Parliament when the session begins from Monday.

Health official walks 16 kms to reach remote hamlet

HYDERABAD: A health official in Mulugu district of Telangana has come in for praise from Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya and others for his dedication to duty as he visited a remote hamlet, climbing three hillocks and crossing a stream, to serve the inhabitants. A Appaiah, District Medical and Health Officer (DMHO) visited the hamlet, Penugolu, a few days ago to understand the difficulties of the health

department staff reaching the place (to serve them) and also to request the inhabitants to shift to the plains. The hamlet is 16 kms away from Wajedu in the district and now 11 families with a population of 39 people reside there, he told PTI. Earlier, 150 families used to live there. It is an arduous journey as it takes four and half hours to reach the place and involves climbing three hillocks and crossing a stream, he said.

46th session of WHC gets underway

NEW DELHI: The inaugural ceremony of the 46th session of the World Heritage Committee got underway at the Bharat Mandapam here on Sunday evening in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Director General of UNESCO Audrey Azoulay. India is hosting the key event of the UNESCO for the first time from July 21 to July 31.

14-hour work day in IT sector

BENGALURU: Karnataka State IT/ITES Employees' Union (KITU) has urged the Siddaramaiah-led government to reconsider its reported plans to extend the working hours of the IT/ITES/BPO sector. According to the union, the government plans to increase the working hours to 14 hours a day. The proposal to amend the Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishment Act in this regard, was presented in a recent meeting.

NEWSLINE

JORHAT

Five boys meet watery grave

Five boys drowned in two ponds in Assam's Lakhimpur and Jorhat districts on Sunday, police said. Three children from Chanimari village in Dhakuakhana area of Lakhimpur district had gone to take a bath in a pond to beat the scorching heat.



NEW DELHI

PM pats Maths Olympiad team

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday it is a matter of immense joy and pride that India has come 4th in its best-ever performance in the International Maths Olympiad.

MUMBAI

36 flights cancelled at Mumbai airport

As many 36 flights were cancelled at the Mumbai airport on Sunday as intermittent heavy spells of rains hit the city, which also forced the facility operator to suspend runway operations twice within almost one hour, albeit for a brief period, sources said.

NEW DELHI

PhonePe CEO apologises

Amid a furore over his comments on the now-stalled Karnataka job quota bill, PhonePe CEO and Founder Sameer Nigam on Sunday offered an "unconditional apology" and said he never intended to insult the state and its people.



WELLNESS

Feel Good Fast: Home remedies for gastric headaches

Experiencing frequent headaches that disrupt daily life may signal a gastric headache, often triggered by underlying stomach issues. This type of headache occurs when gas builds up in the stomach and moves upward, causing discomfort and pain, typically concentrated on one side of the head.

Mumbai sees heavy showers; waterlogging in many areas

Press Trust Of India

At least 15 flights were diverted to the nearby airports, mainly Ahmedabad.

MUMBAI: Mumbai and its suburbs received over 100 mm of rainfall in ten hours till Sunday evening, inundating roads in many areas, diverting flights, and affecting local train traffic on a Central Railway section between Dadar and Matunga stations due to water-logging. Mumbai city recorded 100 mm of rainfall in ten hours between 8 AM and 6 PM, while eastern and western suburbs received a rainfall of 118 mm and 110 mm, respectively, officials said. A total of



A bus moves on a waterlogged road during monsoon rain. | Photo: PTI

FACTFILE

● City received 82 mm of rain, the eastern suburbs 96 mm, and the western suburbs got 90 mm till 4 pm.

36 flights were cancelled at the Mumbai airport and 15 flights, including

the ones operated by Air India, IndiGo and Akasa, were diverted to nearby airports, mainly Ahmedabad, till 4 pm, amid intermittent heavy spells of rain. Heavy rains forced the facility operator to suspend runway operations twice during the day, for eight minutes at

12.12 pm and later from 1 pm to 1.15 pm, sources said. Local train services were delayed by 15 to 20 minutes on the Harbour Line due to waterlogging near Mankhurd, Panvel and Kurla stations, while services on the Western Railway section operated normally.

Cybercrooks are smart storytellers: Cyber Crime

Press Trust Of India

None of them are engineering graduates, he said, adding that most of them are Class 10 Or Class 12 passouts.

NEW DELHI: They commit crimes in the complex world of high tech but most cyber crooks are no tech geeks. Rather, they are master storytellers with little education who dupe gullible victims online with their glib tongue, a top police officer said.

Hemant Tiwari, Deputy Commissioner of Police of the Cyber Crime unit of Delhi Police, told PTI that during investigation, his sleuths were able to draw the profiles of victims and accused.

"They do not have any



FASTFACTS

● The crooks gain the trust of the victim to such an extent that they even go back to the scamster for advice.

● A new kind of cyber fraud has emerged in recent months, the so-called 'digital arrest'.

sound academic background but are brilliant in telling stories to their prey," he said.

None of them are engi-

neering graduates, he said, adding that most of them are Class 10 Or Class 12 passouts. The crooks gain the trust of the victim to such an extent that they even go back to the scamster for advice when warned by police or others that they are likely to fall prey. "I remember, when our team arrested an accused in a cyber fraud case. He was about to cheat a West Bengal-based elderly woman. Our officer called her and told her the man she was about to send money to has been arrested. The moment the officer disconnected the call, the woman called the accomplices of the arrested person saying that she received a suspicious call and wondered if she is being scammed by someone claiming to be police," he recalled.

NEED TO BE CAREFUL |

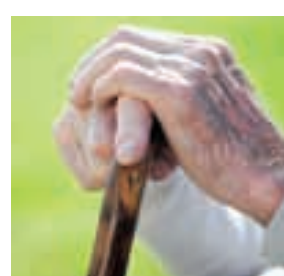
'Elderly population in India to double by 2050'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India's elderly population is expected to double by 2050, UNFPA India chief Andrea Wojnar said, stressing that more investment in healthcare, housing and pensions is needed, especially for older women who are "more likely to live alone and face poverty".

In an interview with PTI given days after the World Population Day on July 11, Resident Representative for UNFPA India, Wojnar, outlined key population trends that India is prioritising to accelerate sustainable development.

These trends include the youthful population, ageing population, urbanisation, migration,



and climate resilience, each presenting unique challenges and opportunities for the nation.

NUMBER

60

● Number of individuals, aged 60 and above, is projected to double to 346 million by 2050.

She said as the number of individuals, aged 60 and above, is projected to double to 346 million by

2050, there is a pressing need for increased investment in healthcare, housing and pension schemes.

"...especially for older women who are more likely to live alone and face poverty," she said.

India boasts a substantial youthful population, with 252 million people aged between 10 and 19 years, the UNFPA India head said.



"BJP workers pledged to establish Bhagwa dominance from Panchayat to Parliament",

Gajendra Yadav
MLA, Durg City

Officials inspect schools for RTE compliance

Collector had appointed 82 administrative officers as RTE Mentors.



Mentors interacting with students during inspection.

Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

● Mentors will ensure that RTE students get all facilities.

● They will coordinate with parents and schools to prevent RTE dropout.

BHILAI: Under the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act-2009, 82 administrative officers have been appointed as mentor officers in the district. Schools have been allotted to them to provide continuous motivation / assistance to the students admitted under RTE in non-aided and private schools. The officials will remove the obstacles in continuing the education of the students by coordinating with the parents, school management and administration. As per the Collector's

instructions, the mentor officers have started inspecting the school.

The mentors will ensure the admission of the students in the allotted school; will remain in touch with the parents and make efforts to solve the problems. If the student is

Mentors interact with students at schools

The mentors interacted with students to assess the actual situation. They spoke to the school management and collected information regarding the facilities, attendance and studies of RTE students. The officials inspected Vikas Public School Khedamara, Sheetla Public School Jamul, New Sagar Vidyalaya Supela, Model Public School Kachandur, SGM Public School Nankatthi, DAV School Hudco, Pinnacle Public School, Om Sai Vidya Bhavan School, Saraswati Shishu Mandir Kutelabhata, Alina Public School, etc.

not regular in the school, they will motivate the students and parents. The mentors will ensure that the student does not drop out. They will prevent the school management from discriminating between

the general and RTE students. They will also check whether the RTE students are getting all the facilities available under the Act. In case of any violation on the part of schools, they will report the Collector.

Water released from Mongra reservoir

BHILAI: Water released from Mongra reservoir created floods in several villages on the banks of Sheonath. Water is flowing about seven feet above the Mahamara Anicut in Durg. All the gates of Mahamara anicut have been opened. Water level is likely to increase in the coming days due to heavy rainfall on Sunday. The administration is on high alert and public announcements are being made in the flood prone areas.

SDRF rescues ten labourers

BHILAI: SDRF rescued 10 construction labourers trapped in flood at village Thanad located on the banks of river Sheonath. The labourers were deployed on the construction works of Bharatmala Project. SDRF Commandant informed that on information, a SDRF team was sent to the spot and all the trapped labourers were rescued safely.

The members of SDRF team had to work hard to bring the trapped labourers out of the flood water but the managed it successfully

Municipal Corporation's anti encroachment drive continues in Durg

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: On the instructions of Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar, the teams from concerned Department continued anti encroachment drive from Chandi Mandir Chowk to Maan Hotel the other day.

During this, Assistant Revenue Officer Shubham Goir instructed the shopkeepers not to display items in front of the shops. The handcarts were demolished and removed with the help of JCB. Strict instructions were to the shopkeepers

HIGHLIGHT

● To prevent narrowing of road resulting in parking chaos.

not encroach in front of the shops.

Action of challan will be taken against the shopkeeper if the orders are ignored. Those selling vegetables by putting up handcarts and covering the road were warned that if they are seen on the road, action will be taken. Temporary encroachment was removed on Chandi Mandir Road with JCB.

NCC unit & Hindi Dept organise workshop

BHILAI: Department of Hindi and NCC unit of St Thomas College, Ruabandha jointly organized one day workshop on Learn and Earn recently. Principal of Dr MG Roymon welcomed all the participants and said that in the present scenario millets is the burning issue and it should be handled with due care. During the program he also appreciated the models made by NCC cadets on International

Youth Skill Day. Dr Anubhuti Jha, Assistant Professor, Dept of Microbiology and Biotechnology was the Keynote speaker and expert on this occasion. She explained the benefits of eating millets and also demonstrated the process of cooking millets. Along with this workshop College also observed International Youth Skill Day. NCC cadets made very attractive artwork and presented their skill.

NEWSLINE

FIR LODGED

Forgery case lodged on court's order

BHILAI: Police have lodged an FIR under Section 420, 34 of IPC against three persons of a family in connection with a land deal case. The petitioner Ranjit Kumar Sinha had entered into an agreement in the year 2015 with the respondents Harishankar Sahu, his wife Bisni Bai Sahu and daughter in law Ahilya Sahu of Kurud to purchase their 5.64 hectares of land at the rate of Rs 80 lakh per acre. The respondents had accepted an advance of Rs 64.30 lakhs against this sale agreement in different instalments. Due to pendency of a civil suit filed by Harishankar's daughter Saroj, the sale - purchase proceedings remained pending. Disposing of the civil suit, the court declared Harishankar, Bisni Bai and Ashilya as owners of only 7.49 acres of land.

ARREST

Two held with sharp weapons

BHILAI: Police arrested two ruffians with sharp weapons near Old liquor Shop on Nandini Road in Power House. The accused were threatening passers by with sharp knives. Police arrested the accused identified as S Vinay (19) son of S Thomas a resident of Sonia Gandhi Nagar, Khursipar and Kuldeep Singh (21) son of Vijay Singh a resident of Sweeper Mohalla Khursipar under section 25, 27 of Arms Act. Two knives were recovered from them.

THEFT

Theft at house in Saraswati nagar

BHILAI: Theft occurred at a house in Saraswati Nagar, Durg on the intervening night of Saturday. The family was in deep sleep when the thieves trespassed into the house and escaped with gold and silver jewellery as well as Rs 12500 cash. The family came to know about the incident the next morning. On the complaint of the victim Daneshwar Dhimar, police lodged an FIR against unidentified thieves under section 305, 331(4) of BNS.

ASSAULT

Mob assaults Lineman in Jeora Sirsa

BHILAI: Some local residents assaulted a lineman of the electricity department at Jeora Sirsa late evening on Friday. The victim Abhishek Nishad works as a lineman in CSPDCL. On Friday evening, he went to the Jeora Sirsa Sub Station to check the power supply to Nankatti. Due to power cuts in the village, some locals had gathered outside the substation. On spotting the lineman, they hurled abuses and later thrashed him. On the victim's complaint, police lodged an FIR against Pritam Kumbhkar, Hari Kumbhkar and others under section 115(2), 296, 395), 315 (2) of BNS.

Youth who climbed mobile tower arrested for theft



Central Chronicle News

Stolen jewellery, mobile phone and a bike, worth 10 lakh rupees seized.

BHILAI: Police arrested two persons including a juvenile on charges of theft. The adult accused had climbed on the top of a mobile tower to avoid arrest. Stolen gold and silver jewellery, mobile phone and a bike, worth 10 lakh rupees, were seized from the accused.

ASP (City) Sukhnandan Rathore informed that

on June 13, Smriti Nagar Chowki had received a complaint regarding theft at the residence of Syed Jameel in Smriti Nagar. Unidentified thieves trespassed into his house by breaking the cooler vent and escaped with gold and silver jewellery, mobile phones and cash.

During investigation, police received a tip regarding a juvenile who was trying to sell silver ornaments. He was taken into custody and during interrogation, he confessed to committing thefts with his friend Rahul Basod, a habitual criminal of Vaishali Nagar.

Man dies of snake bite

BHILAI: A man died after a venomous snake bit him in Jamul on the intervening night of Sunday. The deceased Tularam Sinha was sleeping on bed at home in Ward 8 of Jamul. A Krait snake climbed on his bed and bit him around 01:00 hrs. The family woke up with his screams and spotted the snake.

Woman attacks husband

BHILAI: A lady attacked her husband with a sharp object after an altercation at Azad Market Risali on Saturday. The victim Kishan Kumar Soni (26) runs a daily needs shop and is a father of three children. On Saturday, his wife Anjali Soni started arguing with him. When she asked for divorce, Kishan slapped her. Anjali retaliated and attacked him with a sharp object inflicted injuries near his ears.

'Corrupt leaders' alliance could not defeat Modi'

| WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING |

Central Chronicle News

BJP's Durg district working committee meeting held.

BHILAI: Durg District BJP's extended working committee meeting was held in the presence of Durg Division I/c and State Vice President Bhubendra Sawanni and MP Vijay Baghel, District Organization I/c Rajiv Agarwal, BJP District President Jitendra Verma, MLAs Doman Lal Korsevada, Lalit Chandrakar, Gajendra Yadav and other leaders.

Bhubendra Sawanni said that during the last assembly elections, there were many sitting cabinet ministers and Chief Minister of Congress from Durg district but the BJP succeeded to win maximum seats due to the



BJP leaders on the dais at the working committee meeting.

FASTFACTS

● Vijay Baghel urges workers to gear up for upcoming elections.

● Jitendra Verma asks workers to avoid indiscipline after ticket distribution.

efforts, struggle and loyalty of the workers.

Supporting the con-

gratulatory motion, MP Vijay Baghel said that Narendra Modi being elected as Prime Minister for the third consecutive time is a great achievement in the present era of challenges.

He spoke about Modi's achievements of the last ten years. Baghel said that the external and internal security of the country has strengthened

and those conspiring against India from abroad are committing suicide. Terrorist incidents have reduced significantly.

Rajiv Agarwal also appreciated the workers for defeating the top leaders Congress in Durg district.

Jitendra Verma said that the party workers nurtured the party with their body and soul.

| ANTI CRIME/CYBER UNIT MEETING |

Focus on cyber and property related crimes: Garg

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Inspector General of Police (Durg Range) Ram Gopal Garg chaired a meeting of officers / employees of Anti Crime and Cyber Unit, Durg in the auditorium of IGP office. SP (Durg) Jitendra Shukla was also present in the meeting. ASP (ACCU) Richa Mishra gave a detailed presentation about the action taken on the crimes.

The IGP directed to seriously look into the



cyber fraud cases. He emphasized on organizing a special JCCT (Joint Cyber Crime Training).

In the meeting, instructions were also given to resolve the unresolved cases of the dis-

tributed by studying them in depth. The IGP called upon the officers to make every possible effort to solve these cases on priority basis. Instructed to run special campaigns and take strict action to

Increased patrolling and strict vigil can prevent chain snatching incidents.

Ram Gopal Garg
IGP, Durg Range

prevent chain snatching incidents. He said that to control chain snatching incidents, it is necessary that police increase regular patrolling and keep a

strict vigil on suspicious activities.

The IGP said, "Our aim is to keep strict control on property related crimes and take cyber fraud cases seriously. For this, all officers will have to work together. "Directions were given for crime prevention by focusing on property related crimes.

DSP Shilpa Sahu, ACCU in-charge Tapeswar Netam and ACCU officers / personnel were present in the meeting.

44 villagers avail camp in Kachandur

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: The Corporate Social Responsibility Dept of Bhilai Steel Plant organized a one-day free Health Camp, at Model Steel Village Kachandur. A total of 44 villagers from Kachandur, availed free health services at the day-long Health Camp. Free medicines were also distributed to villagers attending the camp.

The Medical Team from the CSR department, comprising Dr M

Saraswati, Medical Consultant, Rekha Dev, Nursing Staff, for Blood-Sugar and BP examination, SS Gaur, Pharmacist, and Shambhu, for registration, volunteered their services for the Medical Camp at Kachandur village. Rajni Rajak from the CSR department was also present during the Health Camp. Conducting Health Camps is one of the prime initiatives, through which BSP's CSR Department has contributed substantially.

Congress looks to target BJP govt on law & order

Several key issues would be taken up during the five-day session.



Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai paid a courtesy visit to Legislative Assembly Speaker Dr Raman Singh on Sunday.

Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

RAIPUR: The monsoon session of the Chhattisgarh legislative assembly, scheduled to begin on Monday, is expected to be a stormy affair with the opposition Congress gearing up to corner the ruling BJP on the “deteriorating” law and order situation among other issues.

The Congress said it will gherao the state assembly on July 24 to protest against the alleged deteriorating law and order situation, particularly the violence in Balodabazar city last

● **The monsoon session with five sittings will conclude on July 26.**

month.

Meanwhile, the ruling BJP too has chalked out strategy to counter the Congress charges and has asked the MLAs to be present during the Monsoon Session to reply strongly to the allegations.

Addressing a press conference here, state Congress chief Deepak Bajj on Sunday said the last seven months of the Vishnu Deo Sai govern-

Govt ready to face Congress: Sharma

With the principal opposition Congress gearing up to corner the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on the issue of “deteriorating” law and order situation during the upcoming Legislative Assembly session of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly, the Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma who also holds the Home Affairs portfolio, on Sunday said that effective steps have been taken to deal with naxalism in Chhattisgarh and added that nearly 150 naxalites have been killed during the last six months.

ment saw four incidents of firing in the state capital, and inter-state gangsters have been spreading tentacles in Chhattisgarh.

Bajj claimed 300 cases of rape, 80 incidents of gangrapes and more than 200 murders were

reported in the state in seven months.

“There have been countless incidents of stabbing, looting, robbery and chain-snatching. The BJP has failed to protect the common man,” he claimed.

BJP City Extended Executive Body meeting

RAIPUR: Senior Members of Legislative Assembly Ajay Chandrakar and Rajesh Munat were among those senior leaders who attended the Extended Executive Body meeting of the Raipur City Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held at Ekatma Parishad here on Sunday. Speakers directed the party rank and file to actively implement the task given by the state unit leadership and also urged them to gear up preparations for the upcoming civic bodies elections. Raipur Rural MLA Motilal Sahu, Raipur City BJP President Jayanti Patel as well as General Secretary duo Ramesh Thakur and Satyam Duwa were also present on the occasion. Raipur North MLA Purander Mishra could not attend the meeting after being hospitalized on health ground.

Heavy rainfall damages dam

RAIPUR: The N-IB Dam, constructed by NMDC in the Kirandul Hills of Dantewada district, has sustained damage due to excessive rainfall, resulting in flood damage to numerous houses. The district administration promptly evacuated affected residents to safe locations. Water logging near the Gatar bridge and CSC Centre in Kirandul has been addressed with JCB machines.

All schools will have an Eco Club formation

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

RAIPUR: Under the National Education Policy 2020, Chhattisgarh will celebrate Mission Life on July 27 as part of the nationwide education week. To achieve this, Eco Clubs will be formed in schools, and a tree planting drive will be organized under the “One Tree for Mother” campaign. The members of the Eco Club will take an oath on July 27 to protect the environment. On the same day, each school will plant at least 35 saplings and assign their maintenance and upkeep to the students.

The School Education Department has issued guidelines for the formation of new Eco Clubs in schools. According to the guidelines, the school principal, headmaster, or

● **The mission aims to raise awareness among children about the importance of environmental conservation.**

headmistress will be the patron of the Eco Club, while the postgraduate teacher will be the in-charge.

Four to five students from each class will be part of the Eco Club, and one student will be appointed as the Eco Club president.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, has launched the MeriLife portal (<https://merilife.gov.in>) for uploading information about tree planting activities under Mission Life.

Girls & Boys Residential school Suptd suspended

RAIPUR: Gaurala Pendra Marwahi Collector Mrs. Leena Kamlesh Mandavi has suspended the superintendent and superintendent of Kanya Ashram and Balak Ashram Belzhiya without prior notice during a surprise inspection last Saturday. The suspension order states that due to unauthorised absence from the ashram on 20 July without prior notice and not residing in the ashram regularly, BS

Masko, Superintendent (Principal Teacher) of Adim Jati Balak Ashram Belzhiya, Development Block Marwahi, and Riyaz Ansari, Superintendent (Principal Teacher) of Adim Jati Kanya Ashram Belzhiya, Development Block Marwahi, are hereby suspended with immediate effect under Rule 9 of the Chhattisgarh Civil Services (Classification, Control, and Appeal) Rules 1966.

Investiture Ceremony of Holy Cross School solemnised

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Ms Anupam Diwan the founder & President of Astiva Women Education & Empowerment Foundation, as alumnus of Holy Cross Presided over the function as the Chief guest. The manager of the School Sr Eugene, the Principal Sr Maria & the Vice Principal Sr Mary graced the occasion with their presence.

The eventful day was marked by a series of well-orchestrated event a melodious welcome song & the Prayer Service set a serene atmosphere. A splendid prayer dance added to the spiritual ambience.

The official Oath taking ceremony was led by the President of the cabinet -The Principal - Sr. Maria. Then the newly elected representatives took their oath symbolised by an exchange of flags with the Ex-Ministers.

The Students Cabinet 2024-2025 comprises - Prime Minister Shreya Dewangan, Deputy Prime Minister Aditi Shree Yadav, Education Minister Suhani Dewangan, Deputy Education Minister Megha Mishra, Discipline Minister Akshara Jain, Deputy Discipline Minister Kaneez Fatma Raza, Cultural Minister Urwashi Singh, Deputy Cultural Minister Divyanshi Mishra, Health Cleanliness & Environment Minister - Jaskirat Kaur Bal, Deputy Health Cleanliness & Environment Minister Huda Qaysar, Sports & Traffic Minister Chahat Khetpal, Deputy Sports & Traffic Minister Elisha Nathan.

The elected leaders were conferred with badges by the Chief Guest accompanied by the Principal. The Chief Guest addressed the gathering & shared her words of encouragement.

Committee formed for Panchayat Secretaries

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh Government has formed a committee to consider and implement the demand for the regularization of Panchayat Secretaries. Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has made this announcement during the felicitation ceremony organized by the State Panchayat Secretary Association, Chhattisgarh, on the occasion of Panchayat Secretary Day. Rajesh Singh Rana, Secretary of the Chhattisgarh Government's Panchayat and Rural Development Department, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Committee. Priyanka Rishi Mahobia, Director of the Panchayat Directorate, has been named the Member Secretary, and Mohd. Yunus, Finance Controller of the Development Commissioner Office, has been appointed as a member. This committee will submit its report to the government within 30 days.

Alumni meet of Sainik School Rewa concludes

| ALUMNI MEET |

Central Chronicle News

The meet was attended by alumni from various parts of Chhattisgarh, along with their families.

RAIPUR: The alumni meet of Sainik School Rewa, which was established in 1962, concluded on Sunday at Lotus Resort on Ring Road No. 3. The meet was attended by alumni from various parts of Chhattisgarh, along with their families. The presence of Dr. Navin Khanna, a radiologist from London, and Mahendra Singh Patel, an IT expert from New Jersey, USA, was notable.

The meet began with a musical evening and dinner on July 19, where everyone reminisced about their school days and enjoyed the music till late at night. The next



Family members sharing lighter moments during the meeting.

FASTFACTS

● **Everyone reminisced about their school days and enjoyed the music till late at night.**

● **Traditional football matches, tug-of-war competitions and family magnum eating competitions organized.**

day, traditional football matches, tug-of-war

Major General, or equivalent. The current Army Chief, Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi, and Navy Chief, Admiral Dinesh Tripathi, are alumni of the 1982 batch. Lieutenant General KT Parnaik is the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.

Remembering the golden history of the school, Kale said that during the 1971 Indo-Pak War, Sri Lankan Peacekeeping Mission, and Kargil War, the students of Sainik School Rewa displayed exceptional bravery and won several Veer Chakras. So far, the students have received 03 Veer Chakras, 03 Shaurya Chakras, 04 Service Medals, and other military honors. Besides, the students are serving in politics, administration, space science, and other fields in India and abroad.

| PLANTATION |

Sapling planted under “ek ped maa ke naam” drive

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Urban Administration and Development Arun Sao, along with MLA, Raipur Rural Motilal Sahu, planted a peepal sapling under the “ek ped maa ke naam” campaign in Ward 54 of Zone 10 in Boriyakhurdh, Gajrajbandh.

The Deputy Chief Minister inspected the proposed beautification, conservation and development plan spanning



approximately 106 acres of Gajrajbandh, emphasizing environmental sustainability. He assured swift implementation of

the proposed project, including the expedited construction of a pond and its beautification.

Sao and Sahu planted a

All citizens must join hands in PM Modi's nationwide initiative to secure and nurture trees.

Arun Sao
Deputy CM

peepal sapling during the event, joined by Raipur Municipal Corporation's Commissioner Abinash Mishra. Sao urged all citizens to join hands in

Review of malaria and diarrhoea situation

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Bilaspur Collector Awanish Sharan reviewed the latest situation of malaria and diarrhoea in the district by holding a meeting of officials via video conference on Sunday. This review is in compliance with the instructions of Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, who has directed the district administration to ensure all possible measures are taken to deal with malaria and diarrhoea.

The Collector instructed that all sources of drinking water be chlorinated within the next two days. He also directed the construction of platforms around all village borings, which will be built within the next 15 days using District Panchayat funds. He strictly mandated that all doctors and health workers must remain at their headquarters and perform their duties diligently. There will be no shortage of medicines and beds at any level.

NEWSLINE

COMPETITION

RKC celebrates Oratory Excellence



RAIPUR: Rajkumar College hosted a highly engaging and intellectually stimulating Inter Set English Recitation, Elocution, and Debate Competition on July 19th and 20th, 2024. This two-day event was a resounding success, showcasing the oratory talents and critical thinking skills of students across various grades. The first day featured students from classes VI, VII, and VIII reciting poems by renowned poets, demonstrating exceptional memory skills and expressive delivery. Their performances were judged on clarity, emotion, and articulation. This was followed by the Elocution round, where participants narrated stories, including the likes of “Tom Sawyer.” The students were evaluated on content, delivery, and persuasiveness.

GREETINGS

Sai greets people on beginning of Shravan

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai extended his best wishes to the people of the state on the occasion of the holy month of Shravan, also called “Sawan”, dedicated to the worship of Lord Shiva. It will begin on July 22. He prayed to Lord Shiva for the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of the state's people. Shri Sai stated that with the start of the month of Sawan, devotees perform special puja rituals and ceremonies dedicated to Lord Shiva. Devotees observe fasts on Monday called “Sawan Somwar” with great devotion. During this time, there is a significant increase in the number of devotees visiting Lord Shiva temples, and many undertake Kanwar Yatra.

SPORTS

CG players selected for Asian Jump Rope Championship



RAIPUR: The Asian Jump Rope Championship 2024 will be held in Kawasaki, Japan from July 24 to July 31. The General Secretary of Jump Rope Association Chhattisgarh Akhilesh Dubey, has been appointed as the coach of the Indian team. Seven players from Chhattisgarh will represent the Indian team, including international jump rope players Rajdeep Singh Hargotra, Himanshu Kashyap, Himanshu Manikpuri, Ritik Verma, Ayush Soni, Harsh Manikpuri, and Yuvraj Devangan. The Indian team will depart from Delhi on July 22 by regular flight.

"The health department officials should take necessary action and treat malaria positive patients in Mungeli."

Arun Sao
Dy. Chief Minister.



Chhattisgarh



Assembly Speaker Dr. Raman Singh performed Bhoomi Pujan of 96 development works.

R'gaon to be developed as per people's dreams

Dr. Raman Singh performs Bhoomi Pujan of 96 development works.

Central Chronicle News

RAJNANDGAON: Assembly Speaker Dr. Raman Singh performed Bhoomi Pujan of 96 development works worth Rs 13 crore 81 lakh for the development of the city at Padmashree Govindram Nirmalkar Auditorium Rajnandgaon. Deputy Chief Minister and Urban Administration and Development Minister Shri Arun Saw, MP Shri Santosh Pandey, Mayor Smt. Hema Deshmukh were specially present on this occasion. Addressing the program, Assembly Speaker Dr. Raman Singh said that the awareness of Rajnandgaon is famous all

over Chhattisgarh. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Dev Sai, a wonderful environment of development has been created in the whole of Chhattisgarh within 7 months. He said that the development works have started. All the promises made by the Chief Minister have been fulfilled in less than 7 months. The government has tried to fulfill many announcements including purchase of 21 quintals of paddy, two years' bonus, Mahtari Vandan Yojana for 70 lakh women, purchase of tendu leaves increased from 4500 to 5500 rupees. He said that Rajnandgaon has

HIGHLIGHT

- Dr. Singh said, all the promises made by the Chief Minister have been fulfilled in less than 7 months.
- He said that he has been successful in doing many small and big development works in Rajnandgaon.

introduced him as an MLA and it is Rajnandgaon that has created an identity.

He said that he has been successful in doing many small and big development works in Rajnandgaon. Work has been done for

establishment of medical college, construction of roads, flyover, Digvijay Stadium, canal work in Shivnath diversion, international hockey stadium, Kendriya Vidyalaya, housing for homeless families in Pendri, drought compensation amount and drinking water.

He said that the people of Rajnandgaon had dreamed of the development of the city, work is being done to build this city in accordance with that dream. After the formation of the government, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has set a new direction for development in the entire country.

Tractor seized transporting illegal bricks

KOREA: On the instructions of District Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh, the Mineral Department has expedited the investigation of illegal excavation and transportation of minor minerals. District Mineral Officer Shri Bhushan Kumar Patel seized a newly sold tractor transporting illegal bricks. District Mineral Officer Shri Patel has informed that while handing over the seized tractor to police custody, action has been initiated against the driver Shri Sudama Sahu and the vehicle owner as per rules. The tractor has been handed over to Charcha police station.

Tribute paid to Omin Sahu in Karga

ANWARI: Omin Sahu, 30 years old, wife of Gulab Ram Sahu, resident of village Karga, died suddenly on Wednesday. A meeting to pay her tribute, was organized on Friday, by Nirvana Bhajan Mandali by singing tribute bhajans, in which Geeteshwar Sahu, Mehtar Sahu, Roopchand Sahu, Radhe Charan Sahu, Kacharu Ram Sahu and a large number of villagers were present.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CAMP AYUSH Health camp to be held in Deori under NRHM

KHAIRAGARH: Under the guidance of Director Ayurveda Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) CG Raipur and as per the plan of National Rural Health Mission, under the guidance of District Ayurveda Officer Rajnandgaon, a one day block level free disease diagnosis and Ayurveda/Homeopathy medical camp has been organized in the middle school premises of village Deori on Monday, 22nd July. District AYUSH Officer Dr. Shilpa Pandey and Khairagarh Camp Incharge Dr. Shilpi Singh said that in the organized AYUSH Health Fair, experienced and qualified doctors will treat all types of complex diseases including arthritis, abdominal disease, gynecology, skin disease, blood pressure through Ayurveda/Homeopathy medical system and will distribute free medicines. The organizers said that the camp will be organized in the middle school premises of Deori from 10 am to 4 pm.

CEREMONY MP Brijmohan visits Khorpa at 'Praveshotsava 2024'



KHORPA: Recently Swami Atmanand Government Excellence School Khorpa organised praveshotsav 2024 ceremony where MP Brijmohan Agrawal, member of the legislative assembly Indra Kumar Sahu, Sarpanch Mrs Rekha Baghel and other esteemed members of Janpad were present. MP planted the tree in the school premises, felicitated the talented students under various categories, distributed the books to newly admitted students and announced an aid of Rs 25 lakhs for the infrastructure of school. Brijmohan Agrawal urged the school management that it must be ensured that no students must not be deprived of education.

Roads were flooded with rain water Two hours of rain causes water-logging in main roads of Rajim, traffic affected



RAJIM: After the intermittent rains for the last 5 days, today on Saturday, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, it rained heavily for 2 hours continuously. Due to which the entire religious city was drenched. The vegetable vendors sitting under the open sky in Mahamaya Chowk were worried. At present, the price of tomatoes is sky-rocketing, they have bought it from the wholesale market at a high price. After the rain, there were almost no customers, so they had to pack up the same goods and take them home again. After the rain, all the vendors sat with umbrellas and were drenched in the water.

On discussing, they said that what to do, brother, I have bought it at a high price, if it is not sold, I am afraid it will get spoiled. Here the roads were filled with water. Near the District Cooperative Bank, a shape like a pond started appearing on the road. There was almost 2 feet of water on Gariaband Road behind the statue of Pandit Sundarlal Sharma. The same situation was at Shivaji Chowk. Shriram Chowk on Fingeshwar Road was filled with water. After the four-wheelers passed, water was splashing on other vehicles. Pedestrians and cyclists were facing great difficulty in commuting.

Farmers give memo to MP Roop Kumari

RAJIM: Recently, in the national general meeting of the United Kisan Morcha held in Delhi, it was decided to hand over the demand letter of the farmers to all the MPs of the country. Under which, under the leadership of Joint Kisan Morcha Chhattisgarh's convenor board member and Bharatiya Kisan Union Chhattisgarh's general secretary Tejram Vidrohi, the farmers handed over the demand letter to Mahasamund MP Mrs. Roopkumari Chaudhary and appealed to raise the farmers' issues in the Parliament. Giving information, Tejram Vidrohi said that before returning from Delhi borders, the central government had promised legal guarantee of MSP, compensation to the families of farmers martyred in the agitation, exemption of farmers from punishment for burning stubble.

Despite security, Congmen inaugurated the stadium

Central Chronicle News

The MLA and Congressmen inaugurated the stadium on their own by breaking coconut and cutting the ribbon near the barricades.



The Congressmen who wanted to inaugurate the city's indoor stadium.

BAGBAHARA: The Congressmen who wanted to inaugurate the city's indoor stadium, were stopped from reaching the building by the strong barricading done by the stadium security personnel and the local police. However, after a lot of struggle to enter inside, the MLA and Congressmen inaugurated the stadium on their own by breaking coconut and cutting the ribbon near the barricades. This matter has become a topic

FACTFILE

- Congressmen said that the general public, youth, especially players, are waiting for the stadium to start sports activities.

of discussion in the city. Congressmen said that the general public, youth, especially players, are waiting for the stadium to start sports activities, which has been wait-

ing for inauguration for months. But, the Nagar Palika administration was not taking any initiative in this regard even after repeated attention. The memorandum submitted by the Congress to the Governor also includes the demand for the immediate opening of the indoor stadium for the activities of the players. It is worth mentioning that a fortnight ago, the Congressmen going to the rally to gherao the SDM office and

protest against power cuts had created a sensation by unveiling the statues of great men installed ten months ago. Since then, discussions were also going on prominently about the early inauguration of the city's indoor stadium. And today, under the leadership of MLA Dwardakhish Yadav, Congress members had organized a dharna (sit-in) at the Nagar Palika office for their various demands and the indoor stadium also falls in the middle of the same road. The police administration, fearing sudden inauguration of the indoor stadium like the unveiling that took place a fortnight ago, had barricaded the stadium building from a distance with bamboo sticks and made strong arrangements to prevent people from reaching there.

ASKS FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE

Collector reviews works under Jal Jeevan Mission

Central Chronicle News

KOREA: Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh reviewed the works going on under Jal Jeevan Mission in the Collectorate Sabha Room. He reviewed the progress of the works of single and group tap water schemes implemented in the district and gave necessary instructions to the officers. During this, Chief Executive Officer, District Panchayat Dr. Ashutosh Chaturvedi was present. The Collector reviewed



the works done within a fortnight and gave necessary instructions to the officers of Jal Jeevan Mission. He directed the contractors to do quality work and provide water tanks, tap connections etc. on time. He said

that this is an important scheme of the state government, any kind of negligence will not be tolerated in this. There is a need to work fast by giving priority to the works of public interest, for this complete the works

In the construction works any kind of negligence will not be tolerated at any cost.

Vinay Kumar Langeh
collector, Korea.

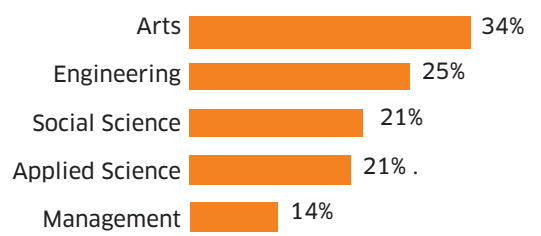
under construction on time. Under this scheme, there is a responsibility to provide clean drinking water to every house. He

gave clear instructions to the officers and contractors that impure and fluoride-containing water should not flow from the tap at any level, and if such happens, immediate action should be taken to stop it. CREDA officials were instructed to supply electricity through solar energy in remote areas like Ramgarh etc. The Collector instructed to work in mission mode to speed up the work under Jal Jeevan Mission.

The Day's NUMBERS

(The figures show how the students chose different subjects in the year 2022)

SUBJECT-WISE HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY



Source - Agency

MALARIA CAMP Dy CM Arun Sao asks doctors to attend malaria patients in Achanakmar

MUNGELI: Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao took immediate cognizance of malaria cases found in Achanakmar area. He directed the health department officials to take necessary action and treat malaria positive patients. Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr Devendra Paikra said that as per the instructions of the Deputy CM and under the guidance of Collector Rahul Dev, malaria testing cum health awareness camps were organized in villages Achanakmar, Tilaidabra, Chhaparwa and Sarasdol of Achanakmar sector, where patients found positive were immediately given antimalarial drug, along with that larval source reduction was done. Health workers are in constant touch with the patients. Larvae found in pots, tanks, old utensils and other water collecting containers in all the houses visited were immediately destroyed as per rules. This greatly reduces the chances of malaria spreading. Chief Medical and Health Officer said that the health department is working in alert mode to deal with malaria, diarrhea and seasonal diseases in the district.

SELECTION Vaishali became school leader and Kush became sub-school leader



DONGARGAON: Bal Cabinet was formed in Government Pre-Secondary School Chirchari Kala through voting system. Regarding this subject, Headmaster Hemant Salame said that school leader and cabinet have been formed for discipline in school and efficiency of work among children, intellectual development. On this occasion, he talked about maintaining environmental awareness, campaign against drugs, nutrition, education, health. In this election, Miss Vaishali became school leader of class 8th and Kush Kumar of class 8th became sub-school leader. By adopting direct election system in this, children exercised their right to vote for all the posts. A publicity campaign was run by the children a day before.

Congress rally draws attention to key issues

Congress led a rally demanding action on Khamba pond cleanup

Central Chronicle News

BAGBAHARA: In a spirited move towards better urban living, Congress members, led by MLA Dwarkadhish, organized a rally today to address pressing local issues, notably the pollution in Khamba pond. The rally, which saw a large turnout of city residents, highlighted the need for immediate cleaning of the pond, which has been plagued by water hyacinth, causing significant environmental and health concerns.

Starting from the Khamba pond bus stand, the rally covered a two-and-a-half-kilometer route to the Nagar Palika office. Participants chanted slogans demanding action from the Nagar Palika CMO, whom they accused of neglect. The rally emphasized the urgency of cleaning the pond by July 27th to prevent further ecological damage and health risks.

In his speech, MLA Dwarkadhish criticized the BJP state government's handling of local issues. He called for the provision of housing for residents displaced by railway land encroachments and urged the opening of the new indoor stadium for sports activities.



Congress members, led by MLA Dwarkadhish, organized a protect rally.

FASTFACTS

- The rally emphasized the need for swift approval and installment release under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.

- Urgent calls for opening the new indoor stadium and addressing housing for displaced residents.

dium for sports activities. He also stressed the need for swift action on the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to ensure housing approvals and the release of pending installments.

The rally culminated in the submission of a memorandum to the Addi-

Rally urges CMO to act

In response to questions about the need for protests despite a Congress-supported president in the council, MLA Dwarkadhish Yadav clarified the situation. Yadav emphasized that there is no complaint against the president, who has been actively raising these issues. However, the CMO, Chairman, and councilors have not been listening, causing delays in essential public welfare projects. This lack of responsiveness has compelled the Congress members to organize rallies and threaten further demonstrations, highlighting their commitment to ensuring the well-being of the city's residents.

tional Tehsildar, addressing these key demands. The event was marked by strong community support, with notable attendance from local leaders and citizens, reflecting a unified call for immediate and effective solutions to the city's challenges.

The Congress members have vowed to escalate their protest to the National Highway if their demands are not met by the stipulated deadline, showcasing their commitment to public welfare and environmental conservation.

Woman missing for months

KHAIRAGADH: Despite two months of searching, no clue has been found about Seema Patel, a 30-year-old woman who disappeared from Ward No. 9, Turkaripara, Khairagarh. She went missing on the night of May 19, and her husband, Laxminarayan Patel, reported it to the Khairagarh police the next day. Laxminarayan has been tirelessly searching for his wife, but without success, leaving the family deeply worried. The police have yet to make any progress in locating Seema. The community remains concerned and hopeful for her safe return.

Police request 10 days to solve murder case



Central Chronicle News

KHAIRAGARH: Police have requested 10 days to apprehend the killer in the Dewaribhat murder case. During a press conference, it was announced that the planned siege and road blockade of the Khairagarh police station, scheduled for July 8, demanding action and giving an ultimatum of five days. Frustrated by the lack of progress, they planned a protest rally to surround the Khairagarh police station on July 20.

receiving promises from police officers.

Rajeshwar Verma was murdered on the night of May 19 in Dewaribhat, and despite villagers' demands for action, no arrests have been made. The villagers of Dewaribhat had previously submitted a memorandum to the SP office on July 8, demanding action and giving an ultimatum of five days. Frustrated by the lack of progress, they planned a protest rally to surround the Khairagarh police station on July 20.

Shadow MLA meets deputy CM

KHAIRAGADH: State BJP Working Committee member and Khairagarh Assembly constituency's shadow MLA Vikrant Singh visited Raipur to meet Chhattisgarh's Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister, Vijay Sharma. Singh discussed various issues concerning the new KCG district, including peace and order, Panchayat, and rural development. The meeting highlighted the need for focused attention on these areas to ensure balanced growth and stability in the district.

Heavy rain exposes contractor's negligence

MAINPUR: The newly built bridge and road on the Mainpur to Dallirajhara National Highway were washed away in the initial rains, exposing the negligence of the contractor, Radheshyam Agarwal, who undertook the construction at a cost of crores of rupees. As a result, about 70 villages in Khadgaon tehsil and Bha Bharritola sector, with a population of 50,000, have lost contact with Mainpur head-

quarters. The washed-away infrastructure has left villagers, farmers, students, and common people stranded, unable to access essential services like hospitals, schools, banks, and markets in Mainpur. Additionally, passenger buses, trucks, and goods trains traveling from Hyderabad, Telangana, and Maharashtra to Dalli Rajhara Balod district via Mainpur are now unable to use this critical route.

Jindal World School hosts investiture ceremony



Central Chronicle News

SAKTI: Jindal World School, a leading educational institute, organized an investiture ceremony to appoint student officers. The event saw Balaram Sahu (District and Additional Judge) and Prashant Kumar Shivhare (District and Additional Judge) as chief guests. School directors Ravi Agarwal and Rishabh Agarwal, along with Principal Venkat I and Vice-Principal Meenu Pillai, welcomed and honored the guests. The program began with Saraswati Vandana, followed by

FASTFACTS

- Shivam Singh Thakur and Gunika Agarwal were honored as the new school leaders.

a welcome song and a Bharat Natyam dance performance by the students. Chief guest Balaram Sahu spoke about the importance of discipline, which was further emphasized by Prashant and Kumar Shivhare. The ceremony saw Shivam Singh Thakur appointed as the school leader and Gunika Agarwal as the school heroine, both honored with badges by the chief guests.

Guru Purnima celebrations

DONGARGAON: The Shri Guru Purnima Mahotsav will be celebrated in Girgaon on Sunday, 21st July. Organized by the Shri Guru Purnima Committee and villagers, the event includes Guru Diksha by Bal Vyas Tilendra Maharaj from 2-3 pm, Guru Paduka Pujan from 3-4 pm, Guru Pravachan from 4-6 pm, and concludes with Guru Aarti and Prasadi distribution at 6 pm.

Farmers struggle amid drought

ANWARI: Due to insufficient rains, farmers in the Anwari region face halted agricultural work. Residents Hemlal Sahu, Mahesh Chandrakar, and others report bore pumps have stopped, fields are cracking, and transplantation work has ceased. The water level has fallen, causing significant difficulties and dimming hopes for a good crop.

Community health center seeks immediate support

| HEALTH CENTER STRUGGLES |

Central Chronicle News

The Dongargaon Community Health Center faces critical staff and resource shortages.

DONGARGAON: The Dongargaon Community Health Center, a crucial healthcare facility in the region, is facing significant challenges, including a shortage of medical staff and water supply issues. Despite the appointment of eight medical officers on contract to serve various areas, most have left due to exams and other commitments, leaving only three doctors who are also set to leave soon. This shortage has resulted in the majority of patients, from accident victims to those with other ailments, being referred



Dongargaon Community Health Center.

FASTFACTS

- Shortage of doctors and dressers forces patient referrals to other hospitals.

- Persistent water supply issues hinder the hospital's ability to provide adequate care.

to other hospitals due to inadequate care. In addition to the

lack of doctors, the hospital is operating with only one dresser, whose absence at night forces contracted peons and sweepers to handle dressing wounds, potentially endangering patients. The 30-bed facility also struggles with cleanliness due to the absence of a responsible peon, leading to unsanitary conditions.

One of the most pressing issues is the

water shortage, a problem that has persisted since before the hospital's construction. Despite efforts by the Public Health Engineering (PHE) department to supply water through a pipeline, the thin pipe and weak motor fail to deliver sufficient water. The hospital has yet to benefit from the city's Brahmin community's offer to provide water from their private bore.

| DEVOTEES FACE HARDSHIP |

Devotees face hardship due to toilet closure

Central Chronicle News

RAJIM: The closure of public toilets and bathing rooms, built by the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board under the Ramvanagaman tourism circuit, has been causing significant inconvenience for thousands of devotees visiting Rajim. These facilities, located just 200 yards from the festival stage on the banks of Triveni Sangam, have been closed for the last four months



since the Kumbh Kalpa fair. With the holy month of Sawan starting on July 22, the number of visitors to Rajim is expected to surge. Rajim is home to the world-famous Panch-

mukhi Kuleshwarnath Mahadev temple and other ancient Shivalingas, attracting devotees from across the state and even from abroad. The influx of pilgrims, including Kanwaris, will be par-

ticularly high throughout the 29 days of Sawan, with daily visitors poten-

tially reaching thousands. Local residents and devotees have expressed frustration over the closure of these essential facilities. Despite the tourism department constructing these amenities to accommodate the large number of visitors, they have remained closed except during fair times. During a recent visit, devotees were forced to seek alternative locations far from the main area, causing significant discomfort.

Khubchand Baghel anniversary celebrated

Central Chronicle News

KHARORA: The Manav Kurmi Kshatriya Samaj joyously celebrated the birth anniversary of Dr. Khubchand Baghel. The festivities included offering flowers, applying gular, dedicating coconuts, and lighting incense sticks at his statue located in the school premises at Dr. Khubchand Baghel Chowk and Kurmi Boarding Hostel Committee. Prominent attendees included Tilda Nagar Kurmi Samaj Pres-

ident Jainendra Baghel, Hostel Committee President Anil Verma, Area Head Domar Verma, and several others from the Kurmi community. Journalists Dilip Verma and Shiv Verma, as well as women's leaders Mamta Paikra and Gauri Verma, were also present. The event saw participation from various communities who came together to pay their respects to Dr. Khubchand Baghel, highlighting the communal harmony and admiration for his legacy.

NEWSLINE

TRIBUTE

Planting trees for martyrs



ARANG: Following the Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma's directive, a public campaign titled "Plant a Tree in Memory of Amar Jawan Martyrs" was initiated. On Friday, a sapling was planted at the new Samajik Bhawan Brahmin Samaj Arang, led by Raj-Purohit Avinash Sharma. The campaign aims to plant numerous trees in honor of the martyrs. Key participants included Suresh Sharma, President; Harish Diwan, Secretary; Sandeep Sharma, Advisor; Avinash Sharma, President; Somesh Choubey, Vice President; Prakash Sharma; Sudip Sharma; Jayant Sharma; Soumya Sharma; and Vicky Sharma.

Chess committee

New district chess committee formed



KHAIRGARH: The executive committee of the District Chess Association has been officially formed, with affiliation from the Chhattisgarh State Chess Association. The committee aims to promote chess in the district, focusing on nurturing young talent and organizing competitions. The executive members are Chairman Kanhaiya Ram Patel, President Saddam Hussain, Vice-President Yatendra Jeet Singh Chhotu, Secretary Rocky Dewangan, Treasurer Sheikh Zahid, Joint Secretary Sumit Jain, and members Yogesh Singh and Rizwan Solanki. The association plans to organize regular competitions, coaching camps, and other activities to develop players skills. Members have expressed their gratitude to the state association for their support and affiliation.

WELCOME

School welcomes new president



ARANG: The school family of Government Higher Secondary School Gullu joyfully welcomed Ashok Kumar Yadav as the newly appointed President of the School Management Development Committee. Nominated with the support of regional MLA Guru Khuswant Saheb and district in-charge minister, Yadav's appointment was met with enthusiasm. On his first visit, in-charge Principal Manik Lal Mishra greeted Yadav with a flower bouquet on behalf of the school.



Bravery of Kargil War heroes will forever inspire all.

Manoj Sinha
J-K LG



JKNC VP Omar Abdullah interacts with party leaders, at his residence, in Srinagar.

'Spike in terror attacks no reason to delay assembly polls in J-K'

We held elections in 1996 and you have to agree that there is a difference of heaven and earth between the situation at that time and today," Abdullah said.

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Sunday said the spike in terrorist attacks in the recent past would be no justification to delay assembly elections, which were held even in 1996 when militancy was at its peak in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Some people are saying the situation has deteriorated and hence, there should be no elections. What happened to you? Are we so weak or the situation worsened so much that there are no chances of holding elections? We held elections in 1996

and you have to agree that there is a difference of heaven and earth between the situation at that time and today," he said. "Those who do not want to hold elections (in J&K) should tell that we are bowing before the gun-toting forces and are accepting defeat, besides ignoring the sacrifices of our forces. You tell our enemies that we will lay down without fighting," he said.

"If you want to bow before such forces then don't go for the (assembly) elections. We have no objection because this election is taking place on the orders of

HIGHLIGHT

● He said there are such forces across the neighbouring country which do not want friendly ties between the two countries.

● Despite their claims post (August) 2019, there is no place which is not facing the looming threat of terror attacks.

the Supreme Court which has set a deadline of September 30.

"You say in the Supreme Court the situation is not conducive for holding assembly polls

and we are bowing before the forces who over the past (three) years martyred our 55 bravehearts.

If you want to ignore and waste their sacrifices, we will bear the decision silently as there is nothing else we can do," Abdullah told reporters on the sidelines of a public rally at Gurha Slathia in the Samba district.

He said there are such forces across the neighbouring country which do not want friendly ties between the two countries. "We know they won't desist from their activities but somehow we were also found off-

guard," he said, criticising Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for delaying the joint high-level meeting held in Jammu on Saturday to chalk out a strategy to tackle growing terror incidents.

Omar said the meeting should have been called a long time after the first terror incident.

"Why he waited for so long? It was only after we started raising the concern, the meeting was convened," he said. Earlier, addressing a gathering, Omar said, "We have to face these forces bravely but this is not expected under their rule."

Group of picnickers rescued

THANE: As many as 60 picnickers were rescued on Sunday after they were stuck in gushing water on a hill in Belapur node of Navi Mumbai amid heavy rains, officials said. Navi Mumbai received 83.38 mm of rainfall in five hours ended at 1:30 PM on Sunday, causing water-logging in several areas in Vashi, Nerul and Sanpada. Officials said approximately 60 picnickers were stuck on the hill located behind Artist Colony in Belapur. After receiving the information, teams of fire brigade, police and Navi Mumbai disaster management personnel rushed to the spot, the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation PRO said. "The rescue operation was carried out using ropes," he said, adding a few people are trapped in the water behind an industrial unit in Turbhe area.

'BSF on high alert for situation due to B'desh unrest'

Press Trust Of India

Anti-quota agitations in the neighbouring country have left more than 100 dead, prompting the government to enforce a curfew to tackle the volatile situation.

AGARTALA: The Border Security Force (BSF) is on high alert to deal with any situation that may arise due to the prevailing unrest in neighbouring Bangladesh, a top official said on Sunday.

Anti-quota agitations in the neighbouring country have left more than 100 dead, prompting the government to enforce a curfew to tackle the volatile situation.



Medical students from B' desh after their return to India, at Sonamura border in Tripura.

FACTFILE

● BSF is fully committed to securing the borders of the country and is prepared to deal with any exigency.

"The prevailing law and order situation in Bangladesh is a security concern for the BSF too as we are entrusted with guarding the international border. We are fully seized of the situation and have beefed up

security so that criminal elements from across the border do not take advantage of the current situation," BSF Tripura Frontier Inspector General Patel Piyush Purushottam Das said at a press conference.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE

Bihar to conduct 'indoor air pollution' study

Press Trust Of India

PATNA: The Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB) has decided to conduct an "indoor air pollution" study in Patna to identify types of pollutants inside people's homes and their effects, besides suggesting corrective measures.

The study will be first conducted in the capital



We have initiated talks with the IIT-Tirupati for conducting indoor air pollution study in Patna.

Devendra Kumar Shukla
Chairman, BSPCB

city and later it will be held in Gaya, Muzaffarpur and a few other cities of the state.

Talking to PTI, Devendra Kumar Shukla, Chairman of the BSPCB, said, "We have initiated talks with the IIT-Tirupati for conducting indoor air pollution study in Patna to identify types of indoor air pollutants, their effects and also

suggest corrective measures to reduce it. Our talks with IIT-Tirupati are expected to be finalised very soon."

Bihar is probably the first state in India which has decided to conduct an indoor air pollution study, he said. "People must know about the pollution levels inside their homes," said the BSPCB head.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

TRIBUTE

Kerala CM Vijayan condoles over death of boy infected with Nipah

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Sunday expressed condolences over the death of the 14-year-old boy who succumbed to Nipah in Malappuram.

Vijayan said all efforts were made to save the teenager.

State Health Minister Veena George informed that the 14-year-old boy from Kerala's Malappuram, who was under treatment at Kozhikode medical college for Nipah infection, died on Sunday. George said the boy from Pandikad suffered a massive cardiac arrest at 10.50 am on Sunday and efforts to revive him failed.

"He was on a ventilator and was not conscious. The urine output had reduced this morning. After the massive cardiac arrest, the revival efforts failed and he passed away at 11.30 am," she said. **PTI**

POSITIVE MOVE

'Uttarakhand will accommodate Agniveers in govt departments'



DEHRADUN: Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said on Sunday the Agniveers of the state who return after serving the country will be accommodated in various departments of the state and a provision for reservation will also be made in this regard. The chief minister said during a programme here that after the Agniveer scheme was brought, he had a meeting with Army officers, former officers, soldiers and others. **PTI**

Guru Purnima at Patanjali Yogpeeth Guru Purnima Festival celebrated with devotion at Patanjali Yogpeeth



HARIDWAR: The Guru Purnima festival, honoring the sacred Guru-disciple tradition, concluded with immense faith and devotion at Patanjali Yogpeeth. The event was held at the Yog Bhavan Auditorium at Patanjali Wellness, Yogpeeth-2, in the presence of Swami Ramdev Ji Maharaj, founder president of Patanjali Yogpeeth, and Acharya Balkrishna Ji Maharaj, General Secretary.

Swami Ramdev highlighted Guru Purnima as a proud celebration of India's Guru Parampara, Rishi Parampara, Veda Parampara, and Sanatan Parampara. He spoke on the various global challenges posed by ideologies

such as materialism, intellectual and religious terrorism, and emphasized India's historical role as a world guru. Swami Ramdev urged more than 100 crore Sanatan Dharmis to embody the principles of Yoga, Vedas, and Sanatan Dharma in their daily lives, ensuring their actions uphold the honor of their Gurus and traditions. Addressing the recent administrative verification efforts during the Kanwar fair, he stressed the importance of transparency and purity in one's identity and actions.

Acharya Balkrishna, echoing Swami Ramdev's sentiments, called for purity and sanctity in life.

The Day's NUMBERS

Maharashtra has the highest registered two wheelers.

STATE WISE DATA OF REGISTERED TWO WHEELERS

Maharashtra	14,171,511
Tamil Nadu	11,440,019
Gujarat	10,445,001
Uttar Pradesh	9,255,001
Karnataka	7,185,011
Chhattisgarh	2,194,317

Source: Statista

BIG IDEAS

'India had its own prime meridian passing through Ujjain'



NEW DELHI: India had a prime meridian of its own much ahead of the Greenwich meridian and it was called "madhya rekha", which passed through the city of Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh, according to a new Class-6 NCERT textbook for social science. No mention of caste-based discrimination, tweaks in references to B R Ambedkar's experience about the discrimination, referring to the Harappan civilisation as "Sindhu-Sarasvati" are also among the changes in the textbook developed according to a new curriculum. **PTI**

AWARENESS DRIVE

Campaign to make India addiction-free garners over 1,000 signatures

NEW DELHI: Over 1,000 doctors, public health experts, and undergraduate and post-graduate medical students have signed to support the initiative "Nasha Mukti Indradhanush Abhiyan India" for a tobacco-free future. Launched by the ACHE in collaboration with DaAD, this signature campaign garners support from medical professionals. **PTI**

Classifieds

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Central Chronicle

N-E-W-S



"The documents that the jail authorities have legally provided to Kejriwal's lawyer are enough to tell that any untoward incident can happen to him.."
Sanjay Singh
 Rajya Sabha MP

Water-logging after rain, disrupts traffic in Mumbai



Vehicles move on a waterlogged road after heavy monsoon rain, at Dadar in Mumbai, Sunday | Photo: PTI

Hopes high for growth in Noida Industry status to boost developers

Hoping for "nuanced approach" to real estate woes, the developers seek the government's support beyond fiscal incentives, with the Budget focussing on enhancing efficiency.

Press Trust Of India

NOIDA: Real estate developers in Noida and Greater Noida in western Uttar Pradesh expect the first Budget of the Modi 3.0 government to accord 'industry status' to their sector for easier access to funds, and address woes related to GST, including the 28 per cent taxation on cement.

Hoping for "nuanced approach" to real estate woes, the developers seek the government's

support beyond fiscal incentives, with the upcoming Budget focussing on enhancing transparency and efficiency through a robust regulatory framework, streamlined approvals process.

Industry body CREA's western UP Secretary Dinesh Gupta said boosting the real estate sector with tax incentives, improved tax structures, and a single-window clearance policy will encourage

HIGHLIGHT

- "The combined effect of these reforms will raise the amount of money accessible to taxpayers, enabling them to buy real estate more enthusiastically," experts say.
- Industry experts are in favour of raising the housing affordability cap in metro areas, including NCR, from Rs 45 lakh to Rs 75 lakh. As a basic need of person and safe investment.

further investment from both domestic and foreign sources.

"Furthermore, tax reforms that lower income taxes for both corporations and individuals, simplify tax legislation, offer targeted incentives, expand the SWAMIH stress fund, and lower the GST rates on building materials will boost the building industry and improve the situation for real estate players," he said.

"The combined effect of these reforms will raise the amount of money accessible to taxpayers, enabling them to buy real estate more enthusiastically and ultimately speed up the nation's economic growth," Gupta said.

Bhutani Group CEO Ashish Bhutani said the country's real estate sector's contribution in GDP is much lower when compared to Europe or China and batted for taking it up to 30 per cent by 2047.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

DRUGS

NCB seizes 3,000 bottles of codeine cough syrup, three held

MUMBAI: The Narcotics Control Bureau has busted an inter-state drug cartel and seized 3,000 bottles of codeine-based cough syrup estimated to cost Rs 15 lakh after arresting three persons, an official said on Sunday.

S R Ahmed, M Aslam and Y Khan were nabbed when they were accepting a parcel of bottles from a transport firm in Ulhasnagar in Thane district, the NCB Mumbai Zonal Unit official said.

"The accused trio prima facie ordered codeine-based cough syrup (CBCS) bottles for illegal distribution in Mumbai. All of them have a criminal background and are involved in the trafficking of drugs," the official said.

Police suspect the accused trio was part of an inter-state drug ring utilising transport services for the illegal trafficking of CBCS bottles. **PTI**

GURU PURNIMA

CM Adityanath worships his guru on Purnima, performs special 'Pooja'



LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday sought blessings of his 'guru' on the occasion of Guru Purnima and performed a special puja at Gorakhpur's Gorakhnath temple for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the state. The chief minister worshipped his 'guru' Mahant Avedyanath Ji Maharaj in Gorakhpur, before which he also performed Guru Purnima rituals for Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath, according to an official statement issued here. **PTI**

Devendra Fadnavis 54th birthday

Devendra, who calls himself the ocean, stands like a rock in Maha politics

NEW DELHI: Devendra Fadnavis, who stands like a rock in Maharashtra politics, turned 54 on the first day of the holy month of Sawan, July 22. Although his father, Gangadhar Fadnavis, was also a politician, Devendra never relied on his family background and created a distinct identity in state politics. From starting as a ward coordinator in Nagpur in 1989 to becoming a corporator, mayor, legislator, Chief Minister, Leader of the Opposition, and Deputy Chief Minister, he faced many obstacles but never looked back and worked tirelessly to strengthen the BJP. He has also fulfilled various responsibilities in the organization, from Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) to the party's state president and general secretary. His true loyalty to the party and hard work have polished his political career. Currently, as Deputy Chief Minister, he is working diligently to ensure BJP's victory in the upcoming assembly elections.

Born into a Brahmin family in Nagpur, Devendra began his education at Saraswati Shishu Mandir in the same city and obtained a law degree from Nagpur University. He then did



a postgraduate diploma in business management and another diploma in methods and techniques of project management from Berlin.

Devendra entered politics at the age of 19, a time when stalwarts like Sharad Pawar, Shiv Sena founder Balasaheb Thackeray, Vasantdada Patil, and Shankarrao Chavan dominated Maharashtra's political scene. He later witnessed the politics of leaders like Vilasrao Deshmukh, Manohar Joshi, and BJP's Gopinath Munde.

Himachal: Man commits suicide following police raid at his house

HAMIRPUR: A man whose house was raided by the police following a complaint that he possessed an unlicensed rifle allegedly committed suicide here, police said on Sunday. The deceased has been identified as Raghubir Singh, a resident of Telkar village in Nadaun area, the police said. Singh's wife, Lata Devi, alleged that following a complaint by Babu Ram that her husband possessed a 12-bore rifle without a licence, their house was searched in the presence of local Pradhan Sarita Devi and Ward Panch Prakash Chand on Friday night. However, no weapon was found, the police said. After the police left, her husband told her that he was fed up with the Babu Ram's false complaints to defame him in society and said, "It is better that I die," she said.

BANGLA SITUATION

Will give shelter to the distressed people coming to us, says Mamata

Press Trust Of India

If helpless people come knocking on the doors of Bengal, we will surely provide them shelter," Banerjee said at the 'Martyrs Day' rally in Kolkata.



Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee says she will support distressed neighbours | Photo: PTI

KOLKATA: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday said that in the wake of the escalating violence in Bangladesh, she would keep the doors of her state open for people in distress from the neighbouring country and offer them shelter.

Banerjee referred to the United Nations Resolution on refugees as justification for her stand over the possible humanitarian crisis that may

FACTFILE

- Mamata Banerjee also appealed to the people of West Bengal to not get provoked over matters concerning the current situation in Bangladesh.

emerge on account of the severe law and order breakdown that has

gripped Bangladesh over the past few days.

"I should not be speaking on the affairs of Bangladesh since that is a sovereign nation and whatever needs to be said on the issue is a subject matter of the Centre. But I can tell you this, if helpless people come knocking on the doors of Bengal, we will surely provide them shelter," Banerjee said at the

'Martyrs Day' rally of the TMC in Kolkata. "That's because there is a United Nations Resolution to accommodate refugees in regions adjacent to those under turmoil," the Bengal CM added while drawing an example from Assamese people who were allowed to live in Alipurduars area of north Bengal for a considerable period during the Bodo strife in the northeastern state. Assuring all cooperation to Bengal residents whose relatives may have remained stuck on account of the escalating violence on the eastern side of the international border, she also extended assistance to Bangladeshis who came to Bengal but were facing difficulty in returning home.

The Day's NUMBERS

STATES WITH MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ELEPHANTS IN INDIA

Karnataka	6049
Assam	5719
Kerala	3054
Tamil Nadu	2791
Odisha	1966

(source- Agency)

CRIME

UP: Man held for kidnapping 11-year-old cousin in Bijnor

BIJNOR (UP): Police have arrested a man, following a brief encounter, for allegedly kidnapping his 11-year-old cousin here, officials said. Bijnor Superintendent of Police (SP) Abhishek Kumar said that the Dhampur police received information on Friday that Ashutosh Chauhan's son Shashank Shikhar (11) was kidnapped while returning home from school. The SP said the police rescued Shashank safely late Friday night. They arrested one of the kidnapers, Arjun Tomar who revealed that the plan to kidnap Shashank was

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Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagee	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (In Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	45089420000030 & 450894100000369	1) Mr. Shiv Anjoriya, S/o. Samayal Anjoriya, 2) Mr. Samay Lal, S/o. Kanhaiya Anjoriya, 3) Mr. Dhansukh Lal, S/o. Samayal Anjoriya	15.03.2024 Rs. 19,23,390.96 (Rupees Ten Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Three Hundred Ninety and Ninety Paise Only) as on 04.03.2024	Date: 20.07.2024 Time: 10.40 AM Symbolic Possession

Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of land bearing Khazra No.48 (Part), total admeasuring area of 0.024 Hectare (243.122 Sq.mtrs.), together with construction thereon, situated at Bhursatia, P.H. No.38, R.N.M. Bhursatia, Jarpad Panchayat & Tehsil Kharaganj, Dist. Raigarh (C.G.).
 Bounded by: East by: Rajkumar, West by: Remaining Land of Donor Samay Lal, North by: Road and South by: Remaining Land of Donor Samay Lal.

Whereas, the Borrower(s)/ Co-borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagee, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorized officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited has taken symbolic possession of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 5 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower(s)/ Co-borrower(s) Guarantor(s) Mortgagee, mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured Assets will be subject to the charge of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.

Place: Raigarhganj Sd/- Authorized Officer
 Date: 22.07.2024 For, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
 (An authorized financial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGI Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071. Branch Office: Malay Heights 1st Floor, Above IDBI Bank, in front of RBI, Mahadevghat Road, Sunder Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)-492001.

RLD LEADER JAYANT CHAUDHARY SAYS

'Still time to roll back Kanwar eatery order'

Press Trust Of India

BJP ally RLD chief Jayant Chaudhary has demanded the UP government roll back its order that eateries along the Kanwar route must display the names of their owners

"There is still time. It (roll back) should happen or the government should not put much emphasis on (implementing) it," Jayant Chaudhary Chief, Rashtriya Lok Dal



the Uttar Pradesh government roll back its order

that eateries along the Kanwar route must display the names of their owners, saying the pilgrimage does not belong to any one religion or caste. He said kanwariyas ask no-one their religion when they seek any service from them, neither should the matter (the pilgrimage) be linked to any religion.

Days after the Muzaf-

farnagar Police asked all eateries along the Kanwar Yatra route to display their owners' names, the Uttar Pradesh government on Friday extended the controversial order across the state.

The order has been slammed by opposition parties and members of the ruling alliance, who say it targets Muslim traders.



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.

[Henry David Thoreau]

Comment

Sedentary habits growing, health problems escalating

OUR VIEW |

Diplomatic vigilance: Safeguarding citizens amid crisis

The unrest in Bangladesh, sparked by a contentious job-quota system, has prompted the repatriation of 978 Indian nationals, underscoring the necessity of swift and decisive action during crises. As violence escalated, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the Indian High Commission in Dhaka stepped up to ensure the safe return of our citizens. The situation in Bangladesh deteriorated rapidly, necessitating the imposition of a curfew to curb the violence. Amidst this chaos, the MEA's coordinated efforts provided a lifeline for Indians trapped in the conflict zones. Of the 978 returnees, 778 opted for the land route, while 200 chose to fly back. This reflects the diverse and flexible approach taken by the authorities to accommodate the preferences and urgencies of the stranded individuals. With approximately 15,000 Indian nationals residing in Bangladesh, including 8,000 students, the scale of the challenge was immense. The High Commission in Dhaka, along with the Assistant High Commissions in Chittagong, Rajshahi, Sylhet, and Khulna, demonstrated exemplary coordination. They not only facilitated safe passage to border crossings but also liaised with civil aviation authorities and commercial airlines to maintain uninterrupted flight services. The meticulous planning extended to ensuring smooth immigration procedures at designated border crossings such as Benapole-Petrapole, Gede-Darshana, and Akhaura-Agartala. The involvement of the Border Security Force (BSF) and land port authorities was crucial in guaranteeing a seamless transit for those opting for the land route. The MEA's proactive stance is further highlighted by their regular contact with over 4,000 students still in Bangladesh. These students, some from Nepal and Bhutan, were provided necessary assistance and reassurances, ensuring their safety and well-being during such turbulent times. This operation underscores the importance of preparedness and swift action in safeguarding the interests of Indian nationals abroad. It is a testament to the unwavering commitment of our diplomatic and administrative machinery, ensuring that even in the face of adversity, the safety and security of our citizens remain paramount.

GUEST VIEW |

Establishing AIIMS in Raichur: A Key to regional progress

Raichur has long faced marginalization in education, economy, and healthcare. Frustrated by the inaction of both State and Central governments, its residents have persistently demanded an AIIMS through repeated requests and strikes. Situated in the Kalyana Karnataka region, Raichur struggles with significant healthcare disparities, where the majority belong to Backward Classes.

The district's heavy reliance on urban centers for medical services is unsustainable, exacerbating these challenges. A study reveals that Raichur residents spend most of their earnings on medical expenses, highlighting the strong link between healthcare and economic well-being. The Nanjundappa Committee's recommendations underscore



Dr. Vijaykumar H K

the urgent need for progress in Raichur, especially in healthcare. Despite this, the State government has not made a determined effort to persuade the Union Health and Finance Ministries to establish an AIIMS in Raichur. Conversely, the Union government has not prioritized this critical need. Both administrations must recognize that establishing an AIIMS in Raichur is a healthcare imperative and an economic necessity, capable of reducing financial burdens and promoting prosperity in the region.

Health and illness in a country are not solely determined by the availability of medical facilities, hospitals, or doctors. A significant factor is the daily routine of individuals, which often neglects health-related guidelines, thereby increasing the likelihood of falling ill. Studies have shown that with increasing wealth, people in our country have become more negligent about their health. A recent study published in 'The Lancet Global Health' highlights this issue, revealing that Indians lag behind many other countries in terms of physical activity. Conducted between 2000 and 2022 across 197 countries, the study aimed to measure the level of physical activity in the daily routines of adult citizens. The study assessed 507 surveys from 163 countries, representing 93 percent of the world's population. The findings are alarming: there has been a global decline in physical activity, but the figures for high-income countries in the Asia Pacific region, including India, are particularly concerning. India

ranks second among countries showing a significant increase in adult inactivity. Approximately twenty-five years ago, 22 percent of Indian adults were considered inactive. This figure rose to 34 percent in 2010 and nearly 50 percent in 2022. Post-COVID, the physical activity of half of India's adults has almost come to a standstill, with expectations of this figure reaching 60 percent by 2030. Currently, 42 percent of men and 57 percent of women in India are physically inactive. This rise in inactivity among women is partly due to their shrinking role in household chores. Physical activity includes brisk walking, vigorous exercise, and other energy-burning activities. Globally, adult inactivity increased from 26.4 percent in 2010 to 31.3 percent today. The COVID-19 pandemic played a significant role in this increase. The trend of working from home became prevalent, reducing the necessity of leaving the house and contributing to physical inactivity. The culture of 'work from home' significantly diminished the need for office commutes,



Vijay Garg

Retired Principal Educational Columnist MALOUT Punjab

further exacerbating the problem. Lack of physical activity leads to various health issues. Without regular exercise, fat accumulates in the body, which can damage organs, weaken the digestive system, and lead to obesity, high blood pressure, heart disease, and digestive disorders. These lifestyle diseases are emerging as a significant health crisis globally. The World Health Organization (WHO) reported in 2017 that 61 percent of non-infectious deaths in India were due to inactive lifestyles. The study estimated that approximately 1.4 billion people worldwide have low physical activity levels, with a significant portion being from India.

In contrast, countries like China and Australia have launched campaigns to promote physical activity. China's 'Healthy China 2030' campaign and Australia's target to make 15 percent of its citizens active by 2030 are commendable efforts. Britain aims to connect five lakh new people with exercise by 2030, and the USA has launched a campaign to connect a thousand cities with 'free fitness.' In India, how-

ever, this laziness is embedded in our lifestyle and work culture. The number of cars is continuously increasing, and people often use them even for short distances. E-commerce has brought the market to our doorsteps, reducing the need for physical exertion. As a result, people often remain sedentary, leading to an increase in lifestyle diseases. Despite medical advancements increasing the average human lifespan, people now suffer more from lifestyle diseases. The 'Global Burden of Disease' study published in 'Lancet' in 2017 noted that people in wealthy countries recognize the importance of health and physical activity, whereas this awareness is lacking in countries like India. Consequently, people in poorer and developing countries remain ill longer than those in richer countries. Understanding the seriousness of these studies, Indians must urgently revise their daily routines to incorporate physical exertion. By doing so, we can combat the rising tide of lifestyle diseases and improve overall health and well-being.

SC's landmark decision on disability rights

The Supreme Court of India's landmark decision mandates the appointment of visually impaired candidates, underscoring the importance of disability rights and inclusion. by *Ysah Pal Ralhan*



Image showing a visually impaired man standing in front of the Supreme Court of India.

The Supreme Court of India recently issued a significant ruling regarding the implementation of the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act, 1995, highlighting systemic failures in protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. The case centered on Pankaj Kumar Srivastava, a 100 percent visually impaired candidate who cleared the Civil Services Examination (CSE) in 2009 but was denied an appointment. This decision marks a crucial milestone in the fight for disability rights in India.

Srivastava's journey for justice began when he was excluded from the merit list for the PH-2 (Visually Impaired-VI) category, despite passing the written test and interview. In 2010, the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) directed the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and the Department of Personnel and Training to calculate backlog vacancies as mandated by the PWD Act within six months. However, Srivastava's name remained absent from the merit list, leading to prolonged legal battles. The recent Supreme Court directive mandates the appointment of Srivastava and ten other visually impaired candidates against the backlog of vacancies for PWD candidates. The Supreme Court criti-

cized the Union of India for its gross default in promptly implementing the provisions of the PWD Act. The court noted that the government's stance at all stages had undermined the very purpose of enacting laws for the benefit of persons with disabilities. The court further stated that had the PWD Act been implemented in its true spirit, Srivastava would not have been forced to seek justice through prolonged legal battles. The Supreme Court exercised its jurisdiction under Article 142 of the Constitution of India, directing that necessary actions for appointments be taken within three months. These appointments will be made prospectively, and the

appointees will not be entitled to arrears of salary or seniority benefits. The court emphasized that these directions were issued as a one-time measure and should not be treated as a precedent for future cases. This judgement serves as a crucial reminder of the systemic negligence towards the rights of persons with disabilities in India. The PWD Act, designed to ensure equal opportunities and full participation for disabled individuals, has often seen lackluster implementation. The Supreme Court's stern stance underscores the need for immediate and comprehensive action by the government to rectify these lapses. The judgement also serves as

a wake-up call for the bureaucratic machinery to ensure that laws designed to protect marginalized groups are implemented effectively and without delay.

Beyond legal and bureaucratic implications, this judgement has significant social ramifications. It sends a strong message that the rights of people with disabilities cannot be overlooked or sidelined. It reaffirms the principle that every individual, regardless of their physical capabilities, deserves equal opportunities to contribute to and benefit from societal progress. The directive to consider Srivastava and other visually impaired candidates for appointment

underscores the importance of merit and capability over physical limitations. It challenges deep-seated prejudices and encourages a more inclusive and equitable approach to public service recruitment. While the Supreme Court's judgement is a step in the right direction, it is just the beginning. Establishing robust mechanisms to monitor the implementation of disability rights laws, regular audits, and accountability frameworks can ensure compliance and address lapses promptly. Investment in accessible infrastructure and technologies that enable disabled individuals to participate fully in educational, professional, and social activities is crucial. This includes making public spaces, transport, and digital platforms more accessible. It is time to review and update policies to address emerging challenges and incorporate best practices from around the world. This includes adopting more inclusive recruitment practices and providing necessary accommodations during examinations and interviews. The Supreme Court's judgement is a landmark decision and a call to action for the government, public institutions, and society to ensure that persons with disabilities are not just protected by laws but are also empowered to live with dignity and equal opportunities.

YOUR LETTERS

UGC promotes health

The UGC's decision to ban unhealthy food items on campus is commendable. However, processed food is not the sole cause of rising obesity among students. Today's youth lead sedentary lifestyles, spending more time on phones than engaging in physical activities. Alongside banning junk food, the UGC should mandate an hour of daily physical activity for students. Additionally, it must ensure colleges and universities provide the necessary equipment and facilities to support this initiative.

MK Nair, Raipur

Unmasking exam corruption

The integrity of various state and Central-level exams, like NEET and civil services, is increasingly questioned. IAS probationer Puja Khedkar's case highlights ongoing issues, yet the primary culprits remain unaddressed. Despite arrests in the NEET paper leak case, influential figures escape scrutiny. Large-scale cheating implies a nexus involving politicians, bureaucrats, and the elite, underscoring the need for thorough investigations to restore trust in the examination system.

Shiv Kumar Mishra, Raipur

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 needed flexible economic policies to promote growth.
Nitin Gadkari,
Union Budget, Road Transport and Highways Minister.

Vicky Kaushal launching jewellery showroom in Patna



Actor Vicky Kaushal takes selfies with fans during the launch of a jewellery showroom, in Patna.

Nirmala set to make history with 7th consecutive Budget

Sitharaman, who will turn 65 next month, was in 2019 appointed as India's first full-time woman finance minister when PM Modi won a decisive second term.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is set to make history by presenting her seventh consecutive Budget for the fiscal year 2024-25, surpassing the previous record held by former Prime Minister Morarji Desai. Desai had delivered five full budgets and one interim budget between 1959 and 1964. Sitharaman, who

will turn 65 next month, became India's first full-time woman Finance Minister in 2019 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi won a decisive second term.

Since her appointment, Sitharaman has presented six consecutive budgets, including an interim one in February 2024. The upcoming full Budget, scheduled for July 23, 2024, will be her seventh consecutive

NUMBER

6

• The full Budget for the 2024-25 fiscal (April 2024 to March 2025) will be her seventh straight.

• This year will witness two budgets - an interim one in February and a full one this month.

presentation, marking a significant milestone in India's financial history. This year is unique as it features two budgets - an interim one in February and a full one in July. This dual presentation is necessitated by the general elections, as an incumbent government cannot present a full Budget just before elections.

The interim Budget in February provided a temporary financial

framework, while the upcoming full Budget will outline the government's economic plans and priorities for the entire fiscal year from April 2024 to March 2025. The July 23 presentation will be the first Budget of the BJP-led NDA government since it was re-elected last month. Sitharaman's tenure as Finance Minister has been marked by significant economic challenges and reforms.

ANNUAL REPORT

IOC targets USD 1 trillion revenue by 2047: Chairman

Press Trust Of India

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) posted a record net profit of Rs 39,619 crore (USD 4.7 billion) on a revenue of Rs 8.66 lakh crore

NEW DELHI: Indian Oil Corporation, the nation's largest oil firm, is targeting to become a USD 1 trillion company by 2047, combining growth in traditional oil refining and fuel marketing with clean energy avenues like green hydrogen and EV charging, its chairman said. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) posted a record net profit of Rs 39,619 crore (USD 4.7 billion) on a revenue of Rs 8.66 lakh crore (USD 104.6 billion) in the 2023-24 (April 2023 to March 2024) fiscal.

The company will continue to invest in fossil



Company Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya

FACTFILE

• Company will continue to invest in fossil fuels and new energy avenues to have a balanced portfolio

fuels and new energy avenues to have a balanced portfolio that will help achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2046, company chairman Shrikant

Madhav Vaidya said in its latest annual report. It will expand oil refining capacity, and invest in petrochemical units that will convert crude oil into value-added chemicals directly, while also increasing its focus on gas, biofuels and clean mobility. "With India's economy on the rise, the energy needs of the country are growing exponentially. As 'The Energy of India', we have

been stepping up the pace and expanding our capabilities. We aim to become the nation's lead energiser, fulfilling 12.5 per cent (1/8th) of India's energy needs by 2050," he said. IOC, he said, "embarking on an aspirational journey to become a 'One Trillion Dollar Giant' by 2047".

"Our goal to attain a revenue of one trillion dollars is set against the backdrop of India's vision to transform into an economy of over USD 30 trillion by 2047," he added.

IOC will "make significant capital investment in both brownfield and greenfield expansions to ensure uninterrupted energy," Vaidya said. "Petrochemical integration will also be a key focus area that will greatly enrich our value chain."

Reliance FPIs invest Rs 30,772 cr in equities in July

NEW DELHI: Foreign investors injected Rs 30,772 crore into Indian equities so far this month, driven by hopes of continued policy reforms, sustained economic growth and a better-than-expected earnings season. Additionally, the anticipation of a reform-oriented budget has also lifted investor sentiment, Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research at Morningstar Investment Research India, said. Going forward, if the recent trend of weakness in dollar and bond yields persists, FPIs are likely to continue their buying in the market, VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services, said. Domestic and foreign investors are keenly watching for possible tweaks in the long-term capital gains tax in the Budget to be presented on July 23, he added.

SYSTEMS RESTORED

Airlines operations return to normalcy across airports

Press Trust Of India

said.

MUMBAI: Airlines operations across airports, which were impacted due to a global IT outage on Friday, returned to normalcy on Saturday with all services from ticket bookings to reservations and issuing of boarding passes going back completely to the online mode, sources

Earlier in the day, Union Minister for Civil Aviation K Ram Mohan Naidu said that the airline systems have started working normally, and all issues were likely to be resolved by noon on Saturday. "All operations are back to normal. All our services including bookings and reservations are online since



Friday late evening," said an airline executive. "System is restored and there is no disruption in

our services. It is getting back to normalcy," said a senior executive from a budget airline.

Nevertheless, as many as six to eight flights in the domestic sector were cancelled at Chennai Airport on Saturday, airport authorities said.

"About six flights in the domestic sector, including those airlines operating in Coimbatore, Kolkata, Kochi, Pune were cancelled by some airlines on Saturday.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Q1 RESULTS

Union Bank net profit rises 13.7 pc to 3,679 cr; challenges on margins

MUMBAI: State-owned Union Bank of India reported a 13.7 per cent growth in net profit to Rs 3,679 crore for the June 2024 quarter and flagged challenges on the net interest margin front. The bank's core net interest income grew 6.5 per cent to Rs 9,412 crore on the back of an 11.5 per cent growth in advances. Its net interest margin narrowed by over 0.13 per cent to 3.05 per cent. The other income increased 15.53 per cent to Rs 4,509 crore on healthy growth in the core fee income.

The net interest income and other income were down when compared to the March quarter, and the bank's managing director and chief executive A Manimekhalai attributed the same to a general tendency for a softer first quarter in the industry. Additionally, the reporting quarter also witnessed the general elections, which led to some slack, she added.

INVESTMENT

India a preferred investment destination for investors: Goyal



NEW DELHI: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal appealed to the Indian diaspora of the US to help promote the country as a preferred investment destination, highlighting the vast opportunities available in various sectors. He said that the government has taken a series of measures to attract investments and those steps include promoting ease of doing business, reducing compliance burden, opening sectors like space and efface for foreign direct investments.

Goyal also asked the diaspora to participate in making India a developed nation by 2047.

How the market will behave this week

Budget, earnings, global trends to drive stock markets: Analysts



NEW DELHI: The outcome of the Union Budget, quarterly earnings from corporates and global trends are the major factors to drive stock market sentiments this week, analysts said. Besides, the trading activity of foreign investors, the rupee-dollar trend and the movement of global oil benchmark Brent crude are also crucial aspects to watch out for.

"The upcoming Union Budget on July 23, 2024, has become the next focal point for the market, with high expectations for growth-oriented policies. Several factors will influence the market direction, including Q1 FY25 earnings, domestic and global

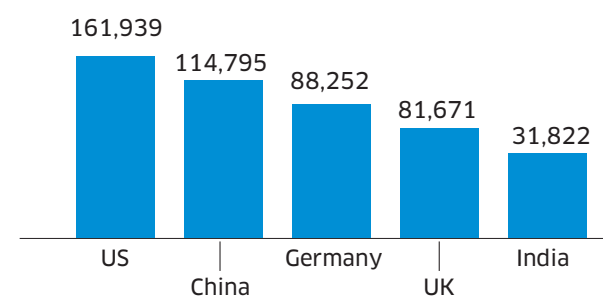
economic data, and broader global market trends. "Market sentiment will be closely monitored by observing foreign and domestic institutional investor activity (FII and DII) and crude oil prices," said Pravesh Gour, Senior Technical Analyst, Swastika Investmart Ltd. Among blue-chip firms Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Larsen & Toubro, DLF, Tech Mahindra and Nestle will announce their earnings during the week. "The market direction will be determined by the upcoming Budget outcome," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

The Day's NUMBERS

Outbound tourism expenditure of travelers from the following countries (in million U.S dollars)

Source: Statista

WORLD'S BIGGEST TOURISM SPENDERS



ATTRACTIVE DEALS

Ola Electric announces attractive deals on S1 portfolio

BENGALURU: Ola Electric announced that customers can avail benefits of up to INR 25,000 on purchase of Ola S1 scooters. Effective till July 22, customers can enjoy flat discounts of INR 10,000 on S1 X+, and INR 5,000 on S1 Pro and S1 Air. The company is also offering additional discounts of up to Rs 5,000 on select credit card EMIs. These offers are in addition to the INR 10,000 subsidy offered to consumers under EMPS 2024. To avail the offers, customers will have to buy and register before the price hike. Ola Electric offers an expansive S1 portfolio with six offerings across attractive price points catering to customers with different range requirements. It has recently marked its entry into the mass-market segment with the S1 X portfolio. Available in three battery configurations (2 kWh, 3 kWh, and 4 kWh), the scooters are currently priced at Rs 74,999, Rs 85,999, and Rs 97,499, respectively under the offer.

AFFORDABLE EVS

Hero MotoCorp plans to roll out affordable EVs this fiscal

NEW DELHI: Eyeing leadership in the electric two-wheeler segment, Hero MotoCorp is looking to roll out affordable models in the current fiscal, according to CEO Niranjan Gupta. The country's largest two-wheeler maker is also hopeful of the debut of its electric range in the international markets.

Addressing shareholders in the company's Annual Report for 2023-24, Gupta said the two-wheeler major has a roadmap to scale its electric vehicle business rapidly.

"We want to build leadership in EV, and in order to do that, we will be creating a very powerful EV product portfolio, augmenting the VIDA V1 Pro that we have today," he noted. The company will be launching products in the mid-and affordable segments this fiscal, Gupta said.



"I brought in my birthday on set. I cut my cake at 12 with friends and family and everybody from my set, from my Daldal set and it was incredible because that's my happy place and it just felt like the right start to my new year."

Bhumi Pednekar
Actress



& Glitters

OIT Watch



Shweta Tiwari returns with Zakir Khan

Shweta Tiwari joins Zakir Khan's upcoming show, set to be the only female in an all-men cast, bringing glamour and her comic timing to the ensemble. Excitement builds as fans await the debut of Aapka Apna Zakir on Sony Entertainment Television.



Shaleen Malhotra joins Sony SAB's Vanshraj

Actor Shaleen Malhotra joins Sony SAB's 'Vanshraj' as Yash Talwar, bringing a dynamic flair to the storyline with his unconventional style and impactful presence amidst the Mahajan and Talwar family dynamics.



Tabu's look unveiled in latest teaser

HBO Max's "Dune: Prophecy" teaser introduces Tabu as Sister Francesca, a pivotal character in the series premiering this November. The show delves into the origin of the Bene Gesserit with Emily Watson and Olivia Williams.



Frasier's Boston homecoming

Frasier Season 2 Premieres on September 19, Kelsey Grammer's return as Frasier Crane to Boston promises laughs and nostalgia, with the revival set to bring back beloved characters and introduce new twists at Harvard.



New Netflix dating show with Chloe

Netflix's upcoming dating show, "Sneaky Links: Dating After Dark," hosted by Chloe Veitch, explores late-night hookups and their potential for love. Premiering in summer 2025, it delves into the world of secretive relationships and commitment fears.

CLOSE UP

Sonam Kapoor: Redefining Indian fashion on global stage

Sonam Kapoor's love for fashion, borrowing clothes, and representing Indian culture elevated her to a globally acclaimed fashion icon.

Central Chronicle News

Sonam Kapoor is busy sashaying Indian culture on global runways and feels that it is a huge privilege for her.

Sonam Kapoor, who has carved a niche in Bollywood with her acting prowess and global fashion influence, recently shared insights into her journey as a style icon. Despite being hailed as Bollywood's fashion queen, she insists that she never aimed to cultivate such an image. Reflecting on her passion for fashion, Sonam explained that her approach has always been genuine and spontaneous. She expressed that her choices were driven by personal taste rather than a calculated strategy, often borrowing from both Indian and international designers whom she admired since childhood. For Sonam, fashion is an expression of herself, nurtured by her upbringing and her innate love for creativity. Her authenticity in style resonates through her career, where she continues to blend acting with a distinct flair for fashion.



"I was a 20-year-old girl following my passion for fashion by borrowing clothes from designers!"
Sonam Kapoor



Borrowing over buying: Sonam Kapoor's fashion philosophy

Sonam Kapoor reflects on her fashion journey, noting she began borrowing clothes when she realized its practicality over constant buying, a practice less common in India at the time. As a 20-year-old driven by passion rather than strategy, she embraced fashion authentically, choosing

what felt right. Proud to be recognized as a global fashion icon, Sonam sees it as a privilege to not only represent Indian culture through art, cinema, and fashion but also to celebrate its richness and diversity on the world stage. Whether at museums, red carpets, or other platforms, she eagerly seizes every opportunity to showcase India's cultural beauty with deep pride and sincerity.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Bollywood

Stree 2 trailer: The horror continues

As anticipation builds for "Stree 2", producer Dinesh Vijan confirmed that the next instalment of his acclaimed horror-comedy franchise is ready and set to hit theatres soon. Following the success of "Stree" in 2018, which launched Vijan's horror-comedy universe including "Roohi", "Bhedhiya", and "Munjya", the sequel promises to delve deeper into its eerie lore. At the trailer launch, Vijan revealed plans for future films like "Thama" and already scripted "Stree 3". Returning stars Rajkumar Rao, Shraddha Kapoor, and others will confront a new supernatural menace, Sarkata, in "Stree 2", promising audiences a bigger, crazier cinematic experience.

Web Series

Get ready for more Gynac drama: Season 2 starts filming

Amazon miniTV has thrilled fans with the announcement of 'Who's Your Gynac?' season 2, marking the return of Saba Azad and the beloved cast. The show continues Vidushi's journey, exploring themes of career, family, and romance amidst new challenges. As production kicks off, Saba Azad expressed her excitement, promising more of Vidushi's relatable struggles and triumphs. Season 2 aims to deepen the narrative with heartfelt moments and compelling storylines that resonate with audiences. Fans can anticipate a blend of laughter, tears, and memorable moments as the series unfolds, promising to deliver another round of engaging storytelling.

The Bollywood hot pair

Baby joy for Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal



Actors Richa Chadha and Ali Fazal joyfully announced the birth of their first child, a baby girl, born on Tuesday. Married since 2020 and postponing celebrations due to the pandemic, they shared their happiness in a joint statement, expressing gratitude for well-wishers' love and blessings. The couple, both 37, who

confirmed their pregnancy in February, have been together since making their relationship public in 2016, following their work in 2013's "Fukrey". As they embark on parenthood, fans and followers flooded social media with congratulatory messages, celebrating this new chapter in the lives of Richa and Ali.

Fashion

Stree vibes: Shraddha Kapoor dazzles in red

Shraddha Kapoor stunned at the Stree 2 trailer launch in a striking red and golden Masaba Gupta saree worth Rs. 22,000, exuding elegance and regality. Known for her versatile roles and fashion flair, Shraddha's ensemble perfectly blended tradition with contemporary grace. Her silk jacquard saree featured intricate golden tricone and anarzari borders, adorned with golden booti prints, symbolizing heritage and sophistication.



| BOLLYWOOD |

Will Smith and Johnny Depp's Hollywood friendship blossoms

Central Chronicle News

In the bustling world of Hollywood friendships, an unexpected bond has blossomed between two titans of the silver screen: Will Smith and Johnny Depp. Sources close to the actors have unveiled a remarkable camaraderie marked by shared admiration and frequent hangouts. Most notably, the duo recently made waves with a luxurious yacht outing and their joint attendance at an Andrea Bocelli concert in Italy, capturing the spotlight with their charisma and shared love for music. Reports indicate that



Smith and Depp, both known for their diverse talents and magnetic presence, have nurtured their friendship over the years despite hectic schedules and global commitments. Their mutual affection for music serves as a cornerstone of their relationship, evident in their collaborative spirit at events like the Bocelli tribute, where Smith delivered a stirring spoken-word

Johnny Depp and Will Smith have both been recovering from their own controversies.

HIGHLIGHT

Two of Hollywood's most controversial leading men have been hanging out - and the internet isn't too happy about it.

performance and Depp showcased his musical prowess alongside the legendary singer. Joined by Egyptian musician Ahmed Saad at the pre-concert yacht party, the trio's outings have become the talk of the town, reinforcing their status as Hollywood's newest power trio.

Trending on Insta



@kimkardashian

Mumbai Calling: Kim and Khloe's Indian adventure

Kim and Khloe Kardashian stun in Mumbai for Anant Ambani's wedding, filming for "Keeping Up With The Kardashians" amid city adventures, as Kim shares moments on Instagram with the caption, "We were on a trip and a journey."

@masabagupta

Dubai diaries: Masaba Gupta's chill mode activated

Masaba Gupta shares Dubai vacation moments with husband Satyadeep Misra, showcasing skincare routines, baby bump flaunts, and nature's beauty on Instagram.



Wellness

PREVENTION FROM GASTRIC HEADACHES

Feel Good Fast: Home remedies for gastric headaches

If you're suffering from constant headaches that do not have any other symptoms, then it could possibly be gastric headache.



Know the symptoms of gastric headache and home remedies to get relief from it.



HIGHLIGHT

● Gastric headache is related to your stomach. In such a situation, gas is formed in the stomach which slowly rises to the head and after that, the headache starts. Know the symptoms and some home remedies to get relief from gastric headaches.

viate digestive issues. Fennel seeds are another beneficial option, known for their ability to ease bloating, heartburn, and gas while promoting better digestion. Additionally, chamomile tea, with its anti-inflammatory benefits, can help relax stomach muscles and alleviate cramps associated with gastric headaches.

Incorporating these natural remedies into your daily routine not only provides immediate relief from symptoms but also supports long-term management of gastric issues and associated headaches. Alongside these remedies, maintaining a balanced diet, staying hydrated, and managing stress levels are crucial for preventing gastric headaches. By adopting these practices, individuals can effectively address the root causes of gastric headaches and improve overall digestive health, leading to a better quality of life.

Health Tips

TRANSFORM YOUR WEEKNIGHT ROUTINE WITH ONE-POT MEALS

Vegetable Bisi Bele Bhath

Ingredients
Rice, toor dal (split pigeon peas), mixed vegetables (beans, carrots, peas), tamarind paste, sambar powder, jaggery (optional), coconut, oil, mustard seeds, curry leaves, dry red chillies, turmeric powder, salt.



Instructions
Cook rice and toor dal together until soft. In a large pot, heat oil, add mustard seeds, curry leaves, and dry red chillies. Sauté mixed vegetables until slightly tender. Add tamarind paste, sambar powder, jaggery (if using), turmeric powder, and salt. Mix well, add cooked rice and dal mixture.

Vegetable Pongal

Ingredients
Rice, split yellow moong dal, mixed vegetables (peas, carrots), black pepper, cumin seeds, ginger, ghee, curry leaves, cashews, turmeric powder, salt.



Instructions
Dry roast rice and dal until lightly browned. Pressure cook with water until soft. In a pan, heat ghee, add black pepper, cumin seeds, cashews until golden. Sauté ginger, curry leaves, mixed vegetables until tender. Add turmeric powder and salt. Mix in cooked rice-dal mixture. Stir well, adjust seasoning if needed. Serve hot with coconut chutney.

Vegetable Masala Khichdi

Ingredients
Rice, yellow moong dal, mixed vegetables (potatoes, carrots, beans), onions, tomatoes, ginger-garlic paste, green chillies, garam masala, turmeric powder, cumin seeds, bay leaf, oil, salt.



Instructions
Wash rice and dal, cook together until soft. In a large pot, heat oil, add cumin seeds, bay leaf. Sauté onions, green chillies until golden, add ginger-garlic paste. Add tomatoes, garam masala, turmeric powder, and salt. Add mixed vegetables and cooked rice-dal mixture. Stir gently, simmer for a few minutes until flavours meld. Serve hot with yogurt or pickle.

Vegetable Biryani

Ingredients
Basmati rice, mixed vegetables (carrots, peas, potatoes), onions, tomatoes, yogurt, biryani masala, ginger-garlic paste, mint leaves, cilantro, ghee, salt.



Instructions
Cook basmati rice with water until partially done. In a large pot, heat ghee, sauté onions until golden. Add ginger-garlic paste, tomatoes, and biryani masala. Add mixed vegetables, yogurt, mint leaves, and salt. Layer partially cooked rice over the vegetables, sprinkle with cilantro. Cover and cook on low heat until rice is fully cooked.

Chole Pulao

Ingredients
Basmati rice, chickpeas (boiled), onions, tomatoes, ginger-garlic paste, green chillies, garam masala, turmeric powder, cumin seeds, bay leaf, cinnamon stick, oil, salt.



Instructions
Cook basmati rice with water until partially done. In a large pot, heat oil, add cumin seeds, bay leaf, cinnamon stick. Sauté onions until golden, add ginger-garlic paste, green chillies. Add tomatoes, garam masala, turmeric powder, and salt. Mix in boiled chickpeas and partially cooked rice. Cover and cook on low heat until rice is fully done.

Chicken Biryani

Ingredients
Basmati rice, chicken pieces, onions, tomatoes, yogurt, ginger-garlic paste, green chillies, biryani masala, mint leaves, cilantro, ghee/oil, salt.



Instructions
Cook basmati rice until partially done. In a large pot, heat ghee/oil, sauté onions until golden. Add ginger-garlic paste, green chillies, tomatoes, and biryani masala. Add chicken pieces and cook until browned. Layer partially cooked rice over the chicken. Sprinkle with mint leaves, cilantro. Cover and cook on low heat until rice and chicken are fully cooked.

Turmeric: A golden remedy for heart health

Turmeric, renowned for its active compound curcumin, plays a pivotal role in reducing LDL (bad) cholesterol levels by inhibiting the build-up of plaque in veins. Adding a pinch of turmeric to your daily diet, whether in meals, teas, or smoothies, harnesses its potent anti-inflammatory properties. These properties not only support heart health by reducing inflammation but also help manage cholesterol levels effectively. Including turmeric in your routine can contribute to a balanced approach to cardiovascular wellness, offering a natural and accessible way to combat cholesterol-related risks and promote overall heart health.



GOOD LIVING

Embrace the rain: Design your dream outdoor retreat



Transforming outdoor spaces into rain-resilient retreats involves strategic design and material choices. Opt for weather-resistant furniture made from materials like teak, aluminum, or synthetic wicker that can withstand rain without damage. Install overhead structures such as pergolas with retractable canopies or umbrellas to provide shelter during showers. Incorporate durable flooring options like stone, composite decking, or treated wood that resist moisture and prevent slipping.

| SELF-SILENCING |

Building a new normal: Stroke recovery and independence

Central Chronicle News

Post-stroke rehabilitation is crucial not only for improving patient outcomes but also for reducing their dependence on caregivers

The rising incidence of strokes underscores the importance of post-stroke rehabilitation in fostering independence and reducing reliance on caregivers. Stroke survivors often face challenges such as impaired movement, speech difficulties, and cognitive deficits, which can limit their ability to perform daily activities independently. Rehabilitation programs are tailored to address these challenges com-

prehensively. Physical therapy helps regain motor skills and improve mobility, enabling patients to perform tasks like walking and self-care. Occupational therapy focuses on enhancing fine motor skills needed for activities such as dressing and cooking. Speech therapy aids in recovering communication abilities and swallowing functions, crucial for independent living. Beyond physical recovery, stroke rehabilitation emphasizes cognitive and emotional support. Cognitive therapy helps patients regain thinking and memory skills, enhancing decision-making and problem-solving abilities. Emotional support through counseling or support groups addresses the psychological impact of stroke, pro-



Timely and quality care is crucial for enhancing long-term outcomes and enabling stroke patients to lead more independent and fulfilling lives.

moting mental well-being and resilience.

Adopting a holistic approach, rehabilitation teams collaborate with patients and caregivers to set realistic goals and strategies for recovery. Home exercises and modifications further support independence by ensuring a safe and supportive environment.

Sports



A lot will depend on the draw. If India get a favourable draw, then I am expecting three medals.

Yogeshwar Dutt
Wrestler

India thrash UAE by 78 runs in Women's Asia Cup



Richa Ghosh struck her maiden T20I fifty. | Photo: PTI

India clinched a massive 78-run win over UAE in the Women's Asia Cup T20, powered by fifties from Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh, and a strong bowling performance.

Press Trust Of India

DAMBULLA: In a dominant display, India secured a massive 78-run victory over UAE in their second match of the Women's Asia Cup T20 tournament on Sunday. Invited to bat first, India posted an impressive total of 201 for five, their first-ever 200-plus score in T20Is. Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur played a crucial anchor role, scoring 66 off 47 balls, while Richa Ghosh provided a late surge with an

unbeaten 64 off just 29 deliveries.

India's innings saw key partnerships that set a solid foundation. Harmanpreet Kaur first added 54 runs off 39 balls with Jemimah Rodrigues, and then a vital 75 off 45 balls with Richa Ghosh, putting India in a commanding position. Despite early setbacks, with Smriti Mandhana (13), Shafali Verma (37), and Dayalan Hemalatha (2) falling quickly, Kaur and Ghosh's efforts ensured a formidable

HIGHLIGHT

● Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh's fifties propel India to 201 total.

● Deepti Sharma's 2/23 leads India's bowlers in limiting UAE to 123/7.

total. Ghosh's explosive hitting in the final over, where she struck five consecutive boundaries, was a highlight of the innings.

In their chase, UAE never looked in control, losing wickets at reg-

ular intervals. Opener Esha Rohit Oza scored a 36-ball 38, but the rest of the batting lineup struggled against a disciplined Indian bowling attack. The pace duo of Renuka Singh (1/30) and Pooja Vastrakar (1/27) made early inroads, dismissing Theertha Satish and Rinitha Rajith. Deepti Sharma led the attack with figures of 2 for 23, removing Samaira Dhar-nidharka and Heena Hotchandani.

Tanuja Kanwar, who replaced an injured

Shreyanka Patil, had Oza stumped, while Radha Yadav chipped in with the wicket of Khushi Sharma. Despite a fighting 40 not out from Kavisha Egodage, UAE could only manage 123 for 7 in their 20 overs.

With this comprehensive win, India now sits at the top of Group A with four points and a Net Run Rate of +3.298, putting them in a strong position for the semifinals. They will face Nepal in their final group game on Tuesday, looking to continue their winning streak.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

GOLF

Sharma makes most of conditions, moves from cut line to T-21 at Open

ROYAL TROON (SCOTLAND): India's Shubhankar Sharma, who spent three hours waiting to find out whether or not he had made the cut, moved up the leaderboard with a third round 67 at the 152nd Open here on Saturday. Taking advantage of the benign course as against the tough and windy conditions on the first two days, Sharma shot a superb 4-under 67 that included an incredible eight birdies against two bogeys and a double bogey. He moved from overnight T-69 to T-21, but the leaders were still on the course. With the first half of Saturday providing some wonderful playing conditions, no pairing produced as many birdies as Sungae Im (66 with six birdies) and Sharma (68 with eight birdies). The duo fed off each other and between them they birdied 12 of the 18 holes. **PTI**

GOLF

Mac Meissner holds onto the lead in the PGA Tour's Barracuda Championship



TRUCKEE: Mac Meissner held onto the lead Saturday in the Barracuda Championship, following a late par save with a tap-in birdie in the only PGA Tour event that uses the modified Stableford scoring system. Meissner had a one-point lead over Vince Whaley, reaching 39 points with 13 in the round delayed about 1 1/2 hours in the afternoon because of lightning. Chad Ramey, tied for sixth with 33, was the only PGA Tour winner in the top eight after three rounds on Tahoe Mountain Club's Old Greenwood course. **PTI**

Mandhana's Heartwarming Gesture

Mandhana gifts wheelchair-bound girl mobile phone after India match in Asia Cup



DAMBULLA: In a heartwarming gesture, star India batter Smriti Mandhana gifted a wheelchair-bound girl a mobile phone after the team's match at the ongoing women's T20 Asia Cup tournament here. Adeesha Herath, who came to the stadium escorted by her mother in a wheelchair, experienced a pleasant surprise as Mandhana came to meet her and presented her a phone. "Adeesha Herath's love for cricket brought her to the stadium, despite all the challenges. The highlight of her day? A surprise encounter with her favourite cricketer, Smriti Mandhana, who handed her a mobile phone as a token of appreciation," Sri Lanka

Cricket (SLC) said in a tweet. In the video posted along with the tweet, Mandhana was heard asking the girl her name.

"You like cricket, that is nice. You enjoyed today's match. I have brought a gift for you from all of us," Mandhana told the girl, before having a high-five with her and posing for a photograph. The girl's mother said it was an unexpected gift. "We came to watch the match unexpectedly, as my daughter wanted to go for the match. We met Mandhana madam from Indian team and my daughter received a phone from her. It was unexpected and my daughter is so lucky to receive this gift from her," she said. **PTI**

India reaches squash quarters

HOUSTON (USA): Indian boys and girls moved into the quarterfinals in the team event of the World Junior Squash Championships here to set up a clash with higher-ranked South Korea and Malaysia respectively here. The boys beat Canada 2-0 in the pre-quarterfinals and will meet fourth seeds Korea, while the girls will take on third-seeded Malaysia after finishing second in Group D, following their loss to Hong Kong 1-2 in their final league clash. Shaurya Bawa, who won the individual bronze, rallied to beat Youssef Sarhan in a five-gamer, while Arianth KS avenged his individual event loss to Ewan Harris with an impressive win. The team's strong performance reflects their determination and skill, and they are now focused on advancing further in the championship.

Press Trust Of India

Jarmanpreet Singh prepares for his first Olympic appearance with mother's support.

NEW DELHI: Eight years ago, Jarmanpreet Singh faced a career setback when he was banned for failing a dope test. However, his mother, Kulwinder Kaur, never lost faith in him. Now, as Jarmanpreet makes his Olympic debut on July 27th against New Zealand, Kulwinder will be in the stands, cheering him on.

Jarmanpreet, 28, hails from Amritsar, Punjab, and has already made 107 international appearances. This will be his



FACTFILE

● Jarmanpreet's Olympic debut marks his 107th international hockey appearance.

● Coach Craig Fulton has refined Jarmanpreet's attacking and defensive skills.

first Olympics, adding to a resume that includes the World Cup, Champions Trophy, and Asian Games. Despite missing the Tokyo Olympics, he has been a consistent performer under coach Craig Fulton, honing both his attacking and defensive skills. Speaking to PTI Bhasha, Jarmanpreet expressed his

determination to have his mother present in Paris for his debut. He credits her as his first coach, always offering advice despite knowing little about hockey. "I talk to my mother before every match. She knows nothing about hockey but she tells me to play like this, play like that. She is my first coach," he shared.

Jarmanpreet's career includes silver at the 2018 Champions Trophy and gold at the 2023 Asian Games. He emphasizes the importance of mental strength and staying positive, avoiding negativity to maintain confidence. "It is important to be mentally strong in sports or in life. Only if you are strong, will you be able to help others."

OLYMPICS HOCKEY

Jarmanpreet's epic Olympic debut with mother in stands

PANDYA'S FITNESS FOCUS

Stoic Hardik Pandya sports smile amid challenges

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: India all-rounder Hardik Pandya remained tight-lipped on recent personal and professional challenges, focusing instead on fitness at a Saturday event. Despite the buzz around his separation from Natasa Stankovic and losing the Indian T20 team captaincy to Suryakumar



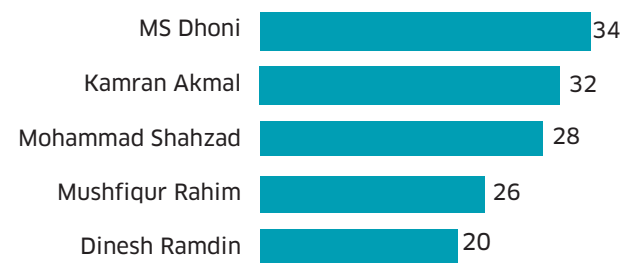
Yadav, Pandya spoke extensively about fitness while launching his sports apparel brand.

"Often, when our body doesn't tire, our mind does. Pushing my mental limits helps me push physical ones," he shared. Pandya's captaincy prospects were hindered by fitness issues, limiting his ability to play all formats and

bowl extensively in ODIs. Earlier this month, Pandya celebrated with the T20 World Cup-winning team during India's victory parade. However, he has faced significant personal and professional losses since then. Despite these setbacks, Pandya emphasized mental and physical fitness, urging others to push their limits daily.

The Day's NUMBERS

MOST STUMPINGS IN T20 INTERNATIONAL CRICKET



Source: ICC

CRICKET

Ex-PCB Chief doubts India's participation in Champions Trophy

KARACHI: Former Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Khalid Mahmood believes India will not travel to Pakistan for the ICC Champions Trophy early next year. "They are very very slim chances they will agree to play in Pakistan," Mahmood, who is a retired senior bureaucrat, said. He, however, said that if India doesn't visit Pakistan, it would be a non-profitable deal for PCB and the ICC. "India is the richest cricket board and carries a lot of clout. If they don't send their team to Pakistan I foresee even countries like Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bangladesh following their path," Mahmood said. "This would basically reduce the Champions Trophy into a venture where revenues will take a hit, expenses will grow and profits would fall," Mahmood, who twice went to India in 1989 and 1999 as Pakistan's junior and senior team manager, said. Mahmood said that PCB should just follow their policy of not mixing sports and politics. **PTI**

COMMITTEE BYPASSED

Bhutia to resign, claims AIFF bypassed technical committee for coach



NEW DELHI: Legendary footballer Bhaichung Bhutia on Saturday told the All India Football Federation's (AIFF) executive committee that he is resigning from his membership of the technical committee, alleging that the panel was "bypassed" while appointing the national men's team head coach. Spaniard Manolo Marquez, who is currently in charge of Indian Super League side FC Goa, was on Saturday named India head coach by the AIFF executive committee. **PTI**

Sports News

Neeraj Chopra's fitness restored, training begins

Neeraj Chopra's adductor issue resolved, begins intense training in Antalya. Coach Bartonietz confirms full recovery as Chopra prepares for Paris Olympics with high hopes.

Press Trust Of India

Neeraj Chopra's adductor issue is resolved; he intensifies training for the Paris Olympics.

NEW DELHI: The adductor niggle that has troubled Neeraj Chopra in the past couple of months "is fine" now and the reigning Olympic champion has entered the high intensity phase of his Paris preparations, his German coach Klaus Bartonietz told PTI, dismissing concerns surrounding the Indian star's fitness.

The 26-year-old Chopra, who scripted history by winning the javelin throw gold at the Tokyo Olympics, is once again the country's best bet for a top podium finish in the Paris Games beginning on July 26.

But his season has been far from perfect in terms of fitness. Bartonietz, however, insisted that things are back on track.

"Everything is according to plan. At the moment, no issue with that (adductor niggle), it's fine, it looks good, hoping to remain like that till the Olympics," the coach, who has been with Chopra for close to five years, told PTI in an exclusive interview from



Antalya, Turkiye where they are currently based for training.

"It's just over two weeks left in the Olympics, so the intensity of training is high. He is having full throwing sessions."

Chopra withdrew from Ostrava Golden Spike on May 28 as a precautionary measure after he felt "something" in his adductor (group of muscles located on inner thighs). He made a strong comeback by winning gold at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland on June 18 with a throw of 85.97m.

He opted out of the Paris Diamond League on July 7, insisting that the event was never a part of his competition calendar this year.

Chopra's competition day is just two weeks away with the qualification round scheduled on August 6.

Asked about the training routine of Chopra, Bartonietz said, "We have sessions of sprinting, jumping or throwing or weightlifting alternately for activation in the morning. Two sessions, one in morning and one in evening, two to two-and-a-half-hour long each. Bartonietz said the approach is nearly the same as the one adopted before the Tokyo Olympics.

Borges beats Nadal to lift Nordea Open title



Press Trust Of India

Rafael Nadal's winning streak at the clay-court Nordea Open ended Sunday, losing 6-3, 6-2 to seventh-seeded Nuno Borges in the final.

BASTAD: Bastad (Sweden): Rafael Nadal's winning run at the clay-court Nordea Open ended Sunday when the Spaniard was beaten by Nuno

Borges 6-3, 6-2 in the final on Sunday.

The seventh-seeded Portuguese player broke the Nadal serve five times on his way to a first ATP tour victory. It was Nadal's first final since the 2022 French Open.

"It's crazy, in tennis it doesn't happen when you expect it sometimes," said Borges. "I know we all wanted Rafa to win, a part of me wished that too, but something even bigger inside of me really pushed through today."

Nadal was playing at the tournament in Sweden for the first time since he won the title as a 19-year-old in 2005 as he prepares for the Olympic tournament on clay at Roland Garros in Paris.

The 38-year-old Nadal skipped Wimbledon as he didn't want to switch the surface to grass and then back to clay and risk injury. He has been dealing with hip and abdominal injuries over the past 1 & 1/2 years.

| TENNIS |

Yuki Bhambri wins Swiss Open doubles title, 3rd career title

Press Trust Of India

Yuki Bhambri and Albano Olivetti triumph in Swiss Open doubles, defeating Humbert and Martin in a thrilling final.

GSTAAD: India's Yuki Bhambri and his French partner Albano Olivetti clinched the men's doubles title at the Swiss Open ATP Tour tennis tournament with a hard-fought win over Ugo Humbert and Fabrice Martin in the final here on Sunday.

The pair of Bhambri and Olivetti, seeded third in the ATP 250 clay court tournament beat their French opponents 3-6 6-3 10-6 to win the title.

The final match lasted one hour and six minutes



with both pairs refusing to give an inch to the other before the Indo-French duo of Bhambri and Olivetti emerging winner in the end.

This was the third ATP doubles title for the 32-year-old Bhambri and second while partnering with Olivetti. He won his

maiden ATP title at the 2023 Mallorca Championships with Lloyd Harris. He won his second title at the BMW Open in April this year with Olivetti.

Bhambri reached the top 50 in the doubles rankings on June 24 and this win will improve his position further.

BCCI to provide Rs 8.5 crore to IOA for Paris Olympics: Jay Shah

NEW DELHI: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Sunday announced financial assistance to the Paris Olympics-bound Indian athletes, contributing Rs 8.5 crore to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for their campaign. The Paris Games will begin from July 26. "I am proud to announce that the @BCCI will be supporting our incredible athletes representing #India at the 2024 Paris Olympics. We are providing INR 8.5 Crores to the IOA for the campaign," BCCI secretary Jay Shah wrote on his 'X' account. "To our entire contingent, we wish you the very best. Make India proud! Jai Hind!" As many as 117 athletes will represent India at the Paris Olympics. There will also be 140-strong support staff, making it a 257-member contingent.

Paes and Amritraj Inducted into Tennis Hall of Fame

Press Trust Of India

Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj become first Asians inducted into International Tennis Hall of Fame.

NEWPORT (USA): Leander Paes, 51, and Vijay Amritraj, 70, were inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame, becoming the first Asians to receive this honor. Paes, recognized in the 'Player Category,' boasts numerous achievements, including a bronze medal in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, eight men's doubles, and ten mixed doubles Grand Slam titles, alongside multiple Davis Cup victories. He spent 37 weeks as the world No. 1 in doubles, securing



Leander Paes receives the International Tennis Hall of Fame medal from daughter Aiyana Paes.

54 doubles titles on tour and achieving a career Grand Slam in both disciplines.

Amritraj, inducted in the 'Contributor Category,' reached the quarterfinals of Wimbledon

HIGHLIGHT

● Paes, 51, honored for Atlanta Olympic bronze, 18 Grand Slam titles, and Davis Cup victories.

● Amritraj, 70, reached Wimbledon, US Open quarterfinals, led India to Davis Cup finals twice.

and the US Open twice each and led India to the Davis Cup finals in 1974 and 1987. At his peak, he was ranked No. 18 in singles and No. 23 in doubles. His post-retirement career as a tennis broadcaster has significantly contributed to the sport's growth. Both were celebrated at the official Induction Celebration.

| PASSION DRIVES VICTORY |

'Mandeep's hockey obsession deepens over years'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Indian hockey forward Mandeep Singh may not have the star status of his skipper Harmanpreet Singh or former captain Manpreet Singh, but his presence on the field is formidable.

The 29-year-old, crucial for India's Paris Olympics campaign after helping secure bronze in Tokyo, has an unwavering passion for hockey. His sister, Bhupin-

derjeet Kaur, notes his restlessness when away from the national camp, saying, "He was so crazy about playing hockey that he would come home from school, skip meals, and head straight to practice."

Despite his significant role in the Tokyo Olympics, Mandeep prefers simplicity over stardom. Kaur recalls the family's pride during the bronze victory, "We were all watching it on TV. Mandeep looked up with



“He was so crazy about playing hockey that he would come home from school, skip meals, and head straight to practice. As Mandeep grew older, his commitment only deepened.”

Bhupinderjeet Kaur
Mandeep Singh's sister

tears in his eyes, having a silent moment to himself."

Mandeep's achievements include the 2016 Junior World Cup, 2017 Asia Cup gold, multiple Asian Champions Trophy titles, 2022 Commonwealth Games silver, and the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games gold.

Kaur, who shares a sisterly bond with the team, is confident, "The team has become so perfect that they will win and bring home the gold."

Young striker Alan Saji joins FC Goa

Press Trust Of India

MARGAO: FC Goa on Sunday signed a multi-year contract with young Indian striker Alan Saji ahead of the upcoming Indian Super League season. The 18-year-old Saji has appeared for the Reliance Foundation Development League. "Joining FC Goa is a dream come true for me. I've always aspired to train and play alongside experienced players, and I am thrilled at the opportunity to learn and grow with them," Saji said.

is generally dubbed Asia's best youth football tournament. Besides making it to the Sanix Cup Team of the Tournament, he was among the goal-scorers against the U-21 sides of Kerala Blasters and Dempo SC during the Reliance Foundation Development League. "Joining FC Goa is a dream come true for me. I've always aspired to train and play alongside experienced players, and I am thrilled at the opportunity to learn and grow with them," Saji said.

World



“Chinese President Xi Jinping wrote me beautiful note following assassination attempt.”

Donald Trump
Former US president

Naval parade rehearsal in St. Petersburg, Russia.



Warships sail along the Neva River during a naval parade rehearsal in St. Petersburg, Russia, Sunday.

South Korea boosts border propaganda broadcasts

The Cold War-style psychological battle between the two Koreas is adding to already-high tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Press Trust Of India

SEOUL: South Korea said Sunday it was bolstering its anti-Pyongyang propaganda broadcasts across the tense border with rival North Korea, after the North launched more trash-carrying balloons toward South Korea. The Cold War-style psychological battle between the two Koreas is adding to already-high tensions on the Korean Peninsula, with the rivals threatening stronger steps against each other and warning of devastating consequences.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North Korean balloons

were flying Sunday morning north of Seoul, the South Korean capital, after crossing the border. It said later Sunday that the South Korean military was responding by expanding loudspeaker broadcasts at all major sections of the Korea's 248-kilometre-long border. "The North Korean military's tension-escalating acts can result in causing critical consequences for it," the South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement. "The responsibility for this situation is entirely on North Korea's government." Details of the expansion of South Korea's loudspeaker operations were not

HIGHLIGHT

- North Korean balloons were flying Sunday morning north of Seoul after crossing the border.

- South Korean propaganda broadcasts can demoralise frontline North Korean troops and residents.

immediately available. On Thursday, it resumed blasting frontline propaganda broadcasts for the first time in about 40 days in response to the North's previous balloon activities. But observers say South Korea hadn't been conducting the

broadcasts around the clock and it also hadn't yet mobilised all of its loudspeakers. The latest South Korean broadcasts included K-pop songs and news on BTS member Jin's torch-bearing ahead of the Paris Olympics and the recent defection of a senior North Korean diplomat. The broadcasts also called the mine-planting works by North Korean soldiers at the border "hellish, slave-like lives," according to South Korean media.

Experts say South Korean propaganda broadcasts can demoralise frontline North Korean troops and residents, posing a blow to

the North's efforts to limit access to outside news for its 26 million people. South Korean officials have previously said broadcasts from their loudspeakers can travel about 10 kilometres during the day and 24 kilometres at night.

North Korea hasn't made an official response to the ongoing South Korean broadcasts. But in 2015, North Korea fired artillery rounds across the border in response to South Korea's first loudspeaker broadcasts in 11 years, prompting the South to return fire, according to South Korean officials. No casualties were reported.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

ARRESTS UAE orders probe, trail of arrested B'deshi

DUBAI: Authorities in the United Arab Emirates ordered an investigation and an expedited trial of Bangladeshi nationals arrested after protesting against their home government across the Gulf country, state media reported. The protests came as nationwide demonstrations spread across the South Asian country weeks ago to protest a quota system that reserves up to 30 per cent of government jobs for relatives of veterans who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971. The country's top court scaled back Sunday on the controversial system, in a partial victory for student protesters. The UAE's attorney general's office indicted Saturday the Bangladeshi protesters on several charges, including "gathering in a public place and protesting against their home government with the intent to incite unrest," obstructing law enforcement, causing harm to others and damaging property, according to the state-owned Emirates News Agency, WAM. "Based on the preliminary investigation results, the Public Prosecution has ordered their pre-trial detention pending further investigations," WAM reported.

UK POLITICS

Britain's Treasury chief vows to run the economy with 'iron discipline'

LONDON: Britain's new Treasury chief said Sunday she will run the economy with "iron discipline," but suggested she'll give public sector workers an above-inflation pay raise to help end a wave of strikes and strife. The Labour Party government is under pressure from supporters and trade unions to spend more on salaries and welfare benefits, two weeks after it was elected on promises not to hike personal taxes or increase public borrowing. "I think people know that things are a mess," Treasury chief Rachel Reeves told the BBC.



From around the world

Ukrainian civilians wounded in Russian drone and shelling attacks as Russia claims gains in the east



KYIV: Russian strikes wounded at least five people in Ukraine on Sunday, local officials said, as the two countries exchanged drone, missile and shelling attacks. Along the front line in the east, Russia said it had taken control of two villages, one in the Kharkiv region and one in the Luhansk region. Three people were wounded by Russian drone strikes in southern Ukraine's partly occupied Kherson region, local officials said Sunday morning. In the country's northeast, officials in the Kharkiv region said two people were wounded when a village was hit by Russian shells. Overnight into Sunday, Ukraine's air defences intercepted 35

of the 39 drones launched by Russia, according to air force commander Mykola Oleschuk. In addition, Russia launched three ballistic missiles and two guided air missiles, which did not reach their targets, he said.

Russia's Ministry of Defence said Sunday that its troops had taken control of two villages: Pishchane Nizhne in the Kharkiv region and Andriivka, sometimes referred to as Rozivka, in the Luhansk region. Kyiv did not immediately comment. Officials in the northern Sumy region said Sunday that Russia launched a missile strike on "critical infrastructure facilities" in the city of Shostka.

14 Indian nationals trapped in cybercrime

SINGAPORE: Fourteen Indian citizens trapped in a cybercrime scam in Cambodia have been rescued and efforts are on to repatriate them, the Indian embassy in Cambodia has said. The Indian embassy in Cambodia in collaboration with the authorities got the 14 Indian citizens released and they are being looked after by the Cambodian side, the embassy said in a post on X on Saturday. In an official press release, the embassy in Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh said it has facilitated the rescue and repatriation of over 650 Indian citizens who had fallen victim to fraudulent job offers that lure them into cybercrime operations. It said the embassy provided specific leads to the Cambodian police leading to their rescue.

| MIDEAST-TENSIONS |

Israel shoots down a missile fired from Yemen

Press Trust Of India

The Israeli military said it intercepted a missile fired from Yemen early Sunday, hours after Israeli warplanes struck several Houthi targets in the Arabian peninsula country.



Smoke and flames rise from a site in Hodeidah, Yemen.

FASTFACTS

- The Israeli army late Saturday confirmed airstrikes in western Yemeni port city of Hodeidah.

front as Israel battles a series of Iranian proxies across the region.

The Israeli army late Saturday confirmed the airstrikes in the western Yemeni port city of Hodei-

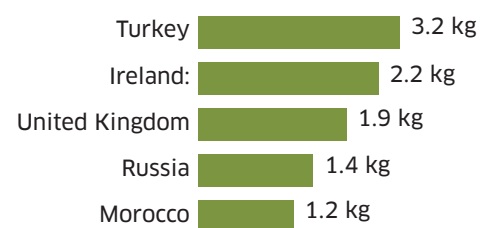
dah, a Houthi stronghold. It said the strikes, carried out by U.S.-made F-15 and F-35 warplanes, were a response to hundreds of Houthi attacks. Israel, along with the U.S., Britain and other Western allies with forces in the region, have intercepted almost all of the Houthi missiles and drones. But early Friday, a Houthi drone penetrated Israel's air defenses and crashed

into Tel Aviv, Israel's commercial and cultural capital, killing one person. The Israeli military said Saturday's strike, some 1,700 kilometers (over 1,000 miles) from Israel, was among the most complicated and longest-distance operations by its air force. It said it hit the port because the area is used to deliver Iranian arms to Yemen. The Ministry of Health in Sanaa said that 80 people were wounded in a preliminary toll of the strikes in Hodeidah, most of them with severe burns. The Israeli attack unleashed a massive fire in the city's port. "The fire that is burning now in Hodeidah, is seen across the Middle East and the significance is clear," said Israel's defense minister, Yoav Gallant.

The Day's NUMBERS

Average annual tea consumption per capita in selected countries:

AVERAGE ANNUAL TEA CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA (2023)



Source: World Tea News, Statista

Bangladesh's top court scales back government jobs quota after deadly unrest killed scores



DHAKA: Bangladesh's top court on Sunday scaled back a controversial quota system for government job applicants after it led to nationwide unrest and deadly clashes between police and protesters that have killed scores of people. The Supreme Court in its verdict ordered 93% of the government jobs to be

allocated on a merit-based system, leaving the remaining 7% for relatives of veterans who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971 and other categories. Earlier, the system reserved 30% of such jobs the relatives of war veterans. Sunday's verdict comes

after weeks of demonstrations - mostly led by students - that turned deadly on Tuesday after protesters began clashing with police.

| RUSSIA US JETS |

Russia says intercepted US bomber planes over Arctic

Press Trust Of India

MOSCOW: Russia said Sunday it scrambled fighter jets to intercept two US military long-range bomber aircraft that approached the Russian border over the Barents Sea in the Arctic. "The crews of the Russian fighters identified the aerial target as a pair of US Air Force B-52H strategic bombers," Moscow's



defence ministry wrote on the social media platform Telegram, specifying that

the planes scrambled were MiG-29 and MiG-31 fighters. "As the Russian fight-

ers approached, the US strategic bombers turned away from the State Border of the Russian Federation," the ministry said. The US routinely carries out flights over international waters. Moscow has recently responded more aggressively to the exercises, accusing the US in June of using its reconnaissance drone flights over neutral waters in the Black

Sea to help Ukraine strike Russian-occupied Crimea. Last month, Moscow warned of a "direct confrontation" between Russia and NATO, and Russia's defence minister ordered officials to prepare a "response" to US drone flights over the Black Sea, in an apparent warning it may take forceful action to ward off the American reconnaissance aircraft.

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