



Central Chronicle

Raipur | TUESDAY, July 23, 2024

Fastest Growing English Daily Of Chhattisgarh

www.centralchronicle.in

Pages: 16 | Price: Rs. 4.00

Eco Survey pegs India GDP growth at 6.5-7 pc

Economic Survey sounded a bell of caution on the soaring stock markets.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government's pre-Budget Economic Survey on Monday set a conservative growth forecast of 6.5 to 7 per cent for the current fiscal as it flagged the need for creating more jobs in the economy and backed more Chinese direct investments to boost exports.

The report, which is authored by the chief economic adviser's office, favoured considering targeting inflation that excludes food, the prices of which are influenced more by supply than demand.

It sounded a bell of caution on the soaring stock markets, saying retail investor participation has increased significantly and there are chances of speculations due to overconfidence and expectations of greater returns. The Survey, tabled by Finance



Survey was tabled by FM Nirmala Sitharaman in Parliament.

HIGHLIGHT

● Growth rate is lower than 8.2 per cent growth seen in the previous 2023-24 fiscal.

Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Parliament, projected a 6.5 per cent to 7 per cent GDP growth rate in the current fiscal year that started in April. This is lower than 8.2 per cent growth seen in the previous 2023-24 (April 2023 to March 2024) fiscal and below than RBI's 7.2 per cent estimate for current fiscal. "The Indian

Indian economy is on a strong wicket and stable footing

V Anantha Nageswaran
Chief Economic Adviser

economy is on a strong wicket and stable footing, demonstrating resilience in the face of geopolitical challenges," Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran wrote in the preface to the annual report card on the state of the economy.

He, however, hastened to add that fears

of cheaper imports from countries with excess capacity could limit the formation of private capital. Acknowledging that this year's forecast was on the conservative side, and lower than market expectations, the Survey cited slower investment growth by the private sector as well as uncertain weather patterns as some of the reasons for caution. For the medium-term, it saw a potential of 7 per cent-plus growth rate on a sustained basis if structural reforms are implemented.

The report, that came just a day before Sitharaman presents the Budget for 2024-25 that is likely to layout the economic priorities of the Modi 3.0 government and the vision for a developed nation by 2047, identified boosting private investment, strengthening small businesses and agriculture, raising financial resources for cli-

mate change adaptation, easing red tap for small businesses, and tacking income inequality as focus areas.

Priorities should also include bridging the gap between education and employment, it said, calling for expediting implementation of labour reforms to create a more conducive environment for job creation.

"The Indian economy needs to generate an average of nearly 7.85 million jobs annually until 2030 in the non-farm sector to cater to the rising workforce," the report said.

In the preface to the Survey, the CEA said job creation happens mainly in the private sector. "Second, many (not all) of the issues that influence economic growth, job creation and productivity and the actions to be taken therein are in the domain of state governments."

FM to present Union Budget today

NEW DELHI: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is set to present the Union Budget 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, July 23. This will be her seventh consecutive budget, making her only the second finance minister to achieve this feat after C D Deshmukh. This will be the first budget of the Modi 3.0 government and is expected to give a push to initiatives in various segments of the economy.



Major terror attack on Army post foiled in J-K

JAMMU: Army troops thwarted a terrorist attack on a security post and house of a village defence guard (VDG) in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district early Monday morning, officials said.

A cordon and search operation was launched to track down the terrorists, triggering a gunfight, they added. A terrorist has been killed and a jawan and a civilian, kin of the VDG whose house was attacked, suffered injuries, according to sources. "Terrorists attacked the

house of a VDC (member) at Gunda, Rajouri at 03.10 hours. A nearby Army column reacted and a firefight ensued," White Knight Corps said on X. "Operations are continuing," it added. "Tactical teams swiftly intervened, ensuring no harm to the VDC member and his family", it said. The operations are continuing and the firefight is in progress, the Corps said. According to officials, the terrorists fired on the house of the VDG and ex-serviceman Parshottam Kumar.

NEWSLINE

NEW DELHI
One killed in DTC bus mishap

A woman died and 34 people were injured when a DTC bus they were travelling in rammmed into a pillar near Shivaji Park metro station in west Delhi on Monday morning, police said. Punjab Bagh police station received a call regarding the accident at 7.42 am, they said.

NEW DELHI
Oppn raises paper leak issue in LS

Amid a huge row over the NEET-UG paper leak case, the opposition Monday castigated the government with Rahul Gandhi claiming students are convinced the country's entire exam system is a "fraud", even as Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan accused the Congress leader and his "cabal" of shedding crocodile tears.

GUWAHATI
Former APSC chairman convicted

A special court on Monday convicted former Assam Public Service Commission (APSC) chairman Rakesh Kumar Paul and 31 others in connection with a cash-for-jobs case related to the appointment of agricultural development officers (ADO) in the state.



EXCURSION
Crafting the Ideal On-the-Go Snack

When embarking on a journey, having the right snacks on hand can make a world of difference in ensuring you stay nourished and satisfied throughout your travels. Opt for snacks that are convenient, portable, and provide a balanced mix of nutrients to keep you energized.

Apex Court stays order to display owners' names

Press Trust Of India

Issuing notice to the govts SC said eateries may be required to display the kind of food they are serving like they are vegetarian or non-vegetarian.



Kanwar Yatra. | Photo: PTI

FACTFILE

● SC asserted the orders passed by the UP and U'khand governments is 'exclusion by identity' and against the Constitution.

Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh, where the Ujjain municipal body has issued a similar direc-

tive, a bench of Justices Hrishikesh Roy and SVN Bhatti, however, said eateries may be required to display the kind of food they are serving like they are vegetarian or non-vegetarian.

A large number of devotees travel from various places with 'kanwars' carrying holy water from the Ganga to perform 'jalabhishek' of Shivalings during

the Hindu calendar month of 'Shravan'. Many believers shun consuming meat during the month they consider holy.

The significant order comes amid an escalating row over the directives, with even BJP ally Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) joining the chorus for their withdrawal and opposition parties resolving to raise the issue in Parliament.

The opposition has alleged that the orders were "communal and divisive" and intended to target Muslims and Scheduled Castes by forcing them to reveal their identity, but the BJP maintained that the step has been taken keeping in mind law and order issues and the religious sentiments of pilgrims.

Ban lifted on government officials doing RSS work

Press Trust Of India

RSS accused the earlier regimes of furthering their own political interests by imposing the ban in the past.



FASTFACTS

- Cong slammed the Centre's order, alleging that PM wants to politicise employees on an ideological basis.
- On July 9, 2024, the 58-year ban that was in force even during Vajpayee's tenure as PM was removed.

NEW DELHI: The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh on Monday hailed the Centre's move to lift the ban on government employees from participating in activities of the Sangh, saying the decision would strengthen the country's democratic system.

It also accused the earlier regimes of furthering their own political interests by imposing the ban in the past.

There have been multiple instances of the government barring its employees in the past from associating with the

ment is appropriate and strengthens the democratic system of India."

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh has been continuously involved in the reconstruction of the nation and service to the society for the last 99 years, he added.

"Due to the contribution of the Sangh in national security, unity-integrity and taking the society along during times of natural disaster, various types of leadership of the country have also praised the role of the Sangh from time to time.

"Due to its political interests, the then government had baselessly banned the government employees from participating in the activities of a constructive organisation like the Sangh," the statement said.

INS Brahmaputra severely damaged in fire

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: A sailor is missing after fire broke out aboard the Navy's multi-role frigate INS Brahmaputra in Mumbai dockyard, an official said on Monday, adding the ship is now resting on the side. "A fire had broken out on board Indian Naval Ship Brahmaputra, a multi-role frigate, on the evening of July 21

while she was undergoing refit at Naval Dockyard Mumbai," an official release said. "The fire was brought under control by the ship's crew with the assistance of fire fighters from the dockyard and other ships in harbour, by the morning of July 22. Further follow-on actions including sanitisation checks for assessment of residual risk of fire were carried out," it said.

'SC ropes in IIT Delhi for answer to question'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Director, IIT-Delhi to set up a team of three experts that would go into a particular question asked in the NEET-UG 2024 examination and submit a report on the correct answer by Tuesday noon.

note of the submissions of some aspirants that a question related to an "atom" and its characteristics had two correct answers and a set of examinees, who gave one particular answer out of the two correct ones, were awarded four marks. This, the petitioners contended before a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, would



have a significant impact on the final merit list of successful candidates.

Referring to the question, the bench said, "As indicated in the question as framed, of which stu-

NUMBER

02

● SC took note of the submissions that a question had two correct answers and examinees, who gave one particular answer out of the two correct ones, were awarded four marks.

dents had to select one option as their answer. In order to resolve the issue as regards the correct answer, we are of the considered view that an expert opinion should be sought from IIT Delhi."

"We request the Director of IIT Delhi to constitute a team of three experts of the subject concerned," the bench said.

Raipur



Ratio of number of teachers and students in the state is better than the national ratio
Vishnu Deo Sai,
 CM, Chhattisgarh Govt

Water level of city's lifeline increasing



With incessant rains for last two days, the Water-level of city's Kharun river is on the rise and reaching danger mark.

Major changes to boost Industrial Exports

Industry Department working on MoU with IIFT at Kolkata.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh government is poised to make significant changes regarding the state's industries, aiming to enhance the export of goods abroad. Officials from the Industry Department are actively working on this initiative, with an MoU with the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in Kolkata expected soon. However, the announcement has sparked political controversy within the state.

Chhattisgarh, rich in natural resources, holds substantial potential for industrial growth. The state's products are in high demand in international markets, but exporting them often poses challenges for local industrialists. Recently, a delegation of industrialists met with the Industry Minister to discuss these issues, prompting the Industry Department to consider decisive actions to facilitate exports.

The planned MoU with IIFT is a key component

HIGHLIGHT

• The state's products are in high demand in international markets.

of this strategy. The agreement will not only streamline the export process but also establish the first IIFT office in Chhattisgarh. This office will provide traders with crucial information about international markets, including demand for products and restrictions on specific items. The initiative aims to simplify the

export process, reducing the hurdles faced by local industrialists.

Despite the potential benefits, the move has attracted criticism from the opposition. Congress State President Deepak Bajj has accused the government of failing to support Chhattisgarh's industrialists, citing high electricity prices as a major issue. Bajj has labeled the proposed MoU as a "sham," arguing that it is an unrealistic solution to the challenges faced by local businesses.

CM Sai provides update on teacher transfers

RAIPUR: On the first day of the Assembly Monsoon Session, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai addressed the House regarding the transfer and merger of teachers between the Tribal Department and the Education Department. Responding to a query from Congress MLA Shesh Raj Harbans of Pamgarh, the Chief Minister clarified that there is no existing policy or rule for transferring teachers between the two departments.

He further stated that no teachers posted in the Tribal Department have been merged into the Education Department, nor is there any such scheme proposed.

In response to a question posed by BJP MLA Sushant Shukla of Beltara, the Chief Minister provided detailed information on compassionate appointments under the Bilaspur Division. Since 2021, a total of 1,166 applications have been received for compassionate appointments. Of these, 531 applicants have been appointed to third-class posts and 364 applicants to fourth-class posts. Additionally, 44 applications have been canceled.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

AGITATION

Chhattisgarh Employee-Officer Federation gears up for agitation

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh Employee-Officer Federation is preparing for a significant agitation, having recently submitted a memorandum to the Chief Secretary of the state. The Federation is drawing attention to the long-pending demands of government employees, expressing frustration over the state government's inaction. Signed by the provincial convener, Kamal Verma, the memorandum highlights the ongoing correspondence between the Federation and the government. Despite repeated attempts to address these issues, there has been no substantial progress, leading to mounting anger among state employees. The memorandum outlines several key demands:

Dearness Allowance (DA) increase: The Federation is urging the state to implement a 4% DA increase from January 1, 2024, mirroring the Central government's provision.

AID PATIENTS

PNB supports helpless patients at Chhattisgarh Medical Institute



RAIPUR: National Bank (PNB) has taken a significant step to aid patients in need at the Chhattisgarh Medical Institute and Hospital (CIMS) in Bilaspur.

Following instructions from PNB's Bilaspur Divisional Head, Jagdish Rai, the bank's sub-division head Mr Nayak, Senior Manager of the Customer Acquisition Center, Lalit Agarwal, and CIMS branch head Avnish Pandey presented ten wheelchairs to the institute. The wheelchairs were handed over to Dean CIMS Dr. KK Sahare, Medical Superintendent Dr. Sujeet Kumar Nayak, and senior doctor Dr. RK Das.

Selection process conducted on June 25-26

40 players selected for Residential Archery Sports Academy



RAIPUR: The Sports and Youth Welfare Department in Raipur has released the list of 40 young archers selected for the residential archery academy. The selection process, conducted on June 25-26 at Swami Vivekananda Stadium and the Sports Directorate Campus Archery Arena, was organized under the guidance of Sports Director Mrs. Tanuja Salam and led by Chetan Kumar Shrivastava, Administrator of the Sports Academy Raipur.

The selection committee, including trainers from the Indian Sports Authority Training Center Raipur and the Sports and Youth Welfare Department (NIS),

conducted a thorough evaluation of the candidates. The trials featured Motor Ability Tests, Medical Tests, Sports Skill Tests, and Mental Ability Tests to assess the overall fitness and skill levels of the participants. Only those meeting the rigorous standards were selected based on merit in the 13 to 17 age group.

Players from various districts across the state participated in the trials, resulting in a diverse selection:

Raipur District: 5 girls and 9 boys, Surguja: 7 girls, Dhamtari: 2 boys and 4 girls, Mahasamund: 5 girls and 2 boys, Narayanpur: 3 boys, Bilaspur: 1 boy, Kondagaon: 1 boy and Gariaband: 1 girl.

Plantation campaign at SIC

RAIPUR: In alignment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for increased green cover, Chhattisgarh has been actively participating in the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' (One tree in the name of Mother) campaign. As part of this initiative, a plantation drive was conducted at the Chhattisgarh State Information Commission office in Nava Raipur.

The event saw Commission Secretary Gopal Verma, Deputy Secretary Mrs. Abha Tiwari, Under Secretary Geeta Diwan, and other officers including Atul Verma, Pradeep Gaur, and Mrs. Rajni, along with various employees, engage in planting activities within the Commission's premises. A diverse array of saplings was planted, including fruit-bearing species such as mango, guava, jamun, karonda, pomegranate, and amla, as well as trees like peepal, banyan, neem, and custard apple.

Public problem resolution Call Center launched

Central Chronicle News

Center allow residents to register complaints online 24 hours a day

RAIPUR: The district administration has launched a new public problem resolution call center, allowing residents to register complaints online 24 hours a day, ensuring prompt resolution. Collector Dr. Gaurav Singh inspected the new facility located in room number 4 of the Collectorate premises.

The inauguration was attended by Municipal Corporation Commissioner Abinash Mishra, District Panchayat CEO Vishwadeep, Additional Collector Devendra Patel, and Joint Collector Abhilasha Paikara.

Collector Dr. Singh emphasized that the call center will provide significant relief to the general



An employee at the new call center.

FACTFILE

• Residents can now report issues related to the city, revenue, and other departmental matters via phone

public. Residents can now report issues related to the city, revenue, and other departmental matters via phone. The administration has assured that once com-

plaints are received, they will be resolved swiftly.

Residents can register their complaints by calling the dedicated helpline numbers: 9977222564, 9977222574, 9977222584, and 9977222594. Special facilities have been provided for disabled individuals, allowing them to communicate their issues to the district administration through symbolic means during

video calls.

The complaint resolution process includes: applicant calls the helpline number to register a complaint, call center team communicates with the complainant to understand and register the issue on the call center portal, the registered case information is sent to the concerned department's officer via WhatsApp and the matter is addressed promptly.

[AT MARINE DRIVE]

RMC fines food shops for poor hygiene

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Acting on public complaints about unsanitary conditions in food shops, the Raipur Municipal Corporation conducted a surprise inspection at Marine Drive, Telibandha pond on GE Road. The inspection was carried out under the orders of Commissioner Abinash Mishra by a joint team from the Revenue, Health, and Municipal Investment Departments of Municipal Corporation



Zone No. 3, led by Zone Commissioner Mrs. Preeti Singh.

The inspection team, comprising Assistant Revenue Officer Mahadev Raksel, Assistant Engineer Sushil Ahir, Zone Health

Officer Puran Tandhi, Deputy Engineer Ranjit Barwa, and Sanitation Inspector Abdul Nafees, examined about a dozen food shops. They discovered widespread dirt and lack of cleanliness in almost all

Shops were found lacking proper licenses, and carts were illegally occupying the road.

Preeti Singh,
 RMC Zone Commissioner.

the establishments. Zone Commissioner Mrs. Preeti Singh said that many shops were found lacking proper licenses, and carts were illegally occupying the road. The following fines

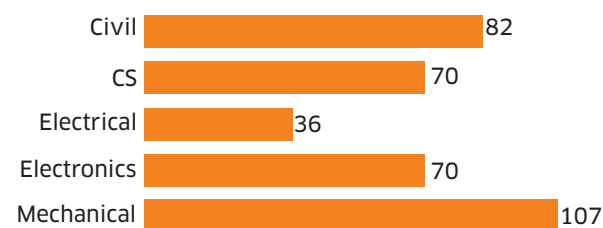
were imposed during the inspection: Momos Adda: Rs 30,000 for incomplete documentation, Sip and Bite: Rs 30,000 for dirt and waste food material in the kitchen,

Madras Grill: Rs 25,000 for incomplete documentation, Dosa Junction: Rs 15,000 for incomplete documentation and heavy dirt, Cream and Stone: Rs 3,000 for waste food material, Litti Chokha and Daily Special (carts): Rs 5,000 each for illegal road occupancy.

The Day's NUMBERS

For various engineering branches

VACANCIES IN INDIAN ARMY



Source : Agencies

PRECAUTIONARY STEPS

NMDC working with administration to support affected population

KIRANDUL: Recent heavy rainfall in the Kirandul area, surpassing 1000 mm over the past few days, has led to significant challenges for the local community. The excessive rain caused water to enter from the Bailadila 11/C mine, resulting in the collapse of the eastern side wall of the NMDC sump tank. This incident has led to the inundation of low-lying areas near Kirandul town.

In response to the situation, NMDC has been working in close collaboration with local administration to provide timely assistance and support to the affected population. Fortunately, no significant damage has been reported.

NMDC has implemented all necessary precautionary measures to control and minimize potential damage to the surrounding areas and is maintaining rigorous vigilance over the situation.

The company has highlighted that every year, comprehensive preparatory measures are undertaken to mitigate the impact of such eventualities during the monsoon season.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CANCER

Ramkrishna Care Hospital launches 'Pink Express' Van



RAIPUR: For early detection of cancer, a mobile cancer screening bus was inaugurated by Dr. Sandeep Dave, Medical and Managing Director, Ramkrishna Care Hospital, Raipur, Chhattisgarh and State Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal. The bus will travel across the state to detect early stage breast cancer, oral cancer and cervical cancer. After the screening process, a skilled team of doctors will guide the patients for further cancer treatment, ensuring timely and accurate medical care.

Breast cancer screening will be done by thermography - a new technology that does screening without touch, pain and radiation.

Business Advisory Committee meeting in VS



Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Speaker Dr Raman Singh chairing meeting of Business Advisory Committee in the Assembly in presence of members.

Uprorarious scene over Balodabazar violence

Cong seeks resignation of CM, Dy CM over Balodabazar violence.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: On the first day of the monsoon session of the Chhattisgarh assembly on Monday, the opposition Congress sought the resignation of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai and Deputy CM Vijay Sharma for the violence in Balodabazar city last month claiming the incident pointed to a law and order breakdown in the state.

The session began on a stormy note after a Congress legislator moved an adjournment motion notice on the issue, which was disallowed by the speaker. Shouting slogans against the government, the opposition members trooped into the Well of the House and were automatically suspended.

After a 'jaithkam' or

FASTFACTS

• The session began on a stormy note after a Congress legislator moved an adjournment motion notice on the issue.

'victory pillar', a sacred symbol worshipped by the Satnamis, was vandalised near the holy Amar Gufa at Giroudpuri Dham in the Balodabazar-Bhatapara district in the intervening night of May 15 and 16, the community held a protest on June 10.

The protest descended into violence, resulting in a mob setting fire to a government building housing offices of the collector and superintendent of police along with more than 150 vehicles.

Raising the issue dur-

Cong legislators suspended after they trooped into Well

The speaker adjourned the House for lunch till 3pm and when it resumed, Congress legislators, demanding a discussion on the issue, trooped into the Well of the House and were automatically suspended. The speaker then announced the suspension of opposition members and took up listed business for the day. The opposition members remained in the Well of the House shouting slogans against the state's BJP government and demanding the resignations of CM Sai and Deputy CM Sharma. After the listed business of the day was completed, speaker Raman Singh adjourned the House for the day.

ing Zero Hour, former chief minister and senior Congress MLA Bhupesh Baghel said the violence and arson was a result of the poor law and order situation and intelligence failure as well as the administration not taking the vandalising of the victory pillar seriously.

Other Congress legislators supported him on the issue and demanded

discussion, while BJP MLAs opposed it claiming a judicial probe into the incident was already underway and, therefore, discussing it would be against the rules of the House. Assembly Speaker Raman Singh said the opposition members can keep their issue without mentioning the points being covered under the judicial probe.

CEO demands DA and four-level pay

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh Employees Officers Federation (CEO) has demanded the state government to sanction house Rent Allowance similar to the allowance given by the Central Government.

The federation convener Kamal Verma has written a letter to the chief secretary asking him to take necessary action for hike in DA, HRA and four level pay. The Federation has warned that if the demands are not met in time, an agitation would be launched to press for the demands. A meeting of the members would be held on July 28 to discuss the issue, informed the state convener.

Residents lodge complaint

RAIPUR: The residents of Zone-5 area of the Raipur Municipal Corporation have lodged a complaint against the sub engineer Ankur Mishra, for his alleged influence over most of the decision taken in the zone 5. In their written complaint to the collector, the residents have alleged that the sub engineer does not follow any rule and instruction from the higher authorities.

Teachers to be posted in schools through rationalization

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

• The ratio of number of teachers and students in Chhattisgarh is better than the national ratio

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that the ratio of teachers and students in Chhattisgarh was better than the national ratio. In the country there is one teacher for 26 students, whereas in the state there is one teacher for 21 students, he said while giving information about school education in the Question Hour in the Assembly today.

So far there were some irregularities in the posting of teachers due to which the shortage of teachers was being reflected, he said, adding that for these reasons, rationalization will be the first priority. In some schools where there is subject faculty, there are no teachers, where there is no subject faculty, there are teachers. At some places, there are teachers for much less students than the state ratio,

he said. At some places, there is one teacher for 4-5 students. Such schools are being identified for the process of rationalization and soon teachers will be posted in all schools, said the Chief Minister, adding that this will ensure availability of teachers in all schools and the level of education will become even better.

The Chief Minister also said that with the arrangement of teachers, state government was also working on infrastructure development. It is noteworthy that the ratio of teachers and students in Chhattisgarh is better than the national average.

Interview for BPEd and DPED course training

RAIPUR: Selection interview for BPEd and DPED course training in the academic session 2024-25 in Government Physical Education Training College Pendra will be conducted from 06 to 08 August at 8 am in the same college. As per the revised date, the selec-

tion interview has been scheduled for departmental male and female category on 06 August, self-study male category on 07 August and self-study female category on 08 August. Earlier the selection interview was scheduled from 22 to 24 July.

NEWSLINE

HONOURED

Two students with cochlear implants honoured



RAIPUR: Dr. (Prof.) Hansa Banjara, Head of the Department of ENT, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, affiliated to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College, Raipur honoured two meritorious students for their successful and excellent performance in the academic field after undergoing cochlear implant in the ENT department.

Bhavna Patel has scored 70 percent marks in class 10th and Aditya Tiwari has passed the B.Sc. (Mathematics) examination with first division.

DUPED

Staff dupes with Rs 2 Lakh from the shop

RAIPUR: The city police, on Monday, arrested an employee, who had duped with Rs two lakhs from the shop, where he was working. Senior staff Hem Kumar Sahu lodged a complaint at Urla Police Station saying that one junior staff Akash Jangde had stolen the amount from the cash box. Senior Superintendent of Police Santosh Kumar Singh asked the Additional Superintendent of Police (City) Lakhan Patle and Additional Superintendent of Police (Crime) Sandeep Mittal to probe into the matter.

ARRESTED

Woman arrested for blackmailing businessman

RAIPUR: Kotwali police has arrested an accused Pooja Gupta, who had married a businessman for the third time using the life partner selection platform Shaadi.com and asked him to give Rs 3 crore. Her sisters, who were also involved in this crime, were absconding. The police said that businessman Prakash Agarwal had taken divorce after his first marriage a few years ago. He registered for second marriage on Shaadi.com. In November 2018, Bilaspur's Puja Gupta called him. Both of them met in Raipur and agreed to get married. However

Puja introduced him to her sisters Jyoti Gupta, Kavita Gupta and a minor girl. All three said that they live with their father in Bilaspur.

Remove bushes near wires: Collector to Electricity department

Central Chronicle News

Keep an eye on diarrhea, malaria and seasonal diseases, make immediate arrangements for treatment

RAIPUR: The government has authorized Tehsildars to correct land related errors and that they should resolve such cases on priority, so as to provide relief to the common citizens, Collector Dr Gaurav Singh said at time limit meeting here on Monday. He said that RBC 6-4 cases should not remain pending under any circumstances. Every Tehsildar should review it by holding a meeting and give its benefit to the beneficiary on time, he added.

All SDMs should make sure that the electricity department closes the electric boxes that are

seen opened in some places and removes the bushes etc that raise danger of wire breakage, said the Collector.

Dr Singh said that public grievance resolution camps will be organized in all urban bodies from 27 July to 10 August and therefore officers of the departments should ensure their participation and try to resolve the problems on the spot.

Construction materials spread on the roads should be removed immediately as they cause obstruction in traffic, the Collector said. The collector gave instructions to remove encroachments in the cowsheds. Dr. Singh said that measures should be taken to control the spread of seasonal diseases including diarrhea. He instructed to maintain the availability of fertilizers, seeds etc. and also distribute them.

Ahana wins double title in TT Contest

RAIPUR: Late Gyan Chand Luniya Smriti- 4th Raipur District Monthly League Table Tennis Competition-2024" organized at Sapre Shala Table Tennis Hall, Budhapara, Raipur concluded yesterday. Regarding the said competition, Secretary of Rajdhani Table Tennis Association, District Raipur, Vinay Baiswada informed that Ahana Singh defeated Surabhi Modi and created the biggest upset of the competition to become the winner of the senior women's singles category and also won the double title by becoming the winner in the sub-junior (UNDER-15) girls' singles category. Arjun Malhotra became the winner in the senior men's singles category and Tejas Jadwani became the winner in the sub-junior (UNDER-15) boys' singles category. The chief guest of the closing and prize distribution ceremony of the competition was Ms. Ira Pant, former medal winning player of Masters National Table Tennis.

Various programs in schools on 'Guru Purnima'

Central Chronicle News

Various programs were organized on 'Guru Purnima' in the schools under guidance of Collector Dr. Gaurav Kumar Singh.

RAIPUR: Various programs were organized in the schools under guidance of Collector Dr. Gaurav Kumar Singh on the call of Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai to celebrate Guru Purnima.

District Mission Coordinator KS Patel was present as chief guest at Guru Purnima Samaroh at PG Umathe Utkrish English Medium School located in Shanti Nagar. Patel said "our tradition is very great. It has been given the highest place since ancient times". Remembering the Gurus, he said that they composed the Vedas.



FASTFACTS

• Practice of 'Guru-Shishya Parampara' is ancient: Patel

• Student Kumari Rishika Bundel recites 'Sanskrit shlokas'

According to him practice of Guru-Shishya Parampara is ancient. Rishi-Munis composed texts like Vedas, he said. He urged students to

practice writing along with studies. Rabin-drath Tagore had said that instead of reading many books once, one should read the same book more than once, he recalled. According to him Gurus play an important role in shaping the lives of human beings. In such a situation, it is believed that we should maintain a sense of gratitude towards the Gurus, he said. Vedas are considered to be the first sages of the whole world, they did such important works

of knowledge in the Indian tradition which are still in progress, said Mr Patel. Although one should serve the Guru every day, but the day of Guru Purnima is completely dedicated to the Guru, he said, adding that this day has also been mentioned in the Ramayana and Mahabharata period.

It is said that the history of this day is thousands of millions of years old, he said. Class 8th student Kumari Poorva Sakar presented precious thoughts on the glory of Guru with her impressive speech in English. Rishika Bundel presented her views in Sanskrit. The sweet voice of the group song presented by the school student and girl folk singer Kumari Ojasvi (Aaru) Sahu kept audience spell-bound.

STUDENT COUNCIL |

St. Xavier's HS holds investiture ceremony

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: St. Xavier's High School, Raipur held its Investiture Ceremony on 13th July celebrating the newly elected student council for the academic year 2024-2025. The event was marked by a sense of pride, responsibility, and anticipation as students, teachers, and parents gathered to witness this significant milestone.

The ceremony commenced with special



assembly followed by the formal induction of the student council.

The students pledged to uphold the values and principles of the school,

to lead by example, and to serve their fellow students with dedication and integrity.

The Chief Guest Raj Kumar Minj Superinten-

ship qualities such as empathy, resilience, and vision. The event ended with school anthem followed by National anthem. Leadership is one of the 12 point vision of Chairman Dr. A.F Pinto, to inculcate the value of leadership in the life. The institution thanked Chairman AF Pinto and Managing Director Dr. Grace Pinto for giving the opportunity to instill the value of leadership.

dent of police, congratulated the new leaders and encouraged them to strive for excellence and to be role models for their peers. He spoke about the importance of leader-

MLA Devendra Yadav visits Balodabazar police station

RAIPUR: Balodabaza. After receiving three notices in the Balodabazar violence case, Bhalai MLA Devendra Yadav, on Monday, visited Balodabazar police station in the compliance of the notices.

After meeting SP Vijay Agarwal, MLA Yadav reached Kotwali police station, where the police team questioned him about the incident.

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Bhilai



“Police to accelerate proceedings in Chit Fund fraud cases.”

Ram Gopal Garg
IGP, Durg Range

Blocked Borjhara nullah floods fields in Nagpura

People share their problems at Collector Jandarshan.



ADM Arvind Ekka interacting with people at Jandarshan.

Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

● 150 applications received in Jandarshan

● Electric pole posing threat in Borsi ward

BHILAI: On the instructions of Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary, ADM Arvind Ekka and Additional Collector Bajrang Dubey met the common people at Collector Jandarshan and listened to their problems.

They instructed the concerned departments to ensure proper resolution of the applications. 150 applications were received in Jandarshan on Monday.

Farmers of Nagpura complained that some other farmers have blocked the water flow

of Borjhara Nullah. Due to the drain closure, the agricultural land is flooded and crops are getting damaged. The concerned department was instructed to take necessary action.

A villager Bharda complained that a person has captured his land and is cultivating pulses for the last two years. Panchayat had tried to resolve the

Shortage of teachers at primary schools

The Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Nagpura demanded appointment of teachers in primary schools. To ensure proper studies for the future of children, he requested to provide teachers in two primary schools located in village Nagpura. Taking the matter into cognizance, the Additional Collector asked the District Education Officer to take necessary action.

dispute but the man was not leaving the land. Additional Collector asked the Tehsildar Durg to inspect and take necessary action.

Borsi residents filed an application to remove the electric pole which

is located very close to the houses. The people stated that there is a possibility of mishap during rainy days. The Electricity Department was instructed to conduct inspection and take immediate action.

247.4 mm average rainfall recorded

BHILAI: An average rainfall of 247.4 mm has been recorded in the district from 01 June to 22 July. According to information, the highest rainfall of 433.5 mm has been recorded in Patan Tehsil and the lowest 154.9 mm in Bori. Apart from this, 217.2 mm rainfall has been recorded in Durg, 182.1 mm in Dhamdha, 216.2 mm in Bhilai 3 and 280.3 mm in Ahiwara. On July 22, 33.4 mm rainfall was recorded in Durg, 11.0 mm in Dhamdha, 42.2 mm in Patan, 16.0 mm in Bori, 19.4 mm in Bhilai 3 and 22.8 mm in Ahiwara.

Ayodhya special train departs today

BHILAI: Under Shri Ramlala Darshan Yojana, 850 devotees from Durg Division and Bastar Division are going to depart for Shri Ramlala Darshan in Ayodhya Dham by special train from Durg Railway Station on July 23 at 12 noon. Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department, Amit Singh Parihar said that after Ramlala Darshan, the group of pilgrims will return to Durg by special train on June 26.

DMC publishes final list of those eligible under PMAY

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

● Eligible in “More Makan-More Aas”- the component of PMAY

BHILAI: Final List of those eligible under “More Makan-More Aas”- the component of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, within the Durg municipal corporation limits has been prepared and published after attending the claims and objections. The list can be seen in the departmental website www.municipal-corporationdurg.in and in the Durg Municipal Corporation main office, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana branch located in the data center where

the it has been pasted. Mayor Dhiraj Bakliwal and Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar have requested those families who have been allotted houses through lottery but have not received the allotment letter to collect their allotment letters from the Data Center, Central Library Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).

DMC team removes foils stuck in intake well

BHILAI: Continuous rain for three days in the city has increased the water level of Sheonath river rapidly and it is flowing 6 feet above the Mahamara Anicut. As a result, the garbage flowing from the surrounding areas is getting stuck in the intake well affecting water supply in the city. On Monday water works in-charge Sanjay Kohle, along with water works inspector Narayan Thakur and the team removed plastic, aluminium foil, water hy-

cinth etc from around the banks of the 24 MLD intake well stuck in the siphon of river. The team descended to a depth of 40 feet and after a lot of effort removed the garbage stuck in the pump. Mayor Dhiraj Bakliwal, Commissioner Lokesh Chandrakar and Water Works Department in-charge have asked the officials to get the intake well cleaned properly and remove the obstruction in water supply in the city.

Preparations in full swing for Shiv Mahapuran

Central Chronicle News

Pandit Pradeep Mishra to narrate the spiritual tale from July 25.



BHILAI: The atmosphere reverberated with the slogans of Shri Shivaya Namastubhyam, Bol Bam and Har-Har Mahadev during the religious rituals of bhoomipujan at Jayanti Stadium for the week long Shiv Mahapuran Katha. Internationally acclaimed spiritual storyteller Pandit Pradeep Mishra is going to narrate the holy tale from July 25 to July 31 in the month of Shravan. The mega religious event of Shiv Mahapuran is being organized by Bol Bam Seva and Kalyan Samiti. Organizing committee Chairman and Deputy Leader of Opposition of Bhilai Municipal Corporation, Daya Singh said that

a huge pandal is being set up for the event. Preparations are in the final stages. Materials for setting up the pandal have arrived from Maharashtra. After the Bhoomipujan, the pandal erection work is being conducted on war footing. The Bhoomipujan rituals were conducted by Acharya Kanha Ji Maharaj and other Pandits. Devotees from Bhilai-Durg and other districts were present on this occasion. Daya Singh said that preparations for the event were going on for the past six months. They had submitted “Arzi” in Baba Ji’s darbar. Finally, the arzi of Bhilai was heard and now Bhilaian are going to receive the divine blessings.

Mini truck hits cattle; FIR lodged

BHILAI: Police lodged an FIR against the driver of a Mini Truck after the vehicle hit the stray cattle on the Sheonath bridge at Dhamdha. A biker Dhaneshwar Kumar complained that the driver of a mini truck bearing registration number CG08-AR-5475 was driving rashly and caused threat for other commuters on the road. Police lodged an FIR under section 281 of BNS.

Bike stolen from Jubilee Park

BHILAI: A bike was stolen from Jubilee Park of Sector 6 on Saturday. The victim Manjesh Kumar resides in Camp-1, Chhawani and was moving towards his sister’s place in Sector 6. Due to rains, he stopped at Jubilee Park.

34 illegally occupied houses in township vacated

| HOUSES VACATED |

Central Chronicle News

Unauthorized shops near Sec-6 water tank cautioned to vacate.

BHILAI: As part of the continuous action by the Enforcement Section of the Town Services Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, in compliance with decrees passed by the Estate Court, illegally occupied houses of the township were vacated with the help of police force on Monday.

A total of 34 houses were vacated from Bhilai Township on July 18, 2024, among which 02 were decree-ordered houses. It is worth mentioning that as many as 590 quarters have been vacated till date, by the



Doors and windows being removed.

FASTFACTS

● As many as 590 quarters have been vacated till date

● 301 are houses against which decrees have been executed

enforcement department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant, 301 are houses against which decrees have been executed in 2024-25.

The electricity connection of such houses was cut off, toilets demolished, and doors and windows were removed, followed by partial demolition by the civil department.

It is noteworthy that the Overhead Water Tank located near Sai Temple Sector-06 has been declared unsafe. In view of safety concerns, unauthorized shopkeepers and vendors operating

their business beneath the said water tank have been cautioned for the fourth time to vacate the area with immediate effect.

A letter has also been written to the District Administration in this regard, informing the entire scenario, seeking help in the eviction of such unauthorized shops and vendors, and preventing any incidences of loss of life or property.

| EK PED MA KE NAAM |

Professors, students plant saplings in Science College

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: NSS students of Science College Durg organise a tree plantation campaign every year in which all the professors and students plant trees and take a pledge to protect them. In this sequence, on the instructions of the Union and State governments this year, under the guidance of the Principal of the college Dr MA Siddiqui, students and professors planted fruit and flowering plants



of various species in the college under the title ‘Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam’ neem, karanja, bel, kachnar etc. being prominent. The Principal mentioned that we need to plant trees in maximum numbers to

save the environment. Today the biggest challenge is to maintain environmental balance, for this we should plant trees and protect them. All the students and employees were called upon to plant

“Biggest challenge is to maintain environmental balance, for this we should plant trees and protect them.”

Dr MA Siddiqui
Principal, Durg
Science College

trees on their birthdays or auspicious occasions. Dr Abhinesh Surana,

Professor and Head of Department of Hindi also spoke on the occasion. He too stated that plantation and protection of trees are necessary for the environment. NSS District Organiser Prof Janendra Kumar Diwan said that under the guidance of Hemchand Yadav University Durg, tree plantation programme is organised in the month of July by NSS units of various colleges and schools of Durg district.

‘Follow the messages of Buddha in Varshavas’

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: Varshavas inauguration and oath taking ceremony of the newly appointed executive was organized by Nav Yuvak Sangathan Kalyan Samiti Panchsheel Buddha Vihar Khurshipar. Anil Meshram, State President of The Buddhist Society of India Chhattisgarh, was present as the chief guest while Vinod Wasnik, Vice President of Bharatiya Buddhist Mahasabha Bhilai, presided over.



Ashish Chauhan, Jalendra Uke, Babita Bhaishare, Bhagwat Shende, Hitesh Shyamkunwar, Indu Uikay and other Buddhist devotees participated in the ceremony. The guests garlanded the life-size statue of Dr Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, followed by Buddha Vandana and lighting of lamps.

NEWSLINE

RELIGIOUS

Devotees throng Shiva Temples on Shravan Somwar



BHILAI: A large number of devotees reached Lord Shiva temples across the city to offer prayers on the first Monday of the holy Shravan month. The devotees performed Jalabhishek and made offerings to Mahadev at the temples. Many devotees participated in the Kanwar yatra which began from the RiverSheonath. They collected water from the river and marched to the temples of Lord Shiva to perform Jalabhishek. The devotees observed fast and spent the day in chanting ved mantras and listening to the spiritual stories and bhajans.

DEATH

Vendor killed in accident

BHILAI: A 56-year-old man was killed in a road accident at village Anda. The deceased Dushyant Sahu (56) a resident of village Daukideeh, used to sell puffed rice and other eatables on a pull cart. He was pulling his cart towards home when a speeding car bearing registration number CG10-EK-4499 hit him near Gas Godown in Anda main road. Injured Dushyant was rushed to District Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

THEFT

Valuables stolen from house

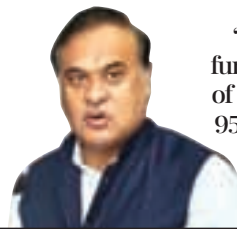
BHILAI: Unidentified thieves trespassed into a house in Ward 25 of Durg and escaped with mobile phones, gold jewellery and cash. The family was in deep sleep in the other room of the house. The incident occurred at the residence of Ritu Tiwari, who is involved in catering business. Three mobile phones, ear rings, Mangal Sutra and Rs 15000 cash were stolen. Police lodged an FIR under section 305(a), 331(4) of BNS.

CRIME

Woman dupes jeweller with artificial jewels

BHILAI: Police arrested a woman who duped a jeweller of Rs 2.18 lakhs by exchanging artificial ornaments with gold jewellery. The victim Subhash Sancheti owns a jewellery shop in Ganjpara Durg. A customer Rima Devi purchased a gold ring and bangle worth Rs 2.15 lakhs from his shop. In exchange, she gave Bandhel (some gold mixed with cheap metals) jewellery asserting it to be pure gold. She gave a fake mobile number and Aadhar card also. When the victim discovered that he had been duped, he lodged an FIR under sections 318(4), 336(3), 337, 339 BNS.

N-E-W-S



"Assam's flood situation has further improved as the number of affected people came down to 95,000. Efforts are underway to help the affected people."

Himanta Biswa Sarma
Chief Minister, Assam

Landslide, following rains, blocks road in Shimla



People try to move a car after a road got blocked due to landslide following rains, in Shimla on Monday | Photo: PTI

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CRIME

UP: Man's body with injury marks found in Deoria

DEORIA (UP): The body of a man bearing injury marks from a sharp weapon was found here on Monday morning, an official said. Additional Superintendent of Police (South) Bhim Kumar Gautam identified the victim as Aqib Ahmed (23), a resident of Hikshaura village in the Salempur police station area. Ahmed's body was found on the road a little far from the village on Monday morning. The police found injury marks from a sharp weapon on his body, Gautam said. Ahmed's father, Shamim Ahmed, told the police that his son went to sleep after having dinner around 11 pm. He does not know when Aqib went out of the house and reached the spot, Gautam said. The body was sent for post-mortem, and a case of murder was registered against unknown people, Gautam added. **PTI**

DEMAND

Supriya Sule demands end to Hindi voiceovers for Parliamentary speeches



MUMBAI: Lok Sabha MP and NCP (SP) leader Supriya Sule on Monday demanded that the Central government discontinue Hindi voiceovers for speeches made by members of the Parliament in English or regional languages broadcast on its television channel. In a post on 'X', Sule said that Sansad TV started the "alarming" practice of giving voiceovers in Hindi to speeches made by MPs in English or regional languages in the first session of this Lok Sabha, and it has continued doing so in the Budget Session. **PTI**

Convergence of efforts needed to improve education quality

Convergence of efforts across the Centre, states and local bodies is needed to improve the quality of education, especially primary education, says an Economic Survey.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Convergence of efforts across the Centre, states and local bodies is needed to improve the quality of education, especially primary education, the Economic Survey said on Monday. According to the survey for FY 2023-24 tabled in Parliament, the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is expected to yield foundational literacy and numeracy for every child passing the third stan-

dard in the near future. "As education is one of the most critical areas for India's development, mission-mode and cost-effective implementation of well-designed and well-intentioned programmes is essential to improve the quality of education, especially primary education, without which further years of education add little value. "To realise the same, unity of purpose and convergence of efforts across the centre, state,

HIGHLIGHT

- In education, mission-mode and cost-effective implementation of well-intentioned programmes is essential to improve the quality of education.
- "To get optimum result, convergence of efforts across the centre, state, and local bodies is called for, as 'public education' is a concurrent list subject," the survey document said.

and local Governments is called for, as 'public education' is a concurrent list subject," the survey document said. It noted that increasing the cost-effectiveness of public spending on education requires spending on pedagogy and governance. "This can include filling supervisory positions to monitor teaching quality, recognition of good and bad teacher performance, and hiring of local volunteers to ensure 'teaching

at the right level' as textbook completion means little if children are way behind curricular standards," the survey said. According to the survey, the government's spending on social services, including education, rose by 9.36 per cent to Rs 23.50 lakh crore in FY24 from Rs 21.49 lakh crore in FY23. Of the total, Rs 8.28 lakh crore was spent on education alone during FY24, around 8 per cent higher from Rs 7.68 lakh crore in FY23.

BIOGRAPHY VAIBHAV PURANDARE

Book chronicles life and struggles of Bal Gangadhar Tilak against British Raj



NEW DELHI: Author Vaibhav Purandare's latest book, a comprehensive biography of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, chronicles the life and times of the nationalist leader who was instrumental in India's quest for freedom.

Marking the 167th birth anniversary of the leader, "Tilak: The Empire's Biggest Enemy", published by Penguin Random House India, will hit the stands on Tuesday.

Considered to be the revolutionary force behind the surge of Indian nationalism before Mahatma Gandhi emerged as the face of the Indian freedom struggle, Tilak was "the most dangerous dissenting voice", leading

to three sedition charges against him for his provocative writings in his nationalist daily, 'Kesari'.

"Tilak roused the Indian people into collective action against the British Raj and made them aware of 'rights', which was revolutionary in late 19th and early 20th century India because, subjugated as they were, Indians - and their chief political organization, the Indian National Congress - were until then speaking only in the language of 'pleadings' and 'requests'.

"Tilak represents the turning point of India's freedom struggle, for he single-handedly turned that struggle into a people's upheaval. **PTI**

Reconsider ban on toddy, Madras High Court tells Tamil Nadu govt

CHENNAI: The Madras high court on Monday orally asked the Tamil Nadu government to reconsider the state's ban on sale of toddy. The first bench, comprising Acting Chief Justice D Krishnakumar and Justice K Kumaresh Babu, further observed that it was the right time to reconsider the policy decision as the TASMALC (state-run alcoholic beverages retail chain) has been facing several allegations of corruption. The bench said it was not passing any direction but asking the state to reconsider its policy. The bench made these oral observations while hearing a Public Interest Litigation filed by S Muralidharan, an IT employee of Chennai. The bench also ordered notice to the state government and posted further hearing of the case to July 29.

| TIGHT SECURITY MAINTAINED |

Muslim groups welcome devotees as Braj Mandal Yatra enters Nuh

Press Trust Of India

Spiritual leader Mahamandleshwar Swami Dharamdev said this year's yatra conveyed a powerful message of Hindu-Muslim brotherhood across the country.

NUH: The Braj Mandal Jalabhishek Yatra that was marred by violence last year began here on Monday amid tight security arrangements, with members of both Hindu and Muslim communities welcoming the procession at different points. Spiritual leader Mahamandleshwar Swami Dharamdev said this year's yatra conveyed a powerful message of Hindu-Muslim



Tight security was maintained for Braj Mandal Jalabhishek Yatra in Nuh | Photo: PTI

FACTFILE

- Nuh Deputy Commissioner Dharendra Khadgata said the yatra was being carried out smoothly amid stringent security and other arrangements for the devotees.

brotherhood across the country.

was being carried out smoothly amid stringent security and other arrangements for the devotees. In the morning, many devotees taking part in the yatra gathered at Radha Krishna temple in adjoining Gurugram's Sector 10 before leaving for the Nalhar temple. Before the yatra began around 11 am, a large group of women also reached the Nalhar Mahadev temple from Bhuteswar temple here. They were accorded a warm welcome by members of the Muslim community at the Tiranga Chowk. Several groups of Muslims also welcomed the saints and other devotees part of the yatra with garlands at various places.

Chanting "Har Har Mahadev" and "Jai Sri Ram", devotees started the yatra from Nalhar Mahadev Mandir and later proceeded to Jhir Mandir in Ferozepur Jhirka here.

The yatra, which spans over nearly 80 km, will end at Singar via the Jhir temple later in the day. Nuh Deputy Commissioner Dharendra Khadgata said the yatra

| RLD LEADER SUKANTA MAJUMDAR SAYS |

Over 170 contractual staff at NTA : MoE

Press Trust Of India

Over 170 employees at the (NTA) are either contractual or outsourced staff, the Ministry of Education (MoE) informed the Parliament.

NEW DELHI: Over 170 employees at the National Testing Agency (NTA) are either contractual or outsourced staff, the Minis-

try of Education (MoE) informed the Parliament on Monday.

The ministry, however, clarified that "all core activities involving setting up of question papers" for the exams conducted by the agency are not outsourced.

Union Minister of State for Education Sukanta Majumdar shared this information in response

"it is pertinent to mention that all core activities involving setting up of question papers are not outsourced."

Sukanta Majumdar
Union MoS for Education



to a written question in the Lok Sabha asked by Dravida Munnetra

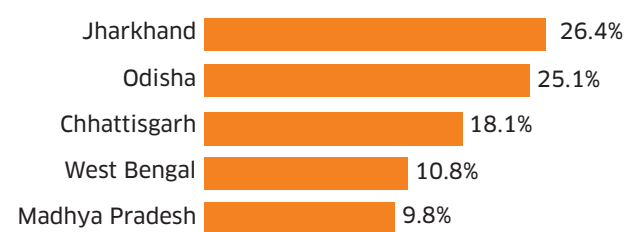
Kazhagam (DMK) Member of Parliament (MP) Kanimozhi Karunanidhi.

The DMK MP asked about number of permanent staff, employees on deputation and contractual employees working at the NTA.

"Director General (DG) of NTA is appointed by Central Government under the Central Staffing Scheme.

The Day's NUMBERS

STATES HAVING MAXIMUM COAL PRODUCTION SHARE IN INDIA- 2024 (IN BILLION TONNES)



(source- Agency)

POLITICS

Former Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik backs VK Pandian again

BHUBANESWAR: Former Odisha chief minister Naveen Patnaik on Monday once again backed BJD leader and his key aide V K Pandian, saying the bureaucrat-turned-politician has served the state and party with utmost dedication efficiency and integrity, and rejected a media report of a split in his party as "completely false, motivated, defamatory and malicious".

He was reacting to the report that claimed that he had asked Union Home Minister Amit Shah "not to entertain" Pandian.

"This is completely false, motivated, defamatory and malicious. As I have stated earlier Pandian has served the state and party with utmost dedication, efficiency and integrity and is known and respected for the same," he said in a post on X. The saffron party also rejected a claim made in the report that Patnaik had assured Shah of BJD's support in the Rajya Sabha where the NDA lacks a majority. **PTI**

CAMPAIGN

Used to go to veg hotel run by Muslim in Kerala : SVN Bhatti



NEW DELHI: Batting for hygiene at eateries, Supreme Court judge SVN Bhatti said on Monday he used to frequent a vegetarian restaurant run by a Muslim while posted in Kerala as it maintained international standards. Justice Bhatti shared his experience when he was with Justice Hrishikesh Roy on a bench that stayed the directives issued by BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand asking eateries along the Kanwar Yatra routes to display the names of their owners and staff but said they may be required to display information about the kind of food they are serving like they are vegetarian or non-vegetarian. **PTI**

Ensure arrangements for rescue boats in case of any emergency conditions of flooding in Shabri river.

Haris. S
Collector- Sukma



Chhattisgarh

DCC discusses Vidhan Sabha-wise gherao on 24

KHAIRAGARH: District Congress Committee meeting was held in Congress Bhawan regarding Vidhan Sabha siege. As per the orders of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Congress Committee President Deepak Bajj and Khairagarh MLA Yashoda Nilambar Verma and District Incharge Lalji Chandravanshi, Vidhan Sabha siege program is scheduled in the capital on 24th July at 1 pm regarding the poor law and order of the state, crime, robbery, murder and arson that happened in Baloda Bazar in the past few days, shortage of fertilizers and seeds and various other issues of farmer brothers. In the context of the same, a meeting was held by the District Congress Committee in Chhuikhadan Congress Bhawan on Monday. Khairagarh MLA Yashoda Nilambar Verma and party leaders, workers and representatives from various blocks of the district were present in the meeting. The MLA discussed the issues of the people of the district and emphasized the importance of Vidhan Sabha siege program. A large number of Congress workers were present in this meeting. Khairagarh MLA expressed her determination in the meeting with party leaders and workers to fight for the rights of the people and ensure that their voice is heard.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

DEMAND

Telaga Community members meet Bastar MP Mahesh Kashyap

BIJAPUR: On July 16, 2024, Bastar MP Mahesh Kashyap visited Bijapur. During this visit, he participated in the district-level school admission festival and attended meetings of DMF and DISHA programs. Later in the evening, at the Circuit House in Bijapur, he met with members of the district's Telaga community and listened to their concerns. During this meeting, the Telaga community members, describing the Telaga caste as a Scheduled Tribe, presented a memorandum to Bastar MP Mahesh Kashyap demanding the inclusion of the Telaga caste in the Scheduled Tribes category. It should be noted that the Telaga community has been demanding the inclusion of the Telaga caste in the Scheduled Tribes category for years. Currently, the Telaga caste has OBC (Other Backward Class) status.

GURU PURNIMA

Guru Purnima celebrated in DAV Public School Bachel



BACHELI: On the gracious occasion of Guru Purnima, a ceremonial Havan was conducted in the conference hall of DAV Public School Bachel. Like every year, this year also the Havan was organized by the Havan Committee in which students of Commerce and Science Faculty of Class XI were present along with the Principal Dr. Chetna Sharma and her team. After the Havan, the student councillor Abhishek Mahobiya gave a brief introduction of the pious occasion and told what is the importance of Guru in one's life. The entire area was filled with holiness.

Shravan month begins

Shravan ushered in by five unique yog and to conclude on Aug 19



JAGDALPUR: The month of Shravan started from Monday 22nd July. According to the Hindu calendar, this year on the first Monday of the month of Shravan, 5 amazing auspicious yog including Preeti Yog, Ayushman Yog are being formed. The month of Shravan has special significance for Shiva devotees. The month of Shravan is very dear to Lord Shiva. This is the reason why Shiva devotees eagerly wait for the month of Shravan. Shravan month has started from 22nd July and will end on 19th August.

That means the month of Shravan will have a total of 29 days. In this 29 day Shravan month, there will be 5 Mondays and 4 Mangala Gauri fasts. This time the month of Shravan is starting from Monday itself and its Parayan will be held for the coming year on Monday itself. By worshipping Lord Shiva and Mother Parvati in the month of Shravan, one gets freedom from the inauspicious effects of planets and stars. Along with this, by the grace of Shiva one attains happiness, peace and prosperity.

COAL PRODUCTION

Mishra emphasizes coal production as key focus

Central Chronicle News

The accountability of Coal India should be fixed every year for the welfare of the local residents of the place where the life of the people is badly affected due to coal mining.

KORBA: Coal Ministry has set a production target of 838 million tons for Coal India during the current financial year, whereas in the last financial year, the production target for Coal India was set at 780 million tons, but Coal India Limited (CIL) was able to produce only 773 million tons of coal which was 7 million less than the set target. In this regard, National Vice President of Indian Mines Workers Federation AITUC, Deepesh Mishra said that every year the coal production target is



Deepesh Mishra- Korba.

set for Coal India management by the Coal Ministry, we are not at all against it because coal is the main source of energy in the country, from which electricity is produced, but the Coal Ministry should set targets for Coal India for other responsibilities along with the coal production target.

In this regard, he further said that Coal India is a public sector undertaking and along with the

welfare work of the workers, targets should be set every year for the work to be done in the society under Corporate Social Responsibility. Similarly, the accountability of Coal

FACTFILE

- Targets should be set every year for the work to be done in the society under Corporate Social Responsibility.

- Coal is produced through outsourcing, its workers should be ensured the pay scale determined by the High Power Committee

India should be fixed every year for the welfare of the local residents of the place where the life of the people is badly affected due to coal mining. Along with this,

its review should also be done half yearly. Similarly, coal is produced through outsourcing, its workers should be ensured the pay scale determined by the High Power Committee, and the target for the welfare program of contract workers should also be set. Dipesh Mishra further said that it is being seen that the Coal India management gives full priority only to the coal production target because only on achieving the coal production target, the senior officials of the coal management become entitled to promotion, so they completely ignore other important works. Dipesh Mishra finally said that just as the coal ministry sets the production target of Coal India every year, in the same way, Coal India should also set a target for social welfare programs every year.

Pregnant women rescued from floodwaters

Central Chronicle News

BIJAPUR: In a display of swift action and preparedness, local authorities in Bijapur district successfully rescued two pregnant women trapped by rising floodwaters today. The incident highlights the administration's readiness to tackle emergencies during the ongoing monsoon season.

The drama unfolded in Kamkanar, a village



under the care of Ayushman Arogya Mandir Gongga. As relentless rains caused rivers and streams to swell, two expectant mothers found themselves in a precarious situation.

Responding to the distress call, a team led by Dr. Vikas Kumar Gavel, the Block Medical Officer, sprang into action.

The rescue team, comprising members of the

Successful operation was a result of seamless coordination between various departments and local volunteers.

Dr. Vikas Kumar Gavel
BMO Bijapur

City Army Platoon under Mr. Nirmal Sahu, navi-

gated treacherous waters to reach the stranded women. The rescued individuals were identified as Rambai Uika, 35, and Sunny Pulsum, 25. After ensuring their safe passage across the flooded river, the team conducted immediate health check-ups. As a precautionary measure, both women were then transported to the Community Health Center in Gangalur for further medical attention.



Collector on Guru's high esteem in student's life

District level Guru Purnima festival was organized in SAGEMS of Mahalpara

Central Chronicle News

KOREA: As per the instructions of the School Education Department, Chhattisgarh Government, instructions were received to organize programs in all government and non-government schools of the state on the occasion of Guru Purnima.

On Monday, the district level Guru Purnima festival was organized in Swami Atmanand Government School of Mahalpara of the district under the chairmanship of Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh. Apart from this, the event was also organized in all the schools of the district.

The program was started by lighting a lamp in front of the oil painting of Goddess Saraswati in Swami Atmanand Government School. Guests were welcomed by Bharat Scouts and Guides.

Tasken of class I and Ekaakshar Gautam of class II welcomed the guests by applying tilak and showering flowers.

Addressing the students, Collector Vinay Kumar Langeh said that the place of Guru has always been high. The



District level Guru Purnima festival was organized in Swami Atmanand Government School of Mahalpara.

FASTFACTS

● Contribution of Gurus in the development of society, country and state was, is and will remain incomparable.

● The collector stated that a Guru's place is always held in high esteem in the society and they are the harbingers of development for students.

contribution of Gurus in the development of society, country and state was, is and will remain incomparable. Recalling the famous couplet of great saint Kabir Das, he said: 'Guru Govind dono khade, kaake

Students present dance on 'Guru Vandana'

The students of the primary school presented a dance on Guru Vandana, the students of the secondary school presented a welcome song and Guru Vandana. Unnati Jaiswal of class XI presented a very inspiring speech highlighting the Guru-Shishya tradition. On the occasion of Guru Purnima, retired teachers Kalawati Yadav, Aditya Narayan Mishra, Devi Prasad Mishra along with the present posted senior teachers Rajendra Singh, Sher Mohammad, and junior teacher Aparna Gautam were honored by the District Collector and District Education Officer by giving mementos and gifts.

lagun paay'; 'Balihari Guru apne, Govind diyo bataye'.

District Education Officer Jitendra Gupta, while explaining the importance of Guru to the children, said that Guru is like a lamp,

which burns itself to illuminate the lives of children. In such a situation, it is the responsibility of all of us that we should always follow the words of Guru and the path shown by him in our life.

Guru Purnima festival celebrated

RAJNANDGAON: As per the instructions of the government, on the occasion of Guru Purnima, a festival cum puja will be organized in all the government and non-government schools of the state on 22 July 2024. On Guru Purnima festival, Veena Vadini Goddess Saraswati will be given obeisance and thereafter teachers will shed light on the importance of Guru Purnima and traditional Guru-disciple culture. Along with essay writing on the Gurukul system prevalent in ancient times and its impact on Indian culture, honoring the Gurus and teachers, a conversation on Guru Memories by teachers and students will be organized.

Education week on NEP-2020

RAJNANDGAON: As per the instructions of the government, Education Week will be organized in all government, grant-in-aid and private schools of the state to commemorate the completion of four years of National Education Policy 2020. In Education Week, the basic spirit of National Education Policy 2020 will be conveyed to the people and various activities will be organized day-to-day in all the schools of the district.

35 arrested under Excise Act



Central Chronicle News

KHAIRAGARH: Under the direction of Superintendent of Police Trilok Bansal and guidance of Additional Superintendent of Police Mrs. Neha Pandey and SDOP Khairagarh Lalchand Mohle, a strict campaign against illegal drugs is underway in the district.

In the same series, from 01 July 2024 till now, 35 cases have been registered in different police stations of the district and action has been taken, in which Khairagarh police station has registered 01

case of 34 (2), 01 case of 34 (1) and 03 cases of 36 (C), Gandai police station has registered 01 case of 34 (2), 5 cases of 34 (1) and 02 cases of 36 (C), Chhuikhadan police station has registered 01 case of 34 (2), 06 cases of 34 (1), 02 cases of 36 (C), 03 cases of 36 (C), Thelkadih police station has registered 04 cases of 34 (1), 02 cases of 36 (C) Case, 01 case of 34(2) has been registered by Thana Gatapar Police and 01 case of 34(2) and 02 cases of 34(1) has been registered by Chowki Jalabandha Police.

Illicit liquor seller arrested

KHAIRAGARH: Under the guidance of Superintendent of Police Trilok Bansal and Additional Superintendent of Police Neha Pandey and under the direction of SDOP Lalchand Mohle and under the leadership of Police Station Incharge Khairagarh Sub Inspector Morjdhawj Deshmukh, as part of the campaign being run against illegal liquor and gambling/betting in Police Station Khairagarh, on Saturday, July 20, Khairagarh Police Station, Rupendra Dhimar father Manohar Dhimar age 39 years resident Ward No. 09 Kumharpara Khairagarh was caught red handed while providing facilities for drinking liquor to people in his snack shop in Lalpur Road Khairagarh. Empty bottles, water pouches and plastic disposable glasses were seized from the accuser's shop on the spot.

urday, July 20, Khairagarh Police Station, Rupendra Dhimar father Manohar Dhimar age 39 years resident Ward No. 09 Kumharpara Khairagarh was caught red handed while providing facilities for drinking liquor to people in his snack shop in Lalpur Road Khairagarh. Empty bottles, water pouches and plastic disposable glasses were seized from the accuser's shop on the spot.

NEWSLINE

FAREWELL

Head teacher Manohar Ram Sahu given a touching farewell



RAJIM: Head teacher Manohar Ram Sahu, who was promoted to the post of Head teacher based in Primary School Bhatapara Sirrikala, was given a farewell ceremony and Ajay Rajvanshi was felicitated. Principal of High School Sirrikala O. P. Sinha and President Dr. Tularam Sahu, Head teacher of Government Primary School D. K. Markam, Head teacher of Government Primary School Sirrikala Horilal Dhruv, former Sarpanch educationist Madan Saheb, President of Sahu Samaj Parikshetra Bhasera Narayan Lal Sahu, newly appointed president of the Panchayat Shri Krishna Sahu, Panchayat representative Ishwari Sahu, along with students from class 1st to 10th were present.

ALLEGATIONS

Ch'garh has become sick under BJP rule: Vijay Verma



KHAIRAGARH: Due to the increasing malaria fever and diarrhoea in Chhattisgarh under the Bharatiya Janata Party government, the people of Chhattisgarh are scared these days and due to the continuous deaths due to malaria and diarrhoea in Chhattisgarh, it shows the failure of the government. The above was said by Vijay Verma, accusing the government of only doing scams and not taking care of the health infrastructure of the state.

SUPPORT

Support grows for Bypass campaign



MAHASAMUND: After the arrival of Municipal Chairperson Mrs. Rashi Tribhuvan Mahilang to her hometown after meeting the Union Road Transport Minister, many organizations met the Municipal Chairperson and praised her campaign and extended their support. In this series, the Chamber of Commerce and Mahasamund Jagruk Manch, the largest business organization of the district, supported the Hamara Sangharsh, Hamara Bypass Marg; campaign and reiterated their commitment to participate in every stage of the campaign. Giving information about the campaign, Municipal Chairperson Mrs. Mahilang said that on the call of Mahasamund Chamber of Commerce President Shambhu Sahu and members, and reached their office to get support for this campaign.

Guru Purnima celebrated at Gayatri Shaktipeeth



Central Chronicle News

Guru Purnima was celebrated traditionally at the Gayatri Shaktipeeth of the city and on this occasion, a five-kund Gayatri Mahayagya was completed along with the Guru Poojan program.

RAJIM: Guru Purnima was celebrated traditionally at the Gayatri Shaktipeeth of the city and on this occasion, a five-kund Gayatri Mahayagya was completed along with the Guru Poojan program.

The yagya was conducted by Chandralekha Gupta, Chief Managing Trustee Himanshu Sahu, along with a Guru Vandana presented by Lakshmi Sahu, Lalima Patel with music accompanied by Acharya Tularam Sahu, Hemant Sahu, Santosh Sahu.

Praising the glory of the Guru, in his address Guest Chandralekha Gupta said that the relationship between the Guru and the disciple is unbreakable in which there is devotion and dedication and the disciple should follow the path shown by the Guru.

Literatures honoured with Sahitya Shri Samman

RAJIM: A grand programme of Late Chhatrasingh Bachhawat Smriti Sahitya Shri Samman was organised in the auditorium of Guru Ghasidas Cultural Forum, New Rajendra Nagar, Raipur under the aegis of the renowned literary and literary institution of the state, Vakta Manch Raipur.

Nagendra inspects Pre Matric Hostel

JANJGIR CHAMPA: Chairman of monitoring committee, councillor and district Congress spokesperson Nagendra Gupta inspected the Government Pre Matric Hostel and its premises here and chaired the monitoring committee meeting. During the inspection, he advised the officials to provide boiled and cooled before drinking and fresh and hot food, to prevent seasonal diseases.

Collector inspects ashrams and hostels of remote area

Central Chronicle News

During inspection Collector took stock of the safety arrangements, food, studies, cleanliness, lighting arrangements in the campus, health check up etc. of the students.

GAURELA: District Collector Leena Kamlesh Mandavi conducted a surprise inspection of ashrams and hostels of remote forest area of Marwahi development block and took stock of the arrangements. The Collector inspected Pre-Matric Adivasi Girls Hostel Ushadh, Pre Matric Adivasi Boys Hostel Ushadh, Pre Matric Girls Hostel Bagrar, Pre Matric Girls Hostel Katra, Kamla Nehru Adivasi Girls Ashram Beljhiriya and Adivasi Boys Ashram



Collector Leena Kamlesh Mandavi conducted a surprise inspection of ashrams and hostels of remote forest area of Marwahi block.

FASTFACTS

● Collector also inspected the kitchen garden, the hostel rooms and gave necessary instructions to the superintendents.

Beljhiriya. She took stock of the safety arrangements, food, studies,

cleanliness, lighting arrangements in the campus, health check up etc. of the students and took information about the hostel superintendents and the number of children registered and attendance in the hostel.

The Collector also inspected the kitchen garden, the hostel rooms

and gave necessary instructions to the superintendents. Additional Collector Mrs. Namrata Anand Dongre, Project Director District Panchayat (DRDA) Mr. K.P. Tendulkar and District Manager of Livelihood Mission Mr. DS Soni were also present during the inspection.

ALERT MODE |

Health Dept in alert mode against seasonal diseases

Central Chronicle News

PANDARIA: In a bid to control outbreak of seasonal diseases and epidemics, the health department has become fully alert and adequate arrangements of necessary medicines and equipment have been made in all the health centres of the block. Beds are also being reserved for serious patients and all health workers and other related employees have been instructed to



stay in residence at the headquarters itself.

Along with this, they have also been instructed to be ready to provide 24x7 services and under

this, all medical officers have been advised to keep their mobile phones on and stay in touch at any time. The Health Department Pandaria has

Members of the combat team are regularly inspecting the area and trying to immediately identify and control any symptoms of the disease.

Officer in-Charge Health Dept Pandaria

formed a special combat team and the task of this team is to take immediate action on getting any indication of epidemic in the area. The team has also been equipped with necessary equipment and resources so that they can work quickly and effectively and the members of the combat team are regularly inspecting the area and trying to immediately identify and control any symptoms of the disease.

Actions against quarreling teachers

Central Chronicle News

KHARORA: Three teachers of nearby village Beltukri Primary School Pre-Secondary School have been transferred, as part of disciplinary action after they took to fighting with each other adding adverse effect on the students. After complaints by villagers and reporting by media outlets, the action was taken by MLA Anuj Sharma. As per information, Primary school teachers Jeevan Lal Kuren and Padmini Sahu



and Pre-Secondary School teacher Rekha Chauhan were transferred by District Education Raipur to Bhumiya, Vishrampur and Lakhna. Commenting on the issue, MLA Anuj Sharma said that any kind of irregularity in government work will not be tolerated and everyone should perform their duties with full dedication.



"BJP's lamp is flickering, will go off soon."
Akhilesh Yadav
SP Chief

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

DGCA NORMS

Airlines placed 51 passengers in no-fly list for unruly behaviour year

NEW DELHI: The civil aviation ministry on Monday said 51 passengers have been placed under the no-fly list of airlines for unruly behaviour this year till July 1. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has norms in place for handling unruly/disruptive passengers, including procedures for placing unruly passengers on the no-fly list. A total of 300 passengers have been placed on the no-fly list in the last five years, including 51 people this year till July 1, according to data provided by Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol to the Rajya Sabha. In 2023, as many as 110 passengers were placed on the no-fly list while the count stood at 63 and 66 in 2022 and 2021, respectively. As per the data, 10 passengers were placed on the list in 2020.

RARE RECOVERY

Kerala boy survives amoebic meningoencephalitis



KOZHIKODE: Amidst concerns over the outbreak of deadly virus infections like Nipah in Kerala, the state on Monday reported a rare case of recovery from amoebic meningoencephalitis, which has a 97 per cent mortality rate. State Health Minister Veena George announced that a 14-year-old boy undergoing treatment for the disease has recovered. She described this as a rare occurrence in the country, given the high mortality rate of the disease. Only 11 people worldwide have recovered from amoebic meningoencephalitis, George noted, praising the team that led the coordination and treatment efforts.



Delhi HC asks Sonia and Rahul to file a short note.

National Herald: High Court asks Gandhis, Swamy for written note

The high court was hearing a plea moved by Swamy seeking to lead evidence before the trial court in the National Herald case, in which the Gandhis and others are accused.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court asked BJP leader Subramanian Swamy and Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi to file a short note on the submissions in the National Herald case. Justice Neena Bansal Krishna directed them to file the written note on the arguments within four weeks and said thereafter, the written submissions will be accepted with costs of Rs 15,000. The court listed the matter for arguments on October 29. The high court was hearing a plea

moved by Swamy seeking to lead evidence before the trial court in the National Herald case, in which the Gandhis and others are accused. It had, on February 22, 2021, issued notice to the Gandhis, All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary Oscar Fernandes (since died), Suman Dubey, Sam Pitroda and Young India (YI), sought their stand on Swamy's plea and stayed the proceedings in the case. The court said on Monday that the interim order of stay shall continue till the next date of hearing in the matter.

HIGHLIGHT

- The court listed the matter for arguments on October 29.
- HC said, the interim order of stay shall continue till the next date of hearing in the matter.

The Congress leaders were represented in the court through senior advocate R S Cheema and Tarannum Cheema. Swamy has moved the high court against a February 11, 2021 trial court order that declined his plea to lead evidence to prosecute the Gandhis

and the other accused in the case. The trial court had said Swamy's application under section 244 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) to lead evidence would be considered after his examination in the case was over. Swamy has sought the summoning of certain witnesses, including the secretary general (registry officer) of the Supreme Court, a deputy land and development officer and a deputy commissioner of the income-tax department, and also directions to them to prove certain documents that are part of the case. In a private crimi-

nal complaint in the trial court, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader had accused the Gandhis and others of conspiring to cheat and misappropriate funds by paying only Rs 50 lakh, through which Young Indian Private Limited (YI) obtained the right to recover Rs 90.25 crore that Associate Journals Limited, the owner of the "National Herald" newspaper, owed to the Congress. All the seven accused in the case -- the Gandhis, AICC treasurer Motilal Vora, Fernandes, Dubey, Pitroda and YI -- had denied the allegations.

Commitment towards environmental protection

Asia Book of Records felicitates Axis Bank for its 'Open for the Planet Clean-A-Thon' initiative



MUMBAI: Axis Bank, has been recognised by the Asia Book of Records for its nationwide cleanliness drive 'Open for the Planet Clean-A-Thon'. Axis Bank was felicitated by Asia Book of Records with two titles - 'Highest tonnage of garbage collected over a week, across multiple tourist spots,' and 'Highest number of tourist spots cleaned over a week'. This is the second consecutive year that the Bank's remarkable contribution towards nature conservation has been recognized on an international platform. This achievement reflects the Bank's dedication to environmental protection and sustainable development. During the week-long cleanliness drive scheduled from June 5 to

June 12, 2024, Axis Bank collaborated with 24 NGOs and collected close to 13,000 kg of waste from twenty-three tourist locations such as Varanasi Ghats, Qutub Minar in Delhi, Kaziranga National Park in Assam, Golkonda Fort in Hyderabad, Mall Road in Shimla, etc. Around 4,649 volunteers, including branch employees, customers, environmental activists, and local authorities enthusiastically participated in the 'Open for the Planet Clean-A-Thon' campaign. Last year, Axis Bank had organized a nationwide cleanliness drive to clean twenty-five water bodies across 18 cities in India, wherein over 3700 participants volunteered to collect 12,794 kg of waste.

NGT issues notice over uprooting

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal has sought a response from the National Capital Region Transport Corporation and others on a plea stating that the construction of the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) tracks will uproot 40 trees. It also said that it was not possible to relocate the uprooted trees. The NGT was hearing a petition by Sidhartha Extension Pocket C Residents Welfare Association alleging that the construction of the 82.15 km semi-high speed rail corridor connecting Delhi, Ghaziabad and Meerut will uproot 40 trees, of which 25 were fully grown. In an order passed last week, a bench of NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava said that the plea raised a "substantial issue relating to compliance of the environmental norms and implementation of scheduled enactments."

Press Trust Of India
A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan refused to interfere with the Delhi High Court order which had dismissed the petition.

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday junked a plea seeking its direction for allowing arrested political leaders to campaign during elections virtually. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan refused to interfere with the Delhi High Court order which had dismissed the petition. "This petition has been filed with mala fide intent. It is concentrated on one politician (Arvind Kejriwal)

PIL SQUASHED

No arrested political leaders can campaign virtually: SC



Supreme Court of India

FACTFILE

- HC observed that this would lead to dreaded criminals, to register themselves with political parties and canvass.

who is every day before this court with a battery of the best lawyers. "We do not

deem it necessary to entertain this petition purportedly filed in public interest. Dismissed," the bench said. The top court was hearing a plea filed by Amarjeet Gupta, a law student, seeking permission for arrested political leaders to campaign through the virtual mode. While dismissing the plea, the high court had observed that this would

lead to dreaded criminals, even fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim, to register themselves with political parties and canvass. Terming the petition as "highly adventurous" and against the fundamental principles of law, the high court had said courts do not make policy decisions and it is for Parliament to decide on such issues.

HIGH COURT OBSERVATION

Reconsider ban on sale of toddy: Madras HC

Press Trust Of India

CHENNAI: The Madras high court on Monday orally asked the Tamil Nadu government to reconsider the state's ban on sale of toddy. The first bench, comprising Acting Chief Justice D Krishnakumar and Justice K Kumaresh Babu, further observed that it was the right time



to reconsider the policy decision as the TASMALC (state-run alcoholic beverages retail chain) has been facing several allegations of corruption.

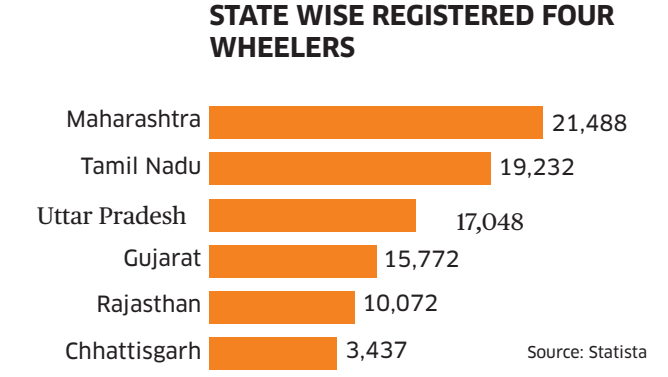
"It was the right time to reconsider the policy decision as the TASMALC has been facing several allegations of corruption."
D Krishnakumar
Acting CJ

The bench said it was not passing any direction but asking the state to reconsider its policy. The bench made these oral observations while hearing a Public Interest Litigation filed by S Muralidharan, an IT employee of Chennai. The bench also ordered notice to the state government and posted further hearing of

the case to July 29. In his PIL, Muralidharan sought to declare as unconstitutional a 1986 amendment made to the Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act for banning toddy and also a 2003 amendment by which TASMALC was given right to sell liquor in the state. For well over 30 years, toddy has been banned in Tamil Nadu.

The Day's NUMBERS

Maharashtra has highest registered four-wheelers in India



EXAMINATION

UNSAT scholarship test for IIT JEE and NEET UG learners

NEW DELHI: Unacademy, announced the fourth edition of the Unacademy National Scholarship and Aptitude Test (UNSAT), its biggest scholarship test supporting the growing aspirations of IIT JEE and NEET UG Learners. UNSAT is a gateway to a world of exceptional education, top-tier Educators, and the chance to compete alongside some of India's brightest minds. It kicked off its launch on 20th July in Bilaspur, providing students with an opportunity to excel in their career dreams of cracking NEET and JEE. The event witnessed the presence of distinguished guests DL Dhruv Principal, SEC Railway School and Dr Tariq Ahmad, Assistant Engineer, CSEB State board who graced the occasion as Chief Guests. The exams will be conducted from September 22 to October 20 in both online and offline mode.

LAKHIMPUR KHERI ROW

SC gives Ashish Mishra bail, directs trial court to expedite hearing

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday gave bail to former Union minister Ajay Mishra's son Ashish Mishra in the case related to the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence that claimed eight lives, and restricted his movement to Delhi or Lucknow. On January 25 last year, the top court had given Ashish Mishra interim bail.

Classifieds

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Central Chronicle

'Expert panel to probe Delhi airport canopy collapse'

Central Chronicle News

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Monday closed the proceedings on a PIL seeking an investigation into a recent incident at the IGI airport here, in which a portion of a canopy collapsed amid heavy rains and led to the death of a taxi driver, after it noted that a high-level expert committee has been formed to look into it. A bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Manmohan was informed that several steps have been taken by authorities, including the registration of an FIR for allegedly "causing death by negligence" and "causin



A plane takes off from the IGI Airport where a canopy collapsed.

g hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others" under the Indian Penal Code, and the expert committee, comprising engineers from the Indian Institute of Technol-

ogy (IIT) will submit its report in the matter. "In view of the aforesaid steps that have been initiated, the present writ petition is closed," the bench, also comprising Justice Tushar Rao Gedela, said. A taxi driver was killed and six people were injured after a portion of the canopy at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport's Terminal-1 collapsed on cars amid heavy rains on June 28.

'Used to visit veg hotel run by Muslim in Kerala'

Press Trust Of India

Justice Bhatti shared his experience when he was with Justice Hrishikesh Roy on a bench hearing pleas against directives issued by BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

dard and safety, he was displaying everything. He had returned from Dubai. He was maintaining international standards with regard to safety, cleanliness and

FASTFACTS

- SC stayed the directives asking eateries along the Kanwar Yatra routes to display the names of their owners.
● SC said the directions and their enforcement will have implications for multiple states in the country where Kanwar Yatra takes place.

NEW DELHI: Batting for hygiene at eateries, Supreme Court judge SVN Bhatti said on Monday he used to frequent a vegetarian restaurant run by a Muslim while posted in Kerala as it maintained international standards of hygiene.

Justice Bhatti shared his experience when he was with Justice Hrishikesh Roy on a bench hearing pleas against directives issued by BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

hygiene. So it was my choice to go to that hotel," Justice Bhatti said. Senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Trinamool Congress (TMC) Lok Sabha MP Mahua Moitra, said, "You chose by menu card and not name."

The top court stayed the directives asking eateries along the Kanwar Yatra routes to display the names of their owners and staff but said they may be required to display information about the kind of food they are serving like they are vegetarian or non-vegetarian.

"I have my experience and knowledge when I was in Kerala. I may not state openly as I am a sitting judge of this court. Without disclosing the name of the city, there is a vegetarian hotel run by a Hindu. There is another vegetarian hotel run by a Muslim.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Regarding Lost Regd. Sale Deed) By this Public Notice without prejudice we hereby inform the public at large to whomsoever it may concern that the applicant Sri Hari Prasad Gupta S/o Sri Shri Chandra Kumar Shukla S/o Sri Anup Prasad Gupta...

TN court extends Senthil Balaji's remand

Press Trust Of India

CHENNAI: A Sessions Court on Monday extended till July 29 the remand of former Tamil Nadu Minister V Senthil Balaji, who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate last year

in a money laundering case. Principal Sessions Judge S Alli, before whom Senthil Balaji was produced by the prosecution through video-conferencing from the Central Prison in Puzhal here, also extended his judicial

custody till July 29. Originally, the judge had on July 18 posted the case for today for framing charges and directed the prosecution to produce Senthil Balaji in person before the court.

South Eastern Coalfields Limited - A Mini Ratna Company. NOTICE: All the tenders issued by SECL for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of SECL...

Government Of Chhattisgarh, Water Resources Department. Office of The Executive Engineer. Hasdeo Canal W/M Division, Janjgir-Champa Distt. Janjgir-Champa (C.G.) e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE...

Kushabhau Thakre Admission Notice 2024. Patrakarita Avam Jansanchar Vishwavidyalaya. Under Graduate Courses (Hon.) and Post Graduate Courses.

एनएमडीसी लिमिटेड. नर्सिंग कोर्स हेतु प्रवेश सूचना - 2024. नर्सिंग कोर्स हेतु प्रवेश सूचना - 2024. एनएमडीसी को नर्सिंग प्रवेशिका परीक्षा (NRS) के तहत नर्सिंग शिक्षा प्रदान करता है...

Indian Overseas Bank. PREMISES REQUIRED FOR BHILAI NAGAR (NEHRU NAGAR) BRANCH. Interested landlords having premises at above area may submit offers in two sealed covers at the above address...

ग्रामोद्योग संचालनालय (हाथकरघा). चतुर्थ तल, ब्लॉक-ए, इन्द्रावती भवन, नवा रायपुर 490002 (छत्तीसगढ़). विनोदो इन ह्यूमन एंड डेवेलपमेंट टेक्नोलॉजी के त्रिचयीय कार्यक्रम में प्रवेश लिखित में बुद्धि हेतु सक्षिप्त विज्ञापन...

PUBLIC NOTICE CHANGE OF NAME. It is informed to general public that I Sanjay Kumar Tungidwar, Son of Late Tuliram Tungidwar, Resident of 27/181, New Shantali Nagar, in front of Urvi Provision Store, Ward No.31, Shankar Nagar, Raipur, District Raipur, Chhattisgarh, changed my name from Sanjay Kumar Tungidwar to Sanjay Kumar Tungidwar and I hereby onwards use the name Sanjay Tungidwar as my name in all government, semi-govt. as well as private records.

Punjab National Bank. POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties). Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under Sub-Section (12) of Section 13 read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices as below mentioned calling upon the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) to repay the amount mentioned in the notices and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice...

GRIHUM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED. (FORMERLY KNOWN AS POONAWALLA HOUSING FINANCE LTD). Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of GrihUm Housing Finance Limited (formerly known as Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited) as the same Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited changed to GrihUm Housing Finance Limited with effect from 17 Nov 2023 (Previously known as Magna Housing Finance Limited and originally incorporated with name of GE Money Housing Finance Public Unlisted Company) herein after referred as Secured Creditor of the above Corporate Regular office under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred as the "said Act") and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice below dated calling upon the below Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice...

Bank of Baroda. Regional Office, First Floor, Zonal Market, Sector -10, Bhilai (C.G.) - 490006. PH: No. 0788 - 2261892, 2264992, E-mail: recovery.durg@bankofbaroda.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF PROPERTIES. E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable/movable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 6(2) & 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable/movable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of Baroda, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" for recovery of below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower(s) / Mortgagee(s) / Guarantor(s) / Secured Asset(s)/Dues/Reserve Price/Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Amount are mentioned below.



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

If you want to make your dreams come true, the first thing you have to do is wake up..

[J.M. Power]

OUR VIEW |

SC intervenes: Bangladesh's quota crisis turmoil

The violence in Bangladesh, resulting in the tragic loss of over 100 lives, casts a shadow on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's administration. The unrest, triggered by the High Court's reinstatement of the 30 percent government job quota for relatives of 1971 war veterans, was a predictable outcome. This quota had previously been abolished in 2018 following widespread student protests. The government's failure to anticipate the backlash reflects a concerning disconnect with the populace. The Supreme Court's recent decision to reduce the veterans' quota to 5 percent, reserving 93 percent of jobs for merit-based appointments and 2 percent for ethnic minorities and other groups, is a commendable move towards equity. This ruling is a step in the right direction, likely to quell the protests and restore a semblance of normalcy. However, the high death toll and the widespread unrest necessitate a period of deep reflection for the government. The root of the discontent lies in the acute shortage of quality jobs, a frustration that has been brewing among the youth for years. The quota system, seen by many as a tool to favor Prime Minister Hasina's supporters, exacerbates this frustration. While the veterans' contribution to Bangladesh's independence is undeniable and deserving of respect, the present economic realities demand a shift towards a merit-based system to sustain the nation's economic growth. Prime Minister Hasina must heed the Supreme Court's directive and ensure its implementation in both letter and spirit. The prioritization of merit over political favoritism is essential for the country's continued prosperity. Moreover, this situation serves as a poignant lesson for neighboring India, where unemployment and quota controversies are similarly contentious issues. Political considerations should never eclipse the need for a fair and equitable recruitment system. Bangladesh government's response to this crisis will be crucial in determining the nation's future trajectory. Embracing meritocracy and addressing the employment crisis head-on will not only pacify the current unrest but also pave the way for a more inclusive and prosperous Bangladesh.

GUEST VIEW |

Celebrating Tennis legends Paes and Amritraj's legacy

It was a momentous day in Newport, Rhode Island, as Indian tennis icons Leander Adrian Paes and Vijay Amritraj were inducted into the prestigious International Hall of Fame. Leander Paes, a Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awardee, is celebrated as one of the greatest doubles players, holding records for the most doubles wins in Davis Cup and winning eight men's doubles and ten mixed doubles Grand Slams. Notably, Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi were the first pair in the Open era to reach the finals of all four Grand Slams in men's doubles in the same calendar year in 1999. Paes was rightfully inducted in the player category. Vijay Amritraj, a Padma Shri awardee, was inducted in the contributor category, which honors those who have made a significant impact on the sport. In 2022, Amritraj was recognized in London by the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the International Tennis Federation for his lifetime contributions. Congratulations to Paes and Amritraj for their well-deserved induction and for continuing to inspire future generations of tennis players.



Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee

Comment

Forgiveness: Freeing yourself from the burden of resentment

Nelson Mandela once said, "Forgiveness is not about forgetting or ignoring harm, but freeing yourself from the burden of resentment." This statement encapsulates Mandela's approach to addressing personal and political adversity. For him, forgiveness was a means to liberate himself from the destructive cycle of bitterness and hatred. Instead of dwelling on past injustices, Mandela consciously chose to focus on healing and reconciliation, fostering a more peaceful and harmonious society.

Mandela's journey from anger and resentment to forgiveness, especially after enduring 27 years of imprisonment, exemplifies his belief in the liberating power of forgiveness.

Despite immense suffering, Mandela chose to promote reconciliation rather than retribution upon his release. His leadership during South Africa's transition from apartheid to democracy demonstrated his unwavering commitment to national healing. The establish-

ment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission aimed to address past atrocities through dialogue and forgiveness, not vengeance.

By advocating for forgiveness, Mandela helped unite a deeply divided nation. His willingness to engage with former opponents, including apartheid leaders, was crucial in building a new, inclusive South Africa. Mandela's emphasis on forgiveness rather than revenge granted him a moral authority that transcended national boundaries.

His global reputation as a peacemaker was further enhanced by his ability to forgive, setting an example for others to follow.

Mandela's ability to forgive despite immense personal suffering exemplifies resilience and strength. His forgiveness was not a sign of weakness but a symbol of profound inner fortitude.

Forgiveness proved to be a practical and effective strategic tool in Mandela's nonviolent resistance against apartheid, facilitating peaceful negotiations and ultimately the end of

apartheid.

Mandela's approach to forgiveness serves as a guiding principle for contemporary peace processes. In post-conflict societies like Rwanda, the spirit of forgiveness has been crucial in reconciliation efforts following the genocide. Forgiveness helps nations move beyond historical grievances. Germany's post-World War II reconciliation with its neighbors was based on mutual forgiveness and acknowledgment of past wrongs. Similarly, efforts to forgive past atrocities in Northern Ireland have been essential to maintaining peace, breaking the cycle of revenge and violence.

Forgiveness can empower individuals affected by conflict to reclaim their lives. In Colombia's civil conflict, victims of violence have found inner strength and solace through forgiveness initiatives.

Forgiveness promotes inclusiveness and unity in diverse societies. Post-apartheid South Africa's policies of inclusiveness were deeply influenced by Mandela's policy of forgiveness, fostering open dialogue and

understanding.

Ongoing dialogues between conflicting parties in the Middle East are supported by principles of forgiveness and mutual respect. Mandela's concept of forgiveness can bolster international peace efforts, as UN peacekeeping missions often incorporate strategies of reconciliation and forgiveness to bring stability to post-conflict areas.

Mandela's legacy inspires us, reminding us that the path to true peace lies in the courage to forgive and move forward together. Someone once said that forgiveness means letting go of the idea that your past could have been different. When we forgive, we release the burden of hurt and resentment that can overwhelm us and prevent us from living a full and joyful life. Real forgiveness is challenging and reflective work, practiced one day at a time, one experience at a time. It is a path to healing and peace that begins and ends with compassion for ourselves and our feelings. Perhaps instead of "forgive and forget," our new saying should be "forgive and live."



Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, All India Radio and TV panelist.

Let's celebrate play - play is learning!

Jaadui Pitara, launched in 2023, transforms early education in India by integrating joyful, play-based learning materials, fostering holistic development and curiosity among young children.



Sanjay Kumar

Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Govt of India.



Jaadui Pitara: Transforming early childhood education through play-based learning



Shankar Maruwada

CEO and Co-Founder EkStep Foundation, Bengaluru

It was the launch of Jaadui Pitara (Magic Box) on 20 Feb 2023 by the Hon. Minister of Education, with some children invited on stage to unveil the box. As the children opened the Jaadui Pitara, the teaching-learning material for the foundational stage, they ruffled through the books and flashcards ceremonially. But when their eyes spotted the toys lying underneath, their eyes lit up as they thronged around it like children around a birthday cake. They picked up their favourite toy from the box - a doll, puppet, tambourine - beaming from ear to ear and engrossed in their world, with the stage and ceremony fading into the background. It elicited wonder, curiosity, and joy. The distinguished audience of over five hundred administrators, academicians, and teachers, remembering their childhood, broke into spontaneous applause and beaming smiles.

Bright eyes, laughter, giggles, chatter, pitter-patter of tiny feet, and an occasional wail make their way to classrooms across India at the start of the new school year in July 2024-25. Let us celebrate the new learning year by making it welcoming, joyful, and playful for every child. Play is natural for children and a powerful tool for holistic development (physical, socio-emotional, language, cognitive, and cultural). It

allows children to be curious, explore, and experiment in a safe, fun, and non-judgmental space.

Recently, India and the world marked the UN declared June 11th as International Day of Play, recognising the importance of play especially for children to thrive to their full potential. India has also stressed on play and has been a pioneer of sorts in institutionalising it.

The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for the Foundational Stage (NCF-FS), 2022 for the first time envisaged and crafted a curriculum framework for the foundational stage (covering ages 3-8). The core transformative aspect

of NCF-FS is "Learn through play," giving legitimacy to what is known instinctively: when children play, they learn. Learning is not only when a child is writing. It's imperative not to force a particular style of learning for there are as many pathways to learning as there are a number of learners. Play includes conversations, storytelling, toys, songs and rhymes, music and movement, arts and crafts, and indoor and outdoor games. This interaction creates an indelible bond amongst students, teachers, parents and community.

Historically, play as part of caregiving dates back to the Indus Valley civilisation. The civilisational lineage is visible in the rich and diverse reper-

toire of lullabies, children's stories, games, toys, rhymes and riddles.

A symbol of the transformative nature of NCF-FS is NCERT's Jaadui Pitara, released in February 2023. Jaadui Pitara exemplifies content needed in any school for the foundational stage. It is diverse and demonstrates the sensibilities (age-appropriate, sensory experience and local) to be kept in mind while developing such content. The Pitara has toys, games, puzzles, puppets, posters, flashcards, storybooks, playbooks and teacher handbooks. Each toy and play is mapped to a definite learning outcome. Stakeholders across the country have appreciated the transformative teaching-learning

materials exemplified in the Jaadui Pitara. Efforts are ongoing by the states to customise the box's contents for their local context and milieu.

Several studies on child development and the brain too indicate that play is essential for:

A. Brain development, especially stimulation of the prefrontal cortex, responsible for attention, problem-solving and regulating social behaviour.

B. Neuroplasticity or ability to form new neural connections, fundamental for learning and adapting throughout life.

C. Intuitive knowledge, essential for problem solving and decision making in complex and uncertain conditions.

Play as a fundamental aspect of parenting in building the foundation for children's growth and development, from infancy, is underscored by international agencies like UNICEF.

During play, children are continuously making choices. They are full of wonder and joy. Play fosters among children: holistic development, creativity, and resilience. For adults, play enhances mental health, cognition and creativity. When parents and caregivers engage children in play, they celebrate play. Let's celebrate play and help children learn and develop, Bachpan Manao, Badhte Jao.

YOUR LETTERS

Jammu tensions escalate

The recent killing of Indian soldiers in Doda highlights the ongoing insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir. Unilateral political actions, including the abrogation of Article 370, have exacerbated the situation, spreading unrest to Jammu. Enhanced powers for the J&K Lieutenant Governor haven't mitigated the issue. Unfortunately, Prime Minister Narendra Modi appears inattentive to the increasing terror attacks in Jammu and the suffering in strife-torn Manipur. Without comprehensive measures, tensions in the region are likely to persist.

Rakesh Gupta, Korba

Assam's child marriage decline

Assam's 81 percent decline in child marriages is commendable, thanks to biannual crackdowns and targeted measures. These efforts align with the state's goal to eradicate child marriage by 2026. However, repealing the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Act, 1935, raises concerns, as many follow the 1937 Shariat Act. While protecting minor girls is crucial, the move risks alienating one community. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma should focus on educational programs to ensure lasting change.

Rajkumar Kailasam, Kannur

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



Govt taking steps to reduce pending litigations.
Nirmala Sitharaman.
Union Finance Minister.

FM Nirmala with budget team giving final touches



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with MoS Pankaj Chaudhary and Budget team during giving final touches to the Union Budget, in New Delhi.

Trade deficit expected to decline further: Eco Survey

Changes in trade policies by major trading partners or geopolitical developments can affect India's export opportunities and market access.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Boost in domestic manufacturing due to PLI (production linked incentive) schemes and increase in exports on account of free trade agreements are expected to bridge the country's trade deficit further, Economic Survey said on Monday. However, it said that fluctuations in commodity prices, especially for critical imports

like oil, metals, and agricultural products, can impact India's trade balance and inflation levels. The Survey said that though ongoing geopolitical headwinds impacted India's merchandise exports, lowering international commodity prices ensured a lower trade deficit in FY24 than in FY23. The country's merchandise trade deficit narrowed to USD 240 billion in 2023-24 from USD

NUMBER

240

• Trade deficit is expected to decline further as the PLI scheme is expanded.

• Country's merchandise trade deficit narrowed to USD 240 billion in 2023-24

265 billion in 2022-23.

It added that changes in trade policies by major trading partners or geopolitical developments can affect India's export opportunities and market access.

"In the coming years, India's trade deficit is expected to decline further as the PLI scheme is expanded and India creates a globally competitive manufacturing base in several product

categories," the Survey said. It added that the recently signed FTAs (free trade agreements) are expected to increase the global market share of the country's exports. The PLI scheme for sectors like mobile manufacturing, information technology (IT) hardware, pharmaceutical, telecommunications, and food product are helping to increase manufacturing and cut imports.

| REDRESSAL MECHANISMS |

Air India's Airbus A350 set to fly to US from Nov

MUMBAI: Air India on Monday said its flagship wide-body aircraft Airbus A350 will start operating on ultra-long haul routes from the winter schedule this year, starting with Delhi-New York JFK flight from November 1. From January 2, 2025, the airline's Delhi-Newark flights will also be operated by Airbus A350-900, Air India said. The Tata Group airline has six A350 in its fleet while 34 more are on order. Air India said it will also offer premium economy class, along with business and economy classes, on these flights. These routes are currently being operated by Boeing 777-300ER planes.

"This (the introduction of Airbus A350) is a significant leap forward for our US operations that also underscores our commitment to continuous improvement," said Campbell Wilson, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director at Air India.

Rao flags risks of relying on single vendor for services

Press Trust Of India

Lending service providers do not have customer redressal mechanisms.

MUMBAI: Days after the Microsoft outage, Reserve Bank Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao on Monday flagged risks arising out of regulated entities' reliance on a single vendor. Addressing an event organized by domestic rating agency CareEdge here, Rao also said that an RBI survey has found that many of the lending service providers engaged by regulated entities do not have customer redressal mechanisms. Rao said it is important for the regulated entities to look at their third-party engagements more diligently, and referred to the Microsoft outage spe-



Reserve Bank Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao.

FACTFILE

• The IT outage highlighted dependence on software from a handful of providers.

cifically as being illustrative of the risks involved. While speaking about third-party help in cybersecurity, Rao made the point on dependency on single vendors. "Depen-

cy on third parties can also create vendor lock-in situations, where regulated entities become reliant on a single vendor for critical services. This lack of vendor diversification can increase dependency risks and limit the flexibility of entities to adapt to changing market conditions or technological advancements," he said. A Microsoft outage grounded flights, knocked banks and hospital systems offline and media outlets off air on Friday last week in a massive disruption that affected companies and services around the world. The IT outage highlighted dependence on software from a handful of providers. The Indian financial services space was largely unaffected by the Microsoft outage, and RBI had said only 10 lenders experienced difficulties with its systems while a slew of major ones and the payment systems had their operations running. Rao said regulated entities are increasingly relying on third-party agencies and outsourcing of their operations to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve customer experience and referred to the RBI experience in case of digital lending operations, where the lenders depend on LSPs.



Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran said that households are investing more in financial assets and their market value are not captured in the national income data. The Economic Survey 2023-24, tabled in Parliament, said that registered investor base at NSE has nearly tripled from

March 2020 to March 2024 to 9.2 crore as of March 31, 2024, potentially translating into 20 per cent of the Indian households now channelling their household savings into financial markets. Addressing reporters, Nageswaran said, "households are not in distress" and they are investing in financial assets which have done very well. Also, savings in physical assets have improved and gone up

into stock market through SIPs and mutual funds has been quite prolifically documented. Our national income data do not record this at market prices and that is the reason why there is a feeling financial liabilities have grown faster than financial assets of households," Nageswaran said. Asserting that households are doing quite well, Nageswaran said the default statistics of

small-ticket loans also do not flag any signs of distress in the household sector. As per the National Account Statistics 2024 data released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) in May, the net household savings declined sharply to Rs 14.16 lakh crore in three years to 2022-23, from Rs 17.12 lakh crore in FY22, and Rs 23.29 lakh crore in FY21.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Q1 RESULTS

UCO Bank Q1 net profit jumps 147 per cent to Rs 551 crore

KOLKATA: State-owned UCO Bank on Monday reported a 147 per cent year-on-year jump in net profit to Rs 551 crore in the April-June quarter.

The lender's bottomline in the corresponding period a year ago stood at Rs 223 crore. Operating profit in the reporting quarter was Rs 1,321 crore, registering a growth of 9.81 per cent over the year-earlier period. The Kolkata-based bank's total business grew 11.46 per cent on-year to Rs 4,61,408 crore, while gross advances increased 17.64 per cent to Rs 1,93,253 crore, it said in a statement. Total deposits rose 7.39 per cent year-on-year to Rs 2,68,155 crore in the three months ended June. Advances in retail, agriculture and MSME (RAM) sectors were up 18.65 per cent at Rs 1,01,986 crore, it said. The bank also managed to reduce its Gross NPA in April-June by 116 basis points to 3.32 per cent, while net NPA declined by 40 basis points to 0.78 per cent.

INDICATORS

Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	80,502.08	-0.13
Nifty	24,509.25	-0.09
Nifty, MidCap	56,624.65	+1.28
Nifty SmallCap	18,563.05	+0.90
Nifty Bank	52,280.40	+0.03

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

Forex RATES

Foreign currency Vs Rupee

US Dollar	83.67 (-)
Euro	91.00 (-)
Chinese Yuan	11.50 (-)
UAE Dirham	22.78 (-)
Pakistan Rupee	0.29 (-)
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.27 (+)

World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	40,298.18	+0.03%
FTSE 100 Index	8,200.44	+0.55%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)	39,599.00	-1.16%
CSI 300 (CHN)300:	3,514.92	-0.68%

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

How the market behave today?

Stock markets close lower on muted earnings, caution ahead of Union budget



MUMBAI: Stock markets closed lower on Monday with benchmark Sensex dropping 102 points due to selling in index heavyweight Reliance Industries and Kotak Bank on muted earnings and caution ahead of the Union Budget. Falling for the second day in a row, the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped by 102.57 points or 0.13 per cent to settle at 80,502.08. The barometer fell by 504 points or 0.62 per cent to hit an intra-day low of 80,100.65 but recovered most of the losses as Infosys and HDFC Bank advanced. The broader Nifty of the NSE dipped 21.65 points or 0.09 per cent to 24,509.25. During the day, it dropped 168.6 points or 0.68 per cent to 24,362.30. Among Sensex shares, Reliance Industries

declined over 3 per cent after the company reported a 5 per cent drop in its June quarter net profit. Kotak Mahindra Bank also fell more than 3 per cent after its June quarter earnings failed to cheer investors.

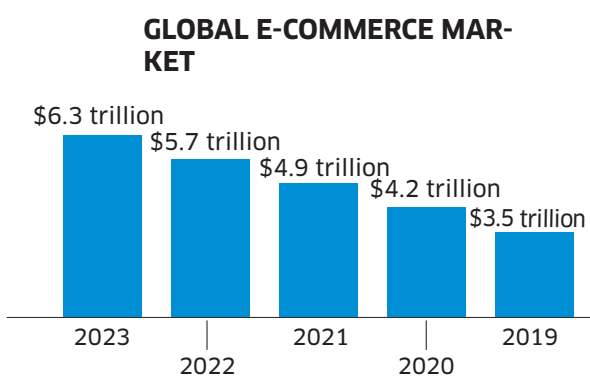
ITC, State Bank of India, HCL Technologies and IndusInd Bank were the other big laggards in Sensex shares. However, gains in HDFC Bank after its financial results, and continued buoyancy in Infosys Ltd restricted the losses.

Major Gainers: HDFC Bank, NTPC, UltraTech Cement, and Mahindra & Mahindra.

Major Losers: Reliance, ITC, State Bank of India, HCL Technologies and IndusInd Bank.

The Day's NUMBERS

Year-wise performance



Source: eMarketer

SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE

JSW MG Motor India's ZS EV records 95% Q-on-Q growth

CHENNAI: Mumbai: JSW MG Motor India has achieved a significant milestone in its NEV (New Energy Vehicle) journey through its ZS EV, India's first Pure-Electric Internet SUV, recording its highest monthly sales. Sales of the ZS EV increased by 95% in Q2 '2024 compared to Q1 '2024, demonstrating its growing appeal among EV buyers in India. Notably, electric vehicles accounted for 40% of the company's total sales in June, highlighting the rising demand for MG EVs and greater customer acceptance and satisfaction and a shift towards ZS EV. JSW MG Motor India's June NEV sales increased by 21% year-on-year, further solidifying its strategy for this category. The manufacturer's overall NEV segment exhibited a 39% growth in Q2 2024 compared to Q1 2024, pointing to an accelerating adoption of its electric vehicles. The company remains committed to investing in advanced technology and NEV infrastructure to support a greener future.

BULLION MARKET

Gold rises Rs 100 due to increased buying by jewellers



NEW DELHI: Gold prices rose by Rs 100 to Rs 75,650 per 10 grams in the national capital on Monday due to increased buying by jewellers and a firm trend in the overseas markets. However, silver prices plunged by Rs 600 to Rs 91,000 per kg. In the previous session, it had settled at Rs 91,600 per kg, as per the All India Sarafa Association. On Saturday, the precious metal rates had closed at Rs 75,550 per 10 grams. Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per cent purity also rose by Rs 100 to Rs 75,300 per 10 grams. It had ended at Rs 75,200 per 10 grams in the previous session.

| ECONOMIC SURVEY |

Households are investing more in financial assets: CEA

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran on Monday said that households are investing more in financial assets and their market value are not captured in the national income data. The Economic Survey 2023-24, tabled in Parliament, said that registered investor base at NSE has nearly tripled from

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"I come from Dehradun, with no connection to the industry. I am not even signed by an agency and function completely solo. I can't be going into the complaining mode or else I would be stuck there."

Raghav Juyal
Actor



& Glitters

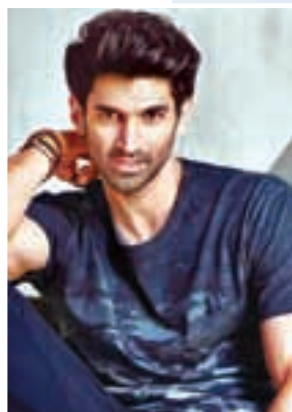
CLOSE UP

Aditya Roy Kapur from sports enthusiast to cinema's rising star

"I was always into sports, and then somehow films happened naturally. Then after, it was a process of me falling in love with it, and that is the best way to describe it."

Central Chronicle News

Aditya Roy Kapur is the heartthrob who always remains in headline. Recently, the actor shared how he was not into films. Aditya will soon be seen in Metro In Dino.



During the initial years of his career, Aditya played minor roles in films.

Aditya Roy Kapur, known for his upcoming role in 'Metro... In Dino' alongside Sara Ali Khan, recently opened up about his unconventional journey into films. In a candid interview with HELLO! Indo-Arabia, the actor disclosed that unlike his family immersed in theatre and dance, he was initially drawn to sports rather than cinema. Growing up in South Bombay, he found himself more involved in athletic pursuits than aspiring to be on screen. Reflecting on his unexpected path into acting, Aditya shared how he gradually fell in love with the craft, describing it as a natural progression. Expressing admiration for Hollywood, Aditya revealed a desire to collaborate with legendary filmmaker Martin Scorsese, emphasizing his eagerness to contribute in any capacity, even as an extra.



Aditya Roy Kapur's work front

Aditya Roy Kapur has wrapped shooting for 'Metro... In Dino,' as confirmed by India Today. Together with Sara Ali Khan, he captured romantic scenes at Delhi's iconic landmarks such as Connaught Place, HauzKhas, Mandi House, and even the Gurugram metro, detailed by Hindustan Times. Directed by Anurag Basu, the film features an impressive

ensemble cast including Pankaj Tripathi, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Neena Gupta, AnupamKher, Ali Fazal, and Konkona Sen Sharma. Originally slated for release on September 13, 2024, the premiere date was later shifted to November 29, 2024. During their Delhi stint, the actors immersed themselves in the city's bustling atmosphere, adding authenticity to this eagerly anticipated cinematic venture.

| HOLLYWOOD |

Halle Berry breaks silence on 'Catwoman' backlash

Central Chronicle News

Halle Berry recently opened up to Entertainment Weekly on the 20th anniversary of "Catwoman," revealing her enduring frustration with the film's legacy and the criticism directed squarely at her. The 2004 movie, directed by Pitof, was a departure from traditional superhero narratives, casting Berry as Patience Phillips, who transforms into the titular feline-inspired vigilante. Berry acknowledged feeling burdened by the negative reception and the perception that the film's failure was solely hers to bear. Despite her Academy Award-winning status, she

received a Razzie Award for her role, a stark contrast to her esteemed career. "I felt like it was Halle Berry's failure, but I didn't make it alone," she lamented. The backlash was compounded by early

HIGHLIGHT

● Film received overwhelmingly negative reviews from critics and fans and is often cited as one of the worst comic book films ever made.

leaks of her costume, a departure from the classic catsuit worn by previous iterations of Catwoman. The new design, which featured a more revealing



Halle Berry says she's 'carried the weight' of Catwoman failure 'for all these years'

and contemporary aesthetic, drew significant criticism from fans and critics alike.

Despite the challenges, Berry defended the creative decisions behind the film, including the bold costume choice, arguing for innovation in character portrayal. She expressed disappointment with how the backlash overshadowed the efforts of the entire team involved in the project. Looking back, Berry remains resilient, acknowledging the film as a part of her journey filled with both successes and failures.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

'HBO Max teases Tabu's Sister Francesca in 'Dune: Prophecy'

HBO Max's "Dune: Prophecy" second teaser unveils Tabu as Sister Francesca, a captivating addition to the prequel series. Renowned for her roles in "The Namesake" and "Life of Pi", Tabu's brief but impactful appearance hints at a character described as strong, intelligent, and alluring. Set millennia before the events of "Dune", the series explores the origins of the powerful Bene Gesserit sect. Premiering this November, it promises a saga of political intrigue and power dynamics within the Emperor's realm.

Music

Cardi B claps back at Joe Budden over album delay criticism



Cardi B fiercely responded to Joe Budden's criticisms of her delayed sophomore album during a Twitter Spaces session. Accusing Budden of consistent negativity towards her, Cardi didn't hold back, alleging his past drug use and dismissing his comparisons of her to other female artists as baseless. She asserted her album's progress and criticized Budden for anticipating its release solely for criticism. Budden later denied her accusations and vowed to cease coverage of Cardi. Despite the controversy, fans await Cardi B's next album eagerly, following her Grammy-winning debut 'Invasion of Privacy' in 2018.



Fashion

Ranveer Singh dazzles in Versace: A masterclass in high fashion

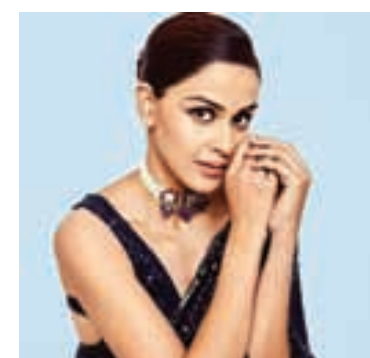
Ranveer Singh stunned in a head-to-toe Versace ensemble, showcasing his affinity for high fashion. His outfit featured a silk twill shirt adorned with Versace's iconic La Coupe des Deux print, exuding opulence with its intricate design. Singh styled the shirt casually, leaving it partially unbuttoned to reveal his physique, reminiscent of his daring on-screen persona. Complementing the look were sleek black silk pants, enhancing the ensemble's sophistication. Accessories included Versace shades, loafers, and a stand-out Rs 83,395 Medusa Biggie necklace, adding a touch of extravagance.

Trending on Insta

@geneliad

Genelia Deshmukh's sheartwarming tattoo tribute

GeneliaDeshmukh expressed her love for husband Riteish and sons Riaan, Rahyl with henna tattoos on Instagram. The tattoo features 'R's and a heartbeat line, symbolizing their strong familial bond and affection.



O.T.T Watch



Krushna teases ShilpaShinde on 'Laughter Chefs'

Krushna Abhishek humorously teased ShilpaShinde's cooking skills on Laughter Chefs, playfully referencing her iconic 'Bhabiji' dialogue. Shilpa laughed along with everyone as her imarti-making attempt became a light-hearted highlight.



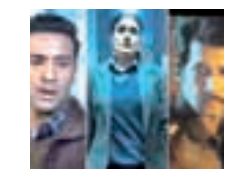
'Life Hill Gayi' premieres on Disney+ Hotstar

'Life Hill Gayi' starring Divyendu and KushaKapila premieres August 9 on Disney+ Hotstar. The comedy series follows siblings vying for family inheritance, blending humor and heart in a quaint Uttarakhand town.



'Bhaiyya Ji' O.T.T release date revealed

ZEE5 announces Bhaiyya Ji's digital release on July 26. A dynamic trailer on Instagram introduces Manoj Bajpayee's character, promising action-packed drama for both new viewers and those revisiting the theatrical experience.



Gyaarah Gyaarah coming soon on ZEE5

'GyaarahGyaarah' sets August 9 release on ZEE5. The series, featuring KritikaKamra and DhairyaKarwa, connects two police officers across timelines via a mysterious walkie-talkie, promising suspense and thrills.



Chad Michael Murray returns for Freaky Friday sequel

Chad Michael Murray returns as Jake in Freaky Friday sequel alongside Lindsay Lohan and Jamie Lee Curtis, confirmed by Disney. The film is set to hit theaters in 2025, sparking excitement among fans.

"Food is a pretty good prism through which to view humanity."

Jonathan Gold
American food critic



Excursion

CELEB TALK

Crafting the Ideal On-the-Go Snack: A Comprehensive Guide

When travelling to places, it's always a good idea to have some snacks on the go so that you feel satiated and also enjoy their deliciousness.



When embarking on a journey, having the right snacks on hand can make a world of difference in ensuring you stay nourished and satisfied throughout your travels. Opt for snacks that are convenient, portable, and provide a balanced mix of nutrients to keep you energized. Trail mix is an excellent choice, combining nuts, dried fruits, and seeds for a boost of protein, healthy fats, and essential vitamins. It's easy to pack and doesn't require refrig-



eration, making it perfect for long flights or road trips. Fresh fruits like apples, oranges, and bananas are another smart option. They are naturally hydrating, packed with vitamins, and come in their own convenient, travel-ready packaging. For a more substantial snack, consider packing protein bars or granola bars. These provide a quick source of protein and fibre, helping to keep hunger at bay and offering a satisfying treat when you need it most. Vegetable sticks paired with hummus offer a refreshing and nutrient-rich alterna-

HIGHLIGHT

• Even the thrill of travel cannot keep those hunger pangs at bay. So here are some travel food suggestions from us. Also, remember to pack plenty of water or hydrating drinks to enjoy with your snacks.

tive. They provide essential vitamins and minerals while the hummus adds protein and flavour.

This combination is ideal for maintaining energy levels and staving off cravings

during extended travel times.

By packing a variety of these snacks, you can ensure you're prepared for any travel situation. Whether you're on a plane, train, or in a car, having nutritious options on hand will help you stay focused, energized, and ready to enjoy your journey without the worry of finding suitable food along the way. Planning ahead with these essential snacks ensures you can make the most of your travel experience, wherever your adventures take you.



Whole grains and nuts are a must-have for healthy snacks.

| WILDLIFE ADVENTURE |

Unwind and recharge: Top monsoon staycation destinations in India

Central Chronicle News

The monsoon season breathes new life into landscapes, transforming them into lush, green havens perfect for an immersive staycation. According to lifestyle and travel creator Sourabh, five exceptional resorts offer unparalleled experiences during this enchanting season. In Darjeeling, the Mayfair Darjeeling stands out with its stunning views of mist-covered mountains and tea gardens. The monsoon casts a magical spell on Darjeeling, enveloping it in foggy mornings and vibrant greenery. Visitors can explore iconic sites like Tiger Hill and Batasia Loop, and savor gourmet dishes with panoramic views at Magnolia Restaurant, making each meal a delightful experience. Just a short drive from Mumbai, Outpost Alibaug is a coastal gem that perfectly blends relaxation with



Discover monsoon magic at these top staycation resorts, from misty hills to serene coastlines.

HIGHLIGHT

• Each of these resorts offers a unique experience during the monsoon, from the misty hills of Darjeeling to the lush greenery of Goa.



adventure. The monsoon enhances Alibaug's pristine beaches and historic forts, and the resort's charming cottages and lush gardens offer a cozy retreat. Enjoy the rhythmic rain while savoring Italian delicacies at Terra by Sorrentina, where the ambiance complements the exquisite flavors.

In Gujarat, Dwarka offers more than spiritual solace. The Fern Sattva Resort's eco-friendly design and tranquil ambiance are highlighted by the monsoon's transformation of the coastal landscape into a verdant paradise. Explore ancient temples and enjoy the serene beauty of the Arabian Sea's waves, adding a refreshing charm to this historic city. Kolkata, the cultural capital, bursts with life during the monsoon. The Hyatt Regency Kolkata blends luxurious comfort with exploration of the city's rich history, colonial architecture, and vibrant arts scene.

WindowView

CHANDIGARH: A WALK THROUGH URBAN PLANNING HISTORY



Unraveling the Rock Garden's wonders

Chandigarh's Rock Garden is a surreal masterpiece spread across 40 acres, envisioned and crafted by Nek Chand using industrial and home waste materials. This labyrinthine landscape features intricate sculptures, meandering pathways, and cascading waterfalls—all ingeniously sculpted from recycled

materials. It's a testament to Chandigarh's artistic spirit and environmental consciousness, attracting visitors to marvel at its ingenuity and creativity. The Rock Garden offers a unique blend of art and sustainability, making it a favourite among tourists and locals alike who seek inspiration and tranquillity amidst its whimsical sculptures and lush greenery.



Sukhna Lake

Chandigarh's oasis

Sukhna Lake, nestled at the foothills of the Shivalik range, is a serene man-made reservoir perfect for relaxation and recreation. This hidden gem offers stunning views, boating opportunities, and a peaceful

atmosphere. Visitors can enjoy a leisurely walk along the promenade, indulge in bird watching, or simply sit by the water and soak in the natural beauty. Sukhna Lake is a haven for those seeking a quiet retreat from the city's hustle and bustle. Its sunrise and sunset views are particularly breathtaking.



Discover floral bliss at Zakir Hussain Garden

The Zakir Hussain Rose Garden, Asia's largest rose garden, is a vibrant hidden gem in Chandigarh.

Spanning over 30 acres, it boasts more than 1,600 varieties of roses and other plants. Visitors can wander through the beautifully landscaped garden, enjoying the fragrant blooms and colorful displays. The garden is not only a visual treat but also a perfect spot for picnics, photography, and nature walks, making it a beloved destination for locals and tourists alike. Seasonal flower shows enhance its allure.



Unraveling the genius

Le Corbusier Centre

The Le Corbusier Centre is a must-visit for architecture enthusiasts, preserving the legacy of the city's designer, Le Corbusier. This hidden gem houses an impressive collection of his sketches, models, and photographs,

offering insights into his visionary work. Visitors can explore the exhibits, learn about Chandigarh's unique urban planning, and appreciate the genius behind its modernist architecture. The centre is a fascinating dive into the city's architectural heritage, providing a deep understanding of its design philosophy.



Tiny Treasures

The International Dolls Museum

The International Dolls Museum is a delightful hidden gem that showcases a vast collection of dolls from around the world. Established to promote cultural understanding, the museum features

dolls dressed in traditional attire, each representing different countries and regions. Visitors can marvel at the detailed craftsmanship and learn about various cultures through these miniature ambassadors. The museum offers a whimsical and educational experience, perfect for families and doll enthusiasts. Interactive exhibits and workshops make it even more engaging.

Sports



I just told Richa to keep watching the ball and see how wicket is playing. She batted beautifully.

Harmanpreet Kaur
India Captain

Dominant India face Nepal, eye semifinal berth



Indian cricket team members during a practice session ahead of their crucial Women's T20 Asia Cup match against Nepal. | Photo: PTI

Buoyant India aims to extend their winning streak and secure a semifinal berth in their final Group A Women's T20 Asia Cup match against Nepal on Tuesday.

Press Trust Of India

DAMBULLA: Buoyant India will look to extend their winning run and seal a semifinal berth when they face Nepal in their final Group A Women's T20 Asia Cup match here on Tuesday.

India registered convincing wins in their first two matches of the continental tournament, beating traditional rivals Pakistan and United Arab Emirates by seven wickets and 78 runs respectively to put one foot in

the semifinals.

Minnos Nepal hardly have any time to recover from the thrashing they received at the hands of Pakistan in their previous outing on Sunday, the same day when the tournament's overwhelming favourites and defending champions India bulldozed the hapless Emirates side.

While India are primed to enter the last-four, Pakistan improved their net run rate with the comfortable win over Nepal lifting them to the

HIGHLIGHT

● India's dominant performances: beating Pakistan and UAE convincingly.

● Nepal's challenge after their historic win over UAE.

second spot in Group A.

India will, however, not be bothered by how the other teams are doing and will look to sustain their net run rate with the momentum they have gained with two convincing victories heading into

the semifinals.

India have flexed their muscles in both batting and bowling so far in the tournament, and are likely to continue in the same vein come Tuesday.

If the swashbuckling opening duo of Smriti Mandhana and Shafali Verma fired with the bat in the victory over Pakistan, after the bowlers' excellent display, skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh led the show in the middle-order in the hammering of the UAE.

The big-hitting

Ghosh, especially, was in destructive mood as she carted 64 in just 29 balls while Kaur compiled 66 in 47 deliveries.

While Kaur played the anchor's role to perfection, it was Ghosh's blazing knock which helped India score their first-ever 200-plus total in T20Is.

As far as the Indian bowling is concerned, the likes of Renuka Singh, Pooja Vastrakar and Deepti Sharma have been doing a wonderful job of both containing runs and taking wickets.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

PGA TOUR

Nick Dunlap makes PGA Tour history with amateur and pro wins in 2024

TRUCKEE: Nick Dunlap became the first player in PGA Tour history to win as an amateur and a professional in the same year, rallying for a two-point victory in the Barracuda Championship. In January at The American Express in La Quinta, the 20-year-old Dunlap – then a sophomore at the University of Alabama – became the eighth amateur to win a tour event and the first in 33 years. He turned professional days later. "I never thought that I would have my name next to that, but it's definitely an honour," Dunlap said about the amateur-pro double. "It's been a little tough after AmEx. You kind of lose a little bit of confidence and wonder if you can do it again." On Sunday at Tahoe Mountain Club in the only PGA Tour event that uses the modified Stableford scoring system, Dunlap took the lead with a 55-foot eagle putt on the par-5 15th. **PTI**

ASIA CUP

Feroza's fifty powers Pak to 9-wicket win over Nepal in women's Asia Cup



DAMBULLA: Gull Feroza's belligerent fifty helped Pakistan beat Nepal by nine wickets here on Sunday and stay in contention for a semifinal berth in the women's Asia Cup. Feroza (57, 35b, 10x4) was helped copiously by her partner Muneeba Ali (46 not out, 34b, 8x4) as Pakistan raced past the target of 109 in just 11.5 overs. They added 105 runs for the opening wicket. Now, the Nida Dar-led side has two points from as many Group A matches, and the win also has boosted their net run rate to +0.40. **PTI**

Schauffele's Majestic Triumph

Xander the Great! Schauffele wins the British Open for his 2nd major this year



TROON: Xander Schauffele went from the most nerve-wracking putt of his career to the coolest walk toward an 18th green he ever imagined.

He won a nail-biter at the PGA Championship in May. He delivered a masterpiece Sunday in the British Open. Two different finishes, two different feelings. One more conclusion. Schauffele has more than enough game and all the confidence in the world to win the biggest championships. Questioned at the start of the season whether he could win a major, he now has two of them.

Schauffele closed with a 6-under 65 with a final round that

ranks among the most memorable in British Open history, particularly the 31 on the back nine. It matched the best score of the week at Royal Troon with nothing less than the claret jug riding on the outcome.

He played bogey-free in a daunting wind and turned a two-shot deficit into a two-shot victory for his second major of the year.

It also gave the Americans a sweep of the four majors for the first time since 1982. "It's a dream come true to win two majors in one year," he said. "It took me forever just to win one, and to have two now is something else." **PTI**

India falls in squash quarters

NEW DELHI: India's boys and girls lost narrowly in the quarterfinals of the World Junior Squash Championships. Team competition in Houston – the sixth-seeded boys going down 1-2 to fourth seed South Korea and the girls losing by an identical margin to third seed Malaysia. Yuvraj Wadhvani got India boys off to a winning start with a 3-2 victory over Seojin Oh on Sunday. However, Shaurya Bawa, who last week won an individual bronze, went down to silver medalist Joo Young Na in four close games. In the deciding tie, Kun Kim proved too strong for Arianth KS. In the girls' clash, Anahat Singh won a hard-fought match 3-2 against Thanusaa Uthriar after Shameena Riaz lost to Whitney Wilson. In the deciding tie, Nirupama Dubey rallied strongly before losing a five-gamer to Doyce Ye San Lee.

Press Trust Of India

Tadej Pogacar wins Tour de France, securing his third title with a dominant performance.

PARIS: Tadej Pogacar had no need to attack on the final stage of the Tour de France. Defending a lead of more than five minutes in Sunday's time trial, he was set to comfortably win the race for the third time and first time in three years, anyway.

But defense has not been in his vocabulary during this race and he simply could not resist another attack.

With his main rival Jonas Vingegaard unable to challenge

TOUR DE FRANCE

Tadej Pogacar wins 3rd Tour de France in grand style



Tour de France winner Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar celebrates as he crosses the finish line. | Photo: PTI

FACTFILE

● Pogacar clinches Tour de France and Giro d'Italia in same year, defeating rival Jonas Vingegaard.

The 25-year-old Slovenian rider also became the first cyclist to secure the Giro d'Italia and Tour de France in the same year since the late Marco Pantani in 1998.

"To win both together is another level above," said Pogacar, who rides for UAE Team Emirates.

"I think this is the first Grand Tour where I was totally confident every day. Even at the Giro I remember I had one bad day. This year, the Tour was just amazing. I was enjoying it from day one."

The two-time defending champion Vingegaard of Denmark was second overall. He also finished the 21st and final stage in second place.

him, Pogacar celebrated his Tour victory in style with a dominant win in the time trial ending in Nice for the 17th stage win of his already illustrious Tour career.

CONVINCING VICTORY

England clinches series with dominant win

Press Trust Of India

NOTTINGHAM: England secured a dominant 241-run victory over West Indies in the second Test at Trent Bridge, clinching the series with a 2-0 lead. Joe Root (122) and Harry Brook (109) laid the foundation with impressive centuries, taking England's second-innings total to 425. Chasing 385,

I think what Bash has done today is to show the world what he can do

Ben Stokes
England Captain

West Indies collapsed from 61-0 to 143 all out, thanks to a stunning per-



formance by rookie spinner Shoaib Bashir, who took 5-41.

Bashir, making his mark in just his second Test, dismantled the West Indies lineup, removing key players including Kirk McKenzie, Kavem Hodge, and Jason Holder. Chris Woakes and Mark Wood also contributed crucial wickets. This vic-

tory marked a significant moment as it was England's first home Test without Stuart Broad or James Anderson since 2012.

Root's century brought him close to Alastair Cook's record, while Brook celebrated his first Test hundred on home soil. The final Test at Edgbaston begins on Friday.

The Day's NUMBERS

MOST MAN OF THE MATCH AWARDS IN T20 INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

Virat Kohli	15
Mohammad Nabi	14
Mohammad Rizwan	13
Shahid Afridi	11
Babar Azam	11

Source: ICC

GYMNASTICS

Cecile and Laurent help Simone Biles reach new heights

TEXAS: Cecile Canquetau-Landi fit "in the box," as she put it. She was skinny. She was blonde. She was pretty good at gymnastics. And so at 9 years old, she was whisked away to become part of the French national team program, a path that ultimately led her to the 1996 Olympics. There was reward in that journey. Yet looking back nearly three decades later, Landi wonders how many promising young athletes had their careers and their lives altered – and not for the better – because they didn't fit someone's preconceived notion of what a gymnast needed to look like by the time they reached their 10th birthday. When Landi transitioned into coaching in the early 2000s, she vowed not to make the same mistake. So maybe it's not a coincidence that when Landi and her husband Laurent – himself a former French national team member – walk onto the floor at Bercy Arena for women's Olympics qualifying next Sunday. **PTI**

F1 RACE

Oscar Piastri clinches first Formula One win in McLaren One-Two finish



BUDAPEST: Oscar Piastri won his first Formula One race after completing a McLaren one-two with Lando Norris at the Hungarian Grand Prix on Sunday. The 23-year-old Australian driver started second behind pole-sitting Norris and beat him to the first turn to take the lead. Norris got ahead after a pit-stop strategy that favoured him, but he finally complied with his team's request to give the lead back to his partner. "This is the day I dreamed of, standing on the top step of an F1 podium," Piastri said. **PTI**

Sports News

Gambhir- Agarkar: No more series cherry-picking

Gautam Gambhir and Ajit Agarkar, the new head coach and chairman of selectors, have unified to end the practice of cherry-picking series. They emphasize consistent participation for all players, setting a new standard for Indian cricket.



Press Trust Of India

Gautam Gambhir and Ajit Agarkar unite to enforce consistent series participation, ending selective play for workload reasons.

NEW DELHI: Gautam Gambhir's plain-speak and Ajit Agarkar's lucidity is set to make for a heady combo as the new head coach and the chairman of selectors looked completely in sync while spelling out, in no uncertain terms, that days of cherry-picking series by citing workload management could be over.

They explained certain tough calls while in

a few things, they were subtle yet said enough to allow people to read between the lines.

Physically, neither Gambhir nor Agarkar have an imposing presence but ask anyone in the periphery of Indian cricket and people will swear by the fact that these are two individuals with sharp and informed takes, which don't change readily.

As they put up a united front in their first joint media interaction, it was clear that they were ready to put their money where their mouths were.

Technically, it might seem that Agarkar enters

his second year of chairmanship but perhaps like Gambhir, this is also a fresh start in which the duo can create a road-map for the 2027 ODI World Cup.

So what was the biggest takeaway from the Gambhir-Agarkar joint press briefing ahead of the tour of Sri Lanka?

Workload management seems to be the biggest one.

The prickly word in Indian cricket will again dominate air space but this time, it is crystal clear that rules will be different for batters and bowlers.

"I've said it before, workload management for someone like (Jasprit) Bumrah is important. If you are a batter who is in good form, might as well play all the games," Gambhir was as straight as ramrod in his reply when asked about his take on the issue.

It was widely believed that both ODI and Test captain Rohit Sharma and team's premier batter Virat Kohli will skip the three games in Sri Lanka but their presence ultimately is an indicator that both the seniors will probably play as many series as possible.

"Now that Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli will play only two formats, I expect them to be available for most games," Gambhir addressed the issue with a lot of clarity.



Indian men's cricket T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav and teammate Rishabh Pant leave for the Sri Lanka tour. Photo: PTI

Jadeja was not dropped

Agarkar admitted the selection committee should have clarified that senior all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, who also retired from T20Is after the World Cup, was not "dropped". "It would have been really pointless to take both him and Akshar for this short series. We know what Jaddu has done. He's had a terrific World Cup (T20). So, no, not at all dropped," he said. "All options are open. But there was (a chance that) either of them would have played all three games if we'd taken both. There's a big test season coming up where he's (Jadeja) likely to feature in a lot of the Tests. I don't think three games would have mattered. "We probably should have clarified that after the selection that he's not getting dropped. He's still within the scheme of things and very important as a player," said the former India pacer.

Chance for Gill to learn from experience

Agarkar said the selectors wanted vice-captain Shubman Gill to learn from the experience as well as from the senior players. "Shubman is a guy that we feel is a three-format player and seems to have shown a lot of quality over the last year or so that we hear from the dressing room," he said. "You try and have somebody who can also learn from a couple of the senior guys that are there. "Surya in this instance or Rohit who's still around so we don't face the same challenges (that) suddenly (you are) trying to look for a captain in case there are injuries or loss of form somewhere," he explained. "He's shown some decent leadership qualities. We want to try and get him the experience that he can put forward," he said.

Pace bowling combination in future

Agarkar admitted that while playing Tests in India the team may not need three seamers but going forward they will be discussing the fast bowling lineup too. "Some of the guys, some of the fast bowlers are at the NCA. We hope that for the next month or so, they'll be back up playing," he said. "I think he has (Mohammed Shami) started to bowl which is a good sign for us. (The) 19th September is the first Test. That was always the goal," he added. "We don't quite know whether that's the timeline at the moment. That I have to speak to the guys at the NCA but that's the aim."

My relationship with Kohli is personal: Gambhir

India's newly-appointed head coach Gautam Gambhir on Monday declared that his much talked about relationship with batting mainstay Virat Kohli "is between the two of us and not for TRPs", asserting that they are going to be "on same page" in the coming times. "Good for the TRP, but my relationship is not public. What kind of a relationship I share with Virat Kohli... I think it's between two mature individuals," Gambhir said. Gambhir was addressing a press conference along with chief selector Ajit Agarkar ahead of India's tour of Sri Lanka where they will play three T20 Internationals and as many ODIs.

| TABLE TENNIS |

I am not going to make mistakes of Tokyo in Paris: Manika Batra

Press Trust Of India

Manika Batra focuses on steady progress and team unity for Paris Olympics

NEW DELHI: Wiser after her maiden Olympics appearance in Tokyo, Indian table tennis star Manika Batra on Monday said she is focused on taking one match at a time in the upcoming Paris Games and a medal will not be in her mind in the initial rounds.

Preparing for the Paris Olympics along with her teammates, Batra said she has learned from her Tokyo Games experience.

"I have learned many things from the last Olympics, and I am not going to make those mistakes



again. My mindset has changed since then, I am calmer and have more confidence in myself," said Batra during an interview with Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT).

"I have been working on my stamina and my agility, and my ultimate aim is to challenge for a

medal.

"But I will go slowly. I will try to be in that zone and give my best. I will go round by round and not think of a medal too early. I will give my best for my country," Batra, who represents PBG Bengaluru Smashers in UTT, added.

ICC forms three-member committee to review conduct of T20 WC

COLOMBO: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Monday formed a three-member committee to "review the delivery" of the T20 World Cup which was co-hosted by the USA and the West Indies last month. The committee features former New Zealand batter Roger Twose and two other ICC directors Lawson Naidoo and Imran Khwaja. "The ICC Board confirmed that there will be a review into the delivery of the ICC T20 World Cup. This will be overseen by three directors, Roger Twose, Lawson Naidoo and Imran Khwaja who will report back to the Board later in the year," an ICC release stated. It is understood that ICC incurred losses in excess of USD 20 million for conducting matches in New York, Florida and Dallas.

NEW DELHI: Celebrated India hockey goalkeeper P R Sreejesh on Monday announced that he will retire after the Paris Olympics, ending an 18-year career filled with historic moments.

"As I prepare for my last dance in Paris, I look back with immense pride and forward with hope," Sreejesh said in a Hockey India press release. "This journey has been nothing short of extraordinary, and I am forever grateful for the love and support from my family, team-

Sreejesh set for one last dance in Paris Olympics

Press Trust Of India

Sreejesh's 18-year career includes three Olympic Games and multiple international medals.

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| HOCKEY |



HIGHLIGHT

● The Indian hockey team aims to win a medal in Paris to honor P R Sreejesh's illustrious legacy.

monwealth Games. "My teammates have stood beside me through tough times. We all want to give our absolute best here in Paris and change the colour of our medal," he added.

Team captain Harmanpreet Singh emphasized, "Paris 2024 will indeed be a special tournament. We have decided to dedicate our campaign to the legend PR Sreejesh. We want to 'Win it for Sreejesh' and stand on the podium once again."

HI President Dilip Tirkey said, "He is a very special player. This outing in Paris will certainly be special for the team and the entire nation. His legacy will inspire future generations of Indian hockey players."

| EMPOWERING THROUGH TRAINING |

In a first, women's hockey team trains at Naval Academy

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Unarmed combat training, endurance runs and boat pulling were some of the elements of a first-ever "transformative training camp" that the national women's hockey team underwent recently at the Indian Naval Academy (INA), aimed at making the side mentally stronger, and more disciplined.

The unique camp was held at the INA

in Kannur, Kerala, from July 15 to 21.

"This transformative camp, conducted in the disciplined environment of the INA, aimed to enhance the team's skills and foster a spirit of unity and resilience," stated a press release from Hockey India.

The camp, it is said, was designed to instill key values such as "team building, mental strengthening, risk capabilities, discipline, self-defence, survival



Under the guidance of exemplary officers, our players have undergone rigorous training that will benefit them not only in hockey but in all aspects of their lives.

Harendra Singh
Chief Coach

techniques, and leadership skills."

Speaking about it, chief coach Harendra Singh said, "The Academy's dedication to mental strengthening and team bonding has transformed these young athletes into more competitive and resilient individuals."

"Under the guidance of exemplary officers, our players have undergone rigorous training that will benefit them not only in hockey but in all aspects of their lives."

Stimac warns new coach Marquez

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Smarting from his unceremonious exit, former Indian football team head coach Igor Stimac on Monday warned his successor Manolo Marquez that the journey ahead "won't be easy" but backed the Spaniard to deliver the goods.

Stimac, who was part of Croatia's run to the semifinals of the 1998 World Cup, was sacked last month after India's failure to qualify for the

third round of the 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers despite getting a relatively easy draw.

"Dear Manolo, Congratulations on being named the new India head coach. The journey won't be easy, but your experience with Indian players speaks for itself and you are best suited to take the Blue Tigers to the next level! Good luck my friend," Stimac tweeted.

The association between Stimac and AIFF ended on a sour note.

World



My aim is to defeat Donald Trump in November.
Kamla Harris
US Vice President



Bangladeshi military forces soldiers on armored vehicle patrol in Dhaka. | Photo: PTI

Man dies after being struck by lightning

BERLIN: A man died after being struck by lightning near the summit of Germany's highest peak. Lightning struck repeatedly as the men descended from the summit and the 18-year-old suffered a fatal electric shock, police said.

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Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

UK MIGRATION

UK to fast-track returns of illegal migrants to safe countries like India

LONDON: The asylum applications of migrants entering the UK illegally from countries on its designated safe states list, including India, will be fast-tracked to deport them back speedily under new Labour government proposals. UK Home Secretary Yvette Cooper has said she has begun the work to move staff from the previous Conservative-led government's now-abolished Rwanda scheme to a new Returns and Enforcement programme.

In place of the policy of trying to fly out illegal migrants to the African country, the Home Office plans to increase the returns to the countries of origin, starting with an increase in raids on businesses employing illegal workers. "We are drawing up new plans for fast-track decisions and returns for safe countries," Cooper wrote in 'The Sun on Sunday'. **PTI**

PRESIDENTIAL RACE

World leaders thank Biden for his 'global leadership' and 'friendship'



WASHINGTON: Describing US President Joe Biden as a "great man" who loved his country, world leaders on Monday thanked him for his bold steps and global leadership during challenging times. Biden on Sunday announced that he is exiting the 2024 presidential race and backed his deputy Kamala Harris to be the Democratic Party's presidential candidate in the November 5 election. **PTI**

FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Elon Musk and Indian American venture capitalist Khosla argue over Trump's candidature for US presidency



NEW YORK: Tech billionaire Elon Musk and Indian-American venture capitalist Vinod Khosla were engaged in a war of words on Monday over Donald Trump's candidature for the US presidency.

Trump, 78, on Thursday night accepted his Republican Party's nomination for a third consecutive presidential bid. On the other hand, incumbent President Joe Biden, 81, on Sunday withdrew from the presidential race, following mounting pressure from Democrats after a faltering debate performance against Republican candidate Trump last month. Biden has endorsed Kamala Harris, the current vice president, to be the new Democratic nominee.

In a post on X, Khosla said that it is hard for him to support some-

one like Trump, a Republican, who has "no values, lies, cheats, rapes, demeans women", and "hates immigrants" like him. "He may cut my taxes or reduce some regulation but that is no reason to accept depravity in his personal values. Do you want President who will set back climate by a decade in his first year? Do you want his example for your kids as values?" he asked.

Replying to his post, Musk said Trump "doesn't hate you. In fact, I think he likes you. Meet him and find out for yourself". The Tesla and SpaceX CEO said he is not suggesting that Trump is without flaws, however, there should be an administration that is more likely to be meritocratic and promote individual freedoms over the heavy hand of government. **PTI**

SENTENCING

UAE sentences Bangladeshi nationals to prison over protests against their home government

DUBAI: A court in the United Arab Emirates sentenced dozens of Bangladeshi nationals to prison, including three for life imprisonment, over protests against their home government in the Gulf country, state media reported Monday. The Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal on Sunday handed 10-year prison sentences to 53 Bangladeshi nationals and an 11-year term to another Bangladeshi national, in addition to the three life imprison-

ments, according to the state-owned Emirates News Agency, WAM. **PTI**

कालड़ा बर्न एवं
प्लास्टिक कॉस्मेटिक सर्जरी सेंटर
PRP तकनीक द्वारा गंजेपन का इलाज
 24 Hours Helpline
9926386660
 कोटा-गुदियारी रोड,
 होटल पिकाडली के पीछे, रायपुर
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 होटल पिकाडली के पीछे, रायपुर
 Aug 30/24/2024

Internet still down in B'desh after deadly protests

There was no immediate violence reported on Monday morning after Supreme Court ordered veterans' quota to be cut to 5%, with 93% of jobs allocated on merit, the day before.

Press Trust Of India

DHAKA: Internet and mobile data services are still down despite apparent calm in Bangladesh following a verdict that scaled back a controversial quota system for government jobs after weeks of relentless protests that turned deadly. The government has also declared Monday a public holiday, with only essential services running. This comes after a curfew

with a shoot-on-sight order was installed days earlier and military personnel could be seen patrolling the capital and other areas. The South Asian country witnessed clashes between the police and mainly student protesters demanding an end to a quota that reserved 30% of government jobs for relatives of veterans who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence in 1971. The violence has killed more than a hundred peo-

HIGHLIGHT

- Students have demanded some university officials to step down after failing to protect campuses.
- Universities have been closed, internet has been shut off and government has ordered people to stay at home.

ple, according to at least four local newspapers.

Authorities have not so far shared official figures for deaths. On Thursday, communications were cut off as tensions escalated. There was no immediate violence reported on Monday morning after the Supreme Court ordered the veterans' quota to be cut to 5%, with 93% of jobs allocated on merit, the day before. The remaining 2% will be set aside for members of ethnic minorities as well as transgender and disabled people.

On Sunday night, some student protesters urged the government to restore internet services. Hasnat Abdullah, a coordinator of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, told the Associated Press that they were withdrawing their calls for a complete shutdown, which they attempted to impose last week. "But we are issuing an ultimatum for 48 hours to stop the digital crack-down and restore internet connectivity," he said.

EVACUATION

Israel orders evacuation of part of area in Gaza Strip

Press Trust Of India

The Israeli military ordered evacuation of part of an area in Gaza Strip it has designated a humanitarian zone, saying it is planning an operation against Hamas militants there.



Palestinians displaced by Israeli offensive flee from Khan Younis following evacuation order.

FASTFACTS

- Many Palestinians have been uprooted multiple times in search of safety during Israeli's air and ground campaign.
- The Israeli military said it is planning to begin an operation against Hamas militants who have embedded themselves in the area.

she clutched her children. "This is our seventh or eighth time we have been displaced. While we were sleeping in our homes, they started shooting at us, bombing from everywhere." Moments later, as she continued on her way, Al Dadas collapsed in exhaustion and people rushed to her aid. The Israeli military said it is planning to begin

an operation against Hamas militants who have embedded themselves in the area and used it to launch rockets toward Israel. The area includes the eastern part of the Muwasi humanitarian zone, which is located in the southern Gaza Strip.

Earlier this month, Israel said it estimates at least 1.8 million Palestinians are now in the humanitarian zone it declared covering a stretch of about 14 kilometres (8.6 miles) along the Mediterranean. Much of that area is now blanketed with tent camps that lack sanitation and medical facilities and have limited access to aid, UN and humanitarian groups say. Families live in the midst of mountains of trash and streams contaminated by sewage.

UK AIR SHOW

Troubled Boeing stays close to ground at UK air show

Press Trust Of India

LONDON: European planemaker Airbus plans to show off its newest passenger jet with daily flight demonstrations during one of the world's biggest aviation trade fairs. But an ongoing safety and manufacturing crisis has rival Boeing keeping a lower profile at the Farnborough International Air



Show. The beleaguered American company isn't bringing any jetliners to take part in aerial displays at the event that kicks off Monday near London. The president of Boeing's international strategy and operations division said the company remained focused on satisfying the concerns of U.S. regulators and "meeting our customer commitments"

rather than selling a lot of planes. "With these priorities in mind, we have reduced our commercial airplanes display and flight demonstrations at the show, and will focus on new technology, sustainability, security and services solutions," Boeing Global President Brendan Nelson said in a news release ahead of the Farnborough expo.