

# Central Chronicle

## Conflict devastating for children, says PM Modi

On reaching the Ukrainian capital, Modi was greeted by Ukraine Prez Zelenskyy.

**Press Trust Of India**  
**KYIV:** A warm hug, a silent prayer with folded hands and a small toy. That was how Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday honoured the memories of children who have lost their lives in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. Soon after reaching the Ukrainian capital here from Poland, Modi was greeted by Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the multimedia Martyrologist Exposition on children at the National Museum of History of Ukraine here.



PM Modi and the Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy honour the memory of children.

After a handshake, Modi gave a warm hug to Zelenskyy and as the two leaders walked towards the multimedia Exposition, slid a hand on his shoulder symbolising support for the leader of the war-torn nation. After watching the multimedia presentations - that gave information about scores of children who

died during the conflict - as part of the Exposition, Modi and Zelenskyy both stood silently in front of a

children who lost their lives, and I pray that they find the strength to endure their grief," Modi posted on X after the visit. Zelenskyy posted a video showing Modi hugging him on his Telegram channel. "Prime Minister was deeply touched by the poignant exposition set up in memory of children who have lost their lives in the conflict. He expressed his sorrow at the tragic loss of young lives and as a mark of respect placed a toy in their memory," said a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs later. In May 2024, UNICEF said that nearly 2,000 children have been killed since the beginning of the Ukraine-Russia war. The visit to the Exposition comes weeks after Modi had, in July, told Russian President Vladimir Putin that the killing of innocent children "is heart-wrenching and very painful."

**HIGHLIGHT**  
● With folded hands, Modi offered a silent prayer before placing a small toy (a doll) at the memorial.

**India ready to play active role**  
Narendra Modi Prime Minister  
wall-like structure which already had a lot of toys placed in memory of the children. With folded hands, Modi offered a silent prayer before placing a small toy (a doll) at the memorial as the Ukrainian President placed a teddy bear. "President ZelenskyyUa and I paid homage at the Martyrologist Exposition in Kyiv. Conflict is particularly devastating for young children. My heart goes out to the families of

## NIA searches overground workers of CPI (Maoist)

**NEW DELHI:** The NIA conducted searches in houses of alleged overground workers and sympathisers of the banned CPI (Maoist) in Jharkhand, officials said Friday. The searches were conducted in connection with the recovery of allegedly incriminating letters addressed to top leaders of the CPI (Maoist) in July 2022 in the Anandpur area of Jharkhand's Chaibasa district, they

said. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) had registered the case against nine accused in August 2023, a statement from the NIA said. "The searches today were conducted at three locations in Chaibasa, Jharkhand. The houses of the suspects, located in Pusalata, Buru Rengra, and Lipunga, all of West Singhbhum district in Jharkhand," an NIA spokesperson said.

## Indian dress code

**NEW DELHI:** Junking the traditional black robe and cap as a colonial legacy, the Union health ministry has asked all its institutes to design an appropriate Indian dress code for convocation ceremonies based on the traditions of the state where they are located. Currently, the black robe and cap is being used during convocation by various institutes of the ministry, the communication said.

## Rapist gets 20 years in jail

**KOTA:** A POCSO court in Bundi on Friday convicted a man for raping a minor although he married her when she attained adulthood. The couple now has a one-year-old child. The court also slapped a fine of Rs 80,000 and ordered the convict to pay Rs 4 lakh for the survivor's livelihood for the time he stays in jail and completes his term. POCSO Court I of Bundi city convicted Shetan Meena, a resident of Mal Ki Jhopndiyari in Lakheri police station, to 20 years jail.

**NEWSLINE**

**NAHAN**  
People hit streets to protest

Hundreds of people on Friday took out a protest march against the alleged embezzlement of more than Rs 4 crore in Himachal Pradesh Cooperative Bank branch in Sirmour district's Nohradhar village, located 95 km from here. The protesters, including bank customers, and political and community leaders, raised slogans against the bank management and demanded immediate release of their hard-earned money.

**KOLKATA**  
Polygraph test nod on ex-principal

The Calcutta High Court on Friday ordered the transfer of the probe into the alleged financial irregularities at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital during the tenure of its former principal Sandip Ghosh from a state-constituted Special Investigation Team (SIT) to the CBI.

**NEW DELHI**  
AI fined Rs 90 lakh by DGCA

Aviation watchdog DGCA has imposed a penalty of Rs 90 lakh on Tata Group-owned Air India and has also suspended the airline's director of training for six months in connection with a flight that was operated with non-qualified pilots.

## 'SC-ST Act applicable only if there is intention to humiliate'

**JUDGMENT |**

**Press Trust Of India**  
YouTuber Skaria challenged the denial of bail to him by the Kerala HC in a criminal case lodged against him by MLA P V Sreenijin.



Supreme Court of India in New Delhi.

**NEW DELHI:** An offence under the SC-ST Act is not established merely on the fact that the complainant is a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe community unless there is an intention to humiliate, the Supreme Court said on Friday. A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra made the observation while granting anticipatory bail to YouTuber Shajian Skaria, who runs the "Marunadan Malayali" channel on the video-streaming platform. Skaria had challenged the

**FACTFILE**  
● SC said there is nothing to even "prima facie" indicate that Skaria, by releasing the video on YouTube, promoted or attempted to promote feelings of enmity.

intentionally humiliated the lawmaker by making false allegations through a video uploaded on "Marunadan Malayali". The court said the mere fact that the person subjected to insult or intimidation belongs to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe would not attract the offence under section 3(l)(r) of the Act unless it was the intention of the accused to subject the person concerned to caste-based humiliation. "Thus, the dictum as laid aforesaid is that the offence under section 3(l)(r) of the Act, 1989 is not established merely on the fact that the complainant is a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe unless there is an intention to humiliate such a member for the reason that he belongs to such a community.

## Make night patrolling mandatory in railways: Expert comm report

**Press Trust Of India**

According to reports, the ministry is also looking at various Artificial Intelligence-based solutions to enhance track security round the clock.



**NEW DELHI:** Railways has enhanced the patrolling of tracks after the Ahmedabad-bound Sabarmati Express derailed between Kanpur and Bhimsen Junction in the Jhansi Rail Division on August 17 after hitting a rail chunk allegedly placed on the track by some miscreants. According to reports, the ministry is also looking at various Artificial Intelligence-based solutions to enhance track security round the clock. Officials from the Railway Board said that both the RPF as well as track maintainers

conduct patrolling during day and night at regular intervals throughout the year and after the Sabarmati Express derailed, they are on a more vigilant mode. "The Railway Board is also issuing instructions time to time to the zones and divisions to carry out round-the-clock patrolling of the tracks throughout the year," a railway official said.

## India invested nearly USD 13 billion in space sector

**REPORT |**

**NEW DELHI:** India has invested nearly USD 13 billion in the space sector over the past decade which has contributed USD 60 billion to the GDP through direct, indirect and induced benefits, a report by global consulting firm Novaspac said on Friday. The report 'The Socio-Economic Impact

of the Indian Space Programme', released by Union Minister of State for Space Jitendra Singh, also said that India was the eighth-largest space nation in the world in terms of funding and has seen faster growth of start-ups in the sector. "The Indian space sector has contributed 60 billion dollars to the GDP in the last decade through direct, in-direct



and induced effects. In addition, it has generated 4.7 million jobs. The sector directly employs 96,000 persons through the public and the private sector," Steve Bochinger, affiliate executive adviser at Novaspac, a Paris-based consulting firm, said. ISRO had tasked Novaspac

**NUMBER**  
**60**  
● The Indian space sector has contributed 60 billion dollars to the GDP in the last decade.

with preparing a report on the socio-economic impact of its space missions. Bochinger said the estimated revenues of India's space sector have increased from USD 3.8 billion in 2014 to USD 6.3 billion in 2023. "Every dollar generated by the space economy in India translates into USD 2.54 of indirect and induced benefit," Bochinger said.

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**Sandeep Kumar Gond**  
Services Master

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Govt schemes should be implemented at the ground level.

Lakhania Dewangan  
State Minister of Commerce & Industry and Labour.

## NSUI party workers gherao Collectorate



To protest against illegal arrest and jail of MLA Devendra, NSUI party workers gheraoed Collectorate and tried to climb-over the main gate even after police deployment.

# Govt cracks down on plantation irregularities

As a consequence, a sum of 9.90 lakh recovered from responsible officials.

Central Chronicle News

**RAIPUR:** The Chhattisgarh state government has taken stringent action following the discovery of irregularities in the tree plantation activities conducted by the Forest Department. The lapses, which involved non-compliance with prescribed standards and negligence by departmental officials, resulted in financial losses to the government. As a consequence, a sum of Rs 9.90 lakh has been recovered from the responsible officials in the Korba and

Rajnandgaon Forest Divisions.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has issued clear instructions to ensure that saplings are planted with adherence to prescribed quality standards and proper supervision. He emphasized that the tree plantation program must be successful across the state. The state government has reiterated its commitment to a zero-tolerance policy towards corruption, and this recent action underscores its determination to maintain transparency and

### HIGHLIGHT

● Sai gives instructions to plant saplings with prescribed quality and supervision.

accountability. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief of Forest Force have recovered the amount from the officers accountable for the losses due to unsuccessful plantation projects, based on evaluations conducted for previous years in 2023-24. According to information

from the office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, the Forest Range Officer of Korba Forest Division and the concerned officers in Rajnandgaon Forest Division were found negligent in their plantation duties. A total of Rs 9.90 lakh has been recovered from those identified as responsible for the irregularities. Specifically, Rs 2.41 lakh was recovered from the then Range Officer Yomanlal Dhruv of Paraskhet in Korba Forest Division due to irregularities in the Solva (B) Orange Area Room No. 1351 plantation.

## Husband kills Molester in Dharsiwa



**RAIPUR:** In a shocking incident in the Dharsiwa police station area, a man was beaten to death with a rod after allegedly molesting a woman. The attack, carried out by the woman's husband and wife, has led to their arrest, and the case has sparked widespread attention in the area.

The incident occurred in the Dhaneli Paper Mill area. According to the police, the accused husband, Manik Ram Maravi, and his wife, Asha Bai Maravi, fatally attacked Laxman, the young man accused of molesting Asha Bai. In a fit of rage, Manik Ram struck Laxman repeatedly with a rod, resulting in his death on the spot.

The police responded quickly, arresting both Manik Ram and Asha Bai. Preliminary investigations reveal that the incident stemmed from a dispute over the alleged molestation of Asha Bai. Dharsiwa police have launched a full investigation into the case, and further legal proceedings are underway. The tragic incident has left the community in shock, with questions surrounding the extreme retaliation and its consequences.

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

### SURPRISE INSPECTION

#### CJ Ramesh Sinha conducts inspection of Bilaspur Dist and Sessions Court

**RAIPUR:** In an unexpected move, Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court, Ramesh Sinha, conducted a surprise inspection of the District and Sessions Court in Bilaspur on Thursday evening. Following the conclusion of his court hearings, Chief Justice Sinha visited both the old and new buildings of the District Court to assess the conditions firsthand.

During his inspection of the old building, Chief Justice Sinha expressed his displeasure at the state of disrepair. Issues such as cracks in walls, water seepage, and puddles forming in the corridors due to leakage from the roof were among the many problems noted. Additionally, disorganized vehicle parking arrangements and an untidy garden further compounded the situation. The Chief Justice also inspected the new court building, only to find it in an equally unsatisfactory condition.

### FIR CANCELLATION

#### EOW-ACB recommends FIR cancellation for IPS Rajnesh and Retired DG Mukesh



**RAIPUR:** IPS officer Rajnesh Singh and retired Director General Mukesh Gupta have received significant relief as the Economic Offenses Wing and Anti-Corruption Bureau (EOW-ACB) recommended the cancellation of an FIR filed against them. The FIR, which was registered under serious charges such as illegal phone tapping and forgery during the Congress rule in 2019, is now being reviewed for closure. The EOW-ACB submitted a report to the court, stating that no concrete evidence of wrongdoing had been found, urging the court to quash the FIR.

### Successfully performed Transplant on an 11-year-old boy

#### Ramkrishna Care Hospital performs Chhattisgarh's first Pediatric Cadaver Liver Transplant



**RAIPUR:** In a landmark medical achievement, Ramkrishna Care Hospital in Raipur has successfully performed Chhattisgarh's first pediatric cadaver liver transplant. The procedure was carried out on an 11-year-old boy from Mandla, who had been battling liver cirrhosis for six years. The young patient had been suffering from severe jaundice, abdominal fluid buildup, and progressive weakness, leading to a critical need for a liver transplant. Despite extensive efforts to find a suitable donor within the family, none were available, forcing the child and his family to seek treatment across various cities without success.

After arriving at Ramkrishna Care Hospital, where he was under treatment for the past two months, the child's

name was registered on the waiting list of the State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (SOTO) Chhattisgarh for a cadaveric liver transplant. The liver, which was from an older patient, was successfully transplanted into the child in a complex and delicate procedure. The transplant was performed under the expert guidance of Dr. Sandeep Dave, the Medical and Managing Director of Ramkrishna Care Hospital. The medical team involved in the surgery included Dr. Mohd. Abdun Naeem, Dr. Ajit Mishra, Dr. Yuktansh Pandey, Dr. Rajkumar, Dr. Dheeraj Premchandani, and several other specialists from the Medical Gastroenterology, Critical Care, Emergency and Trauma, Pediatrics, and Anesthesia departments.

## Action against 3 pharmacy colleges, recommended

**RAIPUR:** The Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee in Chhattisgarh has recommended the state government to take action against three pharmacy colleges namely- Pharmacy colleges Rishikesh Institute of Pharmacy, Sejbahar (Raipur); Nupur College of Pharmacy, Raipur and Shri Balaji Institute of Pharmacy and Research Center, Raipur. These colleges have not fixed the fees, the committee officials said and added that they have written to the Secretary and Director of the health department for taking appropriate action in this regard. During the inspection, the committee officials found that these three D. Pharmacy colleges, it was found that they started the college without providing complete facilities. There was neither library nor laboratory in these colleges. No academic and non-academic staff was present either during the inspection.

Central Chronicle News

### Effort to prioritize government health-care services

**RAIPUR:** The Chhattisgarh Health Department has issued a stringent ban on government doctors practicing in private hospitals during their working hours. This move is part of an effort to prioritize government healthcare services and eliminate the disruption caused by private practice. Special Secretary of Health, Chandan Kumar, has issued the order, mandating strict compliance across the state. According to the newly implemented policy, government doctors found engaging in private practice during their designated



### FACTFILE

● Public Health and Family Welfare Department has reissued the order, emphasizing its enforcement.

working hours will face severe consequences. Although a similar directive had been issued in

the past, violations continued as some doctors maintained their private practices, negatively impacting government hospital operations. In response, the Public Health and Family Welfare Department has reissued the order, emphasizing its enforcement.

The order clarifies

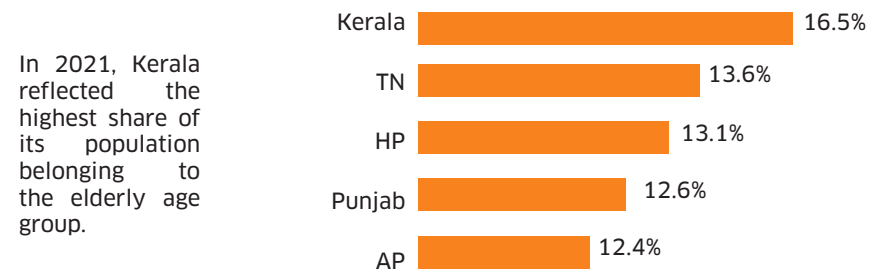
that government doctors are still permitted to engage in private practice, but only after their working hours in public healthcare institutions. They are prohibited from performing surgeries or attending patients at private clinics or nursing homes during their government duty hours.

| DURING WORKING HOURS |

# Health Dept bans private practice by Govt Doctors

## The Day's NUMBERS

### ELDERLY POPULATION AS A PROPORTION OF STATE POPULATION IN INDIA WITH AN ESTIMATE FOR 2021



### FILM RELEASE

#### Chhattisgarhi Film 'Aakhri Faisla' to release on Sep 13 with star-studded Cast

**RAIPUR:** For the first time in Chhattisgarh, a multi-starrer Chhattisgarhi film, Aakhri Faisla, is set to hit theaters on September 13, 2024. Produced under the banner of Bhai Bhai Film Production, the film features a star-studded cast, including popular actor Ravi Sahu in the lead role. The film's heroines are Diksha Jaiswal, a final-year BA student, and Sonali Sahare, a second-year BA student. The ensemble cast also includes Amit Chakraborty, Tarun Devangan, Ganpati Devangan, Pooja Tandekar, and Simran Devangan. The film is presented by Shradha Cinema Production and includes notable Bollywood actors like Deepak Sirk, famous for his role as Pralayanath Genda Swami, and Abdul Gaffar Khan, who portrayed Kumbhakaran in the Ramayana TV series. The movie has been shot across various locations in Raipur, Bilaspur, Korba, and Naya Raipur, with specific scenes captured at Happy Street, Smriti Van, Bilasa Tal, and other iconic spots in Bilaspur. A poster release event for Aakhri Faisla is scheduled to take place in Raipur on September 1, 2024, where the entire cast and other dignitaries will be present.

### COURTESY VISIT

#### Leader of Opposition and Korba MP pay courtesy visit to Chh'garh Governor



**RAIPUR:** Leader of Opposition in the Chhattisgarh Assembly, Dr. Charandas Mahant, along with Korba MP Jyotsna Mahant, made a courtesy call on the newly appointed Governor of Chhattisgarh, Ramen Deka, at Raj Bhavan. During the meeting, Dr. Mahant emphasized his long-standing relationship with Governor Deka, noting that they had both served as Members of Parliament together in the 2009 Lok Sabha. Dr. Mahant expressed optimism about Governor Deka's appointment, suggesting that his presence would help advance development efforts across the state. He also mentioned that the opposition now hopes for fair treatment under Governor Deka's leadership, ensuring the right to equality for all.

| QUIZ COMPETITION |

## Union Bank hosts U-Genius Quiz Competition in Raipur

Central Chronicle News

**RAIPUR:** The U-Genius Quiz Competition, organized by the Raipur Regional Office of Union Bank of India, one of the country's leading banks, took place on August 23 at the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Auditorium. The event saw the enthusiastic participation of around 700 students from 85 schools across Raipur, Durg, Bhilai, and other regions. The program was graced by the presence



of Mr. Anuj Kumar Singh, Regional Head, along with Deputy Regional Head Mr. Saurabh Chaphekar and Mr. Prem Sagar Singh. The competition, which ran from 8 AM to 3 PM, fea-

tured 320 teams in the initial phase, with each team comprising two members. After a rigorous first round, six teams advanced to the second and final phase of the competition.

### Congratulated the winners and extended his best wishes to the participants.

Anuj Kumar Singh,  
Regional Head,  
Union Bank of India.

The final stage consisted of six challenging rounds, where the team from DPS

Bhilai emerged victorious, scoring an impressive 450 points. Radiant Way School secured the second position. Mr. Anuj Kumar Singh, the Regional Head, congratulated the winners and extended his best wishes for their participation in the final round. The U-Genius competition is part of a national-level initiative by Union Bank of India, where one team from each state is selected to compete in the final round, which will be held in Mumbai.





"BJP is focussed on including every section of the society in its membership drive."

Richa Prakash Chaudhary  
Collector, Durg

# Water to be released from dams for Kharif crops

Meeting of District Water Utility Committee held.



Public representatives interacting with administrative officials in the meeting.

Central Chronicle News

**BHILAI:** Collector Richa Prakash Chaudhary chaired a meeting of the District Water Utility Committee on Friday. MP Vijay Baghel, MLA (Ahiwara) DomanlalKorsewada, MLA (Durg Rural) Lalit Chandrakar and MLA (Durg City) Gajendra Yadav attended this meeting.

In view of water level in the dams, the committee decided to provide water from dams for irrigation of Kharif crops as per the demand of farm-

## FASTFACTS

- Encroachments to be removed from irrigation canals

- Joint committee to be formed for inspection of canals

ers. Also, the officials of the Water Resources Department were asked to pay special attention to the repair of canals etc to reduce wastage and ensure that the water reaches till the tail areas. Instructions were given

## Tandula filled up to 90.53 % capacity

Executive Engineer SK Pandey informed that Tandula has 90.53% water, Kharkhara has 100% water, Gondli has 49.79% water, Gangrel has 88.44% water and Khapri reservoir has 81.75% water. 111 small reservoirs are filled up to 76% of their capacity. Pandey also spoke about the proposed Mahanadi - Tandula Link Project at a cost of Rs 1074.58 crore.

to keep the canals safe in urban areas and remove encroachments from the canal. A joint team of the Water Resources Department, Urban Bodies and other departments will be formed to inspect the canals in the city. The

Collector directed the Executive Engineer to send a proposal for deepening work under MGN-REGA in the catchment areas, reservoir improvement under Dam Safety Scheme and flood disaster management.

## Broad daylight theft at Armarikhurd

**BHILAI:** A ruffian burgled cash and jewellery from his house in village Armarikhurd. The victim Tikuram Sahu complained that an unknown biker visited his house and stated that his son had sent seven quintals of TMT bars and demanded Rs 15000 cash. The old man replied that he will give money after getting the consignment. The biker asked for water after which the old man went inside the kitchen. Meanwhile, the biker trespassed into the house and opened the cupboard with keys and escaped with gold Mangalsutra, gold earrings, gold ring and Rs 15000 cash.

## 3 arrested for boozing in public place

**BHILAI:** Police arrested three ruffians on charges of consuming liquor at a public place and spoiling public peace. Police arrested the accused Indrajeet Singh (24) son of Ranjeet Singh a resident of Shanti Nagar; Uma Shankar Prajapati (27) son of Shashibhushan Prajapati a resident of Krishna Nagar Supela and Harshal Shah (25) son of Dharmendra Shah, a resident of MohlaManpur while boozing at Auto Stand near Surya Mall.

## Mgmt committee to be formed for Red Cross Society: Raut



Central Chronicle News

**BHILAI:** Chief Executive Officer of Indian Red Cross Society, MK Raut reviewed the activities of Red Cross Society in the Collectorate auditorium. Collector and President of Indian Red Cross Society Durg, Richa Prakash Chaudhary gave information about the activities of Red Cross Society operating in the district. The first state level junior Red Cross program will be organized.

People will be made aware by organizing camps regarding the Red Cross Society. Raut gave instructions to constitute a management committee under the Red Cross Society and appoint a state level officer to the committee.

Along with connecting more and more youth at urban and village panchayat level, he asked to make the people aware about first aid and Red

Cross related works.

Collector spoke about the blood bank, old age home, fitness training center, training of operators, Junior Red Cross Society, post mortem center, operation of hearse, financial assistance to people, blood donation camp, health checkup camps, Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Medical Store and other activities of the society. Red Cross Society President Ashok Agarwal, Additional Collector Arvind Ekka, District Panchayat CEO Ashwini Dewangan, CMHO Manoj Dani and other officers were present.

Later, Raut inspected the lab operated by Red Cross Society at District Hospital. He also inspected the ambulance operated by the society. SDM Harvansh Singh Miri, Deputy Collector Mukesh Raute and other officers of the health department were present.

## NEWSLINE

### CYBER FRAUD Lawyer duped of Rs 37 lakh

**BHILAI:** A Facebook friend duped a lawyer of Rs 37 lakhs. The victim Sarita Singh of Raipur filed a complaint at Bhilai nagar Police Station. The lady complained that she came in contact with a person Dr Nelson Jakit through Facebook. The accused informed her that he was a doctor by profession and was going on a foreign trip to Oman. Later, he sought help from the victim stating that he was not able to access his bank account. He convinced the lady to help him by sending Rs 6 lakh; Rs 5 lakh and Rs 10 lakh at different times. He promised to return the money as soon as he reaches back home. Later, he sent an ATM to the victim and stated that there is Rs 4 crore in his account which will be released after paying some taxes. She checked the account balance of that ATM and found that it had a minimum balance.

### BIKE LIFTING

#### Scooter stolen from Power House

**BHILAI:** A scooter was stolen from Power House on the day of Raksha bandhan. The victim Pradeep Baul of MP Housing Board Colony and his wife Rama Baul had come to Power House on the scooter bearing registration CG07 LR 4232. They parked the vehicle in front of Balaji Daily Needs shop in Power House Bhilai and went to Raipur by bus to celebrate Raksha bandhan. Pradeep returned back alone around 17:00 hrs and found that the vehicle was not at the place where it was parked.

### THEFT ATTEMPT

#### ATM vandalised in Umarpoti

**BHILAI:** Unknown ruffians vandalised an ATM Kiosk in village Umarpoti of Uta Police Station limits. It is suspected that it was an attempt to steal cash from the ATM. Police lodged an offence on the complaint of Payal Kapoor, Branch Manager, Punjab National Bank, Umarpoti. The ATM kiosk installed at the bank branch was damaged by unknown persons around 01:45 hrs on August 22. The cash dispenser and the upper part of the ATM were broken. The bank suffered a loss of more than Rs One lakh. The engineer / ATM company will make the actual assessment of the loss.

### BOOTLEGGING

#### Man arrested with illicit liquor

**BHILAI:** Police arrested a man on charges of peddling illicit liquor. Uta Police informed that acting on a tip off, they rounded up a person at village Bohardih. The accused Ganga Prasad Sahu (22) son of Murali Sahu a resident of Abadipara, Bohardih, was nabbed with a black colour bag. On searching, 16 quarters of country liquor and Rs 220 cash were seized from him.

## DAV Hudco celebrates 'Vedic Prachar Saptah'

Central Chronicle News

**BHILAI:** DAV Hudco, is celebrating 'Ved Prachar Saptah' from August 20, 2024 to August 25, 2024. The event aims to highlight the great and selfless lives of the propagates of Arya Samaj like Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Mahatma Hansraj and also to apprise the students about the benefits of havan and encouraging them to participate in the daily havan organised in the school.

The week long Vaidik Saptah started with the chanting of 'Ohm' followed by the Havan and Vaidik chanting of one hundred shlokas from Rig Veda which will be followed by Samaveda, Yajurveda, and Athar-



vaveda in the forth coming days in the week. The havan was graced by Prashant Kumar (Principal cum Regional Director, C.G, Zone A) and was joined in by teachers, parents and students which filled the entire atmosphere with tranquillity and serenity.

A 'Jan Chetna Rally' was held on August 21 to spread awareness among the general public about the unique features of the holy Vedas and the teachings of Arya Samaj and Maharsi Dayanand.

## Advisory committee meeting on August 27

**BHILAI:** District Collector Richa Prakash Choudhary will chair a meeting of the District Advisory Committee of Pre-Conception and Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act 1994 and Rule 1996 PCPNDT Act on August 27. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 13:30 hrs at the Collectorate Auditorium.

## E-KYC mandatory to avail ration card facilities

**BHILAI:** The state government has given instructions to conduct 100% e-KYC of all the members of the ration card. E-KYC of 3,79,942 people is incomplete in the departmental database.

## IIT Bhilai celebrates National Space Day with many activities

| SPACE IDEATHON |

Central Chronicle News

A series of exciting events were organised for school students.

**BHILAI:** On National Space Day, IIT Bhilai hosted a series of exciting events including a space ideathon, drawing competition, and model-building competition for school students. The event welcomed participants from DPS Durg, JNV Durg, DWPS Raipur, and KPS Raipur.

The day commenced with an educational session focusing on the achievements of ISRO and Indian space programs, such as Chandrayaan 3.



Students engaged in one of the activities related to space day celebration.

## FASTFACTS

- Interactive session introduced students to space science and astrophysics

- Educational session focussed on achievements of ISRO and Indian space programs

Esteemed faculty from the Department of Physics—Dr Mahavir Sharma, Dr Dhruv P Singh, Dr S Ghosh, and Dr Sudhanwa Patra—led an interactive session introducing students to space science and astrophysics.

Following the educational segment, students engaged in the ideathon and painting competi-

tions, which were followed by a lunch break. Post-lunch, a documentary on ISRO's missions and Chandrayaan 3 was screened, complemented by an interactive quiz session with SES members of IIT Bhilai.

In the evening, Prof Rajiv Prakash, Director of IIT Bhilai, graced the occasion and awarded prizes to the winners of the competitions. He encouraged the students to pursue excellence in scientific and technological fields, particularly space science.

Additionally, as part of the Space Day program, a live telecast of the national event from Delhi was streamed on the IIT Bhilai campus.

| ENSURE SAFETY OF WOMEN |

## 'Andaaz Apna Apna' group concerned over increasing crime against women

Central Chronicle News

**BHILAI:** Andaaz Apna Apna, a group of twelve women, has been continuously active in Nehru Nagar for more than 25 years. The women in the group mostly above 50 not only meet every month but also discuss burning issues on all topics, especially women related, that seek action of the government or calls for immediate attention and resolution.

The kitty for August, organised the other day, was themed to celebrate Independence Day, Hariyali Teej, Rakshabandan and Sawan,



the month that brings joy and enthusiasm for women. As per the tradition, women relate it with going to the maternal home, swinging, laughing and jok-

ing with friends largely enjoyed by women of all ages. The members in keeping with the theme hummed savangeet, bhajan, Kajari, poems etc. Though everyone

had gathered as per schedule, the mind was deeply saddened by the gruesome murder and rape of the daughter of Calcutta. To give the message of ensuring the



safety of women, everyone expressed their concern over the increasing crimes against women in the society by wearing black bands. They expressed solidarity

with the medical fraternity who are seeking justice for the victim. Mainly, the women present in the group were Mrs Kusum Pandey, Mrs Krishna Tripathi, Mrs

Jyoti Purang, Mrs Pushpa Jain, Mrs Kanti Swarnkar, Mrs Kunjlata Tripathi, Mrs Rama Gaurti, Mrs Shashi Srivastava, Mrs Snehlata Jain, Mrs Veena Chawla.



## जनसेवा ही भावना



एम्बुलेंस वाली दीदी,  
सबके सुख-दुःख की साथी



# पंडरिया विधायक भावना दीदी

को जन्मदिन की हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं...



### करोड़ों के अधोसंरचना विकास कार्यों से बदल रही पंडरिया की तस्वीर

जनसेवा के साथ साथ समृद्ध पंडरिया के अपने संकल्प को पूरा करने के लिए भावना दीदी द्वारा अधोसंरचना विकास हेतु लगातार प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं। केवल 7 माह में पंडरिया विधानसभा में अधोसंरचना विकास हेतु मुख्य बजट एवं अन्य मदों से 200 करोड़ से अधिक के विकास कार्यों एवं अनुपूरक बजट में 50 करोड़ से अधिक के विकास कार्यों की स्वीकृति मिली है। इन विकास कार्यों से जनआकांक्षाओं के अनुरूप आज पंडरिया विधानसभा एक नए स्वरूप में अपना आकार ले रहा है।



### सेमरहा के बच्चों के लिए बनी विधायक माँ

विगत दिनों सेमरहा गाँव में हुई दुखद घटना ने सबको झकझोर कर रख दिया। एक ही गाँव के 19 लोगों की हादसे में निधन से व्यथित होकर भावना दीदी ने जो संवेदना व्यक्त की वह मानवता के लिए एक मिसाल है। उन सभी अभिभावकों के 24 बच्चों को मानसिक संबल देने उन्होंने उनकी शिक्षा, रोजगार एवं विवाह तक की जिम्मेदारी उठाकर भावना दीदी ने एक जनप्रतिनिधि के रूप में अपने कर्तव्यों का निर्वहन करके हम सभी के लिए एक प्रेरणा बनीं हैं।



### एम्बुलेंस वाली दीदी

पंडरिया विधानसभा में निवासरत परिवारों के बेहतर स्वास्थ्य एवं आपातकालीन परिस्थिति में उन्हें मानसिक संबल व त्वरित सहायता उपलब्ध कराने के लिए संचालित 8 निशुल्क एम्बुलेंस सेवा आज जनता के लिए संजीवनी बनी है। हजारों परिवारों को इसका लाभ मिला है वहीं आपातकालीन समय में उन्हें त्वरित स्वास्थ्य सुविधा उपलब्ध हो रही है।



### बेटियों की शिक्षा के लिए सार्थक प्रयास

“बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ” अभियान को सार्थक करते हुए क्षेत्र की महाविद्यालय में पढ़ने वाली बेटियों को समुचित शिक्षा मिल सके इसके लिए भावना दीदी द्वारा संचालित तीन निशुल्क बसों ने सैकड़ों बेटियों को अपने सपने पूरे करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया। आज इस निशुल्क बस सेवा से बेटियाँ महाविद्यालय में जाकर अपने उज्वल भविष्य की नींव गढ़ रही हैं और अपने सपनों को आँखों में भरकर उसे पूरा करने के लिए आगे बढ़ रही हैं।



### हमर पंडरिया स्वस्थ पंडरिया मुहीम

पंडरिया विधानसभा में बेहतर स्वास्थ्य जांच की सुविधा एवं जनता को स्वास्थ्य जांच के माध्यम से आर्थिक संबल देने के लिए भावना दीदी द्वारा संचालित निशुल्क मोबाइल हेल्थ पैथ लैब में 20 से अधिक प्रकार के जटिल व सामान्य जांच की सुविधा 15,000 से अधिक लोगों को अब तक मिल चुकी है। इन जांच सुविधाओं के लिए जनता को लम्बी दूरी तय कर के जाना पड़ता था लेकिन अब उनके गाँव व मोहल्ले में इन सभी जांच की सुविधा उपलब्ध होने से क्षेत्रवासियों की आने-जाने की समस्या दूर हुई है तो वहीं उन्हें आर्थिक लाभ भी मिल रहा है।

### सेवा, सुरक्षा, सशक्तिकरण और संरक्षण

भावना दीदी द्वारा पंडरिया विधानसभा में जरूरतमंद लोगों की सेवा, सुरक्षा और महिलाओं के सशक्तिकरण के साथ ही पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए भी लगातार सार्थक प्रयास किये हैं। महिलाओं को सिलाई मशीन वितरण कर उन्हें स्वावलंबन एवं नारी सम्मान अलंकरण के माध्यम से उनके सशक्तिकरण के लिए कई कार्य किये हैं। पर्यावरण संरक्षण के लिए उनके द्वारा 60,000 से अधिक पौधे पंडरिया विधानसभा में लगाए गए हैं। किसानों को उन्नत खेती, युवाओं को प्रोत्साहन, शैक्षणिक सुविधाओं का विस्तार, श्रमिकों का सम्मान इसके साथ ही विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में भी उनके द्वारा किये गए जनसेवा के कार्यों से आज हजारों परिवारों की सेवा, सुरक्षा, सशक्तिकरण और संरक्षण के लिए उनके द्वारा निरंतर कार्य किये जा रहे हैं।



विनीत : समस्त भाजपा पदाधिकारी, कार्यकर्ता एवं क्षेत्रवासी, पंडरिया विधानसभा

The state government is committed to safeguard the rights of tribals and preserve their culture & tradition.

Vijay Sharma  
Dy. CM Chhattisgarh



# Chhattisgarh



Collector conducted a thorough review of the progress of various construction works going on under PWD in KCG district.

## Collector inspects PWD construction projects

Collector expressed displeasure over the delay in construction of 5 km road including bridges and culverts.

Central Chronicle News

**KHAIRAGARH:** Collector Chandrakant Verma conducted a thorough review of the progress of various construction works going on under the Public Works Department in the meeting hall of the District Collector. During this, he directed to issue show cause notice to the concerned SDO and Sub Engineer who were not taking the construction work seriously and were negligent in their work. He also directed to issue show cause notice to the SDO and Sub Engineer

of Public Works Department Chhuikhadan for taking more than 10 months in infrastructure construction phase-I for the establishment of Common Facility Center by Abhijeet Singh Suri. Collector Mr. Verma expressed displeasure over the delay in construction of 5 km road including bridges and culverts from Dokrabhatha to Padmavatipur of the district by Sai Construction Jawahar Nagar Durg and directed to complete it soon. He directed the concerned officer to issue a show cause notice to terminate

**HIGHLIGHT**

- Show cause notice issued to SDO and Sub Engineer who were negligent.
- Contracts of contractors who were negligent in their work will be terminated.

the contract of Ataullah Khan Rajnandgaon for not completing the construction work of Industrial Training Institute Khairagarh building till date. Along with this, he directed the concerned officer to issue a show cause notice to terminate

the contract of contractor Mahavir Construction Khairagarh for not completing the work of construction of warehouse for proper storage of voting machines and VVPAT within the stipulated time period. Apart from this, he directed the Public Works Department officer to issue a show cause notice to terminate the contract of concerned contractor Sanjay Singhi Rajnandgaon for not completing the 2.50 km road construction work from Deori High School to Gauthan even in more than 1 year.

| JJM MEETING |

## Collector meets with Jal Jeevan Mission contractors

Tanishka shines in district-level Indian culture exam

**DONGARGAON:** Tanishka Gupta, daughter of Devendra Gupta, a class VII student from Swami Atmanand Government Excellent English Medium School Dongargaon, has secured second place at the district level in the Indian Culture Knowledge Examination 2023, organized every year under the aegis of Gayatri Tirtha Shantikunj Haridwar. For this achievement of the student, the organizers have honored her with a certificate of proficiency, a token and a nominated amount of district level second place. The Principal of the institution B.L. Devangan, lecturer Sandeep Verma and all the teachers congratulated the student and wished her a bright future.

**RAJNANDGAON:** A meeting of contractors working under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was held in the Collectorate hall under the chairmanship of Collector and Chairman District Water and Sanitation Mission Rajnandgaon, Sanjay Aggarwal. Contractors working under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) were present in the meeting. The Collector discussed with the contractors who have stopped work for more than 4 months. He directed the contrac-



A meeting of contractors working under Jal Jeevan Mission was held.

**FACTFILE**

- Instructions to contractors who have stopped work for 1 year to start work within a time period of 15 days.

tors who have stopped work for the last 1 year to start work within a time period of 15 days. He said that action will be taken to cancel the

contract if the work is not started. Those contractors who have not completed the tank construction work were instructed to complete it in 1 to one and a half months and start drinking water supply through the tank. All the works allotted under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) were asked to be completed by December this year. The Collector directed the contractors

## Firecracker license applications now open

**KORBA:** With the festival of Diwali approaching quickly, applications have been invited for getting temporary firecracker license. Applications for firecracker license will be accepted through LSDA module (online) from 02 September to 13 September. After applying online, it is mandatory to submit the site map and your passport size color photo along with the application with receipt along with the identity card with photo in the license branch. Also, a challan of Rs 600 has to be deposited for the license and a copy of the challan has to be attached with the application.

## Invitation feasts boost Pandaria participation

**PANDARIA/CHARKHURA:** Under the government's scheme, invitation feasts are being organized in various schools to increase community participation. On Thursday, invitation feast was organized in the government primary and pre-secondary school located in Charkhura Kala of the block. Village resident Hiravan Jaiswal served invitation food to the children.

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

**SADHBHAWANA DIWAS**

### Sadbhavana Diwas celebrated in Govt PG College on Rajiv's birth anniversary

**DONGARGAON:** Sadhbhavana Diwas (Goodwill Day) was organized in the Government Post Graduate College of the city on 22nd August under the guidance of Principal Dr. B.N. Meshram and under the direction of National Service Scheme Program Officer Dr. Asharam Sahu and Priyanka Gajbhiye. Goodwill Day is celebrated every year on 20th August on the occasion of the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. On this occasion, the Principal, in his address, advised all the students that we all should strive for mutual emotional unity and goodwill without discriminating on the basis of caste, sect, region, religion or language. Only constitutional means should be used to remove any kind of differences and deadlock.

**CRIME**

### Police issue challan to Dhawal Ram Sahu for being involved in selling Ganja

**DHANTARI:** A challan was presented by Police Station Arjuni against the accused Dhawal Ram Sahu for being found selling ganja illegally in Sankara under Arjuni Police Station area, in which on August 20, the Special Court NDPS Act gave the verdict and sentenced him to 5 years rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50000/-



On 27 December 2023, Dhamtari Police Station Arjuni received information from the informer that ganja was being sold illegally near Sankara

On the information, Arjuni Police Station In-charge raided the house of Sankara resident Dhawal Ram Sahu along with witnesses where 10 kg 432 grams of ganja was found.

*Sadbhavana Diwas*

### Sadbhavana Diwas celebrated at PM Shri Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya

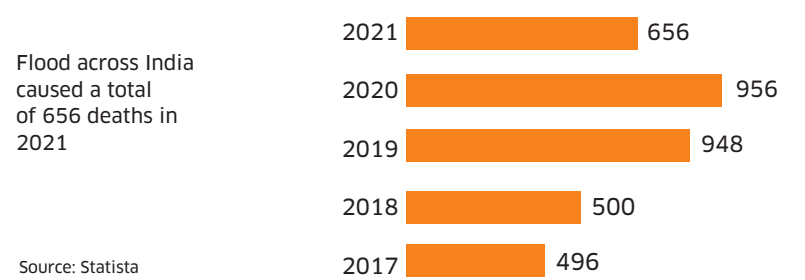


**MUNGELI:** On Tuesday, students of PM Shri Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya celebrated Sadbhavana Diwas and paid tributes to former PM of India, Late Rajiv Gandhi on his birth anniversary. The principal and teachers lighted a lamp and put flower garlands at the oil painting of Late Rajiv Gandhi. On this occasion, Principal of the school, DK Sahu, DK Vaishnav and other staff threw light on the life of Late Rajiv Gandhi and described his achievements to the students present in the

school. Furthermore, DK Vaishnav told about the importance of Sadbhavana Diwas and narrated the achievements that Rajiv Gandhi gained during his time as Prime Minister of India. Some of the topics that he highlighted upon were diplomatic ties between India and America, establishing Navodaya Vidyalayas for the poor yet talented students of villages and giving India the dream to become a developed nation in the future.

### The Day's NUMBERS

### Number of deaths due to floods in India from 2017 to 2021



**FEAST**

### Bharat Mata Vahini hosts invitation feast for school students

**RAJIM:** Ever since the scheme of invitation feast has been implemented by the Government of Chhattisgarh, since then, various institutions, various organizations and various individuals have been continuously giving invitation feasts in schools. The students are happy with this and the ones who give the invitation feast also seem to be happy. In this series, on Thursday, under the leadership of Suniti Sahu, President of Bharat Mata Vahini Self Help Group Bahrapal, the students of Government Pre-Secondary School Bahrapal were given invitation feast by feeding them kheer puri. On this auspicious occasion, the secretary of the committee Madhuri Sahu, members Mongra Yadav, Neelam Yadav, Faleshwari Sen, Rameshwari Sahu, Domeswari Yadav, Bhuneshwari Yadav, Daneshwari Yadav, Durga Yadav, Dashoda Yadav, Droni Yadav, head teacher Rajendra Nag, teachers T. Sangar, Sanjay Verma, Dumeshwar Devangan, Ramadhar Dhruv, Gauri Sahu, Nikhil, Vijay and students of Government Pre-Secondary School and Government Primary School Bahrapal were present.

**RAKSHABANDHAN**

### Ranjana Sahu sends Rakhi to CM Vishnu Deo Sai for Rakshabandhan

**DHANTARI:** On the occasion of Rakshabandhan, former MLA Ranjana Dipendra Sahu sent Raksha Sutra to Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai on behalf of the women of Dhamtari Assembly. While releasing the press note, Sahu said that the place that our Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai has made in the hearts of the mothers and sisters of the state is indelible, by providing them financial assistance every month through Mahtari Vandan Yojana, the Chief Minister has increased the respect of mothers and sisters, our Chief Minister has emerged as the beloved brother of all the mothers and sisters of the state, due to whose efforts the women of the state get notification of happiness every month, in which they get a support amount of one thousand rupees, which helps women to become self-reliant and empowered. He has provided a golden opportunity.



| PUNSAVAN SANSKAR |

## 'Sahu highlights its benefits of imbibing good values'

Central Chronicle News

**RAJIM:** The sequence of Sanskar is going on continuously under the direction of Akhil Vishwa Gayatri Parivar Shantikunj Haridwar and guidance of Gayatri Shaktipeeth Rajim. In this series, Punsavan Sanskar of four pregnant mothers was completed in the Anganwadi Center of Chaubebandha, which included Chandni Yamit



Sahu, Nandani Sandeep Yadav, Yogeshwari Bholaram Pal, Kamini Tej Kumar Dhruv. While conducting the said Sanskar, Deepa Sahu, Trustee of Gayatri

Shaktipeeth, Rajim said that in ancient times, the importance of sixteen Sanskars has been told by the sages, in which Punsavan Sanskar has special importance,

**The importance of sixteen Sanskars has been told by the sages in which Punsavan Sanskar has special importance.**

Deepa Sahu  
Trustee-Gyatri Shaktipeeth-Rajim

the example of which is Veer Abhimanyu, Bhakt Prahlad. Every pregnant mother should get this sanskar done. She further said that pregnant mothers should take special care of their food, lifestyle, and diet. Punsavan sanskar will prove to be a boon for the coming generation. Anganwadi worker Satyawati Sonkar said that Gayatri Parivar has kept the tradition of sanskar alive with yagya.











## QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

"Time is more valuable than money. You can get more money, but you cannot get more time."

[ Jim Rohn ]

## Comment

## Policy reversals under Modi: Focus on Lateral Entry and Farm Laws

## OUR VIEW |

## Women's safety at work: Urgent reforms needed

The tragic incident in Kolkata serves as a stark reminder of the ongoing vulnerability and insecurity faced by working women in India. Despite decades of legal frameworks aimed at safeguarding women, such as the Vishaka Guidelines established in 1997 and the subsequent enactment of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act in 2013, these laws have often fallen short of their intended impact. The Supreme Court's recent directive to institutionalize the safety of medical professionals is a much-needed step, but it also raises a broader question: why has women's safety at work remained so elusive? The creation of a National Task Force, as mandated by the Supreme Court, to address the safety, working conditions, and well-being of medical professionals is a positive move. However, its effectiveness will depend on the commitment and coordination of all stakeholders involved. It's imperative that the recommendations of this task force extend beyond the medical field, setting a precedent for improving the security of women across all professions. One of the critical failures highlighted by the Supreme Court is the inadequate implementation of the laws designed to protect women. The Sexual Harassment Act, for instance, has been plagued by 'serious lapses' and 'uncertainty' in its enforcement, rendering it largely ineffective. Similarly, the Nirbhaya Fund, which was established to support initiatives for women's safety, has often been mismanaged, with a significant portion of the funds underutilized or misused. The disappointing results, such as the mere 9 percent reduction in reported rape cases despite considerable expenditure, underscore the need for more stringent oversight and accountability. For any new initiative to succeed, these systemic issues must be addressed. Women's safety cannot be ensured by legislation alone; it requires a cultural shift, stringent enforcement, and, crucially, holding those in positions of power accountable for their failures. The safety and dignity of women in the workplace are non-negotiable, and it is high time that these principles are upheld with the seriousness they deserve.

## GUEST VIEW |

## Humanity calls for compassion in euthanasia cases

The Supreme Court's refusal to allow passive euthanasia for a 30-year-old man in a vegetative state raises profound questions about compassion in our legal system. Despite battling immense financial and emotional strain, the elderly parents of the patient—who has been unresponsive for 11 years—are left with no relief. The court's decision, emphasizing that removing a Ryles tube doesn't constitute euthanasia, directs the government to find a long-term care solution. However, one must wonder if the law could be more compassionate in such cases, where the suffering of both the patient and the caregivers is immense. As the couple continues to deplete their savings, the government must urgently explore institutional care options. It's crucial to recognize that the ongoing stress and financial burden on the parents may have dire consequences for their own health and well-being. The legal system should consider the broader human impact and work towards providing not just legal, but also compassionate, solutions for such heart-wrenching situations. One hopes that a permanent, humane solution will soon be provided to ease their unimaginable pain.



BK Chatterjee

Child labor is perhaps the most heartbreaking manifestation of modern slavery. The International Labour

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Indian government has pursued ambitious reforms across various sectors, aiming to modernize and transform the nation's governance. However, despite its strong mandate and reformist agenda, the administration has faced significant challenges, leading to notable policy reversals. Two prominent examples of such reversals include the rollback of the lateral entry initiative and the repeal of the controversial farm laws. These instances highlight the complexities of governance in India, where even well-intentioned reforms can encounter substantial opposition, necessitating reconsideration and adjustment.

**Lateral Entry Program: A retreat in governance**

The lateral entry program was introduced with the goal of bringing fresh talent and expertise into the Indian bureaucracy. By allowing professionals from various sectors to fill senior positions in government departments, the initiative aimed to enhance efficiency and modernize the civil service. However,

the program faced significant resistance from both the bureaucratic establishment and political circles.

Critics argued that the lateral entry program undermined the traditional recruitment process and bypassed the seniority principle, a cornerstone of the Indian administrative system. Concerns were also raised about the potential for favoritism and lack of accountability with these external appointments. Facing mounting opposition from within the civil services and growing political pressure from opposition parties, the Modi government ultimately decided to shelve the program. This retreat underscores the challenges of implementing reforms in a complex and deeply entrenched bureaucratic system, where changes are often met with resistance from various stakeholders.

**Farm Laws: A major policy u-turn**

Another significant policy reversal under the Modi government involved the farm laws passed by Parliament in 2020. These laws were designed to deregulate

produce markets and provide farmers with more options to sell their crops, ostensibly to create a more efficient agricultural sector. However, the legislation sparked widespread opposition from farmers' unions and opposition parties, who argued that the reforms favored large corporations over small farmers and threatened the Minimum Support Price (MSP) system.

The protests against the farm laws, particularly from farmers in Haryana and Punjab, led to a prolonged and highly visible agitation at the borders of Delhi. The movement garnered unprecedented solidarity across various segments of society and drew significant international attention. Despite initial resistance, the Modi government eventually announced the withdrawal of the farm laws in November 2021. This decision reflected the administration's recognition of the deep-rooted dissent and its willingness to reconsider policies in the face of sustained opposition.

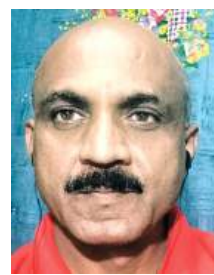
**Other notable retreats**

The Modi government has also experienced reversals in other areas, such as the pro-

posed uniform civil code which faced resistance from various quarters, leading to a scaling back of proposals. Similarly, the government's approach to environmental regulations and labor laws has seen modifications in response to domestic and international pressures. Even in road safety, a critical issue given India's high accident rates, the government had to roll back stringent penalties and provisions due to pressure from drivers' lobbies backed by political forces.

**Conclusion**

These policy reversals illustrate the challenges of governance in India's diverse and democratic landscape. The dynamics of Indian politics, characterized by vocal interest groups and strong opposition, often compel even the most resolute governments to reconsider their positions. For the Modi government, these experiences underscore the need to balance reformist ambitions with the complexities of democratic governance, ensuring that necessary changes are communicated effectively and implemented with broad-based support.



Dr. Rajesh Jauhri

Senior Journalist working in western part of state of Madhya Pradesh

## Slavery: The scourge of the modern world

Modern slavery, a pervasive and insidious reality, continues to exploit millions worldwide through forced labor, human trafficking, and child labor, demanding urgent global action and awareness. *by Dr. Ganapathi Bhat*



The picture visually represents the somber reality of forced labor, exploitation, and human trafficking.

"I freed a thousand slaves.

I could have freed more if only they knew they were slaves." These poignant words by American abolitionist Harriet Tubman resonate deeply, even in today's context. Although Tubman spoke at the end of the 19th century, her insight remains strikingly relevant, as modern forms of slavery continue to plague societies across the globe. The fight against slavery is far from over, and in many ways, the chains have simply taken new forms.

**Modern Slavery: A Hidden Crisis**

Modern slavery manifests in various forms, some more insidious and hidden than others. Human trafficking, bonded labor, and forced marriages are direct and explicit examples of contemporary slavery. These practices strip individuals of their freedom, forcing them into lives of exploitation and abuse. Yet, modern slavery extends beyond these obvious cases. Activities such as domestic work, construction, and sexual exploitation often fall under the umbrella of forced labor, where individuals are coerced or deceived into working under harsh, inhumane conditions with little or no pay. Child labor is perhaps the most heartbreaking manifestation of modern slavery. The International Labour

Organisation (ILO) has identified approximately 25 million people worldwide as victims of modern slavery, and a significant portion of these victims are children. Forced into labor at a young age, these children are deprived of their right to education, health, and a future. They are trapped in a cycle of poverty and exploitation, often with no means of escape. The plight of these children serves as a stark reminder that the fight against slavery is far from won.

**Vulnerability and Exploitation**

One of the most vulnerable groups to modern slavery is migrant workers. Lured by the promise of better oppor-

tunities, many migrants find themselves in unfamiliar environments where they do not speak the local language or understand the local customs. This makes them easy targets for traffickers and exploitative employers who take advantage of their vulnerability. The ILO has specifically highlighted the risks faced by migrant workers, emphasizing the need for stronger protections and awareness to prevent exploitation.

The famous quote by American thinker Frederick Douglass, "Knowledge makes a man unfit to be a slave," rings true in the context of modern slavery. Education and awareness are powerful tools in the fight against

exploitation. By educating vulnerable populations about their rights and providing them with the resources to protect themselves, we can make significant strides in combating modern slavery. However, this requires concerted efforts from governments, non-governmental organizations, and civil society as a whole.

**Global Efforts and the Path Forward**

The global community has recognized the need to address modern slavery. To take stock of progress and renew commitments, the "International Day for the Abolition of the Slave Trade" is observed on August 23 each year. This day serves as

a reminder of the ongoing struggle against slavery in all its forms and the importance of international cooperation in this fight.

The United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights unequivocally states, "No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms." This declaration is a powerful statement of intent, but it must be matched with action. Governments must strengthen laws and enforcement mechanisms to protect vulnerable populations. At the same time, civil society must continue to raise awareness and provide support to victims of modern slavery.

**Conclusion**

As we reflect on the words of Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, we are reminded that the fight against slavery is ongoing. Modern slavery may not always be visible, but it is a very real and pervasive problem that affects millions of people worldwide. By working together—governments, organizations, and individuals—we can help to eradicate this scourge and ensure that the rights and dignity of every human being are upheld. It is our collective responsibility to bring an end to slavery in all its forms and to create a world where freedom is a reality for all.

## YOUR LETTERS

**Government buckles under pressure**

The Modi government's withdrawal of the lateral entry circular for hiring 45 specialists indicates increasing pressure from political opponents and allies. Fearing electoral backlash, the move seems a retreat from crucial reforms aimed at enhancing bureaucratic efficiency. The government's decision appears to be a compromise driven by opposition tactics, highlighting the challenges it faces in implementing policies without sparking controversy in an increasingly polarized political environment.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar

**Women's Safety: A National Priority**

The safety of women in India is increasingly critical, with daily reports of harassment across the country. Incidents similar to the one in Kolkata are occurring in Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, UP, and beyond. Unfortunately, political parties are focused on blame games instead of finding real solutions. It's vital that all citizens, not just politicians, take responsibility for addressing this issue. Lawmakers must enact and enforce stringent laws, including capital punishment, to deter such crimes and ensure the safety and dignity of women.

Hassan Khan Isha'ati, Sitamarhi, Bihar

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

## Business



India steel market hit by unfair imports.  
Nagendra Nath Sinha,  
Former steel secretary.

BizBriefs  
BEST OF THE REST

## SEBI BAN

## Sebi bans Anil Ambani, 24 other entities from securities mkt for 5-yr

**NEW DELHI:** Markets regulator Sebi has barred industrialist Anil Ambani, 24 other entities, including former key officials of Reliance Home Finance from the securities market for five years for diversion of funds from the company. Sebi has imposed a penalty of Rs 25 crore on Ambani and restrained him from being associated with the securities market including as a director or Key Managerial Personnel (KMP) in any listed company, or any intermediary registered with the market regulator, for a period of 5 years.

Also, the regulator barred Reliance Home Finance from the securities market for six months and slapped a fine of Rs 6 lakh on it. In its 222-page final order, Sebi found that Anil Ambani, with the help of RHFL's key managerial personnel, had orchestrated a fraudulent scheme to siphon-off funds from RHFL by disguising them as loans to entities linked to him.

## INDICATORS

## Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	81,086.21	+0.04
Nifty	24,823.15	+0.05
Nifty, MidCap	58,555.30	-0.49
Nifty SmallCap	19,079.25	-0.11
Nifty Bank	50,933.45	-0.10

Closing rates as on August 23, 2024 at 5:30p.m. (IST)

## Forex RATES

## Foreign currency Vs Rupee

US Dollar	83.82 (-)
Euro	93.59 (+)
Chinese Yuan	11.74 (-)
UAE Dirham	22.82 (-)
Pakistan Rupee	0.30 (+)
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.27 (-)

## World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	41,095.19	+1.83%
FTSE 100 Index	8,306.22	+0.22%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)	38,364.27	+0.40%
CSI 300 (CHN)300:	3,327.19	+0.42%

Index at 05:30 p.m. (IST, August 23, 2024)

## How the markets behave today?

## Stock markets marginally up in volatile trade ahead of US Fed chief speech



**MUMBAI:** Benchmark Sensex and Nifty edged up in volatile trade on Friday following buying in blue-chip stocks such as ICICI Bank and Bharti Airtel amid mixed global trends ahead of the US Fed chair's speech at Jackson Hole Symposium.

Rising for the fourth straight session, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 33.02 points or 0.04 per cent higher at 81,086.21. In early trade, the benchmark declined 169.93 points or 0.20 per cent to a low of 80,883.26. Later, it bounced back 178.3 points or 0.21 per cent to hit a high of 81,231.49 but gave up gains towards the end.

The NSE Nifty edged up 11.65 points or 0.05 per cent to close at 24,823.15 registering gains for the seventh session

in a row. "Ahead of the FED chair Powell's speech, the Indian indices oscillated around the flat trajectory and mixed global market sentiments further catalysed this scenario," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said. Investors are exercising caution and awaiting Powell's signals for more insights on the interest rate path, Nair added. European markets were trading with significant gains in the mid-session deals while Asian markets were mixed.

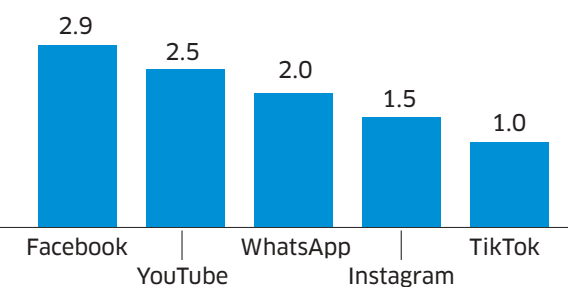
Major Gainers: Tata Motors, Sun Pharmaceutical, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finserv, ICICI Bank, Mahindra & Mahindra and JSW Steel

Major Losers: Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies, Asian Paints, Titan, Infosys, SBI, TCS and HDFC Bank.

## The Day's NUMBERS

(in Billions)

## TOP SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS BY MONTHLY ACTIVE USERS IN 2022



Source: DataReportal

## NEW LAUNCH

## Z6III revolutionizes imaging with introduction of World's first partially-stacked sensor

**MUMBAI:** Nikon India Private Limited, a 100% subsidiary of Nikon Corporation, showcased the highly anticipated Z6III at Raipur. Nikon India reinforces its commitment to full-frame mirrorless camera portfolio that is set to redefine the art of videography as well as photography. Inheriting features from the Z9 and Z8 models like in-camera RAW and N-Log videos and EXPED 7 processor delivering high-performance and industry leading specifications. Z6III is equipped with world's first-ever partially-stacked CMOS sensor and superior Auto Focus capability for an exceptional performance and is ready to outperform. Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Sajjan Kumar, Managing Director of Nikon India Pvt. Ltd. said "We are thrilled to showcase the Z6III, a high-performance full-frame mid-segment camera that inherits the spirit of innovation from our esteemed Z8 and Z9 models."

## ACQUISITION

## Birla Fertility &amp; IVF acquisition of Baby Science IVF



**MUMBAI:** A company of CK Birla Group (\$3 billion) and India's third largest I.V.I.F. Network Birla Fertility & IVF has strengthened its presence in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu with the acquisition of Baby-Science IVF Clinics.

The acquisition is a major step in Birla Fertility & IVF's strategic expansion plan involving an investment of over Rs 500 crore. The move comes within three months of Birla Fertility & IVF acquiring the ARMC IVF chain in Kerala. Speaking on the occasion, Avanti Birla, Founder, Birla Fertility & IVF said, "At Birla Fertility & IVF, we combine care with the science of conception."



FM Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurates the GST Bhawan in the presence of MPs Manna Lal Rawat and Chunnail Garasiya and Central Board of Indirect Taxes Chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal in Udaipur.

## MSME important in realising vision of 2047: Sitharaman

FM also informed that dialogue programmes are planned to be conducted with 250 MSME clusters across the country, starting today with the Marble Cluster in Udaipur.

## Press Trust Of India

**UDAIPUR:** Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said micro, small and medium industries will play an important role in realising the vision to transform India into a developed nation by 2047. Therefore, she said, they have been given special priority in the Union Budget. The finance minister was addressing the

discussion programme with MSME marble cluster units in Udaipur on Thursday evening. "The participation of MSME is important in realising the vision of 2047. Therefore, it has been given expert priority in the budget," she said. She also informed that dialogue programmes are planned to be conducted with 250 MSME clusters across the country, starting today with the Marble

Cluster in Udaipur. The minister also said it is

## NUMBER

250

• SIDBI is now providing loans directly to micro industries.

• MSME sector has a major contribution to eliminating unemployment.

Cluster in Udaipur. The minister also said it is

necessary to discuss with stakeholders to understand the needs of the MSME industry of the Mewar region.

Sitharaman said that Small Industries Development Bank (SIDBI) is now providing loans directly to micro industries, which is a matter of great relief. With this, convenient loans will be easily available to micro industries. MSME Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi said

the MSME sector has a major contribution to eliminating unemployment. "Micro and small industries are the backbone of India's economy, which contributes 30 per cent to the country's economy and provides employment to 20 crore people," he added.

He said that while the rate of global economic progress is 3.2 per cent, India is growing at 7 per cent.

## NO CHALLENGES

## Lower deposit growth not a challenge: Dinesh Khara

## Press Trust Of India

The bank is unwinding a part of its excess investments in govt securities.

**MUMBAI:** Amid concerns over the continuing gap between deposit and loan growth, SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara on Friday said it is not posing any challenges for the country's largest lender as it is able to support the uptick in advances. The bank is unwinding a part of its excess investments in government securities to arrange the required resources to support the loan growth, Khara told reporters here. It can be noted that for nearly two years, the deposit growth is trailing the credit expansion for the banking system, and SBI has also been seeing the same trends in



SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara.

## FACTFILE

• For nearly two years, the deposit growth is trailing the credit expansion for the banking system.

its business. Some experts have been opining that this is due to flow of savings into higher yielding capital market alternatives, while some like SBI's own researchers also called

the concerns a "statistical myth", saying the overall quantum of incremental deposits has been higher than advances since FY22. Asked about how concerning the situation is at present, Khara said, "We are in a position to support our loan book growth well. So, I think so long as we can support the loan book growth well, I don't think that we do have a challenge." To a question on what should the depositors

expect from a rates perspective, Khara explained the bank's strategy on resource mobilisation, pointing out that there is little reliance on rates.

He said the bank has an investment book of over Rs 16 lakh crore, and is unwinding a part of the excess SLR (statutory liquidity ratio) to support the loan growth. The Chairman, who retires later this month, also made it clear that it is ensuring that the returns on the funds are higher in lending than the yields on investments. To a question on the report by economists, he explained that it tried to capture the time series over a period of time and added that a similar situation existed even in 2003-04. Going by the past experience, it is suggested that there will be a convergence of deposit and credit growth only by June-September 2025, he added.

## AUDITING LISTED COS

## Sebi asks CAs to be 'careful' while auditing listed SMEs

## Press Trust Of India

**MUMBAI:** Sebi's whole-time member Ashwani Bhatia on Friday asked chartered accountants to be more diligent while auditing companies listed on the SME exchange platforms. Addressing an industry event of CAs, Bhatia said it is important to look at the listed SMEs (Small and medium-sized

enterprises) in a more careful way because the same companies will grow to be a part of the main board in the future. "We have seen some challenges there (SME platform). We request you to be extra careful as far as SME IPOs and fundraising are concerned because these small companies will become much, much bigger going forward,"



the banker-turned-capital markets regulator said. Bhatia expressed satisfaction with the progress of the SME platform, stating that Rs 14,000 crore has been raised by such entities, with Rs 6,000 crore being raised in FY24 alone. He compared the CAs to "doctors", and added that they act as first-level regulators by ensuring orderly conduct of companies. Bhatia said many Sebi investigations and orders, which take

over a year to complete, may not be necessary at all if the CAs had done their work more diligently.

It can be noted that in March this year, Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch had flagged concerns around "price manipulation" in the SME platform listings and trading, and asked investors to be cautious.

"I am like, what is this? They have a problem with what you wear, what you don't wear or whether your hair is done properly or not. I guess that is what it comes with."

Patralekhaa  
Actress



# & Glitters

CLOSE UP

## Why women-centric films still lag behind: Taapsee Pannu's insights

Taapsee Pannu discusses the challenges faced by women-centric films in Bollywood, citing increased judgment and lower box office returns compared to male-driven movies.

Central Chronicle News

"Actors are believed to have low IQ and people think that they hardly know anything, especially if it is a woman. Then they think, how dare you have an opinion."

Taapsee Pannu, celebrated for her roles in Pink, Thappad, and Mulk, recently shared her insights on the challenges faced by women-centric films in Bollywood. In an exclusive interview with ANI, Taapsee discussed why these films often struggle at the box office compared to their male-driven counterparts. She pointed out that women-centric films face additional scrutiny because they represent a shift from traditional narratives. "What women are doing is always going to be subjected to more judgment because it's relatively new," Taapsee explained. "If it were as common as the male-centric stories—like the man being the breadwinner—it would be normalized." This change from patriarchal norms to more nuanced female perspectives is still resisted, impacting box office performance and leading to smaller pay checks for women-led projects.



Taapsee Pannu recently starred in *Khel Khel Mein* with Akshay Kumar.



A new era of cinema: The rise of women-led films

Optimistically, Taapsee believes there's potential for women-driven films to explore humour and flair, which are typically seen in male-centric movies. "We need to devise ways to create those cracks

in the system," she said. Currently, Taapsee stars in *Khel Khel Mein*, released on August 15. Directed by Mudassar Aziz and produced by Bhushan Kumar, the film features a notable ensemble cast including Akshay Kumar and Ammy Virk.



| KRISHNA'S JOYFUL REMINISCENCE |

## Actors relive Janmashtami magic & memories

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

Star Bharat actors celebrate Janmashtami, sharing childhood memories, divine teachings, and festive plans.

As Janmashtami approaches, the air is filled with excitement and devotion as Lord Krishna's blessings and divine energy are anticipated. Celebrities from Star Bharat are reminiscing about their cherished childhood memories and sharing their plans for celebrating this special occasion. They recall delightful stories of their favorite dishes and the thrill of participating in Dahi Handi competitions, evoking joyful memories that capture the essence of Janmashtami.

Aayushi reflects on the deep spiritual significance of Janmashtami in her life: "Janmashtami holds profound spiritual importance

for me, serving as a beautiful reminder of the divine love and wisdom of Lord Krishna. This special day encourages me to reflect on his teachings and inspires me to strive to become a better person. This year, I plan to celebrate by attending a puja at my local temple, fully immersing myself in the festivities. I also look forward to preparing traditional delicacies like makkhan and mishri, which add a delicious touch to the celebra-



Aayushi embraces Janmashtami traditions, reflecting on divine teachings and preparing festive delicacies.

tion and connect me to the customs and culture surrounding this auspicious day."

Siddhant shares his plans for the celebration: "Having grown up in Mumbai, Janmashtami is celebrated on a grand scale, and the excitement and devotion fill the air. One of the most exhilarating experiences was competing to break the handi. I've bruised my knees and elbows multiple times in the attempt, but that was the most fun part! Janmashtami remains one of my favorite and most memorable times of childhood, overflowing with joy and happiness."

### OIT Watch



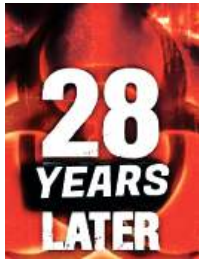
**A side-splitting adventure with the Laughter Chefs**

Laughter Chefs' RakshaBandhan special features contestants making edible rakhi. The new promo highlights Krushna Abhishek and Kashmera Shah's unique rakhi, with Chef Harpal Sokhi's challenge leading to amusing moments.



**Fans devastated as My Lady Jane gets the axe**

Prime Video has cancelled My Lady Jane after its June 27, 2024 debut. Despite positive reviews and a 94% Rotten Tomatoes rating, the show's low viewership and failure to make Nielsen's Top 10 led to its cancellation.



**28 Years Later: Murphy's back**

Director Danny Boyle returns with 28 Years Later, the highly anticipated sequel to the early 2000s horror hits. Reuniting old and new faces, including Cillian Murphy, the film is set for a June 2025 release.



**A thrilling escape: Kandahar Hijack set for release**

The trailer for Vijay Varma's upcoming Netflix series IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack has been released, showcasing the tense 1999 hijacking of an Indian plane by Pakistani militants. The series premieres on August 29.



**Beyond the stereotypes: Swati Shah's complex role**

Swati Shah, portraying Kadambari in Pyaar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan, opens up about the challenge of acting as a wheelchair-bound character. The show promises intense drama and twists. Aired on Zee TV.

### CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

**Satyadeep Misra digs deeper in Tanaav season 2**

Actor Satyadeep Misra is gearing up for the release of Tanaav Season 2, where his role deepens the show's narrative and heightens the stakes. The series, an Indian adaptation of the Israeli show Fauda, is set in Kashmir and explores themes of bravery, deception, and conflict. In this season, the Special Task Group faces a new threat from Al-Damishq, a vengeful young man. Satyadeep noted that the second season amplifies the intensity of the first, with dramatic twists that keep viewers on edge. Tanaav 2 will premiere on Sony LIV on September 6, featuring a strong ensemble cast.

Music

**Dhvani Bhanushali debuts in Kahan Shuru Kahan Khatam**



Pop sensation Dhvani Bhanushali is making a major leap from music to acting with her Bollywood debut in Kahan Shuru Kahan Khatam. Scheduled for release on September 20, 2024, this film marks a significant milestone for the singer. Directed by Saubh Dasgupta, known for his engaging storytelling, and produced by Laxman Utekar, who has directed hits like Luka Chuppi and Mimi, the film promises to be a major event. Dhvani, alongside Aashim Gulati, will bring a fresh dynamic to the screen. The film also features a notable cast including Supriya Pilgaonkar, Rakesh Bedi, and Sonali Sachdev.



Fashion

**Kangana's vintage charm at emergency event**

Kangana Ranaut recently wowed fans with her retro-inspired look for the promotions of her upcoming film Emergency. She shared photos on Instagram showcasing her elegant ensemble: a floral saree in pink and green hues on an ivory base, adorned with checkered borders. Kangana styled the saree traditionally, with the pallu draped over her shoulder. She paired it with a red and white checkered blouse featuring a colored neckline, faux pockets, and a cropped, gathered hem.

### Trending on Insta

@manushichhillar

**Manushi Chhillar shares vanity selfies and bhelpuri treat**

Actress Manushi Chhillar shared a series of mirror selfies on Instagram, showcasing her many moods from her vanity van. She wrapped it up with a snap of herself enjoying her favourite Mumbai snack, bhelpuri.





# Lifestyle

IMPACT OF QUITTING SMOKING

## Clearing the Air: The positive impact of quitting smoking

With smoking causing millions of deaths each year, it's high time to think about your health and quitting smoking at the earliest.



Tobacco kills 8 million people yearly, increasing risks of heart disease and cancer.

disease is cut in half compared to that of a smoker. These are not just numbers; they reflect real, significant improvements in your health.

If you're ready to quit, you don't have to go through it alone. There are numerous resources available to support you, including counselling services, quit lines, and smartphone apps designed to help track your progress and provide motivation.

Each smoke-free day you complete brings you closer to a healthier heart and a better quality of life. Taking the step to quit smoking is a powerful move toward protecting your heart and overall well-being. Start today every day without smoking is a victory for your heart and future health.



**HIGHLIGHT**

● Quitting smoking is one of the best things you can do for your heart. The effects begin soon after you stop smoking, though they are impacted by how long you have been a smoker before quitting.

**GadgetPick**  
TRENDING PERSONAL-TECH

**Retimer 3 - Kickstart the Sleep Revolution**

**About:** The Retimer 3 is a sophisticated wearable designed to optimize sleep by aligning your circadian rhythm with your lifestyle. Its sleek, comfortable design, coupled with integration into health apps, helps tackle sleep-related challenges effortlessly.



**Key Features:** Advanced blue-green light therapy improves sleep quality and regulates circadian rhythms; integrates with Apple Health and Android Health Connect for seamless tracking; ergonomic design ensures comfort during wear; helps with issues like jet lag, irregular sleep patterns, and waking difficulties; counteracts the effects of excessive artificial blue light from screens.

**Beats Studio Pro x Kim Kardashian**

**About:** The Beats Studio Pro x Kim Kardashian delivers exceptional sound with BEATS' custom acoustic platform, perfect for music and calls.



**Key Features:** Rich, immersive audio with lossless quality via USB-C and three sound profiles; two listening modes: fully-adaptive Active Noise Cancelling (ANC) and Transparency mode; seamless compatibility with one-touch pairing and features for Apple and Android; AppleCare+ provides unlimited repairs for accidental damage, hardware, and battery, with automatic digital activation upon delivery; includes email proof of coverage and 24/7 tech support.

**Ulitenic Cordless Vacuum Cleaner**

**About:** The Ulitenic Cordless Vacuum Cleaner delivers powerful cleaning performance with 500W of high power and 35kpa suction. It efficiently tackles dust, debris, and pet hair across various surfaces.



**Key Features:** Super powerful suction with 500W and 35kpa; 60-minute runtime with a removable battery and wall-mounted charging for convenience; GreenEye Technology with a roller brush that uses green light to reveal hidden dust; 180° bendable wand for easy cleaning under furniture; anti-tangle brush to prevent hair wrap and reduce maintenance; advanced 6-layer filtration system captures 99.99% of fine dust for cleaner air.

**Oclean X Ultra S**

**About:** The Oclean X Ultra S is a cutting-edge smart sonic electric toothbrush featuring a smart touchscreen for tracking and instant feedback on brushing performance.



**Key Features:** Real-time AI voice guide for personalized brushing instructions; smart touchscreen provides instant feedback on brushing areas; 3X Cleaning Maglev 3.0 technology for consistent power; FlexFit Tech brush head for enhanced comfort; 5 modes plus customizable options; mold-resistant nano coating with a Starlight design; up to 40 days of battery life for extended use.

**Belkin BoostCharge Wireless Car Charge**

**About:** The Belkin BoostCharge Pro Wireless Car Charger is designed for MagSafe-compatible iPhone 12 and newer models, offering a seamless and efficient charging experience.



**Key Features:** Fast charging with up to 15W power and official MagSafe technology; easy one-handed alignment with a powerful MagSafe connection and high-quality vent mount; supports viewing your phone in any orientation for optimal access to charging, talking, and navigation; convenient cable management with a strap and rear cable holder; elegant, slim profile that complements your iPhone.

**Capsule Personal Dishwasher 2.0**

**About:** The Capsule Personal Dishwasher 2.0 is the world's smallest and fastest dishwasher, designed to fit seamlessly on your countertop and make daily cleanup easy.



**Key Features:** 15-minute wash program for quick cleaning, eco-friendly with only 2.6 liters of water and 0.17 kWh per cycle, adjustable FlipTray for accommodating large kitchenware, durable stainless steel tub for faster drying, portable with no plumbing required, and fruit wash program for gentle cleaning of delicate items.

TRAVEL

## The Mystique of Kainchi Dham: A spiritual journey



Kainchi Dham, nestled in the serene hills of Uttarakhand, has become a social media sensation, drawing spiritual seekers and nature enthusiasts alike. Known for its breathtaking landscapes and tranquil atmosphere, this sacred site is renowned for its ashram founded by Neem Karoli Baba. Visitors flock to Kainchi Dham to experience its peaceful vibes, vibrant local culture, and the stunning views of the Kumaon hills. The site's growing presence on social media showcases its charm through picturesque images and uplifting stories, making it a must-visit destination for those seeking both spiritual solace and natural beauty. Explore Kainchi Dham and see why it's trending!

HEALTH

### Palm Oil: Friend or foe in your diet?



Palm oil is a staple in many processed foods, from snacks to baked goods, valued for its versatility and long shelf life. Sourced from the fruit of the oil palm tree, it boasts a balanced blend of saturated and unsaturated fats, making it a stable choice for cooking.

It's also rich in vitamins A and E, which promote healthy vision and skin. However, due to its high saturated fat content, moderation is crucial. Opting for sustainably sourced palm oil can mitigate environmental impact and ensure you're making a more eco-friendly choice. Understanding palm oil's role helps you make informed decisions about your diet and health.

| LIFESTYLE |

## The ethical appeal: Why Gen Z loves linen and khadi

Central Chronicle News

Linen and khadi are capturing Gen Z's attention, offering a stylish and responsible alternative to fast fashion.

Linen and khadi are quickly becoming the top choices for Gen Z, who are increasingly leaning towards fashion that combines sustainability with unique style. Linen is enjoying a major revival, thanks to its breathable, lightweight nature. Made from the flax plant, linen stands out for its eco-friendly properties,



Nothing better than a homegrown fabric like khadi to define the Indian millennial.

distinctive texture and rich patterns that make each piece unique. Khadi is more than just a fashion choice; it supports local artisans and upholds sustainable practices, which resonate deeply with Gen Z's values of ethical consumption and cultural appreciation. The fabric's historical significance and artisanal craftsmanship offer a meaningful alternative to mass-produced fashion. The growing popularity of linen and khadi highlights a shift in fashion priorities, with a focus on sustainability and authenticity.

**HIGHLIGHT**

● Khadi comes in hues that are extremely soothing to the eyes and another specific reason why khadi is a favourite among youngsters is the luxe feel the fabric offers.

requiring less water and fewer chemicals in its production. Its airy and relaxed look makes it ideal for warm weather, perfectly matching Gen Z's preference for laid-back yet stylish apparel. Linen's natural, textured finish provides a chic

touch to everyday outfits, making it a staple in summer wardrobes. Khadi, a traditional fabric from India, is also gaining significant traction among young fashion enthusiasts. This handwoven fabric, available in cotton, silk, or wool, boasts a

## Sports



We always laugh and joke between me and Mitch (Marsh) about who bowls those graveyard overs between the 70th and the 80th overs.

Cameron Green  
Australian cricketer

Briefs  
BEST OF THE REST

# Neeraj finishes second in Lausanne Diamond League

Neeraj Chopra finishes second at Lausanne Diamond League with season-best throw of 89.49m, overcoming fitness concerns and securing vital points in series standings.



## HIGHLIGHT

● **Chopra claimed a silver in the Paris Olympics adding to his historic gold in the Tokyo edition**

● **Anderson Peters wins Lausanne Diamond League with 90.61m, Chopra claims second with 89.49m.**

while Julian Weber of Germany took the third spot with 87.08m.

"The feeling wasn't great at first, but I am happy with my throw, especially the second (career) best throw on my last attempt. It was a tough start, but the comeback was really nice and I enjoyed the fighting spirit I showed," Chopra said after the event.

"Even though my

early throws were around 80-83m, I pushed hard in the last two attempts finishing strong. Competing at this high level, it's important to stay mentally tough and fight through."

Peters, who had struggled to find form last year, led the competition here from beginning to end and he stamped his class with the 90m-plus throw in the last round.

He has a personal best of 93.07m achieved in 2022.

With seven points from Thursday's second-place finish, Chopra is joint third alongside Weber in Diamond League standings with 15 points. Peters jumped to top spot with 21 points.

Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch, who finished seventh (82.03m) on Thursday, is in second spot with 16 points.

Press Trust Of India

With seven points from Thursday's second-place finish, Chopra is joint third alongside Weber in Diamond League standings with 15 points.

**MUMBAI:** Lausanne: Star Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra finished second in the Diamond League here after producing a season's best effort of 89.49m from his last attempt in a gritty performance despite lingering fitness concerns.

The 26-year-old was at the fourth spot till the fourth round before sending his spear to 85.58m in his fifth attempt. He saved the best for the last and his final attempt measured 89.49m on Thursday, a marginal improvement on the 89.45m achieved in the Paris Olympics a few days ago.

He was in danger of missing the sixth throw but his fifth round effort of 85.58m saved him. Only the top three after five rounds get their respective final attempts.

Two-time world champion and Paris Olympics bronze-medallist Anderson Peters of Grenada won the event with a monster throw of 90.61m in the second round

## Bradley leads BMW championship

**CASTLE ROCK:** Keegan Bradley went from a bundle of nerves waiting to see if he would advance in the PGA Tour post-season to a blissful day of birdies in mile-high air Thursday that led to a 6-under 66 and a one-shot lead in the BMW Championship. Bradley, the newly appointed U.S. Ryder Cup captain, was the last man to get in the 50-man field at Castle Pines and he had to sweat it out Sunday. He was in his hotel room with the TV going, the FedEx Cup standings on another screen and his phone buzzing. "One of the toughest afternoons of my PGA Tour career," Bradley said. "It was really brutal. It's such a relief to be here. I just felt a lot calmer today. But I played really, really well." It showed on a course that could dole out punishment without a moment's notice.

Press Trust Of India

Rodrigues believes WCPL experience will sharpen her focus for T20 World Cup challenges.

**NEW DELHI:** Star India batter Jemimah Rodrigues on Thursday said her maiden foray into women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL) will help her tackle pressure situations better in the upcoming T20 World Cup.

Rodrigues will appear for Trinbago Knight Riders in the WCPL, and they will face title holders Barbados Royals in their opening match on Friday. "Firstly, just to come out and play cricket because for me, that's

| CARIBBEAN PREMIER LEAGUE |

# Rodrigues views WCPL as key T20 WC preparation



## HIGHLIGHT

● **Rodrigues set to debut for Trinbago Knight Riders in WCPL opener.**

● **Shikha Pandey excited to reunite with Jhulan Goswami as mentor at TKR.**

how I see it before the (Women's) T20 World Cup (2024). I think these are the matches that I'm actually going to get as rest all will be my own preparation," Rodrigues said in an interaction organised by the Fan-code. "The more you're in that situation and in

those pressure moments, I think that's the best preparation you can have. So, for me, I look at it (WCPL) more as a preparation for the T20 World Cup," she added.

While the chat was largely centered around the WCPL, Rodrigues noted that she would try to perfect a few aspects of her batting ahead of the World Cup.

Veteran India pacer Shikha Pandey, who will also turn out for TKR, was delighted to see her old teammate Jhulan Goswami come on board as the Knight Riders' mentor. "I did feel that I'll be in an environment with her around also because of the WPL. So, this doesn't come in as a shocker that she's here."

| LAUSANNE GAMES |

# Wanyonyi runs fourth-fastest 800m ever

**MANCHESTER:** Lausanne: Olympic champion Emmanuel Wanyonyi ran the fourth-fastest 800 meters time in history Thursday at the first major track meet after the Paris Games.

Wanyonyi clocked 1 minute, 41.11 seconds – 0.08 faster than his winning time in Paris two weeks ago – to tie Wilson Kipketer's mark in 1997 that was a world record then. Only Wanyonyi's fellow Kenyan David



Rudisha has run the 800 faster.

"I'm so happy to have run that crazy time here in Lausanne," Wanyonyi said. "I really loved the crowd here."

It was a fast early start to the storied Athletissima meet as the global Diamond League circuit resumed after a pause for the Olympics.

Jakob Ingebrigtsen

regained his authority in the men's 1,500 – after a shocking fourth place in Paris – to beat Olympic champion Cole Hocker by more than two seconds.

In the men's 200, Olympic champion Letisile Tebogo kept his form despite a return trip home to Botswana to win in 19.64 seconds easing into the line.

## CRICKET

## Sujal Singh's fiery fifty leads Riders to 7-wicket win over Superstarz

**NEW DELHI:** Opener Sujal Singh's whirlwind fifty propelled East Delhi Riders to a smooth seven-wicket win over the South Delhi Superstarz in the ongoing Delhi Premier League here on Thursday. Chasing 192, East Delhi Riders got off to a flying start as Sujal Singh (63 off 32 balls, 7x4, 3x6) tore apart the opposition bowlers. The Riders reached 193 for three in just 17.5 overs. In fact, Sujal made his fifty in just 19 balls. Anuj Rawat gave him good support with a quick 34 as the openers raised 86 runs and that made the task easier for the subsequent batters. Earlier, the Riders won the toss and elected to bowl first. For South Delhi Superstarz, captain Ayush Badoni and Priyansh Arya formed a 67-run partnership from 36 deliveries.

## TENNIS

## Top-seeded Beatriz Haddad Maia of Brazil reaches semifinals



**CLEVELAND:** Top-seeded Beatriz Haddad Maia of Brazil beat Clara Burel of France 6-2, 6-2 on Thursday to reach the semifinals in Tennis in the Land. Haddad Maia, ranked No. 23 in the world, has not lost a set in the first three rounds of the WTA 250 event at the Nautica Waterfront District. "Today was also a tough match, but I'm happy with the way I'm improving in the tournament," Haddad Maia said. "It feels good to be at a big tournament." **PTI**

## Gauff's Humble Stardom

## Coco Gauff's rising career hits a bump before she defends her first Grand Slam title



**MUNICH:** New York: Yes, Coco Gauff is a Grand Slam champion. Yes, she's been ranked No. 1 in doubles and No. 2 in singles. Yes, she's already a big star who transcends her sport and was a flag bearer alongside LeBron James at the Paris Olympics ... and has a signature shoe ... and is featured on Wheaties boxes and ... and ... and ... And yet, back in New York for Monday's start of the U.S. Open, which she won a year ago for her first major trophy – the first American teen to do so since Serena Williams in 1999 – Gauff still occasionally might sound like someone

who deals with impostor syndrome. Put simply: She does not quite understand what all the fuss is about. "I just thought I was nobody," Gauff said. "The whole flag bearer thing is still mind-blowing to me. Like, 'Why am I up there?'" Gauff was popular among other athletes at the Paris Olympics as she wandered around the athletes village, Gauff often was stopped by other Olympians hoping they could pose with her for a photo. "I'm like, Can I get a selfie with you, too? I just wasn't really expecting this," the Floridian said. "Maybe I just don't get it." **PTI**

## The Day's NUMBERS

## TOP WICKET-TAKERS IN TEST CRICKET (2024)

Player	Wickets
Pat Cummins	60
Jasprit Bumrah	55
Kagiso Rabada	52
Ravichandran Ashwin	50
Trent Boult	48

Source: ICC

## WRESTLING

## Four Indian women wrestlers become U17 world champions

**AMMAN:** In a sparkling show by India's women wrestlers at the Under-17 World Championships, four grapplers annexed the titles here on Thursday and at least two more are in gold medal contention.

Aditi Kumari (43kg), Neha (57kg) and Pulkit (65kg) and Mansi Lather (73kg) won world titles in their respective categories with remarkable ease. Kajal (69kg) and Shrutika Shivaji Patil (46kg) will also compete in the gold medal bouts on Friday after making the finals.

India can bag more medals as Raj Bala (40kg) will compete in the bronze play-off while Muskan (53kg), Rajnita (61kg) are still in contention for podium finishes by making the repechage round. India are now certain to win the women's team trophy despite not fielding a wrestler in the 49kg weight class.

Aditi emerged champion in the 43kg, blanking Maria Louiza Gkika of Greece 7-0 in the title clash. **PTI**

## TENNIS

## Ons Jabeur withdraws from the US Open because of a shoulder injury



**NEW YORK:** Ons Jabeur, the 2022 U.S. Open women's runner-up, withdrew from this year's tournament because of a shoulder injury. Jabeur was to be the No. 17 seed in the tournament that begins Monday. The U.S. Tennis Association said Elise Mertens, the next-highest player eligible to be seeded, will become the No. 33 seed. Jabeur has struggled with injuries recently, pulling out of the hard-court tournament in Washington before losing to Naomi Osaka in her lone match in Montreal. **PTI**

## Sports News

# Avani Lekhara focuses on technique for Paralympics

Avani Lekhara, Indian para shooting star, reflects on her journey from overcoming a traumatic accident to preparing for Paris Paralympics.

Press Trust Of India

Avani Lekhara finds motivation in expectations as she prepares for Paris.

**NEW DELHI:** Avani Lekhara would have never taken up shooting if not for the persuasion of her parents two years after a catastrophic car mishap left her paralysed waist down and confined to a wheelchair at the age of 11. As the 22-year-old, who is one of the most recognisable faces in Indian para sport, embarks on a journey to win more medals for the country in rifle events at the Paris Paralympic Games, she thanked her family for giving meaning to her life at a time she was struggling to overcome the trauma.

Just six years after trying her hand at archery and then shooting at the Kendriya Vidyalaya No.3 in Jaipur during the summer vacations in 2015, Avani became the toast of the nation by winning India's first medals in shooting at the Tokyo Paralympics in SH1 category – 10m air rifle gold and 50m rifle 3-positions bronze. "Before the accident I was not into any sport and after that too I was not at all thinking about joining any sport. But my parents always thought that I need to do something other



## HIGHLIGHT

• For Avani, the Tokyo success brought with it lots of expectations but the vivacious shooter.

• Healthy rivalry with Mona Agarwal fuels Avani's determination for Paris Games success.

than studies. I went back to school two years after the accident. I went to KV No. 3 Jaipur.

"They have these regional games, national games, so my parents also thought of enrolling me in some sport, and then I went there during my summer vacations in 2015 and I tried archery, I tried shooting.

"I liked shooting more because it was an indoor game, I thought 'ok, let's start'. Then I started competing, started liking it more...that's how it went after that," Avani, a former world No.1 in 10m air rifle (SH1), who is also an assistant conservator of forest with the Rajasthan government, told PTI.

For Avani, the Tokyo success brought with it lots of expectations but the vivacious shooter, who has a new set of rifles and feels more "mature" in her technique going into the Paris Games, said it only motivates her to do better.

# Shadman misses out on as Bangladesh reaches 316-5

Press Trust Of India

Bangladesh's resilient batting frustrates Pakistan on Day 3 of the first Test.

**RAWALPINDI:** Opener Shadman Islam missed out on a century in his comeback test match as Bangladesh blunted pace-heavy Pakistan's attack and reached 316-5 at stumps on the third day of the first test on Friday. Shadman, playing his first test match after almost 30 months, made 93 in more than 5 1/2 hours of resilient batting before he was clean bowled by Mohammad Ali (1-42) at the stroke of tea.

Bangladesh still trails Pakistan by 132 runs after Mohammad Rizwan and Saud Shakeel hit centuries in the home team's 448-6 declared. Mushfiqur Rahim (55 not out) and Litton Das (52 not out) are at the crease. They added an enterprising 98 runs in the latter half of the first session. Both batters stood firm against Shaheen Shah Afridi (0-55) and Naseem Shah (1-77), who couldn't separate the two with the second new ball late on Day 3.

Das reached his fifty off 52 balls when he struck three fours and a pulled six in Shah's over. Mushfiqur also made a well composed half century in his first test after 10 months. Mominul Haque



Bangladesh's Shadman Islam plays a shot.

## FASTFACTS

• Shadman Islam narrowly misses century in his comeback Test after 30 months.

• Mushfiqur Rahim and Litton Das add 98 runs, keeping Bangladesh in contention.

hit an attractive 50 off 76 balls and, together with Shadman, revived Bangla-

desh innings by combining in a 94-run third-wicket stand after the visitors lost two early wickets in an extended three-hour first session.

Pakistan broke that threatening stand soon after lunch when Mominul's off stump was knocked over by Khurram Shahzad (2-47), who posed problems to the Bangladesh left-handers while bowling around the wicket and was the standout seam bowler of the day.

| SAVING TEST CRICKET |

## ICC planning multi-million dollar fund to save Test cricket: Report

Press Trust Of India

ICC plans \$15 million fund to safeguard Test cricket's future globally.

**SYDNEY:** The International Cricket Council (ICC) is mulling a dedicated fund of at least USD 15 million for Test cricket that will help increase the players' match fee and address the migration of talent to lucrative T20 franchise leagues.

The initiative, which was proposed by Cricket Australia (CA), has the support of BCCI Secretary Jay Shah, who is the front-runner to become the next ICC Chairman, and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), a report in "The Sydney



## FASTFACTS

• The fund aims to increase Test players' match fees and support struggling nations.

• BCCI, ECB, and Cricket Australia back ICC's initiative to protect Test cricket.

Morning Herald' stated. The fund would increase the minimum match payment for Test

## India A bowlers fight back

**GOLD COAST:** India A bowlers led a spirited fight-back but Australia A tightened grip on the unofficial one-off women's Test, with the hosts' overall lead surging to 192 runs here on the second day on Friday. India A skipper Minnu Mani completed her match haul of 10 wickets but Kate Peterson returned an impactful 12-5-16-5 to hand Australia a slender 28-run lead in the first innings, as the visitors were bowled out for 184 in reply to the host's 212. Resuming at 100/2, India A looked on course to take a substantial lead but fell short as Peterson ran through the middle order. India's set batters Tejal Hasabnis (32) and Shweta Sehrawat (40) were the first to fall as the tourists lost five wickets for 27 runs before Sayali Satghare (21), Mani (17) and Mannat Kashyap (19) put up 56 runs to deny Australia a huge lead.

players and cover the cost of sending teams on overseas tours. It would support national boards like the West Indies that currently struggle to compete with the wages offered in global T20 competitions.

"The fund would ensure a minimum Test payment for all players, thought to be USD 10,000, and pay the costs of overseas tours for struggling countries," the report stated.

| SAFF U20 CHAMPIONSHIP |

# Kipgen strikes late as India enter SAFF U20 C'ship semis

Press Trust Of India

Manglenthang Kipgen's last-minute goal secures India's 1-0 win over Maldives in SAFF U20.

**KATHMANDU:** India secured a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Maldives in the SAFF U20 Championship, with a dramatic last-minute goal by Manglenthang Kipgen. The match was intense from start to finish, as both teams battled to gain the upper hand.

India, determined to advance, dominated possession and created numerous scoring opportunities throughout the game. In the 47th minute, Kipgen spotted an unmarked Kelvin Singh Taorem in the box, but



Kelvin's shot soared over the crossbar, missing a golden chance to put India ahead. Kipgen himself had an opportunity shortly after but couldn't get the right angle on his left-footed shot, sending it over the bar.

Maldives, despite being under constant pressure, had their best chance when captain Shanaan Rashaadh took a free-kick

that skimmed just inches over the crossbar, giving India a scare. Maldives' goalkeeper, Yaameen, was kept busy throughout the match, making crucial saves that kept his team in the game. In the 68th minute, he punched away a dangerous corner, and Manjot Singh Dhami's powerful rebound shot was blocked by Abdulla Looth Ibrahim, preventing

## HIGHLIGHT

• Substitute striker Gwgmars Goyary also came close on a couple of occasions, being denied by Yaameen both times.

• In the 80th minute, his header from a Kipgen cross was collected with ease.

India from taking the lead. India's relentless attack paid off in the 95th minute when Kipgen finally found the back of the net with a perfectly placed strike, breaking the deadlock and securing a crucial win for his team. The victory not only advanced India to the semi-finals but also set up a challenging clash against defending champions Bangladesh.

| REMEMBERING SHANE WARNE |

# Kuldeep Yadav mourns Warne's death as family loss

Press Trust Of India

**MELBOURNE:** Indian wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav has revealed that the death of Australian legend Shane Warne two years ago felt like the loss of a family member to him as he always believed that there was a strong connection between them. Kuldeep, who is on a short family trip in Australia, visited the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), the home ground of his

"idol" where he posed for a photo with Warne's statue outside the stadium. "Shane Warne was my idol, and I had a very strong connection with him. I still get emotional when I think about Warne -- it feels like I've lost someone from my family," Kuldeep said.

He, however, did not elaborate on his equation with the legend, who died of a cardiac arrest while on a holiday in Thailand in 2022.

The T20 World Cup



winning cricketer's trip Down Under comes just a few months before the Border Gavaskar Trophy, which is scheduled to begin on November 22 in Perth.

"I am looking forward

to the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, and we're anticipating a great cricket contest between Australia and India this year," he said. Kuldeep, who has had an excellent couple of years since making

Shane Warne was my idol, and I had a very strong connection with him. I still get emotional when I think about Warne -- it feels like I've lost someone from my family.

Kuldeep Yadav  
Indian wrist spinner

his comeback from the knee injury, also visited the Cricket Australia (CA) headquarters and had an online interaction CEO Nick Hockley.

He also acknowledged the unwavering support of Indian cricket fans.

"India cricket fans always support the team around the globe, and I am confident they will come in big numbers for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, especially during the Boxing Day Test," Kuldeep said.

# 2nd-seeded Emma Navarro advances

Press Trust Of India

**MONTERREY:** Second-seeded Emma Navarro of the United States beat ninth-seeded Magdalena Frech of Poland 6-7 (3), 6-0, 6-2 on Thursday night to reach the Monterrey Open semi-finals. The 23-year-old Navarro will face sixth-seeded Linda Noskova of the Czech Republic on Friday in the WTA 500 hard-court event at Sonoma Club. Noskova topped fifth-seeded Elina Svitolina of Ukraine 6-4, 6-4 in

the late match. Navarro was the 2021 NCAA champion as a freshman at the University of Virginia and added her first WTA Tour title in January at Hobart. She lost to Diana Shnaider in May in Paris in the Trophée Clarins final. Third-seeded Ekaterina Alexandrova of Russia will face Lulu Sun of New Zealand in the other semi-final. Alexandrova beat seventh-seeded Yue Yuan of China 7-5, 7-6 (3), and Sun topped Erika Andreeva of Russia 6-4, 6-3.

# World



Children in every country deserve to live in safety. We must make this possible.  
Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
President, Ukraine

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Ukraine



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and others during the signing of agreements in a meeting at the Mariinsky Palace, in Kyiv, Ukraine.

# India, US ink 2 key deals with Rajnath's Washington visits

The agreements signed on Thursday pertain to the Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA) and a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Assignment of Liaison Officers.

Press Trust Of India

**WASHINGTON:** India and the US have signed two key agreements as Defence Minister Rajnath Singh began his official visit to Washington to further boost the comprehensive global strategic partnership between the two countries. The agreements signed on Thursday pertain to the Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA) and a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Assignment of Liaison Officers.

"Two important documents have been signed in Washington DC as Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh's visit to

the United States begins. Senior defence officials from both sides concluded the Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA), and Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Assignment of Liaison Officers," the Ministry of Defence (MoD) shared in a post on X on Friday, along with some photographs of the event. Singh arrived here on Thursday on a four-day visit to the US.

The US and India entered into a "bilateral, non-binding Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA)", the US Department of Defence (DoD) said in a press release on Thursday. Through this SOSA, the US and India

### HIGHLIGHT

● **The US will provide India assurances under the US Defence Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS), with programme determinations by DoD and rating authorisation by the Department of Commerce (DOC).**

agree to provide reciprocal priority support for goods and services that promote national defence. The Arrangement will enable both countries to acquire the industrial resources they need from one another to resolve unan-

anticipated supply chain disruptions to meet national security needs, it said. The SOSA was signed by Dr Vic Ramdass, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Industrial Base Policy, on behalf of the US, and Samir Kumar Sinha, Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisitions), on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

"This Security of Supply Arrangement represents a pivotal moment in the US-India Major Defence Partner relationship and will be a key factor in strengthening the US-India Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI)," said Ramdass. "I look forward to OUS-

D(A&S) hosting the next DTTI meeting this fall to deepen cooperation between our respective defence industrial bases and pursue bilateral co-development, co-production, and co-sustainment initiatives," he said.

In the Arrangement, the US and India commit to support one another's priority delivery requests for procurement of critical national defence resources. The US will provide India assurances under the US Defence Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS), with programme determinations by DoD and rating authorisation by the Department of Commerce (DOC).

## Last body from sunken superyacht recovered off Sicily

**ROME:** Italian rescuers brought ashore the body of the final missing person who was on a superyacht that sunk off the coast of Sicily. The woman's body was detected on Friday, the Coast Guard said. She has not been officially identified, but Hannah Lynch, the 18-year-old daughter of British tech magnate Mike Lynch, is reportedly unaccounted for. The Lynch family was aboard The Bayesian, a 56-metre (184-foot) British-flagged yacht, when went down in a storm early Monday. Civil protection officials said they believe the ship was struck by a tornado over the water, known as a waterspout, and sank quickly. Mike Lynch's body was recovered Thursday.

# Fourteen dead after Indian bus falls into river in Nepal

Press Trust Of India

At least 14 people were killed and 16 others injured after an Indian tourist bus veered off the highway and fell 150 metres into the fast-flowing Marsyangdi River in central Nepal on Friday.

**KATHMANDU:** The bus from Gorakhpur was heading toward the capital Kathmandu from the resort town of Pokhara when it drove off the highway in Aaina Pahara in the Tanahun district. There were 43 people, including the driver and the co-driver, in the bus with the registration number UP 53 FT 7623.

"An Indian tourist bus travelling from Pokhara to



Nepal Army personnel conduct rescue operation after an Indian tourist bus with 43 passengers fell into Marsyangdi River.

### FASTFACTS

● **14 bodies were retrieved from the crash site and 16 injured were rushed to a local hospital.**

● **The bus that fell on the river bank has been badly damaged.**

Kathmandu with around 43 Indians fell 150 metres into Marshyangdi River today," the Embassy of India said in a post on X. The mission is coordinating with local authorities undertaking relief and rescue. According to Deputy Superintendent of Police of the Armed Police Force (APF) Shailendra

Thapa, 14 bodies were retrieved from the crash site and 16 injured were rushed to a local hospital. The bus that fell on the river bank has been badly damaged.

An MI 17 helicopter of the Nepal Army has left for the accident site at Anbu Khaireni in Tanahun district with a medical team for the rescue operation, the MyRepublica news portal reported. The Gandaki Province Police Office, Pokhara, said 15 of those rescued can speak. Nepal's rivers are generally fast-flowing due to the mountainous terrain. Heavy monsoon downpours in the past few days have swollen the waterways and turned them murky brown, making it even more difficult to see the wreckage.

| DHAKA HOME |

## Dhaka home for 16 years, Indian family shares concerns

Press Trust Of India

**DHAKA:** Meera Menon, an Indian expat living with her family in Bangladesh for 16 years says her mother in Kerala is constantly urging them to leave the country due to safety concerns, but for her young daughter "Dhaka feels like home" and separation is not easy. A large number of Indians



have left the violence-torn country since the mass

anti-quota protests began in July which took a turn into an unprecedented resistance against the Sheikh Hasina government and led to her ouster on August 5. Menon, 45, a native of Thrissur district of Kerala lives in the heart of Dhaka, along with her husband, who works here as a senior manager in a company, and their 14-year-old daughter

**"Raised in Bangladesh since 10 months old, my daughter and we have a strong bond with Dhaka, our home for 16 years."**

**Meera Menon**  
Indian expat in Bangladesh  
ter Avantika. "We were in Kerala on a holiday and

landed back in Dhaka on August 4. It was a curfew day, but we had no idea the situation would turn so dramatically in a day. The area where we live wasn't disturbed during the protests, but there is patrolling by security personnel at night and the sound of whistles, etc. My sleep also has been affected," Menon told PTI at her home.

## Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

**PAK BANKS LOANS**  
**Pakistan seeks USD 4 bn loan from Middle East banks**

**ISLAMABAD:** Cash-strapped Pakistan is in talks with banks in the Middle East to borrow approximately USD 4 billion to meet its external financial commitments for the current fiscal year, as part of the USD 7 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF) currently pending for IMF's approval. Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and his team had a virtual meeting with Dr Adnan Chilwan, Group CEO of Dubai Islamic Bank, on Thursday, the Dawn newspaper reported on Friday. On Wednesday, a similar interaction was held with Mashreq Bank President and Group CEO Ahmed Abdelaal. Both meetings had been arranged to "discuss the economic outlook and explore investment opportunities in Pakistan". For the current fiscal year, Pakistan has pitched about USD 20 billion in foreign borrowing in the budget, besides another USD 3 billion rollover from the UAE that was reported separately for the balance of payments. With this much borrowing, Pakistan's reserves are estimated to grow to about USD 19-20 billion by the end of the current fiscal year.

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FRANCE GOVERNMENT

## France's Macron holds talks with key political players in a bid to form a new govt

**PARIS:** After the excitement of the Paris Olympics and a Mediterranean vacation, now French President Emmanuel Macron has to figure out how to make his country governable again. Faced with a hung parliament, social tensions and ballooning debt, Macron kicked off talks Friday with key political players in a bid to choose a new prime minister who would form a government and end the deadlock created by snap legislative elections last month. Members of the left-wing New Popular Front coalition that won the most seats pressured Macron for a quick decision.



US HARRIS

## Kamala Harris warns Americans of consequences of putting Trump back in White House

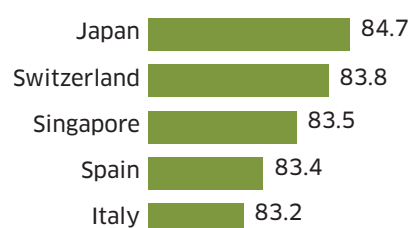


**WASHINGTON:** Kamala Harris has used her presidential acceptance speech to present herself as a leader who could unite all Americans to chart a "new way forward" and warned them of "extremely serious" consequences of putting her Republican rival Donald Trump back in the White House. Vice President Harris, who is of Indian and African heritage, on Thursday night accepted her party's nomination at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, becoming the second woman to do so for the Democratic Party after former first lady Hillary Clinton. The 59-year-old leader walked on stage to thunderous applause and a standing ovation from the audience. Chants of "Yes You Can!" erupted before her

remarks. Taking the stage at the United Center in Chicago to accept her nomination, Harris, who was a tough prosecutor in California before becoming US Vice President, said she is no stranger to unlikely journeys. "On behalf of the people, on behalf of every American, regardless of party, race, gender or the language your grandmother speaks, on behalf of my mother and everyone who has ever set out on their own unlikely journey on behalf of Americans, like the people I grew up with, people who work hard, chase their dreams and look out for one another, on behalf of everyone whose story could only be written in the greatest nation on earth, I accept your nomination to the United States," she said.

## The Day's NUMBERS

### TOP FIVE COUNTRIES BY LIFE EXPECTANCY (2023)



Source: World Health Organization (WHO)

## Biden to dispatch adviser to China as he looks to sharpen policy focus in final months



**BUELLTON:** President Joe Biden plans to dispatch his national security adviser Jake Sullivan to China as the White House aims to sharpen its focus on foreign policy in the Democrat's final months in office. Sullivan's visit to meet

with his counterpart, his first visit to China.

Wang Yi, is expected to take place next week, according to a person familiar with planning for the trip who spoke on the condition of anonymity. The White House is expected to announced plans for the trip later today. Sullivan has met with Chinese officials several times over the course of the administration to discuss the two economic rivals complicated relationship, but this will be

**कालड़ा बर्न एवं**  
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