

Central Chronicle

PM reviews 7 key proj worth Rs 76,500 cr

Two proj relating to road connectivity, two rail proj and one proj each of the Coal, Power and Water Resources were reviewed.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday chaired a PRAGATI meeting to review the progress of seven key projects, spread across 11 states and Union Territories, having a cumulative worth of around Rs 76,500 crore, his office said.

Prime Minister Modi emphasized the fact that every official in the government, at Central or State level, must be sensitized about the fact that delay in projects not only leads to cost escalation but also deprives the public of the intended benefits of the project, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said in a statement.

Prime Minister Modi earlier on Wednesday chaired the meeting of the 44th edition of PRAGATI, the ICT-based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance



PM Modi chairs the 44th Pragati meeting, in New Delhi.

HIGHLIGHT

● Modi earlier on Wednesday chaired the meeting of the 44th edition of PRAGATI.

and Timely Implementation, involving the Centre and state governments. This was the first meeting in the third term.

Seven significant projects, including two projects relating to road connectivity, two rail projects and one project each of the Coal, Power and Water Resources sectors, were reviewed in the meeting, the state-



Continue working on Mission Amrit Sarovar prog.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

ment said.

The cost of these projects totalled more than Rs 76,500 crore and relate to 11 states and UTs -- Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Odisha, Goa, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Delhi.

Prime Minister Modi said that the 'Ek Ped Maa

ke Naam' campaign can help safeguard the environment while undertaking project development.

During the interaction, the prime minister also reviewed AMRUT 2.0 and public grievances related to Jal Jeevan Mission.

These projects together inter-alia address water issues in the urban and rural areas. Prime Minister Modi emphasised that water is a basic human need and quality disposal of grievances at the district level as well as state level must be ensured by the state governments, according to the statement.

'Decided to join BJP in J'khand's interest'

RANCHI: Former Jharkhand chief minister Champai Soren on Wednesday asserted that his decision to join the Bharatiya Janata Party was taken in the interest of Jharkhand and he will resign from the JMM and as minister. The senior tribal leader made it clear that he is not afraid of any situation. Soren who met Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi earlier this week and announced joining the saffron party reached Ranchi on Wednesday along with his son and was greeted by a large number of his supporters. "My decision (to join BJP) is in the interest of Jharkhand... I am used to struggles," Soren said. Asked about the allegation that he is under "surveillance", the former CM said he is not afraid of any situation and indicated that he will resign from JMM and as minister later on Wednesday.

NEW PROJECT |

Govt approves two new lines across IRs

Press Trust Of India

One existing station (Bhalumuda) in Chh'garh and 2 new stations (Thangargat, Dhaurbhanta) will come up.



Approved projects will improve logistical efficiency.

NEW DELHI: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved three railway projects with a total estimated cost of Rs 6,456 crore, a statement from the Ministry of Railways said.

According to the ministry, the approved projects will improve logistical efficiency by connecting the unconnected areas, increase the existing line capacity and enhance the transportation networks, resulting in streamlined supply chains and

HIGHLIGHT

● New double line between Sardega and Bhalumuda (37 km) will be constructed at a cost of Rs 1,360 cr.

accelerated economic growth. "The new line proposals will provide direct connectivity and improve mobility, providing enhanced efficiency and service reliability for the Indian Railways. The multi-tracking proposal will ease operations and

reduce congestion, providing the much-required infrastructural development on the busiest sections across the Indian Railways," the ministry said.

According to the ministry, the projects are result of PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity which have been possible through integrated planning and will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services.

Student suicide has surpassed overall trend

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Incidents of student suicides in India have grown at an alarming annual rate, surpassing the population growth rate and overall suicide trends, according to a new report. Based on the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, the "Student suicides: An epidemic sweeping India" report was launched on Wednesday at the Annual IC3 Conference and Expo 2024. The report pointed out that while the over-

all suicide numbers increased by 2 per cent annually, student suicides cases surged by 4 per cent, despite a likely "under reporting" of student suicide cases. "Over the past two decades, student suicides have grown at an alarming annual rate of 4 per cent, double the national average. In 2022, male students constituted 53 per cent of the total student suicides. Between 2021 and 2022, male student suicides decreased by 6 per cent while female student

FOR BLEEDING, SWOLLEN, AND LOOSE GUMS...

VIGGO

BHARAT KA GUM EXPERT

VIGGO

TRUSTED AYURVEDA SINCE 1932

Viggo Vajradanti may not give you the joy of taste, or of excess foaming, but it will surely give you one thing - effectiveness! The power of 18 ayurvedic herbs and barks helps treat bleeding gums, swollen gums and pyorrhea, leaving you with strong gums and healthy teeth.

SAUNF & SALCHIN FLAVOURS AVAILABLE IN SUGAR-FREE AS WELL

Since 1986

PLASTO

प्लास्टो है तो गॅरन्टी है।

Safe for Drinking Water

6 Layer **PLASTO GOLD**

KILLS 99% Bacteria & Viruses

AVAILABLE IN 100 L TO 10,000 L

10 YEARS on all Tanks

CPVC Pipes & Fittings, UPVC Pipes & Fittings, SWR Pipes & Fittings, Agri Pipes & Fittings

INTRODUCING CP Fittings, Bib Cock, Angle Cock, Basin Mixer, Wall Mixer Crutch

PP Manhole Cover (Available in White & Black)

2 YEARS GUARANTEE

3 LAYER GARDEN PIPE

UNBREAKABLE GHAMELA 2 Years Guarantee

R C PLASTO TANKS & PIPES PVT. LTD.

Add : Plot No. 33-A-1, M.I.D.C. Hingna, Nagpur-440016 (M.S.)

info@plasto.in | www.plasto.in

For Dealership & Project Material Enquiry: 91300 76943

For Job Enquiry: 93260 71555

Dhantari, Gariaband, Kanker, Kondagaon, Bastar, Narayanpur, Bijapur, Sukma, Dantewada, Jagdalpur, Balod: 91751 37484, 9370690999, Kabirdham, Bemetara, Balod Bazar, Mahasamund, Raipur, Durg, Rajnandgaon, Bhillai, Kawardha: 9130077152, 9370690999, Bilaspur, Korba, Mungelli, Jajjgir-Champa, Gaurella- Peendra, Marwahi: 9130031430, 9370690999, Surguja, Ambikapur, Jashpur, Surajpur, Balrampur, Manendragarh, Korliya, Chirimiri: 9175671831, 9130031430, 9370690999, Raigarh, Shakti, Sarangarh: 8956134263, 9130031430, 9370690999

Raipur



BJP government failed to provide security to citizens.

Deepak Baij,
PCC Chief.

Ganesh idol making in final stage in Raipur



Artists busy in giving final touches to the clay idols of Lord Ganesha ahead of the Ganesha Chaturthi festival.

'Ayushman Card coverage to increase to Rs 10 lakh'

Jaiswal announced that the govt is in the process of increasing the treatment limit.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Ayushman card coverage in Chhattisgarh is set to increase significantly, as confirmed by Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal. Currently, the Ayushman Bharat scheme under the Shaheed Veernarayan Singh Yojana provides treatment up to Rs 5 lakh. Jaiswal announced that the government is in the process of increasing the treatment limit from Rs 5 lakh to 10 lakh, as per their manifesto commitment.

Addressing questions

on various issues, Jaiswal defended the law enforcement actions against Congress workers, stating that regardless of who holds power, the law functions independently. He added that in the current administration led by Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai, action is taken fairly, and allegations of improper police conduct, including lathi charges, were baseless. He criticized Congress, recalling how the previous government allegedly mistreated women, journalists, and BJP workers during protests.

Regarding the rise in

crime, Jaiswal remarked that law and order have significantly improved under Vishnu Dev's government, contrasting it with the pre-

HIGHLIGHT

● Currently, the Ayushman Bharat scheme provides treatment up to Rs 5 lakh

vious administration, which he claimed had allowed "jungle raj" to flourish. He highlighted that under the previous regime, safety for women, children, and the

general public had deteriorated, while today, peace and order prevail across the state. On the surge in swine flu cases in Chhattisgarh, the Health Minister acknowledged that thousands of cases occur annually.

He assured that the health department is addressing the situation effectively. So far, 12 swine flu-related deaths have been reported in the state, but the government has made adequate testing and treatment arrangements, with ongoing efforts to manage the outbreak.

BJP hits back at Bhupesh Baghel

RAIPUR: The BJP has issued a strong response to a letter written by former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel to the current Chief Minister Vishnu Sai. BJP state spokesperson Devlal Thakur criticized Baghel, accusing him of repeatedly violating constitutional procedures and questioning his moral authority to speak on matters of the Constitution, democracy, and law and order. Thakur accused Baghel of undermining democracy and obstructing legal processes on numerous occasions. He questioned, "Where is it written in the Constitution that Baghel supports the accused and stands with the mob in their favor?" Thakur further claimed that while the Congress and Baghel often speak about the importance of the Constitution and democracy, they fail to respect constitutional institutions. In contrast, Thakur praised Chief Minister Vishnu Sai for his extensive political and administrative experience, noting that Sai has served in various capacities, including as a minister, MLA, MP, and now as Chief Minister. He stated, "Sai ji is of great stature and does not need to learn from those who themselves are involved in unconstitutional acts."

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

ARRESTED

Mastermind behind Mahadev Satta App arrested in joint police operation

RAIPUR: In a significant breakthrough, the Chhattisgarh Police, in collaboration with the Gujarat Police, successfully apprehended Dinesh Vyas, the mastermind behind the hawala network associated with the Mahadev Satta App. The joint police operation led to Vyas's arrest from his native village Brahmanve, located in Patan district, Gujarat, under the jurisdiction of Chansma police station. The authorities had issued a lookout circular for Dinesh Vyas on July 3, and his arrest marks a critical advancement in the ongoing investigation into the Mahadev Satta App. With Vyas now in custody, law enforcement anticipates uncovering crucial details regarding the financial infrastructure supporting the app, which is known for facilitating illegal betting activities. Dinesh Vyas is expected to be brought to Durg on transit remand, where he will face interrogation and further legal proceedings.

INVITATION

CM Vishnu Deo Sai invited to attend Nuakhai Shobha Yatra in Raipur



RAIPUR: A delegation from the Nuakhai Shobha Yatra Sanchalan Samiti Raipur met Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai at his residence office, extending a formal invitation for him to be the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the Nuakhai festival. The event, which is one of the significant celebrations in the region, is scheduled to take place on September 3 at 5 pm at the Grass Memorial Sports Ground in Raipur. The delegation expressed their desire for Chief Minister Sai to grace the occasion and lead the festival's closing ceremony, marking an important cultural event for the community.

Waiting for results from last five-year

SI Exam candidates protest outside Home Minister's Vijay Sharma residence



RAIPUR: Candidates for the Sub Inspector (SI) exam, held in 2018, have taken to the streets in protest, gathering outside the residence of Home Minister Vijay Sharma. Frustrated by the five-year delay in the release of their results, candidates from across the state are demanding answers and assurances from the government. The protestors, who have been fighting for their cause for over five and a half years, say that despite repeated attempts to meet with Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, they

have been dismissed each time without any resolution. The candidates, sitting on dharna outside the Home Minister's bungalow, have vowed not to leave until their demands are met.

One of the protestors stated, "The government has ignored our pleas for years. If they can't meet our demands, then they should grant us euthanasia. We don't understand why the government is refusing to address this issue. Instead of helping us, they are sending police officers with lathis to intimidate us."

Netaji Hotel owner assaulted, FIR Filed

RAIPUR: An incident of assault involving the owner of Netaji Hotel at Katora Talab has surfaced, reportedly due to a money-related dispute. The police have registered an FIR following the victim's complaint and are currently investigating the matter.

The hotel owner, Rahul Chandnani, stated in his complaint that on August 27, around 2:45 PM, while he was at his hotel, two individuals, Sandeep Meghani and Nitesh Kumar, entered the premises. They allegedly hurled abuses at him and issued threats to kill him over an unresolved financial transaction. Chandnani further reported that Sachin Meghani, Karan Bajaj, Divyansh Saxena, Manoj Joshi, Kamal Parekh, and Yakub Ghani later arrived in a car and joined in the assault. He sustained injuries to his head, left arm, shoulder, and the back of his head as they beat him with their hands and fists.

[ADVISORY ISSUED]

Advisory issued for prevention and control of Monkeypox

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal has directed officials across all districts to implement the guidelines outlined in the advisory issued for the prevention and control of Monkeypox (M-Pox). The advisory, issued by the Director General of Health Services, Government of India on August 20, 2024, comes in response to the World Health Organization's declaration of Mon-

keypox as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on August 14, 2024.

Monkeypox, a viral disease typically found in Central and West Africa, has recently surfaced in other parts of the world, including cases reported in Kerala, India, in March 2024. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, has issued comprehensive guidelines covering surveillance, investigation, and treatment



Residents of colony in panic stage as Jaundice is spreading.

Jaundice outbreak threatens lives of residents in RDA Colony

Central Chronicle News

Situation has become increasingly alarming as children have also fallen victim to the disease

RAIPUR: A severe jaundice outbreak is endangering the lives of approximately 1800 residents in a colony developed by the Raipur Development Authority (RDA) in Boriyakhurd, Raipur. The situation has become increasingly alarming as children have also fallen victim to the disease, with several cases reported in the past week.

The root cause of the outbreak is believed to be the contaminated water supply in the colony. Residents have reported that sewage water is mixing with tap water, leading to the presence of worms and other impurities. Despite boiling

FACTFILE

● Sewage water is mixing with tap water.

the water, many residents have still contracted jaundice, a disease known to be caused by the consumption of contaminated water. In the past week alone, around 10 residents, including children, have been diagnosed with jaundice, with some requiring hospitalization.

Many others are displaying symptoms, raising fears of a widespread health crisis.

The living conditions in the colony are dire, with sewage openly flowing in front of homes and septic tanks overflowing, causing a foul stench to permeate the area.

The situation has forced residents to cover their mouths with cloths as they navigate their daily lives amidst the filth. Children are particularly vulnera-

ble, as they play near the unsanitary conditions, further increasing their risk of falling ill. Residents have voiced their frustration, stating that despite paying regular maintenance fees, there has been no action taken to clean the overflowing septic tanks, which have not been attended to for years. Repeated complaints to the authorities have gone unanswered, leaving the residents to endure the hazardous conditions.

Instructed officials to hold awareness camps in every development block and Gram Panchayat.

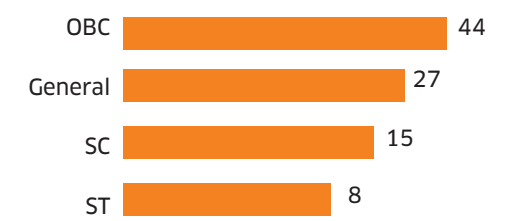
Shyam Bihari Jaiswal
State Health Minister.

lymph nodes, and typically resolves within 2-4

The Day's NUMBERS

Category wise in Chhattisgarh

BENEFICIARIES OF PM STREET VENDOR'S ATMANIRBHAR NIDHI



Source : Agencies

RAIPUR VISIT

JCI India National Vice President to visit Raipur today

RAIPUR: JCI India National Vice President, JFF Kartikeya Madhyastha, is scheduled to visit Maharaja Agrasen International College (MAIC) in Raipur on August 29th. The visit, which is part of his official tour to Zone 9, is hosted by JCI Raipur MAIC United. During his visit, JCI India will extend financial assistance to the family of the late Mriga, a dedicated JCI member. As a gesture of support, JCI India has committed to providing Rs 13,00,000 from its Welfare Fund to help Mriga's family. This financial aid reflects the organization's solidarity and ongoing support for its members, especially in times of need.

The cheque will be presented to Mriga's family by National Vice President Kartikeya Madhyastha during a special ceremony at MAC. This initiative underscores JCI India's dedication to empowering young people and maintaining a strong support system within its community. This visit exemplifies the spirit of unity, compassion, and care that defines the JCI organization.

ELECTED PRESIDENT

Naresh Singhai elected as President of Sakal Digambar Jain Samaj



RAIPUR: The election for the President of Raipur Sakal Digambar Jain Samaj was successfully concluded at the Digambar Jain Temple in Fafaadilh. In a unanimous decision, the trustees and presidents of all Digambar Jain temples in the capital chose Naresh Jain Singhai as their new President through a voting slip process. The announcement was made by Brahmachari Sunil Bhaiya, who drew the slip and declared Naresh Singhai as the elected President for a tenure of one year. The news of Naresh Singhai, known for his active involvement and amicable nature, being elected as the President brought a wave of joy across the Jain community. Shortly after his election, Singhai exercised his authority by appointing Vikash Singhai as the Secretary and Rajesh Singhai as the Treasurer, with the remaining executive positions to be announced soon.

Membership campaign has significant role: Dev

200 members to be made at booth to strengthen Organization from Sep 2.



BJP chief Kiran Singh Dev inaugurating the meeting at party office.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Kiran Singh Dev on Wednesday said that the upcoming membership campaign of the party, would play significant role in the next Civic Bodies and Panchayat elections.

Addressing a joint meeting of all the frontal organizations of the party at the Kushabhau Thakre premises here, he said that to maintain the growth is very difficult and added that if things are maintained then it gives a strong message

FASTFACTS

- Membership campaign to be in three phases to achieve target.

- BJYM to associate youth at educational campuses during campaign.

to the people about the party.

He further said that the Peoples Representatives including the Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) have been given task to achieve the membership

Top leaders attend joint meeting

Minister for Health & Family Welfare Shyam Bahari Jaiswal also addressed the meeting whereas former Minister Mahesh Gada proposed vote of thanks at the end of the programme. Senior MLA Punnul Mohile, State BJP Vice-president Sarla Kosharia, General Secretaries Sanjay Shrivastava, Jagdish Ramu Rohra, BJP's Youth Morcha in-charge Alok Dagas, BJYM President Ravi Bhagat, OBC Morcha President Rakesh Chandrakar, Mahila Morcha chief Shalini Rajput, SC Morcha chief Navin Markandeye, ST Morcha chief Vikas Markam, Minorities Morcha in-charge Dr Salim Raj and several others were present on the occasion.

target. He said that 200 members would be made in every 23,681 booths across Chhattisgarh which he said that the target of 50 lakh members would be achieved

if minimum members in each family is being counted. He reiterated that the strong Organization is essential to ensure victory of BJP from Panchayat to Parliament.

Guv stresses need for awareness to eradicate TB

RAIPUR: Governor Ramesh Bais stressed the importance of public awareness in eliminating tuberculosis (TB) from the country. He was speaking at the state-level dissemination program of the ELVIS project, aimed at eradicating TB.

The Governor highlighted the need for collective efforts to achieve the goal of making India TB-free by 2025, as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's TB-Free India campaign. He emphasized that TB elimination is not possible without community support and awareness.

The ELVIS project, implemented in four states including Chhattisgarh, has trained 904 TB champions who are working with the government to provide health services and eradicate TB. The Governor urged everyone to commit to the project's objectives and become Nikshay Mitras (TB friends) to support TB patients.

The program also featured the release of a report related to the ELVIS project. Chandrakala Yadav, a TB survivor and champion from Durg, shared her experiences and encouraged others to fight against TB. Dr. Jagdish Sonkar, Director of National Health Mission, Chhattisgarh, also shared his thoughts on the occasion.

National Deworming Day on 29th August

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: National Deworming Day will be observed in Chhattisgarh on August 29, 2024 and all the preparations for the same have been completed. On this day, deworming medication will be administered to all children and adolescents of age group 1 to 19 years at Anganbadi centers, government schools, health centers, grant-in-aid private schools, and technical education institutions across the state. Deworming is essential for ensuring the good health, better nutrition, regular access to education, and improved quality of life for children and adolescents.

Dr. V.R. Bhagat, Deputy Director of the Child Health Program, informed that the state government has set a target to administer deworming medication to 107.97 lakh children and adolescents aged 1 to 19 years in Chhattisgarh. The medication, Albendazole 400 mg, will be provided by teachers in schools and by Anganbadi workers at Anganbadi centers. A mop-up day will be organized on 4th September 2024, to administer the medication to children and adolescents who missed the initial dose. This initiative aims to improve health and nutritional levels, prevent anemia, enhance intellectual development, and increase school

HIGHLIGHT

- Deworming Medication to be administered to all the children and adolescents of age group 1 to 19 years.

- Target set to provide deworming medication to 107.97 lakh children across 33 districts of Chhattisgarh.

attendance among children and adolescents.

Teachers and Anganbadi workers will oversee the medication process. The dosage will be administered as follows: half a tablet (crushed) for children of age group 1 to 2 years, one tablet (crushed) for children of age 2 to 3 years, and one tablet to be chewed with water for children aged 3 to 19 years.

Dr. Bhagat emphasized that the deworming medication is completely safe for children and adolescents. Some children may experience mild adverse effects, such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, mild abdominal pain, and fatigue due to the presence of worms in the body. Children with severe worm infections may exhibit temporary symptoms, which can be managed with care at schools and Anganbadi centers. If such symptoms are observed, children should be given clean drinking water and monitored closely.

NEWSLINE

DEWORMING DAY

Ensure deworming medication for children: Collector



RAIPUR: The National Deworming Day program will commence on August 29, aiming to deworm school and Anganwadi children by administering Albendazole medication. This initiative ensures children's mental and physical well-being.

Collector Dr. Gaurav Singh chaired an inter-departmental meeting at the Red Cross hall in the Collectorate premises, instructing the District Education Officer to ensure 100% coverage of children receiving the medication. He also directed the Women and Child Development Department to administer deworming medication to enrolled and non-enrolled children in Anganwadi centers, as well as school dropouts.

RESHUFFLE

IAS Officer Ekka shifted to Mantralaya

RAIPUR: In a significant administrative reshuffle, the state government on Wednesday shifted the 2005 batch IAS Officer Neelam Namdeo Ekka from Bilaspur as Divisional Commissioner to Mantralaya as Secretary. Higher Education Commissioner Janak Prasad Pathak has been posted as new Divisional Commissioner of Bilaspur in the reshuffle. Senior IAS Officer Prasanna R working as Secretary Higher Education has been given additional charge of Commissioner Higher Education with immediate effect. 2013 batch IAS Officer Rajendra Kumar Katara working as Director State Council of Educational Research, has been given additional charge of Mission Director of National Higher Education campaign.

REDRESSAL CAMP

Grievance redressal camp in Sankara Village



RAIPUR: A public grievance redressal camp was organized in Sankara village of Tilda block, where Revenue and Sports Minister Tankaram Verma said that the state government is working to address the problems of the people at the village level, as per the vision of CM Vishnu Dev Sai. The minister said that every citizen's problem is being addressed promptly through the camp, and those that cannot be resolved immediately will be resolved within a time-bound manner. He also instructed officials to resolve land-related disputes within three months.

Workshop on bio-signal acquisition and processing



Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Department of Biomedical Engineering at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur recently inaugurated a 5-day workshop on "Real-Time Hands-On in Bio-signal Acquisition and Processing Using Advanced AI and ML Tools".

The program, sponsored by Anusandhan National Research Foundation (formerly SERB) India, aims to provide faculty members from nearby colleges with cutting-edge knowledge and practical skills in AI and ML applied to bio-signal processing.

inaugurated by Chief Guest Dr. NV Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Raipur, who emphasized the crucial role of AI and ML in revolutionizing healthcare technologies and bio-signal processing.

Guest of Honor Prof. D. Saniyal, Dean, Faculty welfare, NIT Raipur, highlighted the significance of such training programs in equipping educators with the latest tools and methodologies.

The program will feature hands-on sessions on bio-signal acquisition, processing techniques, and the application of AI and ML tools, ensuring a comprehensive learning experience.

Transformer installed in Kendapani

RAIPUR: In accordance with Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai's vision to ensure uninterrupted power supply from urban to rural areas, the electricity department is working tirelessly to replace transformers, cables, and grips day and night. In Kendapani village of Duldula, Jashpur district, a new transformer was installed immediately after the villagers applied to the Chief Minister's camp office, Bagia, due to a faulty transformer disrupting power supply.

This has brought relief to the locals. In the past week, new transformers have also been installed in Butkachhar Sukhasantoli, Farasabhar's Singbahar, and Negitoli, among other areas, following instructions from the Chief Minister's camp office. The electricity department has replaced transformers, cables, and grips at nearly 20 locations between August 16 and 22.

Captivating performances mark RIS founder's day

FOUNDER'S DAY |

Central Chronicle News

The occasion commemorated the visionary spirit and unwavering dedication of Dr. A.F. Pinto.

RAIPUR: Ryan International School, Raipur, celebrated Founder's Day on August 28 with great enthusiasm and fervor. The occasion commemorated the visionary spirit and unwavering dedication of Dr. A.F. Pinto, the school's founder. A special assembly was organized to pay tribute to his legacy and inspire the current generation of students. The highlight of the assembly was a captivating musical orchestra performance by the secondary students. Their harmonious melodies filled the air, creating a mesmerizing atmo-



Children performing on the stage.

FASTFACTS

- Students of the Montessori and Primary sections presented a thought-provoking presentation on the 12 vision points of Dr. A.F. Pinto

- The celebration fostered a sense of unity, strengthening its bond with its founder and his vision.

sphere. The performance showcased the students' talent and dedication to the arts. In addition, the students of the Montessori and Primary sections presented a thought-provoking presentation on the 12 vision points of Dr. A.F. Pinto. They highlighted the importance of these principles in shaping the school's ethos and guiding the students towards holistic development. Founder's

Day served as a platform to instill in the students the values of excellence, compassion, and integrity. It was a day to reflect on the school's journey, celebrate its achievements, and look forward to a brighter future.

The celebration fostered a sense of unity, pride, and belonging among the school community, strengthening its bond with its founder and his vision.

MUSIC |

Musical Evening at Kamladevi Sangeet Mahavidyalaya

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Kamladevi Sangeet Mahavidyalaya in Raipur hosted a magnificent musical evening in celebration of Shri Krishna Janmashtami. The event was a resounding success, with students delivering mesmerizing performances based on various classical ragas, leaving the audience spellbound. The event was meticulously organized and directed by Dr. Deepak Bedekar, with



the program being skillfully anchored by Parul Sharma and Preeti Sahu.

The evening began with Nitin Loonia's performance on the harmonium, presenting

the bandish 'Mohan Jal Bhar Jaane De' in Raga Khamaj, which vividly depicted the playful childhood activities of Lord Krishna. Following this, Shri Sharma captivated

the audience with his soulful rendition of 'Jago Mohan Pyare' in Raga

“This musical evening was not just a cultural event but an experience that will remain etched in the hearts of all those who attended.”

Dr. Deepak Bedekar
Professor, Kamladevi Sangeet Mahavidyalaya

the audience with his soulful rendition of 'Jago Mohan Pyare' in Raga

Bhairav. Anurag Sahu glorified the divine grace of the Lord with 'Prabhu Ji Rakhan Haar Hamro' in Raga Durga, followed by Preeti Sahu's poignant performance of 'Ban Ban Dhoondan Jaon' in Raga Vrindavani Sarang. Parul Sharma's live rendition of 'Bhajan Nis Din Sundar Shyam' in Raga Bhimpalasi was a spiritual treat, while Mayank Bairagi's presentation of 'Biraj Mein Dhoom Machi Hai' in Raga Vrindavani Sarang was highly appreciated.

11 new ration shops to open in Birgaon

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: In a move to ensure easy availability of ration at subsidized rates, 11 new ration shops will be opened in the Birgaon Municipal Corporation area of Raipur district. Applications for these shops are being accepted until September 15. The new shops will help reduce crowds at existing ration shops and provide convenient access to ration for residents. According to Sub-Divisional Reve-

nue Officer Nand Kumar Chaube, the state government has instructed to rationalize existing shops to ensure easy availability of ration to beneficiaries. The new shops will be opened in various wards, including three in Rawanbhata zone, two each in Urala, Urkura, and Sarora zones, and one each in Achholi and Birgaon zones. Interested applicants can submit their applications and required documents at the SDM office, Raipur, by September 15.

I've directed urgent actions for water conservation, nutrition campaigns, and public health improvements in Rajnandgaon.

Sanjay Agarwal
District Collector.



Chhattisgarh

Officials clash displaces Mungeli vegetable market

Officials' clash forces Mungeli's wholesale vegetable market to operate on private land.



Sushil Shukla

MUNGELI: The wholesale vegetable market of the district doesn't have the space to operate on governmental land due to the evasive behavior of two departments due to which the wholesale vegetable market is being operated on private land. While the government is suffering loss of revenue, the policies of the government administration are being openly violated. Due to the wholesale vegetable market being far away from the city, vegetable producing farmers have to go 10-15 kilometers away, while retail vegetable traders also have to go to the wholesale vegetable market to buy vegetables due to which they

"All efforts will be made for the development of the city, this problem will be solved by discussing with the officials regarding the wholesale vegetable market."

Punnulal Mohle
MLA Mungeli

"A letter has been given by the traders demanding land for the wholesale vegetable and fruit market. After searching for the land, the Krishi Upaj Mandi will be allotted land for the wholesale vegetable and fruit market."

Parvati Patel
SDM Mungeli

"The wholesale fruit and vegetable market is operated by the Krishi Upaj Mandi. The Municipality has no role in the operation of the wholesale fruit and vegetable market."

Ashish Tiwari
Chief Municipality Officer
Mungeli

have to bear unnecessary freight. Vegetable traders are demanding from the administration to provide government land for the wholesale vegetable market around the city.

On the one hand, the government is encouraging retail traders in the local market through

small facilities. On the other hand, the district administration is discouraging regional vegetable producing farmers and wholesale vegetable sellers. The private land situated in Raipur has been taken on lease for 11 years by some wholesale vegetable traders. Apart from

this, 24 thousand rupees per month is given to 4 watchmen and 17 thousand rupees to sweepers by these traders.

Wholesale vegetable market of Mungeli has established a new dimension. Vegetables are arriving from nearby districts as well as various states.

Registration and renewal deadline

RAJNANDGAON: Workers registered with Chhattisgarh Bhawan and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, whose registration validity has expired and have not submitted application for registration renewal, such construction workers can submit application for registration and renewal till 31 December this year.

The Labor Officer said that non-renewed registration after the prescribed date will be considered unregistered. For detailed information in this regard, you can contact the toll free number 0771-3505050 of Chief Minister Shramik Sahayata Kendra.

CC roads approved funding

RAJNANDGAON: Chief Executive Officer District Panchayat Ms. Suruchi Singh has given administrative approval of Rs 98 thousand for CC road construction work in ward number 8 of Amlidih of Dongargarh development block and Rs 5 lakh for CC road construction work in Charbatha Ku of Chhuriya development block under District Panchayat Development Fund Scheme.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

FOUNDATION DAY

60th Foundation Day of Vishwa Hindu Parishad celebrated

MUNGELI: The 60th Foundation Day of Vishwa Hindu Parishad was celebrated in Manas Bhawan under the chief guestship of Ajay Parik, the guardian of Bhopal region and Mahant Ramroop Das Ashram Mandkudweep. The chief guest said that the council is doing service work in all the tribal areas of the society. The 60th Foundation Day of Vishwa Hindu Parishad was celebrated in Manas Bhawan under the aegis of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang Dal, DurgaVahini and Matri Shakti under the chief guestship of the head of the Central Service Department and Ajay Parik, the guardian of Bhopal region and Mahant Ramroop Das Ashram Mandkudweep. As special guests, inaugurated the event by lighting a lamp and performing Puja in front of Goddess Bharti.

ARREST

Police probe family murder of two real brothers in Mungeli



MUNGELI: Due to family land division and mutual dispute, father and real brothers killed their two real brothers. Police reached the spot after getting information about the incident and took the injured people to the hospital and arrested five accused including a minor. Four accused involved in the incident absconded. Police is searching for the absconding accused.

There was already a mutual resentment and dispute between the sons of Toran Patle, resident of Budhwara, regarding land division.

Award

Tusker National Award to NTPC Lara



LARA: Lara Super Thermal Power Station of NTPC Limited presented two awards in National Tusker Award ceremony 2024 held at Kozhikode, Kerala. NTPC Lara won "Gold Award" in "Community Engagement and Impact" and silver award for "Best Short Film". The public awareness campaign done by NTPC for the development of girl child by its programme

"Girl Empowerment Mission", promoting corruption free society during Vigilance Awareness Week and International Day for Yoga was well appreciated by the jury members.

Further, Silver award was presented for making "Best short film" on Girl Empowerment Mission, safety and waste to wealth, making of carry bag from waste bag filter.

Awasi Mitra applications deadline announced

KOREA: According to the information received from the District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer, applications will be invited till 20th September at the Chief Executive Officer, District Panchayat Office, Korea for the selection of "Awasi Mitra/Dedicated Human Resource" in each cluster with a view to orientation of beneficiaries, technical guidance, completion of housing on time and assistance in availability of material under Pradhan Mantri Awasi Yojana Gramin. Application forms received after the prescribed date will not be accepted. The educational qualification and other information prescribed for the selection of "Awasi Mitra/Dedicated Human Resource" under the scheme and the application form format can be seen and downloaded on the website of District Korea www.koriya.

Guru Balak Das Jayanti & folk art festival in Baradera

Central Chronicle News

Guru Balak Das Jayanti and Folk Art Festival celebrated with cultural performances and honors in Mandir Hasaud.

MANDIR HASAUD: On August 26, Guru Balak Das Jayanti and Surata-DevdasBanjare one-day state level Sankirtan and Folk Art Festival was organized by Upkar Pt. LokNriya Kalyan Seva Samiti and Satnami Samaj Adarsh Gram Kuteshwar Arang in Baradera Tulsu, Guru Amar Das Gurudwara premises located near Mandir Hasaud in which Chief Guest Padma Doctor Bharti Bandhu International Sufi Singer Raipur, Chairman Padma Dr. R S Barle State BJP Work-



Cultural performances mark Guru Balak Das Jayanti celebrations in Mandir Hasaud.

FACTFILE

With the presence of three Padma Shri awardees on stage, people couldn't stop themselves from taking selfies.

ing Committee, Special Guest Padma Shri Usha Barle, Sundarjogi, C L Ratre Sanwal Das, Ashok

Banjare, Rakesh Mishra, Shrawan Das Manikpuri B L Kurre Pandit Sukhrum Jangde, Bist Ghritalhare, Pradeep Prakash Ghritalhare Feru Das Kurre Bhagirathi Santosh Kosaria Anjor Das, B L Kurre were guests present.

First of all, the Guru Gaddi of Guru Balak Das was worshipped and the lamp was lit and after that a floral tribute was

offered in the memory of late Devdas Banjare. All the guests were welcomed with a garland and were honored with a shawl, coconut and a memento where the artists who came from every corner of the state presented the message of Saint Guru Ghasidas to the people through the bhajan Bharthari Dariya of Panthi MangalChowk.

JOYFUL JANMASHTAMI CELEBRATIONS |

Mungeli immersed in Janmashtami celebrations

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: Shri Krishna Janmashtami festival was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm in the area. Devotees worshipped in temples throughout the day. Lord Krishna's birth anniversary was celebrated with great joy in every home including temples. People kept fast during the day and worshipped Bal Krishna at night.



The market was bustling with enthusiasm due to Shri Krishna Janmashtami festival.

Radha-Krishna decoration competition was

organized in temples in which a large number of children participated.

Janmashtami was celebrated with enthusiasm and devotional atmo-

We celebrated Krishna Janmashtami with vibrant temple decorations, lively BhajanKirtan, and bustling markets.

People
Mungeli

sphere in rural areas including the city. Swing festival is being

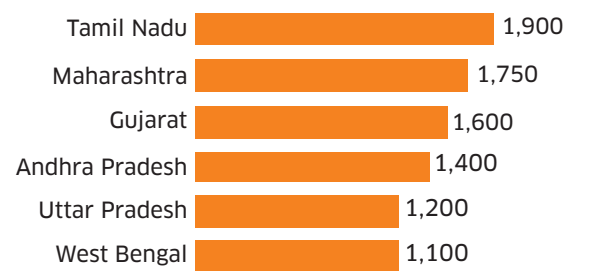
celebrated for the last one month by making attractive decorations in Shankar temple located in Malhapara.

An attractive tableau of Lord Krishna and Mother Yashoda seated in the swing was made. Crowds of devotees were seen in Radha Krishna temple since morning. Attractive decorations were done in the temple. The idol of Radha Krishna was worshipped with rituals.

The Day's NUMBERS

Tamil Nadu tops the chart

TOP FIVE STATES BY NUMBER OF TEXTILE MILLS



Source - Ministry of Textiles, GOI

CRIME

Domestic violence leads to fatal outcome, husband arrested by police

MUNGELI: Police registered a case under Sections 296, 351(2), 115(2), 103(1) against the accused husband for beating his wife and resulting in her death during treatment. The accused husband Brahma Sahu was arrested by the police after seizing the dupatta and belt used in the incident. The accused husband was presented on judicial remand and sent to jail.

Shakuntala Sahu, wife of late Sanjay Sahu, resident of Hiralal Ward, filed a report in City Kotwali on 22 August that her daughter Manisha Sahu was married to Brahma Sahu, resident of Tilak Ward, as per social customs. After marriage, Brahma Sahu used to harass her by beating her after drinking alcohol every day. On 20 August at 7.30 pm, her daughter Manisha called and informed that Brahma Sahu was abusing her, beating her and threatening her by saying that he will kill her. On receiving the information, they went to her house and found no one at home. From the people nearby they got to know that Manisha had been taken to the District Hospital. On going to the District Hospital they got to know that Manisha had been referred to CIMS Hospital, Bilaspur.

BRAHMA KUMARIS

Brahma Kumaris Rajim hosts a divine Janmashtami



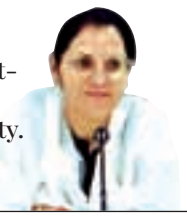
RAJIM: Janmashtami program was celebrated with great pomp in Prajapita Brahmakumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya Rajim in which Brahmakumari HemaDidi said that Shri Krishna is the first prince of Satyug. Shri Krishna will be born in the coming world where nature and the whole world will be dominated by Sats.

All souls will be happy, complete in all 16 arts, Maryada Purushottam, completely pure and will not have any kind of trouble.

To create such a world, the Supreme Father, Supreme Soul Shiva himself has come to this earth to give knowledge to the souls and he is teaching all the souls to transform humans into deities. All souls can learn Gyan Yoga from the Supreme Father, Supreme Soul, and elevate their lives like the deities.

I have instructed marking accident-prone areas on Sonhat-Ramgarh road and installing radium for safety.

Chandan Tripathi
Collector Korea



Chhattisgarh

Farmers demand fair PM scheme benefits

BJP leader Khamhan Tamrakar demanded fair distribution of PM Awas Yojana and Crop Insurance benefits to affected farmers.



Officials and leaders discuss PM Awas and Crop Insurance issues in district meeting.

Central Chronicle News

FACTFILE

KHAIRAGARH: A demand has been made to the in-charge minister of the district Lakhan Lal Devangan to provide the benefit of the scheme in a fair manner to the beneficiaries who were deprived of PM Awas Yojana last year along with providing the benefit of the scheme to the farmers of the district. In the district level meeting convened in the presence of MP Santosh Pandey, public representatives and officials, BJP leader and former vice president of Janpad Panchayat Chhuikhadan Khamhan Tamrakar demanded the amount of Pradhan Mantri Crop Insurance Scheme and

● **Tamrakar criticized exclusion of 50% farmers from PM Crop Insurance benefits due to toll-free complaint requirement.**

● **Raised concerns over incomplete Karranala Barrage canal work, affecting irrigation of 200 acres farmland.**

the benefit of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to the eligible beneficiaries. Raising the issue of crop insurance and PM Awas in the meeting, Mr. Tamrakar said that there was excessive hailstorm in the district from 16 to 20 March this year, which caused damage to the horticultural crops

including the Rabi crop of various farmers of the district. In some places the entire crop of the farmers was ruined due to hailstorm.

The farmers who suffered crop loss due to hailstorm were hoping that they would get the benefit of PM Crop Insurance Scheme on the basis of the survey, but more than 50 percent of the farmers of the district have been deprived of insurance benefits. Only those farmers who had made personal complaints on the toll free number of PM Crop Insurance Center are getting the compensation amount of PM Crop Insurance Scheme, whereas the farmers who have not lodged a complaint on

the toll free number are not getting the benefit of the insurance scheme. Mr. Tamrakar said that after the hailstorm, in the meantime, the Collector also conducted a survey under RBC 6/4 and under this survey, the farmers should get the benefit of crop compensation.

Along with this, Tamrakar also raised the issue of disqualification of eligible beneficiaries of Chhuikhadan development block under PM Awas Yojana last year and said that in the previous Bhupesh Baghel government, 1432 beneficiaries were declared ineligible on the grounds that they use landline phones, whereas this is not correct and appropriate.

Janmashtami celebrated with enthusiasm

KHARORA: Krishna Janmashtami was celebrated with great enthusiasm in Kharora. The festival saw vibrant celebrations across all colonies and neighborhoods, with events like matka phod and dahi handi competitions organized at various locations. Joy and excitement were evident on everyone's faces as people participated in the festivities. From early morning, residents were busy with extensive preparations to welcome Lord Krishna, adding to the vibrant atmosphere of the occasion.

Krishna Janmashtami celebrations in Kharora

KHARORA: Krishna Janmashtami was celebrated with enthusiasm at Mata Shakun Devi Sanskar Kendra and Birsa Munda Sanskar Kendra in Kharora. Children dressed as Krishna and Radha captivated everyone with their performances, while group dances delighted the audience. Nagar Panchayat President Anil Soni emphasized that Krishna's birth anniversary teaches unity and cooperation in society.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CELEBRATION

Anwari celebrates Janmashtami with pomp and pageantry

ANWARI: Girdhar Gopal Shri Krishna's Janmashtami festival was celebrated with great joy in the villages of the region including Anwari. A devotional atmosphere prevailed since morning. Krishna's devotional songs kept echoing in various places and temples and bhajan kirtan continued. Devotees kept fast and worshiped Murli Manohar. Little children in homes took the form of Krishna-Radha and charmed everyone. Laddu Gopal Krishna was duly worshipped in homes and people's welfare was wished by offering prasadi bhog. Dahi handi competitions took place at various places.



GRAND PROCESSION

Yadav Samaj celebrates Janmashtami with grand procession

ANWARI: Like every year, this year also Krishna Janmashtami was organized in Yadav Samaj Bhawan located in Silghat on Monday under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Kosaria Yadav Samaj Semra Pali. After completion of Shri Krishna Katha Puja, a grand procession was taken out by Yadav Samaj. Women of the society participated in large numbers in the procession carrying Kalash. The procession echoed with Jai Yadav, Jai Madhav, Jai Shri Krishna and Radhe-Radhey in the streets and neighborhoods of Silghat.



Conserving the environment Rural Sahu Samaj Lalpur embarks on greening mission



FINGESHWAR: Youth members of rural Sahu Samaj Lalpur under the leadership of President Tikesh Sahu did a great work towards enhancing the environment by planting saplings in the village and took an oath to protect them as well. State Sahu Association manager Raju Sahu said that the work undertaken by the youth to conserve the environment is indeed inspira-

tional because the rate at which we are losing the environment, it's high time that we start taking concrete steps towards conserving our environment by planting trees which will save human lives and also maintain the environmental balance and youth from other areas will also participate in good numbers to conserve the environment by planting trees.

Rashmi honored with Presidential meeting

SUKMA: Kumari Rashmi Kalmu, a student of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Residential School Chhindgarh of the district, met the Honorable President in a program organized on the occasion of Rakshabandhan at Rashtrapati Bhavan and on her return from Delhi, she was welcomed at the institution. Rashmi told that there was a Rakshabandhan program on August 19 in which the children tied Rakhi to the Honorable President and the problem students met the Honorable President while discussing the cultural heritage and educational achievement of their area. On August 20, the team visited the major tourist conservation institutions of Delhi which includes Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament House, Red Fort, Qutub Minar, Lotus Temple, Rajghat Jama Masjid, ISKCON Temple and important places.

Yadav community celebrates Krishna Janmashtami with Joy

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: The Yadav Samaj Kalyan Samiti celebrated Krishna Janmashtami at Shri Krishn Dham Bhavan, Imlipara, with great fervor and devotion. The event was graced by MLA Amar Agrawal, who, as the chief guest, highlighted Lord Krishna's divine qualities and teachings. He emphasized that Krishna was an epitome of selfless duty, philosophical wisdom, and divine virtues, earning him the title of Jagatguru. Agrawal extended his wishes for Krishna Janmashtami and assured support for the renovation of the Shri Krishn Dham Bhavan, promising to enhance it with modern amenities by the next Janmashtami.

The event also featured Belatra MLA Sushant Shukla, who pledged



FACTFILE

● **MLA Amar Agrawal pledged support for renovating Shri Krishn Dham Bhavan with modern amenities.**

● **Various competitions, including Radha-Krishna contests and chair races, engaged and celebrated community talents.**

his continued support to the community in all

situations. Divisional President Dhannu Yadav presided over the event, with special guests including Dr. A.K. Yadu, Deputy Commissioner Sati Kumar Yadav, and District Panchayat Chairperson Meenu Sumant Yadav. Various competitions were organized, including Radha-Krishna look-alike contests, chair races, and dance performances for children and women. Winners were felicitated, with

participants like Kanha Yadav, Rishika Yadav, and others shining in their respective categories. Special achievements were recognized, including excellent academic performances by students in CBSE and Chhattisgarh Board exams. The program also honored retirees from various fields, such as education, revenue, and veterinary departments, acknowledging their contributions to the community.

ELEPHANT RAMPAGE CONTINUES |

Elephant stampede causes panic in Janakpur

Central Chronicle News

MCB: A group of 11 elephants roaming in the rural forest area of Bharatpur block, from Friday night, reached Narayanpur under Guru Ghasidas National Park Area Janakpur of MCB district from Sidhi Sanjay National Park Tiger Reserve of Madhya Pradesh and broke the houses of villagers Chhotel Singh, Rajmani



Yadav, Dhirsai Singh and ate the grains kept in the house and the crops of the house and paddy, kodo, grown in the field. The

villagers were in panic due to the insolence of elephants and on hearing the sound of elephants breaking the walls and

We were in panic when the elephants began breaking walls and houses. Hearing the noise, we rushed out in heavy rain, fleeing to save our lives.

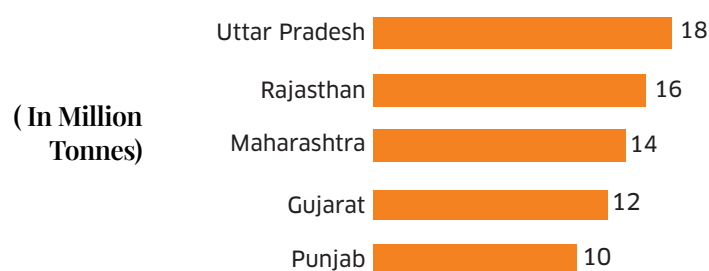
Villagers
MCB

houses, they came out of their houses in heavy rain and ran to another place

to save their lives, due to which there was no loss of life in the village. But due to the movement of elephants, their crops have been damaged, which was informed to the park range Janakpur. On the second day, in the morning, forest range officer Rajaram, along with his subordinate forest staff, inspected the spot and departmental officials were asked to keep an eye on the movement of elephants.

The Day's
NUMBERS

TOP FIVE STATES BY MILK CONSUMPTION (2023)



Source: Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying

STRIKE

Park Superintendent's arbitrary decision sparks strike



AARANG: In Aarang's Paragaon, daily wage workers working at a government nursery have staged a protest against Park Superintendent who on a whim locked the premises and stopped the workers from doing any planting work. According to reports, under the instructions of Superintendent N.K. Sarkar, the watchman locked the nursery gates from outside and when the workers came to work the next day, they found the gate locked. This left all the workers in a surprised state. When questioned regarding the same, the Superintendent gave the excuse of Janmashtami and said that he had ordered the workers to not go inside the nursery. Because of this behavior of the Superintendent, the workers have expressed their displeasure. According to the workers, they always work on holidays and also get paid for the same.

POMP & SHOW

Shishu Mandir Rewa celebrates Janmashtami with pomp and pageantry



AARANG: Students of Saraswati Shishu Mandir Rewa celebrated the festival of Janmashtami with great pomp. The program included a fancy dress competition where children dressed up as Lord Krishna and Radha in which 40 students dressed up as Radha-Krishna while 64 girl students dressed up as Radha. The competition ended in three stages. The winners of the primary and secondary children's fancy dress competition were Kunjal, Khayal, and Shambhavi. The winners of Radha fancy dress competition were Nidhi and Jaya. In the primary section, the winners of Lord Krishna's fancy dress competition were Prasiddhi, Khwaish while in Radha fancy dress competition, the winners were Latika and Reshma. In the secondary section, the winners of Lord Krishna's fancy dress competition were Tejaswini and Indu while in Radha fancy dress competition, the winners were Geetika and Godavari.

Collector reviews key district initiatives

Collector emphasized the need to expedite the removal of stray animals from roads, act against unlicensed and drunk drivers.

Central Chronicle News
RAJNANDGAON: District Collector Sanjay Agarwal chaired the weekly time limit meeting at the Collectorate, directing various departments on critical initiatives. Under Mission Jal Raksha, he ordered a water conservation survey and the construction of small and large structures, along with increasing the workforce. He also urged the acceleration of plantation efforts in industries and schools.



Collector directs action on road safety and health in a meeting.

FASTFACTS

- Collector Sanjay Agarwal directs rapid water conservation efforts, Ayushman card distribution, and health checks.
- National Nutrition Month to feature Pottha Laika Pehal Abhijan, focusing on women's and children's health.

from roads to prevent accidents and urged public awareness on the issue. He emphasized the urgency of making Ayushman cards and benefiting the public through a dedicated campaign. During the PDS and weight festival, people will be moti-

In preparation for National Nutrition Month 2024, the "Pottha Laika Pehal Abhijan" will run from September 1st to 30th, focusing on comprehensive nutrition. Women are encouraged to undergo hemoglobin tests and health check-ups. Schools, the health department, horticulture, and agricultural science centers will collaborate on this campaign, emphasizing the importance of nutrition gardens. A state-level weight festival from September 9th to 19th will focus on the health of children, adolescent girls, and women. The Collector also addressed the need to remove stray animals

Collector reviews Jandarshan camp

District Collector Sanjay Agarwal reviewed the Chief Minister's Jandarshan and District Public Problem Redressal Camp. District Panchayat CEO, Ms. Suruchi Singh, emphasized the need for preliminary preparations for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, including the recruitment of Awas Mitra. The meeting also discussed various other district initiatives. Key officials present included Additional Collector Mr. CL Markandeya, Additional Collector Mrs. Indira Naveen Pratap Singh, Municipal Corporation Commissioner Mr. Abhishek Gupta, Joint Collector Mr. Khemlal Verma, Joint Collector Sheetal Bansal, SDM Rajnandgaon Mr. Atul Vishwakarma, SDM Dongargarh Mr. Manoj Markam, SDM Dongargaon Mr. Srikanth Korram, and other district-level officers.

ivated to obtain Ayushman cards. Regarding health concerns, he stressed caution in handling potential swine flu cases, ensuring free medicine distribu-

tion, and monitoring the spread of monkeypox and diarrhea. He also called for a survey on Other Backward Classes and inspections of Ashram hostels.

Youth wing of District Sahu Sangh expanded

RAJIM : District Sahu Sangh President Narayan Sahu, on the recommendation of Harish Sahu, District Vice President, expanded the youth wing of District Sahu Sangh and appointed Kishore Sahu of village Rawad as Joint Secretary, youth Shiv Shankar Sahu of village Semharatara as District Vice President, and Rajim resident Champal Sahu as General Secretary. While handing over the appointment letters to these new office bearers, District President Narayan Sahu and Dr. Mahendra Sahu, Manjoon Sahu, Anjoor Sahu congratulated them while wishing them a bright future.

Always keep your children connected to books and pens: Bhav Singh



Central Chronicle News

ANWARI: Guru Balak Das Jayanti was celebrated in Navagaon, in which addressing the congregation, Bhav Singh Dahre, President of Satnami Samaj District Dhamtari said that development of mankind is possible only through education. He further said that the way Raja Guru Balak Das, the third child of Guru Ghasidas, had conceived and worked not only for Chhattisgarh but for mankind; therefore,

all should always keep your children connected to books and pens. In the program, after worshipping Guru Balak Das Ji and Jaitkhambh, various sports competitions were organized, in which children participated with great enthusiasm. Students were felicitated along with elders in the program. The meeting was also addressed by Pandit Shankar Dada, convener of Indian Native Society and Khilawan Barle, district secretary of Satnami Samaj Dhamtari.

Devnath Netam became Tehsil President

ANWARI: Devnath Netam has been elected the Tehsil President of Sarva Adivasi Samaj, in the election conducted of Kurud Tehsil Sarva Adivasi Samaj held recently. Devnath Netam of village Bhatgaon was elected President and Bhupendra Netam village Jijamagaon was elected Secretary. On Sunday, 1/9/2024, Devnath Netam and his entire team will be sworn in by Jivrakhan Lal Marai, President of Sarva Adivasi Samaj District Dhamtari.

Police acts on illegal liquor sales

ARANG: The police administration in Naraha, known as an education hub, became active three days after receiving a memorandum from villagers. Police caught liquor seller Ramashankar Kurre with 35 pouches of alcohol on Janmashtami, a declared dry day. Following the arrest, around a dozen liquor sellers have gone into hiding, according to villagers. Angry over illegal liquor sales dis-

turbing the community, the Gram Sabha passed a resolution demanding action. A delegation submitted a memorandum to Police Inspector General Amresh Mishra, Superintendent Santosh Singh, and Station In-charge Mukesh Verma on August 23, warning of protests if sales continued. Local MLA Guru Khushwant and Bhupendra Sharma of the Kisan Sangharsh Samiti also supported the action.

NEWSLINE

Celebration

Krishna Janmashtami celebrated in SDRS



RAJIM: Krishna Janmashtami was celebrated in Saksham Divyang Residential School, under the guidance of Rangu Lal Sinha. Boys and girls presented dance performances in various music including Dahi Handi breaking, Chair race, Dandiya and other programs, which included Shri Krishna bhajans to other activities. The school's Principal Ms. Umeshwari Sahu, teachers Shradha Sahu, Nutan Sahu, Sudha Sahu (mentally retarded), Tikeshwar Sen, Sanjay Shukla (hearing impaired), Hemu Koshle, Kamalkant (visually impaired), members of Prarak Sanstha, Lileshwar Markam, Khushboo, Yash Devangan, Yashwanth Verma, Uttam Sonwani encouraged the children.

Demand

Shikshak Sangharsh Morcha submits memorandum



KHARORA: On the call of Shikshak Sangharsh Morcha Chhattisgarh, a memorandum was submitted to Minister of Revenue and Disaster Management Tank Ram Verma by Shikshak Sangharsh Morcha Vikas Khand Tilda District Raipur, against the inconsistent rationalization rule of Chhattisgarh Government by the teacher organizations of LB cadre.

Festival

Janmashtami celebrated in Life Public School



KHARORA: The festival of Shri Krishna Janmashtami was celebrated with great pomp in Real Life Public School, Kharora. On this occasion, children were seen in the costumes of Radha and Krishna and various events related to this were held in many branches of Real Life Public School. The various programs organized on this occasion not only revealed the cultural and spiritual significance of this festival, but also provided a platform to the excellent talents of the students and their mothers. As per information given by the school founder Raghavendra Goswami, the program started with a soulful prayer by the little children, which filled the entire atmosphere with spiritual energy.

Krishna ideals highlighted at festive event



Central Chronicle News

Yogesh Tiwari highlighted Krishna's ideals at a Janmashtami event, urging all to follow his teachings.

BARELA: A grand event was organized by the Yadav community on the occasion of Krishna Janmashtami at Shivgauri Dham in the Singhauri village of the Barela Assembly region. National President of Sarv Sanatan Hindu Sangathan, Yogesh Tiwari, attended as the chief guest. Tiwari

performed rituals and prayed for the well-being of the residents, emphasizing the significance of Lord Krishna's ideals.

Speaking at the event, Tiwari highlighted Krishna's exemplary role as a son, stating that Krishna embodied divinity not only in his actions but also in his thoughts. "Krishna's ideals are a guiding light for all of us. His presence in our hearts brings peace, and following his path can lead us to a better life," Tiwari remarked. He urged everyone to follow the teachings of Lord Krishna and emulate his virtues.

CJ of Chhattisgarh High Court inspects courts

KORBA: Honorable Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court, Mr. Ramesh Sinha Sahib left for Ambikapur district for inspection after hearing all the listed cases in his court. During the visit, he also inspected the Civil Court Katghora and the advocates of Civil Court Katghora expressed happiness on his arrival and met him. The Honorable Chief Justice took information regarding the court cases from the judicial officer present there. The court premises and building were inspected and seeing the garden in disarray, instructions were given to decorate it and instructions were also given to keep the place of drinking water clean. It is known that Honorable Chief Justice Ramesh Sinha is continuously inspecting all the district courts of the state and efforts are being made to resolve the problems.

Collector, SP chair meeting on law and order

Central Chronicle News

Collector Chandan Tripathi and SP Suraj Singh Parihar chaired a law and order meeting.

KOREA: Collector Chandan Tripathi and Superintendent of Police Suraj Singh Parihar jointly chaired a meeting with the officers of the district and police administration on various issues including law and order. In the meeting, the issue of overcrowding and traffic pressure during the market held on Thursdays and Sundays in Baikunthpur was discussed and at the same time, initiative will be taken to strictly remove the illegal chicken-fish-mutton shops located near the temple. Collector Tripathi has instructed to mark the accident prone areas on



Collector, SP discuss law enforcement and pollution control measures in meeting.

FASTFACTS

- Strict action to remove illegal shops near temple, control market traffic congestion.
- Focus on pollution control in rivers, stopping drug and illegal liquor smuggling.

Sonhat-Ramgarh road and install radium to avoid major accidents. The Collector also said that DJ (Disc Jockey), Mountain Vehicle should not be allowed in the district, apart from this, the pandals, tents, shamianas installed on the roadside should be removed immediately and no such permission should

be given. She instructed the Nagar Palika officials to immediately remove the kiosks, shops, paan thelas etc. from the roadside and also urged for NGT. Norms to be fulfilled related to the residents of the district not to throw plastic items, polythene and plastic water bottles in rivers and ponds.

ANEMIA CAUSES HIGHLIGHTED |

Lack of iron, folic acid causes anemia: Dr Snehlata

Central Chronicle News

RAJIM: A lecture on anemia was organized in Government Rajiv Lochan Postgraduate College Rajim under the joint aegis of the Botanical Committee of the college and Chhattisgarh Science Sabha Rajim unit, in which Dr. Snehlata Humne, a renowned doctor of Rajim area and coordinator of Chhattisgarh Science Sabha Rajim unit, participated as the keynote speaker. The



Anemia is primarily caused by low hemoglobin levels due to deficiencies in iron, folic acid, and B12 in the diet.
Snehlata Humne
Renowned doctor

said that the main cause of anemia is lack of hemoglobin, the reason

for the lack of hemoglobin was the lack of vitamins like iron, folic acid and B12 in a balanced diet and stressed on the fact that anaemia causes fatigue, irritability and lack of concentration.

Expressing concern on the issue of teenage pregnancy, she said that this problem is due to lack of awareness and what kind of pregnancy in teenage girls has a bad effect on the mother and child.

Aadhar redressal camp for specially abled on Aug 28th

Central Chronicle News

KOREA : In the presence of experts of UIDI, a camp will be organized on 28th August from 10.30 am to 5 pm at Gautam Sadan, near State Bank of India, Baikunthpur for redressal of Aadhar related biometric mismatching, multiple rejection cases and making Aadhar cards for Divyangjans. Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat Dr. Ashutosh Chaturvedi

has been made the nodal officer of this program. Deputy Director T. Chetan Reddy and Project Manager Ankit Tiwari, as representatives from UIDI, informed that Aadhar cards will be made at the camp site for the elderly and disabled people, including any kind of correction related to biometric mismatching, multiple rejection cases related to Aadhar card, Aadhar seeding under social assistance pension.



Should Dalits, poor give up hope for justice.
Priyanka Gandhi Vadra
Congress leader



Cong legislators stage a protest during the ongoing Autumn session of the Assam Legislative Assly.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

APPEAL

NIA opposes LS MP Engineer Rashid's bail plea

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court is likely to pronounce on September 4 its order on an application filed by Lok Sabha MP Engineer Rashid, who is in jail since 2019, seeking regular bail in a 2017 Jammu and Kashmir terror funding case. Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, defeated former chief minister and National Conference leader Omar Abdullah in Baramulla constituency in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) Chander Jit Singh on Wednesday heard the arguments on his bail application during in-camera proceedings (not open to public) and reserved the order. According to court sources, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) opposed Rashid's plea for bail in the case in which he has been charged under anti-terror law UAPA, claiming that he may influence the witnesses and tamper with evidence to obstruct justice.

CONCERN

'Road accidents have claimed more lives than wars, militancy, Naxalism'



NEW DELHI: More people have lost their lives in India in road accidents than wars, militancy and Naxalism, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Wednesday. Addressing the sixth Edition of FICCI Road Safety Awards and Conclave 2024, Gadkari further said the number of blackspots is increasing because of bad detailed project reports (DPRs) of road projects.

Day after 'Miya' remark, Assam Oppn files FIR against CM

The FIR was filed by Lurinjyoti Gogoi, general secretary of the United Opposition Forum Assam (UOFA), at Dispur police station. Gogoi was accompanied by leaders of other parties of the Forum.

Press Trust Of India

GUWAHATI: Opposition parties of Assam on Wednesday filed a first information report (FIR) against Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, accusing him of 'promoting enmity' based on religion and race.

They accused Sarma of attempting to incite communal tension by targeting a specific community, potentially leading to riot-like situations in the state.

The FIR was filed by Lurinjyoti Gogoi, general secretary of the United Opposition Forum Assam (UOFA), at Dispur police station. Gogoi was

accompanied by leaders of other parties of the Forum.

The UOFA is an alliance of 18 parties in Assam, aligned with the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA).

"We are lodging this FIR against Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma, who happens to be the Chief Minister of the state, for trying to promote enmity between different groups on the grounds of religion and race," the FIR, which was shared with the media, read.

The complaint was received by an official at the police station, but no case has been registered

HIGHLIGHT

- They accused Sarma of attempting to incite communal tension by targeting a specific community.

- UOFA demanded the Prez and the Gov to terminate Sarma as the CM for his series of "communal and unconstitutional" statements.

yet, police said.

Referring to the alleged gang-rape of a 14-year-old girl in Dhing, which evoked widespread condemnations and protests, the UOFA

claimed that Sarma is 'trying to whip up communal frenzy by targeting a particular community'.

It has already resulted in "attack on some people belonging to religious minority in Sivasagar by BJP workers and leaders", the opposition parties claimed, adding that it had been done as "part of conspiracy to create a riot like situation in the state and the accused named Himanta Biswa Sarma and other BJP leaders are part of the criminal conspiracy to create such unrest".

The UOFA alleged that Sarma has a history of making provocative statements against a particular community, referencing an instance from a year ago when the Chief Minister reportedly urged the public to evict individuals of a specific religious community, whom he referred to as 'Miya', from Guwahati. 'Miya' is a pejorative term used for Bengali-speaking Muslims in the state.

Citing similar recent instances, the UOFA highlighted that the Chief Minister had allegedly targeted a journalist with "obvious communal innuendos" and accused a specific community of land encroachment by forcing original dwellers to leave by deliberately eating beef.

MeT predicts heavy rains in Himachal today

SHIMLA: The local Met office has issued a yellow alert of heavy rain, thunderstorm and lightning at isolated places in 10 out of 12 districts of Himachal Pradesh barring Kinnaur and Lahaul and Spiti on Thursday. Moderate rains lashed several parts of the state in the past 24 hours since Tuesday evening. Manali recorded 42 mm of rain followed by Narkanda 41.5 mm, Kufri 39.6 mm, Jubbarhatti 39 mm, Khadrara, 36.4 mm, Shimla 36.2 mm, Kasauli 22.6 mm and Sarahan 22mm. A total of 126 roads were closed in the state on Tuesday morning, as per the last update from the state emergency operation centre. Himachal Pradesh's rainfall deficit so far since the onset of monsoon on June 27 stands at 23 per cent with the state receiving 461.1 mm rainfall against an average of 598.4 mm.

Press Trust Of India

ECoR has set a new benchmark in freight transportation.

BHUBANESWAR: The East Coast Railway (ECoR) has set a new benchmark in freight transportation by achieving the fastest-ever loading of 100.57 million tons (MT) of freight in just 148 days, during the current fiscal year of 2024-25, i.e. up to 26th August, 2024. This marks a significant milestone not only for ECoR but for Indian Railways as a whole, showcasing unparalleled efficiency in freight management.

In comparison, ECoR had taken 152 days to reach the same figure in the 2023-24 fiscal year. As

| FASTEST EVER FREIGHT LOADING |

ECoR loaded 100 Million Ton freight in just 148 days



Coal loading in progress.

FACTFILE

- ECoR loaded 3.282 MT more than last year registering an increase of 3.37%.

of August 26, 2024, the Railway has recorded a

3.37% increase in freight loading, with 3.282 million tons more loaded than in the corresponding period of the previous year, when 97.288 MT was loaded.

This exceptional achievement is credited to the remarkable perfor-

mance of all three divisions under ECoR's jurisdiction—Khurda Road, Waltair, and Sambalpur. Each Divisional Railways of ECoR has significantly contributed to this success with diverse freight categories.

| AIRBORNE RESCUE MISSION |

Hyderabad doctors save Chhattisgarh boy

Press Trust Of India

HYDERABAD: A 12-year-old boy from Raipur, was suffering from a rare infection that led to severe symptoms such as high fever, seizures, and brain pressure, eventually rendering him unable to recognize even his own parents. Initially admitted to a local hospital in Raipur, his condition worsened, prompt-

ing the doctors there to contact KIMS Cuddles Hospital in Kondapur, Hyderabad for advanced care.

Dr. Parag Dekate, the Clinical Director of the Pediatrics Department and Head of the Pediatric ICU at KIMS Cuddles, provided details of the case. "The boy was experiencing severe fever, seizures, and increasing brain pressure. The local doctors reached

This was our 2nd case where we successfully treated a critically ill child flown in by air

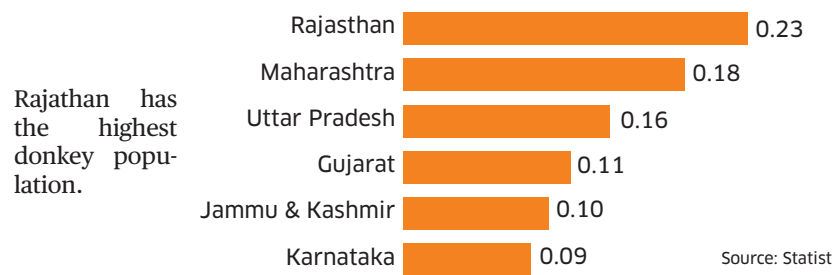
Dr. Parag Dekate
Head of the Pediatric ICU



out to us for better treatment options. Upon our arrival in Raipur, the boy's condition had deteriorated further with increased seizures, low blood pressure, and difficulty breathing. We immediately intubated him to stabilize his breathing, administered medications to control the brain pressure and seizures, and then airlifted him to Hyderabad.

The Day's NUMBERS

STATE-WISE DONKEY POPULATION IN INDIA (IN LAKH)



DEMOCRATIC REFORMS

LS poll results gave India chance to breathe again: Manish Tewari

NEW DELHI: The 2024 Lok Sabha election results were not so much about the numbers but about giving India a chance to "breathe" and for its institutions to start functioning again, says senior Congress leader Manish Tewari. In an interaction with PTI editors at the news agency's headquarters here, the former Union minister also asserted that the BJP may acknowledge it or not but the government's recent "U-turns" on certain issues are reflective of the realities of coalition politics. Tewari said he believes India requires a "second wave of democratic reforms" whereby structures which really underpin the democratic edifice of India need to be more participatory, inclusive and democratic. The Congress Working Committee permanent invitee also exuded confidence that his party and its allies were headed for a victory in the upcoming assembly polls which would have a positive impact on national politics.

POLITICAL BLAME GAME

Railways, defence should be above politics: Ashwini Vaishnaw

NEW DELHI: Facing political heat over railway accidents, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Wednesday said the national transporter should not be a subject of political blame game as it is the lifeline of the nation. Vaishnaw said some disturbing trends have emerged in some incidents and the railways was carrying out a detailed inquiry in each and every incident. He was responding to questions on incidents of derailment of trains due to placing of boulders and rods on the railway tracks. "There are some disturbing trends in some incidents, which should be taken seriously," Vaishnaw said. "Railways and defence are organizations which should be above politics. I don't believe that railways should be a subject of political blame game," the minister said in an interaction with reporters after the cabinet meeting.





QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

"Serve all, love all, hate none, be kind, and spread peace wherever you go."

Benjamin Franklin |

Comment

Unified pension scheme requires broader stakeholder consensus

OUR VIEW |

Modi's grand promises tarnished by negligence

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's once-revered slogan, "na khaunga, na khane dunga" (will neither be corrupt nor let anyone be corrupt), was a powerful declaration that resonated with millions. It positioned him as a beacon of hope in a political landscape marred by corruption. Yet, recent events have cast a glaring spotlight on the crumbling facade of this promise, revealing a disturbing pattern of negligence and decay within his administration's most celebrated projects. Take, for instance, the collapse of the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj statue in Maharashtra. Unveiled with great pomp by Modi himself less than a year ago, this 35-foot monument now lies in ruins, its deterioration accelerated by rusted nuts and bolts. This isn't just a case of poor craftsmanship; it's a metaphor for the rot that seems to have taken root in the heart of the government's ambitious projects. The contractor, with convenient ties to those in power, faces serious allegations of fraud, collusion, and compromising public safety. Despite repeated warnings about the substandard materials used, no corrective measures were taken. Instead, the government appears more focused on deflecting blame than on addressing the underlying issues of negligence and corruption. Equally symbolic is the debacle surrounding the new Parliament building in New Delhi. This grand structure, envisioned as a testament to Modi's ambition to redefine India's democratic institutions, quickly became a symbol of failure when videos surfaced showing water leaking through its roof. Constructed at a staggering cost of nearly Rs 1,000 crore, this building's flaws are emblematic of the government's tendency to prioritize grandiose announcements over quality and accountability. Modi's tenure has seen an alarming trend of cutting corners and favoring cronies at the expense of the public good. The administration that once vowed to eradicate corruption now finds itself mired in controversies that reflect a deeper, systemic failure. The irony is not lost on the people; the grand promises have, indeed, become tarnished by the very rust they were meant to eradicate.

GUEST VIEW |

India's ongoing struggle with deep-rooted corruption

Despite various attempts to curb corruption, India remains one of the most corrupt nations in the world, ranking 93 out of 180 countries on the Corruption Perception Index. This ranking is only marginally better than in 2011, which was marked as the most corrupt year in India's history when it ranked 95 out of 183 countries. The persistent issue of corruption highlights a fundamental problem in Indian politics: the lack of honest leadership. The connection between honesty and politics seems almost non-existent as we continue to elect corrupt leaders, often because there appear to be no better alternatives. The reluctance of deserving and honest individuals to enter politics, coupled with a general mistrust of new political powers, further compounds the problem. This situation perpetuates a cycle where power-hungry individuals thrive, leading to instances where the net worth of MLAs and MPs grows suspiciously within just five years. Despite the government's efforts to tackle black money and corruption, the nation's position on the global corruption index remains stagnant. This ongoing struggle indicates that the issue is more deeply rooted, requiring more than just superficial measures to bring about meaningful change in India's fight against corruption.



Noopur Baruah

The introduction of the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for Central Government employees marks a significant, albeit politically motivated, shift in India's pension policy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, facing electoral pressures, has opted for a middle-ground approach with the UPS after backtracking on its earlier stance on lateral entry and amid rising demands for the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). The UPS, approved by the Union Cabinet, aims to address the concerns of nearly 23 lakh employees who had enrolled under the New Pension Scheme (NPS) since January 1, 2004.

The UPS is a response to the growing dissatisfaction among government employees who felt the NPS did not offer the financial security they sought in their post-retirement years. The new scheme promises a guaranteed pension, ensuring that retirees receive 50% of the average basic pay drawn during the last 12 months prior to superannuation, provided they have completed at least 25 years of service. The

scheme also guarantees that the spouse of the deceased employee will receive 60% of the pension, further adding a layer of financial security for families.

The timing of this announcement is noteworthy, coinciding with elections in several states where the OPS was a decisive issue. The Congress party's electoral success in Himachal Pradesh and other states hinged on their promise to reinstate the OPS, a move that the BJP had not committed to. In contrast, the UPS seeks to preempt such promises by offering a compromise: a contributory pension scheme with better benefits than the NPS, yet more fiscally sustainable than the OPS.

Under the UPS, the employee's contribution remains at 10%, while the government's contribution increases to 18.5%, up from the previous 14%. This increase is expected to cost the government an additional Rs 6,250 crore annually. Moreover, the scheme includes a provision for Dearness Relief (DR), which adjusts the pension in line with the All India



Yash Pal Ralhan

Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers, thereby addressing concerns about inflation eroding the value of the pension over time.

However, the introduction of the UPS has sparked mixed reactions. While it is a step forward in ensuring financial stability for retirees, many employees remain nostalgic for the OPS, which provided a non-contributory, government-funded pension equal to 50% of the last drawn salary. The OPS, despite its allure, placed an enormous fiscal burden on the government. In 2020-21, the Centre's pension bill had ballooned to Rs 1,90,886 crore, a 58-fold increase since 1990. For the states, the burden was even heavier, with pension costs rising 125 times over the same period.

The UPS attempts to balance the need for fiscal prudence with the employees' demand for a secure retirement. It also introduces actuarial assessments to periodically adjust government contributions, ensuring the scheme's long-term sustainability. Nevertheless, the scheme's success hinges on broader acceptance,

particularly among state governments, many of which have already reverted to the OPS or remained committed to the NPS.

The decision to introduce the UPS was not arbitrary but was based on recommendations by a committee led by former Finance Secretary TV Somanathan. As the scheme is rolled out, it will be crucial to monitor how state governments respond, especially those not governed by the BJP. The UPS offers a more sustainable and uniform approach to pensions, but its true test will be in its acceptance across the political spectrum and among the employees it seeks to benefit.

In conclusion, while the UPS is a well-intentioned initiative aimed at reforming India's pension system, it requires further discussions among stakeholders to ensure it meets the diverse needs of all involved.

The government must engage with employees, state governments, and other stakeholders to refine and improve the scheme, ensuring it serves as a viable alternative to both the OPS and the NPS.

The irony of doctors' peaceful cease-work

The ongoing doctors' strike in Kolkata has left patients suffering without care, highlighting severe flaws in the healthcare system and urgent need for resolution. by Sujit De



Junior doctors protest against the alleged rape and killing of a trainee doctor, at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata.

On the rape and murder case of the trainee doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, the Supreme Court, while passing directions to the CBI and the State of West Bengal, appealed to the striking doctors to resume work. But it cut no ice. On August 22, the apex court again nudged the striking doctors to resume work for the sake of the patients. Yet, the status quo is still being maintained, with doctors remaining adamant about their demands.

We all know that hospital beds in India are woefully inadequate compared to the number of patients. But when it comes to beds in government hospitals, the only place where the poor can afford treatment, the ratio is even more unfavorable for patients. This crisis is further exacerbated when doctors go on strike, leaving vulnerable patients without the necessary medical attention. A health department official in West Bengal has said that senior doctors are working overtime, but that is far from enough to meet the shortage resulting from the cease-work of junior doctors who are the backbone of patient care at medical colleges.

As there were not sufficient doctors, patients were being denied treatment at medical colleges and hospi-

tals in Kolkata. Even planned surgeries had to be canceled, affecting patients who had been waiting for months. I fail to understand why innocent patients are made to suffer to the extreme. The pictures of untreated patients in pain have raised many questions. Why should they bear the brunt of the strike? What is their fault? The failure to resolve this impasse is an indictment of the system's inability to prioritize patient care over all else.

The reports of the agony of patients and their family members are pouring in. An eight-year-old girl from Minakha in North 24 Parganas was scheduled to undergo sur-

gery for the removal of a brain tumor on August 12. The surgery was canceled. Sitting on the pavement of the National Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, her mother told a reporter, "We had arranged blood for the surgery. My daughter's condition is worsening by the day but the doctors are not giving any fresh date for the operation." Now, who will be responsible if something untoward happens to her due to this prolonged delay?

Sudip Chandra Barman, a patient of blood cancer, along with his wife Shyamoli Barman, came from Cooch Behar district to Kolkata for treatment. But he was kept wait-

ing on a stretcher outside the emergency ward of NRS Medical College and Hospital. His wife said, "My husband was admitted to a private hospital on Friday. Since we could not afford the treatment there, we brought him here. We were hoping that we could get him admitted to NRS, but the staff here said that was not possible. They told us to consult a doctor in the OPD on Monday. But since the strike is on, I am not sure whether my husband will be admitted on Monday." It is a shame that they had to return to Cooch Behar on Sunday as Shyamoli Barman said that she had no clue how to continue her husband's treatment. Are the poor patients

simply pawns in the tussle?

The Bengal government's health secretary said that the absence of junior doctors was affecting especially specialized treatments such as cancer care, neurological, and cardiological care in the government medical colleges. The magnitude of the sufferings of poor patients could be understood if we judge this along with the fact that in the government healthcare sector, only medical colleges offer such treatments. The consequences of this impasse are far-reaching and deadly, highlighting the critical need for dialogue and resolution.

The doctors can continue their protests even after resuming work. The Supreme Court says that no coercive action shall be taken against the doctors as long as the protests are peaceful. Given the fact that patients are made to suffer from violence within, the cease-work by the junior doctors can no longer be termed as peaceful. How can there be peace when patients are being forced to die a violent death by denying them adequate treatment and care? The need of the hour is not just a resolution to the strike but also a comprehensive approach to safeguarding patient rights, ensuring that essential services are never compromised in the name of protest.

YOUR LETTERS

Traffic congestion woes

Traffic congestion now plagues even small urban areas in India, wasting 135 hours per driver annually and costing the economy nearly two lakh crore rupees each year. Traditional solutions like flyovers have only added to the chaos. Instead, innovative approaches such as Heavy Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, promoting parking lot usage, and using Artificial Intelligence for traffic management are essential. These strategies can reduce congestion by discouraging large vehicles in cities and improving overall traffic flow.

Noopur Baruah, Tezpur

Corruption plagues India's prisons

A recent photo of jailed Kannada superstar Darshan smoking in Parappana Agrahara jail, Bengaluru, highlights the rampant manipulation by the rich and influential within prisons. This facility, notorious for past scandals, is a "home away from home" for celebrities and politicians, where bribes secure special treatment. Drugs flow freely, and medical personnel face pressure to fabricate reports for influential inmates. Overcrowding, unchecked sexual crimes, and gang wars are prevalent, with prison officials often turning a blind eye.

Dr Ganapathi Bhat, Akola

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

Business



Will strive to make SBI most valued financial institution.

C S Setty
New Chairman, SBI

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

INVESTMENT

Adani Ports to set up 2 projects in MP with Rs 3,500 cr investment

GWALIOR: Adani Group firm APSEZ on Wednesday announced setting up a 2 million tonne capacity cement grinding unit in Guna and a propellant production facility at Shivpuri in Madhya Pradesh with a total investment of Rs 3,500 crore. Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) MD Karan Adani made the announcement at the Gwalior Regional Industry Conclave here. He said the unit in Shivpuri is strategically aligned with the Aatmanirbhar mission to transform India from a defence importer to a defence exporter. These two projects would create over 3,500 direct and indirect jobs. Referring to the investment made by Adani Group in Madhya Pradesh, he said "we have already invested Rs 18,250 crore and created 12,000 jobs. Gwalior is fast becoming a tourism hotspot and a pool of high-quality talent and also a key transportation and trade hub."

INDICATORS

Share MARKETS

Market	Close	%chg
Sensex	81,785	+0.09
Nifty	25,052	+0.14
Nifty, MidCap	59,146	-0.12
Nifty SmallCap	19,319	-0.07
Nifty Bank	51,143	-0.26

Closing rates as on August 28, 2024 at 5:30p.m. (IST)

Forex RATES

Foreign currency Vs Rupee	Rate	Change
US Dollar	83.95 (+)	↑
Euro	93.42 (-)	↓
Chinese Yuan	11.77 (+)	↑
UAE Dirham	22.86 (+)	↑
Pakistan Rupee	0.30 (+)	↑
Sri Lanka Rupee	0.27 (-)	↓

On August 28, 2024

World INDICES

Stock	Value	% chg
Dow Jones (US)	41,256	+0.01%
FTSE 100 Index	8,346	+0.01%
Nikkei 225 (JPN)	225: 38,371	+0.22%
CSI 300 (CHN)	300: 3,246	-0.57%

Index at 05:30 p.m. (IST, August 28, 2024)

How the market behaves today?

Nifty rises marginally to hit new lifetime high on sharp gains in IT shares

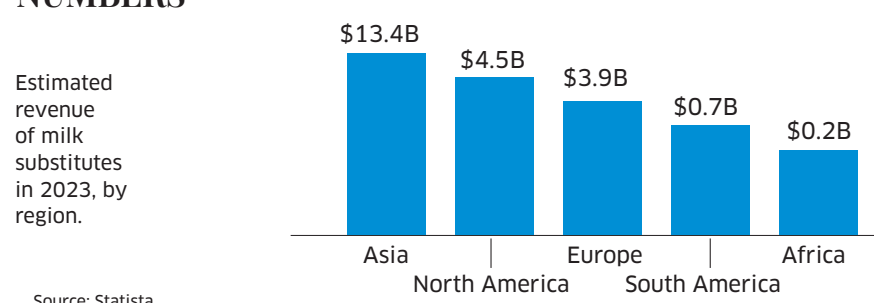


MUMBAI: Equity benchmark Nifty rose marginally to hit a fresh lifetime high of 25,052, and Sensex gained over 70 points on Wednesday, helped by buying in IT, tech and healthcare stocks amid a largely positive global market. Foreign capital inflows and lower global crude oil prices kept the investor sentiment optimistic, traders said. "However, valuation remains a near-term deterrent, which will be further tested based on the upcoming India Q1 FY25 GDP data this week. On the other hand, investors are giving more emphasis to defensive bets, which is evident with the outper-

formance in IT and pharma stocks," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said. Rising for the tenth straight session, the NSE Nifty went up by 34.60 points or 0.14 per cent to settle at a new closing high of 25,052.35. The benchmark surged 111.85 points or 0.44 per cent to hit a fresh intra-day all-time peak of 25,129.60. **MAJOR GAINERS:** Bharti Airtel, Infosys, IndusInd Bank, Sun Pharma, Tech Mahindra, Mahindra & Mahindra, Bajaj Finance and JSW Steel. **MAJOR LOSERS:** Asian Paints, Maruti, Nestle, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Axis Bank and UltraTech Cement.

The Day's NUMBERS

ASIA LEADS THE PLANT-BASED MILK BOOM



NEW LAUNCH

ITI Asset Management Company launches Large & Mid Cap Fund

MUMBAI: ITI Asset Management Company Ltd (ITI AMC) announced the launch of ITI Large & Mid Cap Fund, an open-ended scheme that will invest in equity, equity related securities, primarily in the top 250 companies engaged in India growth story. The scheme opens for subscription on August 21, 2024, and closes on September 4, 2024. The MF scheme aims to offer long-term capital growth by investing in companies actively involved in this dynamic sector, providing investors with a pathway to diversification and capital appreciation. The fund will be managed by Mr. Vishal Jajoo and Mr. Rohan Korde - equity fund managers - who are associated with ITI Mutual fund for more than 13 years and have a deep insight into the market. The fund will offer investors an opportunity to invest in India's growth potential, which is being driven by the trinity of structural, cultural and digital factors. The growth is led by a shift towards organized markets due to urbanisation and rising income levels.

KIDNEY DISEASE

Renogrit: Ayurvedic breakthrough for Kidney Disease validated by U.S.

HARIDWAR: In a significant development for the field of Ayurveda, the Ayurvedic formulation "Renogrit" has been recognized for its potential in treating kidney damage caused by the allopathic anti-cancer drug Cisplatin. The findings, published in the prestigious American research journal Scientific Reports, a part of the Nature publication group, provide scientific backing to claims that Ayurvedic medicine can effectively heal kidneys and reduce oxidative stress on kidney cells. Amid widespread rumors that Ayurvedic medicines may harm the kidneys, these results offer a strong counter-narrative. The study highlights Renogrit's ability not only to mitigate kidney damage but also to restore normal kidney function, challenging the misconceptions surrounding Ayurvedic treatments.



Udhayanidhi Stalin during inauguration of luxury buses



Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin during the inauguration of the 150 state-of-the-art luxury buses with seat and sleeper, in Chennai.

Government to set up 12 more industrial cities to boost mfg

The Cabinet has approved 12 new project proposals under the NICDP with an estimated investment of Rs 28,602 crore.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday approved 12 new industrial cities in 10 states on the lines of Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh and Dholera in Gujarat to boost domestic manufacturing with an estimated investment of Rs 28,602 crore. These industrial areas will be in Khurpia in Uttarakhand, Rajpura-Patiala in Punjab, Dighi

in Maharashtra, Palakkad in Kerala, Agra and Prayagraj in UP, Gaya in Bihar, Zaheerabad in Telangana, Orvakal and Koppurthy in AP, and Jodhpur-Pali in Rajasthan, and one in Haryana. A decision in this regard was taken in a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi here. The Cabinet "has approved 12 new proj-

NUMBER

28,602

- NICDP is expected to generate significant employment opportunities.
- Eight such cities are already under different stages of implementation.

ect proposals under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP) with an estimated investment of Rs 28,602 crore", Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said after the meeting. NICDP is expected to generate significant employment opportunities, with an estimated one million direct and up to three million indirect jobs being created through these planned

areas. These projects will create an investment potential of about Rs 1.52 lakh crore. The decision followed the announcement by the government in the Budget for the development of 'plug and play' industrial parks in or near 100 cities in partnership with states and the private sector to boost manufacturing. Eight such cities are already under different stages of implementation.

| GLOBAL FINTECH FEST |

RBI focusses on making UPI, RuPay 'truly global': Das

Press Trust Of India

Das holds the potential to serve as a global hub for digital innovation.

MUMBAI: Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said efforts are on to make UPI and RuPay "truly global", as he outlined focus areas of the central bank going forward. Speaking at the Global Fintech Fest 2024, the governor said the Reserve Bank's focus is on financial inclusion, deepening digital public infrastructure (DPI), consumer protection and cyber security, sustainable finance and global integration of financial services. India is engaged actively in international fora and bilateral agreements to foster economic cooperation with many countries going forward,



Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das.

FACTFILE

- Fintech segment attracted about USD 6 billion in investments in the last two years.

and strengthening financial infrastructure, including cross-border payment systems, will be the RBI's key focus areas, he added. Das said India, with its tech talent and evolved financial fintech ecosystem, holds the potential

to serve as a global hub for digital innovation and fintech startups, building and strengthening strategic partnerships, reinforcing commitment to international cooperation, and developing institutions of excellence. "We are now focusing on making the UPI and the RuPay truly global," Governor Das said. He further said that notable progress in this direction has already been made with

countries like Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Singapore, the UAE, Mauritius, Namibia, Peru, France and a few others for acceptance of RuPay cards and payments through the UPI network.

These endeavours, he said, underscore collaborative efforts for the adoption of India's initiatives across the globe. Referring to the fintech sector, he said the segment attracted about USD 6 billion in investments in the last two years.

Addressing the gathering, Das said India is now a fast-growing economic powerhouse and stressed that financial institutions and fintech must swiftly adopt a robust framework to capitalise on new opportunities and mitigate risks. The governor further said digital financial inclusion has unique advantages of scalability and cost-effectiveness.

| NCVET DUAL ACCREDITATION |

Divya Yoga Trust receives NCVET Dual Accreditation

Press Trust Of India

HARIDWAR: The Divya Yoga Mandir Trust has been awarded dual accreditation as both an Awarding and Assessment Body by the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET). The accreditation was conferred during a program held at Kaushal Bhawan

in New Delhi, solidifying the trust's role in advancing skill development, self-reliance, and employment generation across the country. Acharya Balkrishna, General Secretary of the Divya Yoga Mandir Trust, expressed that this recognition marks a significant step forward in Patanjali's ongoing efforts to contribute to the



nation's progress. With this accreditation, the trust is now authorized to evaluate skills and pro-

vide certification, making it a pivotal institution in vocational education. The trust will offer more

than 60 courses in vocational education, providing a valuable resource for individuals seeking to enhance their skills and employability. Acharya Balkrishna highlighted the importance of skill development in today's rapidly changing global environment, stating that it is crucial for increasing employment opportunities.

"It is a surprise and let us keep it as a surprise. It was conveyed through the film Munjya and now through Stree 2, that these are the films which will be binded together."

Abhay Verma
Actor



& Glitters

CLOSE UP

Yudhra starring Siddhant and Malavika releases next month

Actor Siddhant Chaturvedi is all set to bring out his next film, Yudhra next month and his co-star in the film is Malavika Mohanan.

Central Chronicle News

Siddhant took to Instagram, where he dropped the first look of the film along with the date. In the image, the actor is sporting a bloodied look as his white shirt is drenched in blood.



Siddhant Chaturvedi, Malavika Mohanan on a new poster for 'Yudhra'

Siddhant Chaturvedi is set to take on a groundbreaking role in the action thriller "Yudhra," hitting theatres on September 20, 2024. Known for his impactful performances in films like "Gully Boy" and "Kho Gaye Hum Kahan," Siddhant is making a dramatic leap into the action genre with this highly anticipated project. Directed by Ravi Udyawar, who captivated audiences with the 2017 crime thriller "Mom," and produced by Farhan and Ritesh's Excel Entertainment, Yudhra is already creating a buzz in Bollywood. The film's recent posters have intensified excitement, particularly one featuring Siddhant in a fierce, blood-soaked pose. This striking image reflects his intense preparation for the role, including extensive training in mixed martial arts (MMA), kickboxing, and jiu-jitsu. His transformation into a formidable action hero is evident, suggesting a film packed with high-octane sequences and dynamic stunts.



Everything you need to know about the upcoming movie Yudhra

With its intense visuals, impressive cast, and the credibility of its director and producers, Yudhra is poised to be a major

hit. Fans eagerly await its release, anticipating a thrilling cinematic experience that will solidify Siddhant's status as a versatile actor and introduce Malavika to a broader audience.



HOLLYWOOD |

Jenna Ortega remains focused amidst Depp dating rumours

Central Chronicle News

Jenna Ortega has recently addressed the swirling rumours linking her romantically to Johnny Depp, labelling them as "insane" and unfounded. In a candid BuzzFeed interview, the Beetlejuice sequel star revealed her reaction to the gossip that she and Depp were involved. The rumours surfaced last year when a celebrity gossip account claimed they were spotted together, fuelling widespread speculation. Ortega clarified that there was no truth to these claims. She mentioned that even her co-star Richard E. Grant asked her about the rumours on the set of

Death of a Unicorn. Ortega found the situation amusing, stating, "I don't know that person [referring to Depp]," and laughed off the misconception. The actress emphasized that she had never spoken

HIGHLIGHT

● Jenna Ortega, 20, has addressed the online reports that she is linked to 60 year-old Johnny Depp and called it 'malicious.'

about being in a relationship with Depp and described the rumours as "pretty hilarious." Depp's representatives had previously denied any connection, asserting, "Mr.



Jenna Ortega has addressed the 'pretty hilarious' rumour she was dating Johnny Depp

Depp has no personal or professional relationship with Ms. Ortega whatsoever," and condemned the rumours as "baseless and malicious."

In a light-hearted moment, Ortega also discussed her childhood celebrity crush, revealing it was Barack Obama during his first election campaign. She admitted it was an unusual choice but one she found memorable. Ortega is currently gearing up for her role in Beetlejuice Beetlejuice, where she stars as Astrid Deetz, the daughter of Winona Ryder's iconic character.

OIT Watch



Kohrra: Echoes of the Past

Netflix India has announced the return of Kohrra for its much-anticipated second season, featuring Barun Sobti and Mona Singh. The new poster and teaser promise more gripping mystery and intense investigation.



Hunter: The Second Kill

Suniel Shetty is set to return with the action-packed Hunter Season 2. Sharing a behind-the-scenes glimpse on Instagram, he showcased the series' clapboard, fuelling excitement for the continuation of the gripping thriller.



The Spot: Kate's quest

Oscar winner Kate Winslet is teaming up with Hulu for the new series The Spot, created by Ed Solomon. The show will explore a surgeon's suspected involvement in a child's hit-and-run, unravelling dark secrets.



Thangalaan: The Legend

The Hindi version of the acclaimed film Thangalaan, starring Chiyaan Vikram, is set to release in North India on August 30, 2024. Directed by Pa Ranjith, the film has already received glowing reviews and strong box office success.



Laughter Chefs: The top-rated taste

Laughter Chefs tops non-fiction ratings with its unique format and star cast, including Bharti Singh and Chef Harpal Singh Sokhi. The latest promo features a funny exchange between Ankita Lokhande and Krushna Abhishek.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

Hansal Mehta completes filming for "Gandhi"

Director Hansal Mehta has completed filming for his upcoming series "Gandhi," starring Pratik Gandhi in the title role. Backed by Applause Entertainment, the series adapts Ramachandra Guha's books "Gandhi Before India" and "Gandhi: The Years that Changed the World." Mehta, who previously collaborated with Gandhi on "Scam 1992" and "Modern Love: Mumbai," shared the wrap-up news on Instagram, expressing gratitude to his team and hinting at future projects. The cast also includes Bhamini Oza as Kasturba Gandhi, with Tom Felton and others rounding out the ensemble.

Music

Oasis: Reunited and it feels so good



Oasis is reuniting for a highly anticipated tour after a 15-year hiatus, with their comeback set to begin on July 4-5, 2025, in Cardiff. The 14-date tour will also include stops in Manchester, London's Wembley Stadium, Edinburgh, and Dublin, concluding on August 17. Tickets for the tour will go on sale this Saturday at 9 am. The announcement ends years of speculation and tension between brothers Liam and Noel Gallagher, who had a tumultuous split in 2009. Fans are excited to see the Britpop icons, known for hits like "Wonderwall" and "Don't Look Back in Anger," back together.



Fashion

The monochrome queen of vacation fashion: Triptii Dimri

Triptii Dimri's all-white vacation outfit is a masterclass in monochrome dressing. Her ensemble features a knotted white shirt paired with flared palazzos, creating a stylish yet relaxed look perfect for a holiday or lounging at home. The outfit begins with an off-white bandeau top, serving as a versatile base. The white shirt, knotted at the front, adds a playful, cropped touch that enhances the casual vibe. Her white flared trousers complement the shirt, maintaining a sleek, elongated silhouette.

Trending on Insta

@rhe Kapoor

Rhea Kapoor shares glimpses of Masaba's beautiful baby shower

Rhea Kapoor's Instagram highlights Masaba Gupta's baby shower with shots of drool-worthy Parle-G pudding, candle-lit moments, playful balloon decor, and a "Team Boy" vs. "Team Girl" board, plus stunning food and dining setups.



Art & Culture

THE CULTURAL INFLUENCE OF RICE

India's Rice: A culinary and cultural masterpiece

In India, rice holds a special place in people's diet and hearts. It is one food that unites the entire nation from north to south.

India's rice varieties are a vibrant tapestry woven with art and culture. Each variety is a testament to the country's rich heritage, reflected in names that evoke images and stories. Consider Frog Eyes, or Chara. The name vividly describes its small, round grains that resemble a frog's eye, making it a visual delight and a unique addition to regional dishes. This variety's playful name highlights the intersection of nature and culinary tradition. Jewelled Bangles, known as Motiya, evokes the elegance of traditional Indian jewellery. The name suggests delicate, ornament-like grains, perfect for festive and ceremonial meals. It's a reminder of how food and artistry merge in Indian culture. Black Rice, or Chak-Hao, stands out with its dark, almost mystical hue. This variety's rich, nutty flavour and high antioxidant content make it a prized ingredient in ceremonial dishes, blending health benefits with striking



Basmati rice and India share a deep cultural and traditional bond.



appearance. Ponni, meaning "golden" in Tamil, celebrates the rice's golden grains that add a touch of luxury to South Indian cuisine. Its aromatic fragrance and texture elevate everyday meals, reflecting the value placed on both beauty and flavour.

HIGHLIGHT

● In India, rice is a comfort food, it holds a place as the staple food, deeply woven into cultural and sacred contexts. Beyond the plate, rice plays an integral role in rituals and ceremonies.



Dresden's historical jewels recovered

In November 2019, thieves stole over 4,300 diamonds and precious stones from Dresden Castle's Grünes Gewölbe (Green Vault), a heist worth over \$100 million. Nearly five years later, many of the historic jewels are returning to display, showcasing their recovered state with minimal visible damage. Marion Ackermann, director of Dresden State Art Collections, notes that while restoration is needed, updated security measures are in place to prevent future thefts. The Green Vault, a Baroque treasure trove created by Augustus the Strong in 1723, has faced many threats over its 300-year history. Some stolen jewels remain missing, but hope remains for their recovery.



MASTERPIECE

Kusama's largest public sculpture takes centre stage in London



Yayoi Kusama's largest permanent public sculpture, Infinite Accumulation, has been unveiled at London's Liverpool Street station. This impressive installation stretches over 300 feet with reflective silver spheres arranged in a web-like formation. Standing 33 feet high and 39 feet wide, it's Kusama's first permanent artwork in the UK. The sculpture, commissioned by the Crossrail Art Foundation, symbolizes the diversity of London through its mirrored surfaces.

LEGACY

Bodo cloth toys: Preserving tradition, supporting artisans and celebrating culture heritage

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

● Handmade cloth toys from Assam are vibrant symbols of Bodo culture, skilfully crafted to preserve and celebrate indigenous traditions.

the present. The playful and visually striking toys offer a tangible link to Bodo festivals, rituals, and legends, making them more than just objects—they are cultural artefacts. In an era of rapid modernization, these handmade cloth toys play a crucial role in cultural preservation. They provide a unique way for younger generations to engage with their heritage,



Vibrant Bodo cloth toys bringing cultural heritage to life.

turning cultural education into a hands-on experience that is both interactive and enjoyable. The toys are not just for play; they are educational tools that help keep Bodo traditions alive.

Moreover, these toys have a significant impact on the local economy. They offer artisans a sustainable source of income and support cultural tourism. By purchasing and promoting these cloth toys, we contribute to the preservation of Bodo culture and support the livelihoods of those who create them. In essence, Assam's handmade cloth toys are a celebration of Bodo heritage.

Cultural Hues

Time capsule found: 15th-century doorway discovered

At St. George's Guildhall in King's Lynn, Norfolk, a 15th-century doorway has been uncovered, sparking excitement among experts. This historic find, revealed during recent archaeological work, may have led to a dressing room used by actors, possibly including William Shakespeare. The doorway, hidden behind 18th-century additions, was found to be an "extraordinary" archway pre-dating 1405. Originally used by medieval guild members for dressing before feasts, it likely became a dressing room for actors in Shakespeare's era.



Botswana unearths world's largest diamond in decades

Miners in Botswana have found a huge 2,492-carat diamond, the largest since the famous Cullinan diamond of 1905. Discovered at the Karowe mine, this gem weighs about one pound and is nearly the biggest ever found. It's part of a series of major finds from this mine over the past decade. Botswana's President Mokgweetsi Masisi has seen the diamond and called it "overwhelming." Lucara Diamond Corp. hopes to find even bigger diamonds in the future.



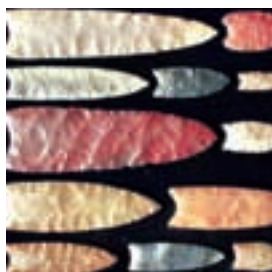
Viking riches in Denmark: Silver armbands discovered

This spring, 22-year-old archaeology student Gustav Bruunsgaard found a trove of silver Viking Age armbands in a field in Denmark. Using a metal detector, Bruunsgaard uncovered seven silver bangles, dating back to around 800 C.E. The armbands, which weigh over a pound, are now displayed at the Moesgaard Museum. They offer insight into Viking trade and connections with regions like Russia, Ukraine, and the British Isles. The find highlights Aarhus as a significant Viking hub.



A deadly weapon: Ice age hunters used pikes on mammoths

New research suggests Ice Age humans may have used a clever technique to hunt large animals like mammoths. Instead of throwing spears, early hunters likely planted pikes with sharp tips pointing up. When animals charged, their weight and momentum would impale them on the pikes. This method, known as pike hunting, was probably more effective than throwing spears, which might not have pierced the thick hides of giant beasts. This theory, detailed in a recent study, offers new insight into prehistoric hunting methods.



Bishop's bones could reshape our understanding of the past

Archaeologists may have found the bones of Bishop Teodomiro, a key figure from the ninth century. Teodomiro played a major role in establishing the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage. The bones were discovered in northwest Spain almost 70 years ago. Recent tests, including DNA and radiocarbon dating, suggest these bones belonged to a man who died around 847 C.E., fitting Teodomiro's time. If confirmed, these remains could be Spain's oldest identified historical figure.



The Nazi Loot: A New Amsterdam exhibition

The new Amsterdam exhibition Looted examines Holocaust-era theft of Jewish belongings. Organized by the Jewish Cultural Quarter and the Rijksmuseum, it reveals how the Nazis systematically stole personal items like artwork, books, and religious artefacts from Dutch Jews. The show, divided between the National Holocaust Museum and the Jewish Museum, highlights eight personal stories to illustrate the profound impact of these losses. It aims to show the theft's role in erasing Jewish identity and history.



Sports



"I feel like being able to be a part of (designing) my tennis outfits gives me, I would say, a different strength, especially the U.S. Open outfits."

Naomi Osaka
Tennis Player

Sinner wins US Open opener amid controversy

Jannik Sinner, returning after his doping case emerged, overcame early match struggles, criticism from fellow players, and public scrutiny to win his first US Open match convincingly.

Press Trust Of India

Sinner addresses doping case impact, firing two team members over incident.

NEW YORK: Jannik Sinner made his US Open return amid controversy following a doping case that emerged last week. Despite early match struggles, he defeated Mackie McDonald 2-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 to reach the second round. The sparse crowd at Arthur Ashe Stadium offered polite applause, with no apparent backlash against Sinner, who began poorly with unforced errors and double faults. However, he quickly improved, committing no errors in the third set.

Sinner's doping controversy involves testing positive twice for Clostebol, an anabolic steroid, in March due to unintentional exposure from a physiotherapist's treatment. Although he was docked prize money and ranking points, Sinner avoided suspension as it was ruled he was not at fault. He has since dismissed his fitness trainer and the physiotherapist involved in the incident.

Despite the ongoing scrutiny and criticism from some players, including Novak Djokovic, Sinner remains focused, next facing Alex Mich-



HIGHLIGHT

Despite the ongoing scrutiny and criticism from some players, including Novak Djokovic, Sinner remains focused, next facing Alex Mich-

elsen as he continues his US Open campaign.

Raducanu Falls to Kenin

Emma Raducanu's US Open struggles continued as she lost to Sofia Kenin 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 in the first round, marking her third consecutive year without a win at Flushing Meadows since her 2021 triumph. Kenin, the 2020 Australian Open champion, outplayed Raducanu, finishing with 45 winners. Raducanu, emotional in her post-match press conference, expressed disappointment and plans to regroup before her next tournament in Seoul at the Korea Open on September 16. Reflecting on her loss, Raducanu said she would work on her game and look ahead to the next season's Grand Slam opportunities.



Arsenal signs Spain's Mikel Merino

LONDON: Arsenal signed international Mikel Merino from Real Sociedad to strengthen its midfield options for its latest bid to win the Premier League title. Merino has reportedly joined for a fee of 32 million pounds (\$42 million) on what Arsenal said was a "long-term contract," four days after Sociedad coach Imanol Alguacil gave the player a public farewell. Merino helped Spain win the recent European Championship. His goal late in extra time secured a 2-1 win over host nation Germany in the quarter-finals. A well-rounded attacking midfielder, Merino has been a key player for Sociedad after joining the Basque club in 2018. He helped it win the 2020 Copa del Rey and reach the Champions League's round-of-16 last season.

| SHAH'S FUTURE COMMITMENT |

Jay Shah vows to prioritize Test cricket's future boldly

Press Trust Of India

ICC Chairman Jay Shah pledges to prioritize Test cricket and promote global cricket development.

NEW DELHI: Newly-elected ICC Chairman Jay Shah says he will look to ensure that Test cricket forms the "bedrock" of the game in his tenure during which he will also try to "dismantle barriers that have hindered cricket's progress". The 35-year-old will relinquish his current position of BCCI secretary to succeed incumbent Greg Barclay on December 1 as the youngest ICC Chairman for a term of two years. "While the T20 is a naturally exciting format,



it is equally important that Test cricket remains a priority for everyone as it forms the bedrock of our game," Shah said in a statement issued by the BCCI on Tuesday. "We must see to it that cricketers are driven to

longer format and our efforts will be channelised towards this goal," he added. Shah said he would also like to work towards setting up a separate program for talent search. He emphasised on lifting the standard

FACTFILE

Shah aims to dismantle barriers hindering cricket's progress and elevate the game.

He plans to focus on talent search programs and women's and differently-abled cricket.

of the game across the globe. "I want to assure you that I will do everything possible to elevate the standard of our game across the globe. As I step into this pivotal role, I am resolutely committed to meeting your high expectations and dedicating myself to the beautiful game of cricket," he said.

| US OPEN TENNIS |

Evans outlasts Khachanov in marathon match

Press Trust Of India

NEW YORK: A few hours into a match that eventually set a U.S. Open record for length, Dan Evans glanced over at the scoreboard. Not to see how he was doing, but to clarify exactly how long he had been playing. "In the fourth set, I had to check the set to see what set we were in," Evans said. "I

"In the fourth set, I had to check the set to see what set we were in. I wasn't entirely sure what set we were in."

Dan Evans
Tennis Player

wasn't entirely sure what set we were in."



More than an hour later, Evans won the longest match at the U.S. Open since tiebreakers were introduced in 1970, beating Karen Khachanov 6-7 (6), 7-6 (2), 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-4 on Tuesday in 5 hours, 35 minutes. Evans trailed 4-0 in the fifth set before running off the final six games. The final point, fittingly, was a marathon 22-shot

rally, with Evans on the defensive for much of the point before hitting a hard shot to the corner that the No. 23-seeded Khachanov couldn't get back over the net with his backhand.

The previous record was 5 hours, 26 minutes, when Stefan Edberg beat Michael Chang in a five-setter in the 1992 semifinals.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

CRICKET

Zaheer Khan set to join Lucknow Super Giants as team mentor

KOLKATA: Lucknow Super Giants are set to appoint former India speedster Zaheer Khan as their mentor ahead of the IPL mega auction.

The appointment marks the return of the 45-year-old left-arm pacer to the IPL fold after two years, having been associated with five-time champions Mumbai Indians from 2018-2022. A formal unveiling is scheduled at the RPSG Group Headquarters here on Wednesday. "Zaheer has been appointed as team mentor and the unveiling will happen later today," sources told PTI. Zaheer will thus take up the role left vacant by Gautam Gambhir last year when he went to join his former franchise Kolkata Knight Riders and guided them to the IPL title in 2024. Gambhir is now the Indian head coach. **PTI**

SOCCER

Man City sells Joao Cancelo to Al Hilal for \$28 million



MANCHESTER: Manchester City sold Portugal full back Joao Cancelo to Saudi Arabian champion Al Hilal for 25 million euros (\$28 million). Cancelo will join a squad already containing Brazil star Neymar and Portugal teammate Ruben Neves. The 30-year-old Cancelo fell out of favor with City manager Pep Guardiola midway through the 2022-23 season and has since had loan spells at Bayern Munich and Barcelona. He returned to City in the offseason but wasn't expected to be part of the Premier League champions' plans this season. **PTI**

Olmo's Dream Debut

Dani Olmo scores in his debut to keep Barcelona perfect after 2-1 win over Rayo in Spanish league



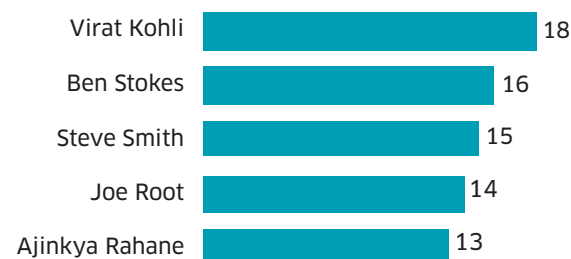
MADRID: Dani Olmo got his dream debut with Barcelona, scoring a late winner to keep the Catalan club with a perfect record to start the Spanish league.

Olmo found the net in the 82nd minute with a low left-footed shot into the far corner after an assist by Lamine Yamal to give Barcelona a 2-1 come-from-behind win at Rayo Vallecano. Barcelona is the only team with three wins after three rounds this season. Olmo, who was only registered with the first team Tuesday morning after signing from Leipzig, entered the match at halftime to replace Ferran Torres. "I was anx-

ious to debut and it couldn't have been better," Olmo said. "I'm glad I finally got to play and that I was able to help the team." The 26-year-old Spain international, a former member of Barcelona's famed La Masia youth academy, had come close to scoring in the 58th with a shot that hit the crossbar. "Yeah, he scored the goal, this is why we are happy that he is in our team," new Barcelona coach Hansi Flick said. "We deserved these three points." Rayo, celebrating its centennial this season, opened the scoring nine minutes into the match with Unai Lopez finding the net from close range with a right-footed strike. **PTI**

The Day's NUMBERS

MOST CATCHES IN TEST CRICKET (2024)



Source: Olympic.org

CRICKET

Five-wicket burst from Aayush secures Purani Dilli 6's win over NDS

NEW DELHI: Pacer Aayush Thakur's five-wicket haul powered Purani Dilli 6 to a 20-run win over North Delhi Strikers at the Delhi Premier League here. Aayush (5/27) wreaked havoc, blowing away NDS's top-order as they were restricted for 172/7 in their chase of 193. Aayush struck in his first over dismissing opener Sarthak Ranjan for a duck. He returned to get rid of Yash Dabas in the third over followed by Kshitiz Sharma in the fifth over. Opener Vaibhav Kandpal (57) and Yajas Sharma (41) stitched a 55-run partnership for the fourth wicket and looked on course to chase the target but the latter was run out. Kandpal along with Vaibhav Rawal then took on the responsibility of chasing the target. The duo started finding boundaries at regular intervals keeping the run rate in their control. However, Purani Dilli 6 got back in the game as Rawal was run out at a crucial time leaving NDS needing 58 runs off 32 balls. **PTI**

SOCCER

Chile goalkeeper Claudio Bravo retires from soccer at age 41



SANTIAGO: Chile goalkeeper Claudio Bravo, who was part of his country's golden generation that won two Copa America titles, retired from soccer at age 41. Bravo had also played for Manchester City, Barcelona and Real Sociedad. He won two Spanish league titles and one Champions League trophy with Barcelona and lifted three Premier League trophies with Man City. "It is the moment to close a very important cycle in my life," Bravo said in his social media channels. "I think I have made the right decision, a decision I thought long about." **PTI**

Sports News

Kohli, Jaiswal move up in Test rankings, Rohit drops to 6th

Virat Kohli moves up to 8th in ICC Test rankings; Rohit Sharma drops; Joe Root remains top; Harry Brook surges to 4th position, Jaiswal also climbs to 7th.

Shah's BCCI legacy praised by Sachin Tendulkar

Press Trust Of India

Sachin Tendulkar lauded Jay Shah's impactful tenure as BCCI secretary, praising his innovative approach.



MUMBAI: The newly-elected ICC Chairman Jay Shah's efforts as BCCI secretary in giving equal priority to men's and women's cricket have made the Indian board a "pioneer" for other governing bodies of the game to follow, reckoned legendary Sachin Tendulkar on Wednesday.

Shah will leave BCCI after a five-year stint, which began in October 2019, to take over as the independent chairman of the International Cricket Council from December 1. Tendulkar joined many former and current players to extend his wishes to Shah, who will be the youngest ICC chairman in history at the age of 35. "Being enthusiastic and having the drive to do something good for cricket are essential qualities for a cricket administrator. @JayShah displayed these traits wonderfully during his stint as @BCCI secretary," Tendulkar wrote on X.

"His endeavours towards prioritising both women's cricket and men's cricket have made the BCCI a pioneer that other boards can follow.

FASTFACTS

● **Shah, the newly-elected ICC Chairman, has received widespread acclaim from cricketing legends.**

I wish him the very best of luck towards the next phase of his journey, as he becomes the youngest chairman of the @ICC," he said.

Shah will be the fifth Indian to head the ICC and Tendulkar hoped that he would be able to carry the legacy forward. "India has sent several luminaries to lead the ICC as administrators: Mr. Jagmohan Dalmiya, Mr. Sharad Pawar, Mr. N. Srinivasan, and Mr.

Shashank Manohar. I am sure he will build on their legacy and take the game of cricket forward," he added. Former India skipper Sourav Ganguly, who was the BCCI president during Shah's first term wrote, "Congratulations to Jay Shah @JayShah on his new role as ICC chair.. wish him a great journey ahead.." (sic)

India's batting mainstay Virat Kohli also congratulated Shah for his new role. "Many congratulations @JayShah on being elected as the ICC chairman. Wishing you great success ahead," he wrote. India's Test and ODI skipper Rohit Sharma wrote, "Heartiest Congratulations @JayShah."



Virat Kohli and Yashasvi Jaiswal rise in ICC Test rankings.

HIGHLIGHT

● **Mohammad Rizwan climbs to 10th spot following a century, achieving a career-high rating.**

● **Mushfiqur Rahim has achieved a career-high rating as he climbed seven spots to move to 17th.**

dran Ashwin continues to hold the top spot among bowlers while pacer Jasprit Bumrah and left-arm spinner Ravindra Jadeja have maintained their third and seventh spots respectively.

England seamer Chris Woakes, who is up four rungs to 16th, and Sri Lanka's Asitha Fernando (up 10 spots to 17th) have gained some

ground while Pakistan's right-arm pacer Naseem Shah (up four spots to 33rd) and England's Gus Atkinson (up four places to 42nd) have attained career-best ratings following good returns from their recent appearances.

Among all-rounders, Jadeja and Ashwin continue to occupy the top two spots while Axar Patel is ranked sixth.

mad Rizwan gained seven spots, achieving a new career-high rating by moving inside the top 10 at a shared 10th following his century in the same match.

Bangladesh's Mushfiqur Rahim has achieved a career-high rating as he climbed seven spots to move to 17th.

Seasoned India off-spinner Ravichan-

PARIS PARALYMPICS |

India can clinch 10 medals in athletics at Paralympics: Coach

Press Trust Of India

India aims to win up to 10 medals, including five golds, at the Paralympics.



FASTFACTS

● **India's contingent includes 84 athletes, their largest ever, aiming for improved results.**

● **Key athletes like Sumit Antil and Mariyappan Thangavelu are expected to excel.**

our athletes secured silver and bronze medals.

Our focus this time is to convert those into gold," Satyanarayana said in a release.

Among the Indian athletes who are expected to excel are Sumit Antil (men's javelin F64), Mariyappan Thangavelu (men's high jump T42), Deepthi Jeevanji (women's 400m T20), Sachin Khilari (men's shotput F46), Ekta Bhyan (women's club throw F52) and Simran Sharma (women's 200m T12).

Disha, Aaradhya cause big upsets

PUNE: Talented shuttlers Disha Santosh and Aaradhya Sharma recorded big upsets in the opening round of the girls and boys singles respectively in the India Junior International Grand Prix badminton tournament here on Wednesday. While Disha stunned sixth seeded Liao Jui-Chi of Chinese Taipei 21-15 21-18, qualifier Aaradhya Sharma shocked fifth seeded Sai Prasad Teegala 15-21 21-7 21-15 in another match. There was further success for Indian players in the first round as Tanaka Gnana Dattu Talasila defeated Australia's Shrey Dhand 20-22 21-19 23-21, while the unseeded Prateek Koundilya got the better of tenth seeded Sai Shreyas Pallerla 21-19 21-12. Chinese Taipei's Yang Chieh Dan registered a 21-17 21-10 win over sixteenth seeded Uma Maheshwar Reddy Gopireddy in the boys' singles first round match.

West Indies beat South Africa to sweep series 3-0

Press Trust Of India

Nicholas Pooran's explosive 35 off 13 leads West Indies to 3-0 series sweep.

TAROUBA: Nicholas Pooran's explosive performance guided the West Indies to an eight-wicket victory over South Africa in the rain-shortened third Twenty20 international, completing a 3-0 series sweep. The match, reduced to 13 overs per innings due to rain delays, saw South Africa post a total of 108-4. Tristan Stubbs was the standout for the visitors, smashing 40 runs off 15 balls, including five fours and three sixes, finishing the series with 144 runs at a strike rate of 178.

Pooran, however,



HIGHLIGHT

● **Nicholas Pooran powers West Indies to win with 35 off 13 balls.**

● **South Africa's rain-affected innings ends with a total of 108-4.**

almost matched Stubbs'

brilliance with a quickfire 35 from just 13 balls, hitting two fours and four sixes. By the time Pooran was dismissed, the West Indies were 60-2 but cruised to victory with 22 balls to spare. Shai Hope remained unbeaten on 42 from 24 balls, while Shimron Hetmyer contributed 31 from 17 balls in an unbroken

third-wicket partnership of 56. West Indies captain Roston Chase praised his team's effort and determination, highlighting the challenging conditions and rain delays that impacted the game. South Africa's Aiden Markram acknowledged the tough conditions but identified areas for improvement.

AITA CSTA ALL INDIA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP |

Heramba Pohane beats Surya Naik in U-14 boys singles

Central Chronicle News

BHILAI: The AITA CSTA All India Championship Series CS7 U12 & U14 Tennis Tournament 2024, held at the Bhilai Tennis Complex, reached an exhilarating third day of competition on Wednesday. The quarter-finals showcased remarkable talent and intense matches in both the U12 and U14 categories.

In the Boys Singles U-14, Heramba Pohane from Maharashtra

secured a dominant 6-3, 6-0 win over Surya Naik of Odisha. Hitarth Surana from Madhya Pradesh won a thrilling three-set match against Ved Pardeshi from Maharashtra, finishing 4-6, 6-4, 7-5. Maharashtra's Luv Pardeshi overwhelmed Sarim Sheikh of Odisha 6-0, 6-0, and Eashandeep Boro from Assam advanced with a 6-2, 6-0 victory over Revanth Rishi Pentakota from Andhra Pradesh. In the Girls Singles



U-14, Isha Sharma from Chhattisgarh impressed with a 6-0, 6-1 win against Maharashtra's Janhavi

Sawant. Samaira Thakur and Harsha Deshpande, both from Maharashtra, also advanced with solid performances. Anika Nair overcame Kristi Halo from Assam in a tense 6-2, 0-6, 7-5 match.

In the Boys Singles U-12, Eashandeep Boro continued his fine form, defeating Ved Pardeshi 6-4, 6-1. Revanth Rishi Pentakota won 6-2, 6-3 against Vihaan Nawab. The Girls Singles U-12 featured impressive wins from Janhavi Sawant,

Anisha Marian Cornelio, Harsha Deshpande, and Kristi Halo.

In doubles, Luv Pardeshi and Heramba Pohane progressed to the U-14 Boys Doubles final, while Anisha Marian Cornelio and Isha Sharma advanced in the Girls Doubles U-14. The Boys Doubles U-12 saw victories for the teams of Vihaan Nawab and Eklayya Rajput, Arinjay Bang and Ved Pardeshi, and Evaan Jain and Samanyu Jain.

India's campaign ends in Korea Open

Press Trust Of India

SEOUL: Shuttlers Ashmita Chaliha, Malvika Bansod and Aakarshi Kashyap bowed out in the opening round of the Korea Open to draw curtains on India's campaign in the super 500 badminton tournament here on Wednesday.

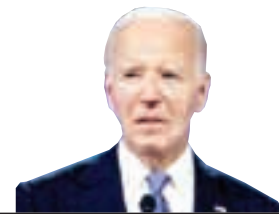
While Ashmita, ranked 53rd, was no match for world number 17 Pornpawee Chochuwong, going down 8-21

13-21 in a lop-sided opening round, Aakarshi lost 15-21 15-21 to Denmark's Line Christophersen in another match.

World No. 41 Malvika, however, produced a gallant fight before going down narrowly 21-18 15-21 17-21 to Denmark's Line Hojmark Kjaersfeldt, ranked 18th.

In mixed doubles, Indian pair of Ayush Raj Gupta and Sruti Swain lost 7-21 12-21 to Korean Ko Sung Hyun and Eom Hye Won.

World



I spoke with PM Modi and commended him for his message of peace and ongoing humanitarian support for Ukraine.

Joe Biden
US President



Admiral Samuel Paparo and Gen Romeo Brawner Jr. during an international military conference organised by US Indo-Pacific Command on Tuesday.

US military to escort Philippine ships in South China Sea

Adm. Samuel Paparo says consultations would determine specifics.

Press Trust Of India

MANILA: The US military is open to consultations about escorting Philippine ships in the disputed South China Sea, the head of US Indo-Pacific Command said Tuesday amid a spike in hostilities between Beijing and Manila in the disputed waters.

Adm. Samuel Paparo's remarks, which he made in response to a question during a news conference in Manila with Philippine Armed Forces chief Gen. Romeo Brawner Jr., provided a glimpse of the mindset of one of the highest American military commanders outside the

U.S. mainland on a prospective operation that would risk putting U.S. Navy ships in direct collisions with those of China.

Chinese coast guard, navy and suspected militia ships regularly clash with Philippine vessels during attempts to resupply Filipino sailors stationed in parts of the South China Sea claimed by both countries. As these clashes grow increasingly hostile, resulting in injuries to Filipino sailors and damage to their ships, the Philippine government has faced questions about invoking a treaty alliance with Washington.

Paparo and Brawner spoke to reporters after

HIGHLIGHT

● China's assertive actions in South China Sea spark international concern

● Philippine Defense Secretary calls for stronger multilateral action against China

an international military conference in Manila organized by the US Indo-Pacific Command, at which China's increasingly assertive actions in the South China Sea were spotlighted. Military and defense officials and diplomats from the US and allied countries attended but there were no Chinese

representatives.

Asked if the US military would consider escorting Philippine ships delivering food and other supplies to Filipino forces in the South China Sea, Paparo replied, "Certainly, within the context of consultations."

"Every option between the two sovereign nations in terms of our mutual defense, escort of one vessel to the other, is an entirely reasonable option within our Mutual Defense Treaty, among this close alliance between the two of us," Paparo said without elaborating.

Brawner responded cautiously to the sugges-

tion, which could run afoul of Philippine laws including a constitutional ban on foreign forces directly joining local combat operations.

"The attitude of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, as dictated by the Philippine laws, is for us to first rely on ourselves," Brawner said. "We are going to try all options, all avenues that are available to us in order for us to achieve the mission... in this case, the resupply and rotation of our troops."

"We will then seek for other options when we are already constrained from doing it ourselves," Brawner said.

JAPAN TYPHOON

Japan prepares for powerful Typhoon Shanshan

Press Trust Of India

Japan was preparing for powerful typhoon as it slowly approached the country's southwest at a bicycle speed, threatening to bring heavy rains and strong winds.



Waves hit a coastal area in Makurazaki, Kagoshima prefecture, western Japan, Wednesday.

FASTFACTS

● The powerful typhoon is also causing airlines to cancel flights and train operators to delay or suspend services through the weekend.

reach southern Kyushu and possibly make landfall Thursday, and issued a

high-level warning against violent winds, high waves and heavy rain for the Kagoshima prefecture.

Disaster Management Minister Yoshifumi Matsumura, at a taskforce meeting Wednesday, urged residents in Shanshan's predicted path to take precautionary measures early, such as by checking their near-

est shelters, to save their own lives. Matsumura urged residents, especially older adults, not to hesitate and take shelter whenever there is any safety concern. The government also canceled its annual earthquake drills Sunday to free up disaster response resources. So far, no damage nor injuries have been reported from the typhoon.

Dozens of domestic flights connecting southwestern cities and islands will be canceled through Friday. Japan Railway companies said most bullet trains and local train services were operating normally Wednesday, but many on Kyushu would be suspended Thursday. Similar steps may be taken on the main island of Honshu through Sunday.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

RUSSIA UKRAINE WAR Russian missiles and drones kill 5 across Ukraine

KYIV: Russia fired a barrage of dozens of missiles and drones across Ukraine for a second day on Tuesday, including some that Ukraine's president said were shot down by Western-supplied F-16 fighter jets before they reached their targets. The onslaught killed at least five people, destroying a hotel, homes and residential buildings as well as critical infrastructure in multiple Ukrainian regions. The capital and other towns and cities endured power outages in sweltering heat. As it often does in public statements after Russian bombing raids, Ukraine's military listed the Russian regions and occupied territories where the weapons were launched. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and other top officials have called repeatedly for the US to lift restrictions and let Ukraine strike deep inside Russia to hit military infrastructure responsible for the war. "The allies) try not to speak with me about it. But I keep raising this topic. Generally, that's it. The Olympics are over, but the ping-pong continues," Zelenskyy said.



HAITI MILITARY RECRUITS

Haiti's army wants recruits to fight gangs, and youths jump at the rare job offer



PORT-AU-PRINCE (HAITI): The announcement that Haiti's military wanted recruits crackled through a small radio perched on a street stall in downtown Port-au-Prince where Maurenceley Clerge repairs and sells smartphones. It was early morning, and the 21-year-old paused, eager to hear the details. He envisioned earning enough to afford his own food and rent. Two weeks later, he completed the required paperwork and stood in line with hundreds of other Haitians under a brutal sun for the chance to join up.

UN MYANMAR

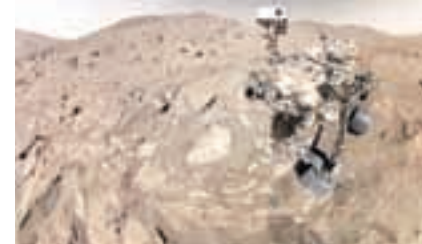
A proposed UN resolution on Myanmar condemns military attacks on civilians and urges peace efforts



UNITED NATIONS: Britain circulated a wide-ranging United Nations resolution on Myanmar urging renewed peace efforts, condemning attacks on civilians – especially by the Myanmar military – and calling for a halt to illicit arms transfers. The draft resolution obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press expresses "alarm at the increased violence across Myanmar," which is engulfed in civil war between the military-led regime and resistance forces. It calls for "safe, rapid, and unhindered humanitarian access at scale," expressing "grave concern" at the deteriorating humanitarian situation and restrictions on humanitarian access in the country that led to ris-

ing food insecurity and hunger. The proposed resolution warns that the current situation has the potential to further exacerbate discrimination, ethnically motivated violence, violations of international humanitarian law, human rights abuses, and conflict-related sexual violence. Myanmar's military ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi on Feb. 1, 2021. It was the day Parliament was to reconvene following November 2020 elections, which her National League for Democracy party won overwhelmingly – an outcome the military claims without evidence was based on fraud. Suu Kyi and party members remain under arrest.

NASA's Perseverance rover on Mars begins steep climb to rim of a crater



NEW YORK: NASA's Perseverance rover is tackling a steep new challenge on Mars. The six-wheeled rover has spent the last 3 1/2 years roaming around the bottom of a crater. On Tuesday, it began climbing to the top. The rover will go up 1,000 feet

(305 meters) to the rim of Jezero Crater to dig up rock samples. Since landing on the red planet in 2021, Perseverance has collected 22 rock core samples from the floor of the crater, which was once filled with water. The rover's samples may help scientists piece together what the planet's climate looked like billions of years ago – and learn whether any ancient Martian life lurked.

BANGLA JAMAAT HINDUS

Jamaat-e-Islami chief denies role in Hindu attacks

Press Trust Of India

DHAKA: Jamaat-e-Islami supremo Shafiqur Rahman has said that his party was not involved in attacks on the Hindu community in Bangladesh and attributed the negative portrayal of the party to a "malicious" media campaign.

He also refuted allegations that the party



was involved in anti-India activities in Bangladesh and asked India to provide proof if any.

Replying to a query on allegations of attack on Hindus in Bangladesh by Jamaat activists, Rahman refuted the allegations as "baseless".

The minority Hindu population has faced vandalisation of their business and properties and devastation of Hindu temples in the students' violence that ensued for days following the ouster

of prime minister Sheikh Hasina, who fled to India on August 5. "We don't believe in the concept of minority and majority, we believe in unity. We don't consider Hindus as minorities, they are our brothers and friends in Bangladesh. We are with our Hindu brothers and we will stand by them," Rahman said.

Shafiqur Rahman
Jamaat-e-Islami supremo

Advertisement for 'Tadu (Jodana) Mitare' featuring a person and text in Hindi.

Advertisement for 'Baidyanath Mahasudarshan Kadha' featuring a person and a bottle of medicine.