



Central Chronicle

LS passes exam reform bill amid Oppn din

Bill indicates that the government is open to learning from experience.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha on Wednesday approved a bill to amend the anti-paper leak law with stricter punishment with government asserting that the measure was taken as it is “open to learning from experiences”.

The Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 was introduced in the House by Union minister Jitendra Singh on July 27, days after large-scale student protests led by the Cockroach Janta Party forced Dharmendra Pradhan to resign as the education minister.

Speaking in Lok Sabha on Wednesday, Singh said



the government acted swiftly in the NEET paper leak case, and as many as 52 FIRs have been lodged since the anti-paper leak law came into force in 2024. The amendment bill indicates that the government is open to learning from experience, he said, noting that the rate of suicide related to paper leaks has also reduced over the last few years. Singh criticised Leader of

Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, stating that he lacks knowledge of parliamentary norms and the functioning of the government.

Expressing disappointment over sloganeering by the opposition parties during the passage of the bill, the minister said, “Instead of debating it seriously and offering suggestions, attempts are being made to politicise

Rahul lacks parliamentary norms.

Jitendra Singh,
Union minister

it.”

“I am surprised by the behaviour of the leader of opposition...,” he said.

Immediately after the passage of the bill, Lok Sabha was adjourned for the day

On Monday, Singh introduced the bill to amend the anti-paper leaks law with stricter punishment of up to 10 years in jail and Rs 50 lakh fine amid protests and sloganeering by the Opposition demanding

a response from the government over the police crackdown on students during the CJP-led July 20 protest march to Parliament. Protests by opposition parties over the NEET issue led to daily disruption of proceedings in the first week of the Monsoon session of Parliament.

The 2024 law was brought in when the government faced raging paper leak controversies. Before this legislation, there was no specific substantive law to deal with unfair means adopted or offences committed by various entities involved in the conduct of public examinations by the central government and its agencies.

BJP Chief Kiran Singh Deo injured in highway crash

Press Trust Of India

RAIPUR/JHANSI: BJP State President and Jagdalpur MLA Kiran Singh Deo was injured in a road accident on Wednesday on the Jhansi-Lalitpur highway in Uttar Pradesh. The incident occurred while he was returning with his family after visiting Bageshwar Dham on the occasion of Guru Purnima.

According to reports, the accident took place when the driver applied sudden brakes to avoid an oncoming vehicle, causing the car to lose control and ram into a truck. Deo sustained injuries to his waist and leg and was immediately rushed to Jhansi Medical College, where he is undergoing treatment. Doctors have stated that his condition is stable and he is out of danger. At the time of the accident, his Personal Security Officer (PSO) was also present in the vehicle, while other



FACTFILE

● Sudden brakes cause crash into truck.

family members were travelling in a separate car. With the help of local residents and police, the injured were promptly taken to the hospital.

Sources indicated that arrangements are being made to airlift Deo to Raipur for further treatment. His driver was also injured in the accident. Police have initiated an investigation into the cause of the incident, though no official statement has yet been issued by the administration or the BJP.

NEWSLINE

SURAJPUR

3 held for wildlife smuggling

Three men have been arrested for allegedly attempting to smuggle tiger skin, pangolin scales and wildlife body parts in Chhattisgarh’s Surajpur district, forest officials said on Wednesday.

The accused were intercepted near Baijnathpur village on the Odgi-Bhaiyathan Road on Tuesday, a day ahead of International Tiger Day, following a joint operation by the state forest department and the WCCB, Central Region, Bhopal. The WCCB had alerted the Surajpur forest division on July 27 about a planned illegal trading and smuggling of body parts of wild animals, including their skins and scales, in the district, a forest official said. The trio was stopped at the Dharsedi Road security blockade, leading to the recovery of one tiger skin and around 4-5 kg of pangolin scales from their possession, the official said.

‘Boeing finds no fault in Dreamliner fuel switch’

Press Trust Of India

On Feb 02, Air India pilot flagged Boeing 787-8 fuel switch defect.

NEW DELHI: The government has said that Boeing’s detailed examination of the Dreamliner aircraft’s fuel control switch locking mechanism did not find any abnormality following an Air India pilot flagging possible issues with the system after operating a London Heathrow-Bengaluru flight in February



this year. On February 2, an Air India pilot reported a defect in the fuel control switch of the Boeing 787-8 plane after operating the AI32 flight. The airline had grounded the aircraft for checks after it landed in Bengaluru from London.

Following the incident, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), as part of continued airworthiness, directed Boeing to carry out the test of the fuel control switch locking mechanism.

In a written reply to the Rajya Sabha on Monday, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol said the DGCA, as part of continued airworthiness, had directed Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) level testing of the fuel control switch locking mechanism in Seattle.

8 Maoists surrender

BIJAPUR: Eight Naxalites, collectively carrying a reward of Rs 49 lakh and active in Jharkhand, surrendered in Bijapur district on Wednesday, police said. This is the first major group surrender of Maoists in Chhattisgarh after the government declared the state free of Left Wing Extremism on March 31. The surrendered cadres, including five women, turned themselves in before senior officials of the Bijapur police and the CRPF, Bijapur Superintendent of Police Umesh Prasad Gupta said.

Join BJP or parents will be in trouble: Abhijeet Dipke

Press Trust Of India

SAMBAJINAGAR: The mother of Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Wednesday claimed that her son had received a video threat coercing him to join the BJP or face severe consequences against his family.

Speaking to a Marathi



news channel here ahead of Abhijeet’s return from New Delhi, his mother, Anita Dipke, said that the intimidation forced the parents to flee their home.

RS passes bill criminalising insult to Vande Mataram

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Rajya Sabha on Wednesday passed a bill to make insult to the national song ‘Vande Mataram’ a criminal offence, ending the over week-long impasse by taking up legislative agenda amid the Opposition’s uproar over police action

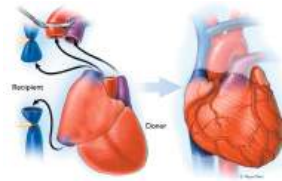
against students protesting NEET paper leak. The Opposition, led by the Congress, staged a walkout as Deputy Chairman Harivansh allowed the members to speak on ‘The Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026’ after lunch, despite uproar in the House.

| LANCET STUDY |

Heart transplant supply meets 0.2%

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Supply of organ transplant in India in 2021 met only 0.2 per cent of heart, 1.2 per cent of lung need and 1.5 per cent of liver need, according to a study published in The Lancet Regional Health Southeast Asia journal. Findings also show that the organ transplant supply met only 7.2 per cent of kidney need. Researchers, including



those from the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences and Fortis Vasant Kunj in New Delhi, said that by 2040, organ need is projected to reach 1,43,722 kidney, 2,10,649 liver, 95,711 heart, and 12,846 lung transplants annually.

NUMBER

7.2

● Kidney transplant supply meets only 7.2%.

They said that despite having the world’s third highest transplant volume, India does not have a systematic assessment of unmet transplant need across organs. The team added that under mod-

erate reform, coverage in 2040 reaches only 32.6 per cent for kidney and remains below seven per cent for liver, heart and lung. “In 2021, estimated annual transplant need was 125,894 kidney; 184,542 liver; 83,841 heart; and 11,253 lung transplants. Actual supply met only 7.2 per cent of kidney, 1.5 per cent of liver, 0.2 per cent of heart, and 1.2 per cent of lung need,” the authors wrote.

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Har Pal Aapke Saath

Raipur



Health Minister's negligence fuels malaria outbreak in Bastar.

Dr. Rakesh Gupta
President, Congress Committee's Medical Wing

Interstate Gold fraud fang busted; three UP accused arrested

Police expose sophisticated interstate fake gold scam network.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Raipur Police Commissionerate has busted an interstate fraud gang that allegedly cheated people of lakhs of rupees by selling brass necklaces as ancient gold ornaments.

Three accused from Uttar Pradesh were arrested in Mumbai for their involvement in three cheating cases registered in Raipur, in which victims were duped of a total of Rs 22.50 lakh. Preliminary investigation suggests the gang may have committed similar frauds worth crores across several states.

According to police,



the accused adopted a carefully planned modus operandi to gain the confidence of unsuspecting buyers. Posing as daily-wage labourers or excavation workers, they claimed to have unearthed ancient gold ornaments and coins during digging. To convince victims, they would break

off a small piece of genuine gold attached to a brass necklace and ask them to get it tested.

Once the sample was confirmed genuine, the victims agreed to purchase the entire necklace at a heavily discounted price, believing it to be valuable gold. However, the ornament later turned

FACTFILE

● Gang duped victims using fake gold.

out to be made entirely of brass.

The gang allegedly targeted victims in the New Rajendra Nagar, Telibandha and D.D. Nagar areas, where separate cases were registered after three complainants lost Rs 2.50 lakh, Rs 10 lakh and Rs 10 lakh respectively.

Acting on technical evidence, CCTV footage, mobile location analysis and intelligence inputs, a joint team of the Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and

local police tracked the accused to Mumbai and arrested Shambhu Rai, Geeta Gujarati and Shanti Gujarati.

During interrogation, the accused admitted to operating across several states, including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. Police recovered Rs 9 lakh in cash, brass jewellery, silver coins, four mobile phones and forged Aadhaar cards, with the total seizure valued at around Rs 12 lakh.

Further investigation is underway to identify other gang members and trace additional victims of the interstate fraud racket.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

CPS Raipur qualifies U-19 boys, girls for National Kabaddi Championship



RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh Public Schools (CPS), Raipur, delivered an outstanding performance at the CBSE Cluster Kabaddi Tournament by winning two gold medals and one bronze medal, with both its U-19 Boys and U-19 Girls teams qualifying for the CBSE National Kabaddi Championship. Competing against some of the strongest school teams from across the region, the CPS players displayed exceptional skill, determination, discipline and teamwork throughout the tournament. Their impressive performances reflected months of dedicated training and a strong commitment to sporting excellence. The U-19 Girls team clinched the gold medal to secure a berth in the national championship, while the U-19 Boys team also emerged champions, earning another gold medal and qualification for the prestigious national event. The school's U-14 Boys team added to the celebrations by winning the bronze medal. The

school management congratulated the players for their remarkable achievement, describing the victories as a proud moment for the institution, Raipur and Chhattisgarh. It also appreciated the dedication of the coaching staff, whose technical guidance, planning and continuous motivation played a vital role in the teams' success. The management acknowledged the support of parents and mentors, stating that their encouragement has helped create an environment where young athletes can excel in competitive sports. Highlighting the institution's commitment to holistic education, the management said CPS continues to promote excellence in academics and sports alike by nurturing discipline, leadership and teamwork among students. It expressed confidence that both U-19 teams would perform strongly at the CBSE National Kabaddi Championship and bring further laurels to the school and the state.

AI TRAINING

Anjaneya University hosts AI Training for BJP Education Cell Members



RAIPUR: A one-day Artificial Intelligence (AI) training programme was organised by the Raipur District unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Education Cell at Anjaneya University, Nardaha, to familiarize members with the practical applications of emerging technologies and their role in education, administration and public service. The programme was conducted under the guidance of Anjaneya University Chancellor and BJP Education Cell (Raipur) District Convener Abhishek Agrawal. District Co-conveners Sharad Chandra, Nilesh Pandey and Deepika Soni, along with members of the district executive committee, coordinated the event. Addressing the participants, Agrawal said Artificial Intelligence has emerged as a transformative technology that is reshaping education, governance, communication and public services. He said the university is committed to connecting not only students but also different sections of society with modern technologies, enabling

them to use AI effectively in their day-to-day activities. Lead trainer Abhijit Ramani conducted technical sessions on the fundamentals of AI, its practical applications and its growing relevance in professional and organisational work. Participants were introduced to modern AI tools and their potential to improve productivity and communication. The programme was attended by BJP Raipur District President Ramesh Singh Thakur, District In-charge Rajendra Sharma, State Education Cell Convener Kantilal Jain, Chhattisgarh State Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation Chairman Lokesh Kawadiya, Chhattisgarh Iron and Craftsmen Development Board Chairman Prafulla Vishwakarma, Child Rights Commission Chairperson Varnika Sharma, Chhattisgarh Film Development Corporation Chairperson Mona Sen, BJP State Social Media In-charge Mitul Kothari, BJP State IT Cell In-charge Sunil Pillai and several other party office-bearers and Education Cell members.

'DISHAARMBH' SETS THE STAGE

Shri Balaji Disha College welcomes freshers with inspiring induction programme

RAIPUR: Shri Balaji Disha College, Raipur, organised "Dishaarmbh", an induction programme for newly admitted B.Sc., BCA, and B.A. first-semester students, marking a vibrant beginning to their academic journey.

The programme commenced with the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp followed by Saraswati Vandana. Principal Dr. A.K. Tiwari, in his address, warmly welcomed the students and emphasized the importance of academic excellence, discipline, and holistic development. Quoting the Sanskrit prayer "Om Saha Nau Avatu...", he underlined the significance of mutual respect, harmony, and collaborative learning between teachers and students. He also advised students to remain focused, practise self-discipline, and limit digital distractions.



Students were introduced to the college's academic framework, examination system, library and laboratory facilities, student support services, and extracurricular opportunities. Heads of Departments—Dr. Prafull Vyas (Science), Mrs. Seema Pathak (Computer Science), and Dr. Yogita Jiwane (Humanities)—highlighted the institution's academic vision and the implementation of NEP 2020, encouraging active participation in both curricular and co-curricular activities.

CM Sai puts Collectors on flood alert amid heavy rains

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: With heavy monsoon rains causing rivers and streams across Chhattisgarh to swell, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Wednesday said all District Collectors and senior officials have been placed on high alert to deal with any flood-like situation. He directed the administration to ensure immediate relief and assistance reaches affected people wherever required. The



Chief Minister said continuous monitoring is being carried out in rain-affected districts, and local authorities have been instructed to remain prepared for emergency response. As water levels continue to rise in

several areas, district administrations have also ordered the closure of schools in vulnerable regions as a precautionary measure. Speaking to mediapersons, Sai said public safety remains the government's top priority and that officials have been directed to respond swiftly to any emergency arising from heavy rainfall. Sharing details of his schedule, the Chief Minister said he would leave for New Delhi on Tuesday night.

Two held with 3.38 kg Cannabis in Raipur

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Raipur Police arrested two persons for allegedly possessing and attempting to sell cannabis, seizing 3.380 kg of the contraband valued at approximately Rs 1.69 lakh during an operation in the Azad Chowk area. According to police, Azad Chowk Police Station received specific information on July 28 that two individuals carrying cannabis were waiting near the ground



at Idgahbhatta to sell the narcotic substance. Acting on the tip-off, Deputy Commissioner of Police (West) Robinson Guria directed officers to verify the information and take immediate action. Following the instructions, a police team led by the Station House Officer of Azad Chowk reached the spot.

| ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS |

Traffic Police, NGOs join hands for safer toads

Central Chronicle News

Traffic police seek citizens' active participation.

RAIPUR: The Raipur Traffic Police, under the guidance of DCP (Traffic) Dr. Archana Jha, held a coordination meeting with representatives of around 30 voluntary organisations (NGOs) to strengthen road safety and improve the city's traffic management through greater public participation. Held at the Traffic Auditorium, the meeting focused on challenges in traffic regulation, road safety and practical solutions for ensuring a safer and smoother traffic system. NGO representatives shared suggestions on improving traffic management near schools,



markets, busy intersections and other congested areas. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Archana Jha said a disciplined traffic system cannot be achieved through police efforts alone and requires active cooperation from citizens and social organisations. She stressed that community participation is essential to building a responsible road safety culture. The DCP highlighted several initiatives already undertaken by the Traffic Police, including awareness campaigns against underage driving, meetings with school managements and parents, traffic edu-

FACTFILE

● NGOs to strengthen road safety awareness.

cation programmes for students and inspection drives for school buses. These efforts, she said, are aimed at ensuring children's safety and promoting responsible road behaviour. It was decided that the Traffic Police, in collaboration with NGOs, would soon organise joint road safety and traffic awareness programmes in schools, colleges, markets, residential areas and public places across the city.

Teachers oppose online attendance, threaten statewide protest

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Opposition to the online attendance system for teachers in Chhattisgarh has intensified, with the Chhattisgarh School Teachers' Association warning of a statewide agitation if technical issues with the system are not resolved promptly. Association President, Virendra Dubey termed the existing online attendance mechanism impractical, alleging that the VSK app is plagued by frequent technical glitches that create daily difficulties for teachers. He said educators should not be held responsible for failures arising from a faulty digital system and urged the Education Department to rectify the app and strengthen the online attendance mechanism before making it mandatory. The association has demanded



immediate intervention by the department, stating that teachers are willing to cooperate only after the system becomes reliable and user-friendly. It warned that failure to address the issues could force teachers across the state to launch protests in the coming days. Meanwhile, the Directorate of Public Instruction (DPI) has issued instructions to all Divisional Joint Directors and District Education Officers stating that salaries for the month of July will be released based on teachers' online attendance records.

| 'FREE FOOD SERVICE - 365 DAYS' CAMPAIGN |

Free meal campaign launched at Ambedkar Hospital

Central Chronicle News

Rotary begins year-long humanitarian food campaign.



RAIPUR: The Rotary Club of Raipur Cosmo Divas has launched the 'Free Food Service - 365 Days' campaign at Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Memorial Hospital, ensuring free, hygienic and nutritious meals for needy family members accompanying patients throughout the year. The initiative aims

to ease the financial and emotional burden faced by attendants who often struggle to arrange food during prolonged hospital stays. The campaign was inaugurated by Chhattisgarh Health Minister Shyam Bihari Jaiswal in the presence of Raipur Mayor Meenal Chaubey and members of various Rotary clubs. The organi-

zation 'Kuch Farz Hamara Bhi' has partnered in implementing the initiative, while Rotary Club of Raipur Infinity and Rotary Club of Raipur Cosmopolitan are extending support to the service drive. Launching the campaign, Health Minister Jaiswal personally served meals to attendants and praised the initiative as a remarkable

FACTFILE

● Free meals for patients' families year-round.

example of humanity and social responsibility. He said that providing food to families undergoing difficult times is a noble service and expressed confidence that the campaign would benefit hundreds of needy families over the coming year. Mayor Meenal Chaubey lauded the Rotary Club's commitment, stating that such initiatives reflect the true

spirit of public service and inspire other social organizations to contribute towards community welfare. Rotary Club of Raipur Cosmo Divas President Neha Jain said the campaign was conceived to ensure that no patient's family member goes hungry while caring for their loved ones. Event Chairperson Dr. Rashmi Dubey added that the initiative is intended not only to provide meals but also to offer dignity, comfort and emotional support to attendants.

Four new industrial parks approved for growth

Parks will be built in Patewa (Rajnandgaon), Dhumrapali (Dhamtari), Salkhan (Janjgir-Champa), and Niyanar (Bastar).

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: In a major push toward industrial development and local job creation, the Chhattisgarh state government has formally approved the development of four new industrial parks (manufacturing clusters) across key districts.

The proposal received official clearance during the second meeting of the State-Level Committee on the Industrial Development Scheme under the Department of Commerce and Industries. The high-level meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary Vikas Sheel at the capital.

Under the newly approved plan, manufacturing clusters will be established in four targeted regions including Rajnandgaon District: A Special Manufacturing Cluster at Patewa, in Dhamtari District: A Multi-Sector Manufacturing Cluster at Dhumrapali, in Janjgir-Champa District: A Multi-Sector Manufacturing Cluster at Salkhan and in Bastar District: An Industrial Park Multi-Sector Manufacturing Cluster at Niyanar.

The initiative forms part of the central



FASTFACTS

- Implemented under the central Bharat Industrial Scheme and state policy.
- Approved by a committee chaired by Chief Secretary Vikas Sheel.

government's ambitious Bharat Industrial Scheme, which Chhattisgarh is implementing under its broader State Industrial Development Policy. To ensure smooth operation and timely, deadline-driven execution of these infrastructure projects, the state-level committee was specifically empowered to fast-track approvals.

The high-level meet-

ing was attended by senior administrative officials across key state departments, including Dr. Rohit Yadav (Secretary, Finance), Ankit Anand (Secretary, Housing and Environment), Rajat Kumar (Secretary, Commerce and Industry), Dr. Saransh Mittra (Secretary, Energy), and Iffat Ara (Special Secretary, Revenue and Disaster Management), alongside other senior representatives.

CS reviews progress of Infrastructure Projects under Special Central Assistance Scheme

A state-level inter-departmental committee meeting under the Home Department's Special Central Assistance (SCA) scheme was held today at the Mahanadi Bhawan Secretariat, chaired by Chief Secretary Vikas Sheel. The primary objective of the meeting was to evaluate the physical and financial progress of various infrastructure initiatives—including roads, bridges, culverts, and building construction projects—across four targeted districts: Bijapur, Narayanpur, Kanker, and Sukma. During the review, Chief Secretary Sheel examined district-wise master plans and took stock of completed, ongoing, and pending works. He instructed officials to expedite execution and ensure the swift completion of all sanctioned projects within the set deadlines. Interacting with the District Collectors of Bijapur, Narayanpur, Kanker, and Sukma via video conference, the Chief Secretary instructed them to monitor construction activities continuously and keep progress aligned with approved action plans. Officials present at the meeting highlighted key completion milestones achieved so far under the scheme.

Uneven monsoon brings heavy showers

RAIPUR: The ongoing monsoon season in Chhattisgarh has presented a contrasting pattern across various regions, bringing heavy downpours to the plains and central districts while southern pockets experience deficit rainfall. According to data released by the Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, the state has recorded an average rainfall of 485.9 mm from June 1 until July 29, 2026, which accounts for 94.2 percent of the 10-year average of 515.9 mm. A strong single-day average of 38.8 mm recorded on July 29 alone has significantly accelerated paddy transplantation activities across several districts.

Central and plain regions have witnessed vigorous monsoon activity, with rivers and local streams swelling and water reservoirs filling up rapidly. Sarangarh-Bilagarh has emerged as the frontrunner in seasonal rainfall across the state, recording an impressive 772.0 mm, which stands at 195.5 percent of its normal average. Other central districts have similarly benefited from robust downpours, including Mahasamund at 698.3 mm (147.5 percent), Raipur at 579.4 mm (132.0 percent), Janjgir-Champa at 708.2 mm (131.6 percent), Balarampur at 471.4 mm (130.1 percent), and Baloda Bazar at 607.7 mm (125.0 percent).

BJP slams Congress over CG-PSC and recruitment scams



Central Chronicle News

BJP highlighted ongoing CBI and ED investigations, citing the arrest of former Chairman Taman Singh Sonwani.

FAST FACTS

- Accused previous Baghel-led government of recruitment conspiracies, paper leaks, and physical test manipulation.

Singh Sonwani as proof that the selection process was not merely corrupt, but a calculated conspiracy against the state's youth.

Shrivastava targeted Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, alleging that despite young aspirants handing him documented proof of the PSC scam during his train journey through Bilaspur during the previous regime, the leadership chose total silence.

He demanded an apology from Congress leaders to the youth of Chhattisgarh. Highlighting widespread recruitment irregularities during the previous regime, Shrivastava cited several examples: Forest Guard Recruitment: Physical fitness records were allegedly manipulated to show unrealistic running times that bizarrely surpassed world records.

NEWSLINE

HEALTH DRIVE

Raipur railway station hosts health drive



RAIPUR: The Divisional Railway Hospital of Raipur, under the South East Central Railway, successfully organized a multi-purpose health drive at the Raipur railway station to provide primary health checkups, health awareness, and life-saving training to railway employees. Guided by Divisional Railway Manager Dayanand and directed by Chief Medical Superintendent Dr. K.P.S. Kasipathi, the initiative aimed to ensure the wellness and emergency preparedness of station staff. A total of thirty-eight railway employees, comprising twenty-three men and fifteen women, actively participated in the health camp. During the screening process, six employees were identified with hypertension and four with diabetes, encompassing both newly detected and previously known cases.

SINGING PRODIGY

Ten-year-old Arunima enters records for singing



RAIPUR: Ten-year-old prodigy Arunima Sharma, affectionately known as 'Aadya', has brought pride to Chhattisgarh by officially securing a place in the India Book of Records 2026 as an "IBR Achiever." Born on November 9, 2015, Aadya achieved this national recognition at the age of 10 years and 7 months. The India Book of Records conferred the title in recognition of her exceptional record in competitive music, having secured 9 victory certificates and a trophy across various state and national platforms. Her key accolades include the first prize at the Natrang Mahotsav organized by the Sangeeta Kala Academy, Raipur, and second runner-up at Bastar Idol.

Dist Mini-Junior and Junior Badminton Tournament kicks off

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Raipur District Badminton Association has officially kicked off the District Mini-Junior and Junior Badminton Tournament today at the Sapre School Badminton Hall. Running through August 2, the five-day tournament features single matches across the Under-11, Under-13, and Under-19 categories for both boys and girls, drawing around 300 young shuttlers from across the district.

According to Anurag Dixit, Secretary of the Raipur District Badminton Association, performance in this tournament will be the primary criterion for selecting the Raipur district mini-junior and junior badminton squads. The selected teams will represent Raipur in the upcoming Junior State Badminton Championship in Rajnandgaon and



the Mini-Junior State Badminton Championship in Bilaspur. Day one witnessed high-energy encounters across the age groups. In the Boys' Singles (Under-11), Reyansh Khetawat def. Rivan Patel: 15-10, 15-8, Ayaan Agarwal def. Rajveer Singh Chawla: 15-10, 15-11, Shaswat Dubey def. Abheer Dagar: 15-11, 13-15, 15-9, Rudransh Nilay def. Avyaan Agarwal: 15-3, 15-2, Kabir Jaswani def. Aransh Nigam: 15-6, 15-9, Parv Agarwal def. Riyanish Kedia: 15-9, 15-11, Sakshay Bhagat def. Rudransh Khetawat: 15-6,

15-5, Utkarsh Dholakia def. Reyansh Khetawat: 15-1, 15-5, Shaurya Talreja def. Shivansh Gupta: 15-3, 15-11, Aarav Jain (Sawan-sukha) def. Jai Patel: 15-2, 15-6, Hayaan Srivastava def. Shaurya Gandechar: 15-8, 15-8, Samar Sangoi def. Parth Nihichlani: 15-7, 15-5, Parth Sundrani def. Suryansh Bhansali: 15-12, 15-7, Rhythm Bajaj def. Kabir Garg: 15-5, 15-5, Shreehan Ladha def. Namish Gupta: 15-6, 15-13, Shivansh Bhadani def. Shaurya Chalamcharla: 15-12, 15-9, Param Bajaj def. Arham Jain: 17-15, 18-20, 18-16, Ojas Singh def. Yuvansh Gupta: 21-19, 15-8, Jiyansh Ahuja def. Muhammad Memon: 15-10, 15-11, Priyansh Debata def. Aarav Jain: 15-2, 15-3, Advik Agarwal def. Shivansh Gupta: 15-5, 15-5, Jivansh Rizwani def. Shrehan Sharma: 15-9, 15-3 and Kabir Jaswani def. Vrishank Gupta: 15-2, 15-2.

NHRC Special Monitor visits AIIMS Raipur for rights education

Central Chronicle News

Highlighted patient-centred, dignified, and equitable healthcare as fundamental human rights.

RAIPUR: NHRC Special Monitor Prof. Kanhaiya Tripathi visited AIIMS Raipur today and in the meeting with AIIMS Fraternity he addressed about the "Strengthening Human Rights-Based Healthcare Services" as part of his official visit to Chhattisgarh (21-27 July 2026) under the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) programme to promote Human Rights Education and Gender Equality.

In his address, Prof. Tripathi stated that quality,



accessible, safe, equitable, and dignified healthcare is a fundamental human right of every citizen. He emphasized that modern healthcare systems must adopt a patient-centred approach founded on compassion, equality, dignity, inclusiveness, and equal opportunities while delivering healthcare services. Prof. Tripathi highlighted the importance of strengthening institutional mechanisms for safeguarding human rights in healthcare. He suggested that medical institutions may

consider initiatives to promote gender equality, prevent violence and abuse in healthcare settings, and enhance awareness of the rights and responsibilities of both patients and healthcare professionals. He also encouraged greater student participation through initiatives such as Student Human Gender Equality, capacity-building programmes, competitions, and training activities. He suggested exploring opportunities to develop trained student counsellors in medical institutions with

FAST FACTS

- Inspected the Trauma and Emergency Department and interacted directly with patients and staff.
- Encouraged student participation in gender equality initiatives and strengthened grievance mechanisms.

appropriate institutional recognition. He appraises the CPR training and public initiative of AIIMS Raipur and collaboration with non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Following the meeting, Prof. Tripathi visited the Trauma and Emergency Department of AIIMS Raipur, accompanied by Dr. Debendra Kumar Tripathy, Professor and Medical Superintendent.

URBAN CLIMATE MOU |

RMC, CEED India sign MoU for urban devp

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: In a significant step toward strengthening climate adaptation, sustainable urban development, and environmental management, the Raipur Municipal Corporation (RMC) and the Centre for Environment and Energy Development (CEED India) formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Wednesday.

The strategic partnership aims to formulate evidence-based strategies for Raipur and advance effective initiatives that



will enhance the city's climate resilience while positively improving the quality of life for its residents. Under the framework of the agreement, both institutions will collaborate across several

crucial domains, including the development of the Raipur Heat Action Plan, the assessment and mitigation of urban heat islands, air quality management, water conservation, solid waste manage-

"This partnership marks a vital milestone in transforming Raipur into a more resilient, eco-friendly, and future-ready city amid changing climate challenges."

Sambit Mishra
Commissioner, RMC

ment, urban biodiversity conservation, green infrastruc-

ture development, climate adaptation and mitigation, capacity building, research and policy support, knowledge sharing, and public awareness programs.

The signing ceremony was attended by senior officials from both organizations. Representing the Raipur Municipal Corporation were Municipal Commissioner Sambit Mishra and Junior Executive Engineer Anshul Sharma, while CEED India was represented by Chief Executive Officer Ramapati Kumar and State Director Tushar

HNLU completes first TradeLab project with UN ESCAP, CTIL

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Hidayatullah National Law University (HNLU) here has successfully completed its first TradeLab Project, marking a significant milestone in the university's growing engagement with international trade policy and digital governance research, officials said on Wednesday.

The project was undertaken in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and

the Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL), New Delhi, a statement issued by the Press Information Bureau (PIB) said. The project reaffirms HNLU's commitment to producing globally relevant, policy-oriented legal research, it said. HNLU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr V C Vivekanandan said the successful completion of the university's first TradeLab Project reflected its growing stature as a centre for impactful policy research. "Digital trade has been rapidly

reshaping the global economic landscape, and institutions of higher learning have an important responsibility to contribute rigorous, evidence-based research that informs international policymaking," he said.

The achievement reflects the dedication of the university's students and faculty and reinforces HNLU's vision of nurturing globally engaged legal scholars capable of addressing contemporary challenges in international economic governance, he added.



“I have reviewed the status of Jal Jivan Mision and have asked the officers to ensure timely completion of all the pending construction works.”

Sanjay Agrawal
Collector, Bilaspur

Van Mahotsav inspires environmental conservation

Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao urged citizens to plant and protect trees for environmental balance, water conservation and future generations.

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao called upon every citizen to plant and protect trees, saying they are not only the adornment of the Earth but also the foundation of life. He said tree plantation is essential for water conservation, environmental protection and ensuring a secure future for coming generations. He was addressing the Van Mahotsav programme organised by the Forest Department at Pt. Sundarlal Sharma Open University campus on the occasion of Guru Purnima and International Tiger Day.

During the programme, the Deputy Chief Minister planted a sapling under the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also administered an environmental conservation pledge to participants and flagged off the Forest Department’s “Paudha Tunhar Duwar” vehicle, which aims to promote tree plantation and distribute saplings among citizens. Bonus amounts were also distributed to tendu leaf collectors during the event.

Arun Sao said Guru Purnima is a sacred occa-



FASTFACTS

- Deputy Chief Minister encouraged every citizen to plant and protect at least one tree.

- Van Mahotsav celebrated with plantation drive, environmental pledge and bonus distribution for collectors today.

sion dedicated to honouring teachers, who symbolize knowledge, dedication and selfless service. He noted that organising a plantation drive at an educational institution on such an occasion carried special significance. Referring to International Tiger Day, he said forests and wildlife are closely linked to ecological

balance, and protecting them is a collective responsibility.

He compared trees to vital organs of the human body, saying just as every organ is essential for healthy living, trees are indispensable for maintaining the balance of nature. He urged students

to transform tree plantation into a people’s movement by actively participating in environmental conservation activities. He added that everyone should take responsibility not only for planting a sapling but also for nurturing it until it grows into a healthy tree.

Forest makes ecological balance: Kaushik

Bilha MLA Dharamlal Kaushik said forests are the backbone of ecological balance and warned that indiscriminate felling of trees has already begun affecting the environment. He encouraged people to plant a tree on birthdays and other special occasions and ensure its protection.

Masturi MLA Dilip Lahariya, Mayor Pooja Vidhani, District Panchayat President Rajesh Suryavanshi, Vice Chancellor Dr. Virendra Kumar Saraswat, Collector Sanjay Agrawal, Municipal Commissioner Prakash Kumar Sarve, Divisional Forest Officer Neeraj Kumar and several public representatives, officials and students attended the programme.

Chain snatcher arrested

BILASPUR: Bilaspur police arrested a 30-year-old man for allegedly snatching a gold chain from a woman near the Rajkishore Nagar area and recovered the stolen ornament along with the motorcycle used in the crime. According to police, the incident occurred when the victim was returning home in the evening. The accused allegedly approached from behind on a motorcycle, snatched the chain and fled before local residents could react. Following the complaint, police examined CCTV footage from nearby roads and markets and tracked the suspect through technical surveillance. A special team arrested him during a raid and recovered the stolen gold chain, which will be returned to the victim after legal formalities. Police also seized the motorcycle believed to have been used in the offence. A case has been registered under the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and the accused was produced before a local court. Investigators are verifying whether he was involved in similar chain-snatching incidents reported in Bilaspur and nearby areas. Police have advised residents to remain alert while travelling alone and immediately report suspicious activity through the emergency helpline or the nearest police station.

Sanitation workers received free screening



Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

- A total of 142 sanitation workers received free hepatitis screening and health awareness.

BILASPUR: A special health screening and hepatitis vaccination camp was organised for frontline sanitation workers in Bilaspur to mark World Hepatitis Day under the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme. The initiative was jointly conducted by the District Surveillance Unit, the Office of the Chief Medical and Health Officer and the Bilaspur Municipal Corporation to promote early detection, prevention and treatment of hepatitis infections.

During the camp, 142 sanitation workers underwent free screening for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. Health experts said sanitation workers face a higher occupational risk of exposure to infectious diseases, making regular health check-ups and vaccination essential for their safety and well-being. The awareness programme educated participants about the causes, symptoms, methods of transmission and preventive measures related to hepatitis. Health officials

encouraged workers to undergo timely testing and receive the Hepatitis B vaccine to reduce the risk of infection. They also informed participants about the availability of free treatment and follow-up services under government health programmes.

Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr. Shubha Garhwal said the primary objective of the camp was to increase awareness among sanitation workers, facilitate early diagnosis and connect infected individuals with timely medical care. District Programme Officer Dr. Pramod Tiwari, District Health Officer Dr. Rakshit Jogi, District Manager Shyam Mohan Dubey, District Epidemiologist Pankaj Singh and other officials from the Health Department and Municipal Corporation attended the programme.

Mark Hospital extending advanced gastro care

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Mark Hospital, Bilaspur, has introduced Advanced Gastroenterology and Hepatology Services to provide specialized diagnosis and treatment for diseases affecting the stomach, intestines, liver, pancreas, and digestive system. With unhealthy eating habits, stressful lifestyles, and lack of physical activity contributing to a rise in digestive disorders, the hospital aims to offer timely medical intervention through expert consultation and advanced diagnostic facilities. The services are led by Dr. Manish Kumar Nayak (MBBS, MD, DNB), Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, who specializes in diagnosing and treating a wide range of gastrointestinal and liver diseases. The hospital is equipped with modern diagnostic facilities, including advanced endoscopy and colonoscopy, which help identify digestive disorders accu-



FASTFACTS

- Expert digestive disease treatment with advanced diagnosis and comprehensive specialist care under one roof.

ately and support effective treatment planning. The department provides treatment for common conditions such as acidity, chronic abdominal pain, indigestion, constipation, diarrhea, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), Gastroesophageal Reflux

Disease (GERD), pancreatic disorders, and various intestinal diseases. Special attention is also given to liver-related illnesses, including Fatty Liver Disease, Hepatitis B and C, jaundice, liver cirrhosis, ascites, and other chronic liver disorders. Individualized treatment plans are prepared according to each patient’s medical condition and diagnostic findings. According to the hospital management, patients experiencing persistent digestive symptoms should not ignore them or rely on self-medication.

SECR regional seminar boosts stronger railway safety culture

Central Chronicle News

SECR urged proactive risk identification to strengthen railway safety and prevent operational accidents effectively.

BILASPUR: South East Central Railway (SECR) organised a Regional Safety Seminar at its headquarters in Bilaspur to reinforce its commitment to railway safety and accident prevention. The seminar brought together senior railway officials, technical experts and employees to discuss measures for improving operational safety and strengthening coordination among different departments.

Addressing the gathering, SECR General Manager Tarun Prakash said safety is the responsibility of every railway employee, regardless of



FASTFACTS

- General Manager stressed collective responsibility for maintaining safe railway operations across all departments.

rank or department. He emphasised that no task can be considered complete unless it is carried out safely and according to prescribed standards. He urged officers and staff to identify possible risks before they develop into accidents and to take timely corrective measures. The seminar was

attended by Principal Chief Safety Officer Anup Satpathy, divisional railway managers from Bilaspur, Raipur and Nagpur divisions, supervisors, safety counsellors and employees from various railway departments. Participants exchanged ideas and experiences aimed at improving safety practices throughout the railway network.

Technical sessions covered important operational areas, including engineering, train operations, signalling, electrical systems and mechanical maintenance. Experts discussed track mainte-

nance, signalling reliability, fire prevention, hot axle box detection systems and the importance of effective communication between departments. The discussions also highlighted the role of regular inspections, staff training and strict compliance with safety procedures.

Officials said such seminars help create greater awareness among employees and encourage the sharing of best practices for accident prevention. SECR believes continuous learning, teamwork and early identification of operational risks are essential for ensuring safe and reliable railway services.

The seminar concluded with a renewed commitment from officers and employees to maintain the highest standards of safety across the railway network.

| PM E-BUS SEWA SCHEME |

Bilaspur seeks public input for new E-Bus routes

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: The Bilaspur district administration has invited residents to suggest routes for the 50 new air-conditioned electric buses that will soon begin operating under the PM e-Bus Sewa scheme. The initiative aims to make the public transport system more convenient and efficient by including routes based on the needs of daily commuters. The buses will be operated by the Bilaspur District Urban



Public Service Society, informed the nodal officer. Before finalising the routes, the administration wants feedback from citizens, especially students, office employees, indus-

trial workers and regular passengers. People can recommend routes connecting schools, colleges, universities, government offices, industrial areas, hospitals, railway station,

“The buses will be operated by the Bilaspur District Urban Public Service Society.”

Nodal officer
Urban Public Service Society

bus stand and major commercial centres. Officials said public participation is

important to ensure that the buses serve the maximum number of passengers and improve urban mobility across the city. The suggestions received from residents will be carefully examined before preparing the final route map.

Citizens can send their suggestions by email or submit them in writing at the Urban Public Service Society located in the Development Building at the Municipal Corporation Office.

Police bust gambling den; Seven accused arrested

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Bilaspur police raided an illegal gambling den in the Torwa area and arrested seven persons allegedly involved in betting with cash. The operation was conducted after police received specific information about gambling activities being carried out at a secluded location. During the raid, officers recovered cash, playing cards, mobile phones and other materials believed to have been used for gambling. The seized

cash has been taken into police custody as evidence. Cases have been registered against all the accused under the relevant provisions of the Public Gambling Act, and they were produced before a local court. Police said gambling often leads to other criminal activities and public disturbances, making regular enforcement drives necessary. Officials added that surveillance has been intensified in residential colonies and isolated places where such illegal activities are suspected.

NEWSLINE

THEFT

Jewellery Theft Solved

BILASPUR: Bilaspur police claimed to have solved a house theft case with the arrest of two suspects accused of stealing jewellery and cash from a locked residence in the Civil Lines area.

According to police, the theft took place while the homeowners were away for a family function.

During the investigation, officers examined CCTV footage and collected technical evidence that led to the identification of the accused. Police recovered gold and silver ornaments, cash and other valuables worth several lakh rupees from their possession.

The stolen property has been returned for legal verification before being handed over to the owners. The accused have been remanded to judicial custody after being produced in court.

Police said efforts are continuing to determine whether the suspects were involved in similar thefts reported in Bilaspur and surrounding districts. Residents have been advised to install security cameras and promptly inform police about suspicious activity.

ACCUSED

Cyber fraud accused held

BILASPUR: Cyber Cell and local police arrested a man accused of cheating a resident of Bilaspur by posing as a bank executive and obtaining confidential banking details over the phone. The victim allegedly lost more than Rs. 1.5 lakh after sharing an OTP and account information. Following the complaint, investigators traced the transaction trail and identified the suspect, who was arrested during a raid outside the district.

Police recovered mobile phones, SIM cards, ATM cards and documents believed to have been used in the fraud. A case has been registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the Information Technology Act. Officials appealed to citizens not to share OTPs, passwords or banking details with unknown callers.

OFFENCE

Vehicle carrying illegal sand seized

BILASPUR: Authorities seized a tractor transporting illegally mined sand from the Arpa river during a joint operation conducted by the Mining Department and local police near Koni. The driver was unable to produce valid transit permits for the sand being carried. Officials confiscated the tractor and trailer and registered a case under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act and other applicable rules. The driver was taken into custody for questioning.

N-E-W-S



“Students definitely have the right to protest. I can understand an agitation over NEET. But the kind of acts, thoughts and language displayed during the agitation cannot be of students. Many of us have participated in student agitations in the past, but nobody stooped to such a low intellectual level.”

Pramod Sawant
Chief Minister of Goa

CM claims CPI(M) self-analysis confirms charges

Kerala CM, VD Satheesan stated that the central committee’s report validated the opposition’s allegations against the previous government.

Press Trust Of India

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala Chief Minister V. D. Satheesan on Wednesday said the CPI(M) Central Committee’s review report on the party’s defeat in the Assembly elections had validated the allegations raised by the Opposition against the previous Pinarayi Vijayan-led LDF government. Speaking to reporters after the Cabinet meeting, Satheesan said the review report itself acknowledged that the previous government had compromised its secular image, a

charge that the UDF Opposition had repeatedly levelled during its tenure. He demanded an explanation from former Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, stating that the CPI(M)’s own assessment had accepted several criticisms raised by the Opposition. Satheesan particularly referred to the report’s criticism of the reading of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath’s message at the Global Ayyappa Sangamam held during the previous LDF government. He said he had questioned the decision at that time itself and asked



what purpose was served by reading out the message of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister at such an event. He pointed out that a large number of Sabarimala devotees come from states such as Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Karnataka. The Kerala Chief

HIGHLIGHT

● He stated that the report has acknowledged that the P Vijayan government had compromised its secular image.

Minister also rejected the CPI(M) leadership’s earlier claim that there was no anti-incumbency sentiment against the Vijayan government. According to him, the Central Committee’s review identified several factors that contributed to public dissatisfaction, including

allegations of corruption in cooperative banks, pension arrears, tax increases, and other governance-related issues. Satheesan criticised the CPI(M) state leadership, saying that it would take considerable time for the party to recognise and accept these mistakes. His comments came after reports emerged about the findings of the CPI(M) Review of Assembly Election Results, which was discussed and approved during the party’s Central Committee meeting held from July 11 to 13.

Karnataka CM proposes all-party meet on Cauvery issue, says Parameshwara



Press Trust Of India

BENGALURU: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister G. Parameshwara on Wednesday said Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar has proposed convening an all-party meeting to discuss the Cauvery water issue following the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee’s (CWRC) direction to Karnataka to release water to Tamil Nadu. The CWRC had directed Karnataka to maintain a flow of 3,500 cusecs of water at Biligundlu from July 29 for 15 days, which would amount to the release of around 4 TMC of water.

However, Parameshwara said the state is facing a shortage of water and is not in a position to release water when even drinking water requirements are a concern. Speaking to reporters, the Deputy Chief Minister said Karnataka has always released water to Tamil Nadu whenever sufficient availability existed. He noted that in previous years, the state had released more water than the allocated quantity. However, he questioned the justification of the demand for maintaining the prescribed water flow during the current situation.

NEWSLINE

BENGALURU

KPCL secures extra coal supplies for power generation

Karnataka Energy Minister K.J. George on Wednesday said Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) has taken steps to secure additional coal supplies and increase thermal power generation to compensate for the decline in hydropower output caused by inadequate rainfall. A KPCL delegation led by Managing Director Rajendra Cholan visited Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) and the Baranj Captive Coal Mine in Nagpur, Maharashtra, to ensure uninterrupted fuel availability for the state’s thermal power plants. The delegation secured commitments for increased coal supplies and additional railway rakes for transportation.

SRINAGAR

Mehbooba seeks relief for perishable crops transport crisis

People’s Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday raised concerns over repeated disruptions on the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, which have affected the transportation of Kashmir’s horticultural produce to markets across the country. She said landslides and adverse weather conditions have caused severe delays, leaving fruit growers worried about losses due to declining quality and reduced market competitiveness. Mehbooba described the situation as an economic emergency rather than just a traffic issue, stressing that apples and other fresh produce cannot remain stranded for days.

NEW DELHI

Protests lead to decline in Metro’s weekday passengers

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) on Wednesday reported a decline of around 2.67 lakh average weekday passenger journeys during July 20-24, when several Metro stations in central Delhi remained closed due to student protests. According to DMRC data, the average weekday passenger journeys dropped from 65,93,294 during July 1-19 to 63,25,892 between July 20 and 24, marking a decline of about 4.1 per cent.

GORAKHPUR

Jeweller’s minor grandson murdered after abduction

A 36-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly abducting and murdering a 10-year-old boy, Vaibhav Verma, the grandson of a local jeweller. Police said the accused allegedly demanded a ransom of Rs 1 crore from the victim’s family and committed the crime to clear his financial liabilities. Vaibhav, a Class 4 student and grandson of jeweller Laxmi Narayan Verma, went missing on Monday afternoon after returning from school. Police investigations revealed CCTV footage showing the child walking with his neighbour.

| SC TO HEAR MUSLIMS PLEA |

SC to hear plea over alternative namaz site in Bhojshala dispute

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a plea filed by the Muslim side alleging that its earlier directions regarding the allocation of an alternative site for offering Friday prayers near the disputed Bhojshala complex in Madhya Pradesh’s Dhar have not been followed by the state authorities. The matter was mentioned before a bench comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi



and V. Mohana by senior advocate Huzefa Ahmadi. The plea was earlier scheduled for hearing on Wednesday, but it could not be taken up as the bench rose early. The Chief Justice later assured that the matter would be considered on Thursday.

During the mentioning, Chief Justice Surya Kant asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the Madhya Pradesh government, to provide details of the alternative site proposed by the administration to Ahmadi.

MK Alagiri’s daughter released on bail

CHENNAI: Kayalvizhi Alagiri, daughter of former Union Minister M.K. Alagiri and granddaughter of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK patriarch M. Karunanidhi, was arrested by Chennai police in connection with an alleged assault on a State Bank of India (SBI) branch manager. She was later released on station bail. Kayalvizhi appeared before the investigating officer at Shastri Nagar police station on July 28 after receiving a summons under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

| ODISHA GRIPPED BY FLOODS |

Rescue operations underway in Odisha as flood displaces over 2 lakh people

Press Trust Of India

BHUBANESWAR: The flood situation in Odisha remained severe on Wednesday, with swollen rivers inundating several northern districts, leaving more than two lakh people affected and claiming three lives, including that of a fire service personnel. Authorities said six districts have been badly impacted due to continuous rainfall triggered by a deep depression. Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari said the three



deaths were reported from Keonjhar district. The victims included a fire service personnel who died due to electrocution while carrying out rescue work, an elderly man who lost his life after a wall collapsed, and a child whose body was found floating in floodwaters. The minister said

no casualties had been reported from the worst-affected districts of Balasore, Bhadrak and Jajpur. He added that the state government had informed Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi about the situation and was closely monitoring relief and rescue operations.

| GANDHI’S ATTACK ON HOME MINISTER |

Rahul Gandhi blames Amit Shah over police action on students

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday launched a sharp attack on Home Minister Amit Shah during a Lok Sabha debate, alleging that the minister had authorised police action against student protesters during the NEET paper leak-related demonstrations. His remarks



triggered repeated disruptions in the House. Participating in the debate on The Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill-2026, Gandhi questioned

Shah’s absence from the Lok Sabha and claimed that the Home Minister was “scared.” He alleged that security forces used excessive force during a student march towards Parliament on July 20. Speaker Om Birla objected to the remarks, stating that the discussion was not related to the Home Minister and asked Gandhi to provide evidence for his

allegations. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju also demanded an apology, calling the comments objectionable. The House was adjourned twice amid the uproar. Later, speaking to reporters, Gandhi said Shah could either have authorised the action or failed to prevent it, adding that both situations raised questions of accountability.

Farmers escalate protest in Bhopal



Farmers remove barricades during their protest march to press for various demands, including 100 per cent moong procurement at MSP, in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Government forms panel of ministers to hold dialogue with protesting farmers in MP

BHOPAL: Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Wednesday said a ministerial committee has been formed to hold discussions with farmers protesting in Bhopal over various demands, including 100 per cent procurement of moong at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). He expressed confidence that



the issue would be resolved through dialogue. A large number of farmers under the banner of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha reached Bhopal on Tuesday after gath-

ering in Budhni, Sehore district. Their protest continued overnight, disrupting traffic on the busy Narmadapuram highway. The farmers raised slogans against the government and demanded immediate action on issues affecting them. Speaking to reporters, Chief Minister Yadav said the state government

was committed to farmers’ welfare and had formed a committee comprising ministers and officials to communicate with the protesters. Agriculture Minister Aidal Singh Kansana, along with ministers Krishna Gaur, Vishwas Sarang and Rakesh Singh, held discussions with farmer representatives.

‘Top Maoist commander Misir Besra arrested in major breakthrough’

RANCHI: In a major success in the ongoing anti-Naxal operations, Jharkhand Police have arrested senior CPI (Maoist) politburo member Misir Besra, who was carrying a reward of more than Rs 2.2 crore and was wanted in 175 criminal cases across Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal. Jharkhand



Director General of Police Tadasha Mishra said Besra was arrested from the Maniadih area

under Barwadda Police Station limits in Dhanbad district on Tuesday evening during “Operation Daura Pahad”. She described the arrest as a significant achievement and claimed that the Maoist threat in the state had been “almost wiped out” with the capture of some of the outfit’s most wanted leaders.

| RAM TEMPLE DONATION ROW |

Akhilesh charges Centre over Ram Mandir donations, paper leaks

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday criticised the BJP government over allegations of donation misappropriation at the Ayodhya Ram temple, claiming that those unable to protect devotees’ offerings cannot be trusted to ensure fair examinations or prevent paper leaks.

Speaking to reporters at the Parliament House complex, Yadav drew a comparison between the alleged temple donation issue and examination-related controversies. He said that protecting public faith and safeguarding the future of students were matters of responsibility, alleging that the government had failed on both fronts.



“Those who could not protect donation boxes and offerings made by devotees cannot be expected to prevent paper leaks or stop examinations from being cancelled,” Yadav

said. He alleged that the government was the biggest challenge facing the country and claimed that problems would continue until it was removed from power. Earlier in the day, Samajwadi Party MPs staged a protest inside the Parliament complex, carrying placards and raising slogans against the BJP over the alleged theft of dona-

tions at the Ram Mandir. Samajwadi Party MP from Faizabad, Awadhesh Prasad, also targeted the BJP, accusing the government of protecting those responsible for the alleged wrongdoing. He described the incident as a serious matter involving the faith of millions of devotees and alleged that influential people involved in the case were being shielded.

Relief for viral Kumbh Mela girl as Kerala HC restrains MP police custody handover

KOCHI: The Kerala High Court has directed the state government and police authorities to ensure that the young woman who gained popularity during the Prayagraj Kumbh Mela is not handed over to the Madhya Pradesh police or any other person without prior per-

mission from the court. The order was passed by Justice Bechu Kurian Thomas after the court was informed that the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) had directed the Kerala State Police Chief to hand over the woman to Madhya Pradesh police immediately.

A startup is not merely a means to launch a new business, but an effective platform for developing innovative solutions to local problems.

Vishwadeep
Collector Bijapur



Bilaspur Region

Collector reviews schemes, orders swift grievance redressal

Collector Kunal Dudawat held a weekly time-limit review meeting with all the govt departments.

Central Chronicle News

KORBA: Collector Kunal Dudawat chaired the weekly Time-Limit (TL) meeting at the Collectorate on Tuesday, reviewing flagship government schemes, departmental activities, and pending public grievance cases.

He instructed officials to ensure the timely disposal of all pending TL, PMO, and Chief Minister Jan-Darshan cases, while appreciating the improved performance under the Chief Minister's Helpline and directing that remaining complaints be resolved



within the prescribed timeframe. Expressing concern over stray cattle on major roads, the Collector ordered urban bodies to launch a cattle-catching drive, impose fines on owners before releasing seized animals, and directed the Animal Husbandry Department to install radium strips on cattle. He also sought the speedy reso-

lution of issues affecting the Gaudham Yojana. Mr. Dudawat instructed all department heads to maintain online attendance, complete employee onboarding to the attendance and e-HRMS systems, and ensure all official files are processed only through the e-Office platform. Revenue officers were directed to complete AgriStack data entry for farmers with individual landholdings by August 15 and accelerate work for joint account holders.

The Collector approved pending works under the VB G-RAM-G Yojana, ordered coordination with BSNL to resolve 4G tower issues, expedited pending PM SVANidhi and land acquisition compensation cases, and instructed officials to distribute Forest Rights leases using satellite imagery. Nodal officers were also asked to organize meetings to achieve

FASTFACTS

● Dissatisfied with roaming stray cattle, he ordered the officials to hold a cattle-catching drive.

TB-free Gram Panchayat status. Reviewing the Education Department, the Collector ordered 100% textbook scanning by July 31, speedy bicycle distribution under the Saraswati Cycle Yojana, preparation of PM Poshan Garden and unfenced school lists, and APAAR ID generation camps from August 1 to 31.

Illegal mining crackdown seizes nine vehicles



Central Chronicle News

KORBA: Under the directions of Collector Kunal Dudawat and the guidance of the Deputy Director (Mineral Administration), the district administration is conducting a continuous special drive against illegal mining, transportation, and storage of minerals.

As part of the campaign, mineral flying squads carried out raids and inspections at various locations, seizing nine vehicles involved in illegal transportation. The seized vehicles included

two tractors carrying sand in Sitamadhi, one tipper transporting sand in Barampur, two Hyva trucks carrying crushed stone and one sand-laden tipper in Ratakhar, two tractors transporting bricks in Kusmunda, and one tractor carrying sand in Katghora. All vehicles have been kept in safe custody at the concerned police stations and the Mineral Check Post at Katghora. The Mineral Department stated that the campaign aims to curb illegal mining, protect natural resources, and prevent revenue loss.

NEWSLINE

WATER CONSERVATION
Water conservation efforts accelerated across district

MUNGELI: To promote water conservation and improve groundwater levels, work on pond deepening, check dam construction, and drainage channel improvement has been accelerated across various blocks of the district. The district administration has instructed concerned departments to complete these projects within the stipulated timeframe while ensuring quality standards through regular monitoring. Officials stated that effective rainwater harvesting will strengthen irrigation facilities and help farmers secure adequate water availability for Rabi crops.

HEALTH CAMPS

Rural health camp expands medical access

MUNGELI: A special health camp was organized to improve access to healthcare services for people living in rural areas. A team of doctors conducted health examinations of a large number of patients and provided essential medicines free of cost. Special attention was given to the health check-ups of pregnant women, elderly persons, and children. Several patients requiring advanced care were referred to the district hospital for further treatment.

INSPECTION

School inspections target quality Edu standards

MANENDRAGARH: The district administration has initiated an inspection drive in government schools during the new academic session to improve the quality of education and ensure better facilities for students. Officials visited various schools to review student attendance, teaching arrangements, the mid-day meal programme, and availability of basic amenities. During the inspections, teachers were instructed to maintain regular classroom teaching and focus on providing quality education.

TREE PLANTATION

Plantation drive expands green Cover

AMBIKAPUR: A large-scale tree plantation campaign is being conducted in Surguja district to increase green cover and promote environmental conservation. Under the initiative, saplings are being planted at various locations through the joint efforts of the Forest Department, Gram Panchayats, voluntary organizations, and local residents. Officials emphasized that the campaign focuses not only on plantation but also on the protection and proper nurturing of saplings. Schools and village committees have been assigned responsibility for ensuring the regular care and survival of planted trees.

| SHALA PRAVESHOTSAV CELEBRATED |

Dewangan attends school induction ceremony

Central Chronicle News

KORBA: Industries, Commerce, Labour, Excise, and Public Sector Undertakings Minister Lakhanlal Dewangan attended the school induction ceremony at PM SHRI SAGES Swami Atmanand Excellence English Medium School, BALCO, where he welcomed newly admitted students by applying tilak, offering sweets, and distributing free textbooks and bicycles. Addressing the gathering, he urged students to study with dedication and bring pride



to their parents, school, and district. He said education is the foundation of success and highlighted the state government's efforts under Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai to strengthen government schools through quality education, improved infrastructure, teacher rationalization, ongoing

assistant teacher recruitment, and appointments through the District Mineral Foundation (DMF). Minister Dewangan also joined students, parents, and public representatives for the traditional Nyota Bhojan and encouraged children to embrace discipline, regular study, and good values.

Panel formed to probe Eklavya School

KORBA: Collector and District Magistrate Kunal Dudawat has constituted a four-member inquiry committee to investigate serious complaints raised by students regarding facilities and arrangements at the Eklavya Model Residential School in Chhurikala under Katghora block. The committee has been directed to conduct an impartial, fact-based inquiry and submit its report within one week.

| COLLECTOR'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR CM HELPLINE |

Collector directs prompt resolution of revenue cases

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: Collector Kundan Kumar reviewed the functioning of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department during a meeting at the District Collectorate's NIC room. He assessed the progress of Chief Minister's Helpline complaints, AgriStack registration, digital crop surveys, map subdivision, demarcation, and other revenue-related works, directing officials to complete all priority tasks



transparently and within the prescribed timeline. Emphasizing effective grievance redressal, the Collector instructed that complaints received through the Chief Minister's Helpline (1076) should be resolved to the complete satisfaction of complainants. He also ordered a

special campaign to achieve 100% AgriStack registration, with registrations to be conducted through Common Service Centers at ration shops and cooperative societies. Village-level awareness campaigns and regular performance reviews were also directed.

| ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN HELD |

Dist-wide safety drive targets accidents

Central Chronicle News

KORIYA: The Police and Transport Departments have launched a joint road safety campaign across the district to reduce road accidents and promote awareness of safe traffic practices. Special checking drives are being conducted at major inter-sections, national and state highways, and busy



market areas. During the campaign, officials are verifying the use of helmets and seat belts, along with

violating regulations are being penalized under the Motor Vehicles Act. As part of the awareness initiative, students in schools and colleges are being educated about road safety and responsible driving practices. Officials said that speeding, negligent driving, drunken driving, and mobile phone use while driving are the leading causes of road accidents in the district.

My Bharat Drug-Free India competition concludes

Central Chronicle News

KORBA: Under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports' My Bharat Youth Program, Korba district successfully organized a district-level cultural competition on "Flight of the Youth - Building a Drug-Free India" under the Drug-Free India Campaign-2026 at Shri Agrasen Kanya Mahavidyalaya on July 27. Municipal Commissioner Ashutosh



Pandey, the chief guest, urged young people to channel their energy toward nation-building and personal development, emphasizing the vital role of youth in

India's progress. District Nodal Officer Satish Prakash Singh highlighted the program's objective of nurturing talent while creating awareness about the

harmful effects of substance abuse. CSP Praateek Chaturvedi encouraged students to stay away from drugs and focus on their careers. Participants took a Drug-Free Pledge, while District Youth Officer Isha Gautam encouraged youth to join the MY Bharat initiative. Winners received certificates and mementos and will represent Korba at the state-level competition.

| PREVENTION OF HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT |

Action plan issued to prevent elephant conflicts

Central Chronicle News

KATGHORA: Collector Kunal Dudawat chaired a district-level meeting to review measures for preventing human-elephant conflict, ensuring elephant safety, and expediting compensation for affected families. He directed Forest Department monitoring teams to remain vigilant, keep elephants away



from residential areas, and provide timely alerts to villages. The Police and Forest Departments were

instructed to coordinate during crowd-control situations. The Collector ordered the development

of an online system for transparent and time-bound processing of compensation claims related to human casualties, crop loss, and property damage. The Electricity Department was directed to survey and raise low-hanging 11 KV power lines in elephant movement areas and jointly inspect hazards with the Forest Department.

Farmers receive modern agricultural training insights

Central Chronicle News

KORIYA: To enhance farmers' income and promote profitable agriculture, the Agriculture Department organized a special training programme on modern farming techniques in the district. Agricultural scientists and departmental officials educated farmers on the selection of quality



seeds, organic farming, soil testing, water conservation, balanced fertilizer use, and modern irrigation methods. Experts explained that adopting scientific farming practices

can increase crop yields while reducing production costs. The programme also covered crop diversification, natural farming, and weather-based crop management.

| MEETING ON E-BUSES HELD |

Urban society reviews civic service improvements

Central Chronicle News

KORBA: A general body meeting of the District Urban Public Service Society was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Collector Kunal Dudawat to review preparations for the operation of 40 electric buses in Korba district. The meeting focused on ensuring the smooth, efficient, and commuter-friendly implementation of the



e-bus project. Korba Municipal Corporation Commissioner Ashutosh Pandey, Executive Engineer Rakesh Masih, and other members of the society attended the

meeting. The committee discussed the proposed route chart prepared for the operation of the 40 e-buses and deliberated on its approval. It was decided

that a dedicated committee would be constituted to conduct physical inspections of the proposed routes. The inspection will assess road width, turning radius, traffic conditions, and the overall suitability of roads to ensure the safe and uninterrupted movement of the buses. Collector Dudawat directed the committee to undertake detailed site inspections and carry out a technical evaluation

of every proposed route before finalising the route plan. He stressed that passenger convenience should remain the foremost priority while selecting routes. He also instructed officials to identify locations where new bus stops are required and prepare proposals accordingly so that residents across the district can benefit from accessible, reliable, and convenient public transport services.

Preparatory sessions for special Lok Adalat

KORBA: The Supreme Court of India has launched the 'Samadhan Samaroh' (Resolution Ceremony) 2026 to provide accessible justice through mutual cooperation and consensus. The initiative, started on April 21, 2026, will conclude with a Special Lok Adalat on August 21, 22, and 23, 2026, for suitable pending cases before the Supreme Court.

As part of the initiative, pre-conciliation meetings are being conducted at mediation centres of the District Legal Services Authority and Taluka Legal Services Committees. The objective is to resolve cases through dialogue, compromise, and mutual agreement by encouraging maximum participation of parties and advocates.

Fun & Focus



Daily Horoscope

ARIES

Spend your valuable time with your children to get rid of stress. You will experience the healing power of a child, as they are the most powerful spiritual and emotional personality on earth. You yourself will feel rejuvenated. If you had borrowed some money from a member of your family, then it is best to return it today, or else that member can take legal action against you.

Taurus

Quit smoking as it would help you to remain physically sound. Today, you can spend a lot of money on a party with friends, but despite this, your financial side will remain strong today. Health of an elderly person causes some worry. Today, you and your love partner will delve into the ocean of love, and will experience the high of love.

Gemini

Your tremendous intellectual potential will help you to fight the disability. Only by keeping positive thoughts you can fight this problem. Today, you can learn the skill of accumulating and saving money and put it to the right use. Family responsibilities will mount-bringing tension on your mind. Associate today with experienced people and learn from what they have to say.

Cancer

Dormant problems will surface bringing mental pressures. You will be in the mood to travel and spend money- but you will be sorry if you do. Be generous in your approach and spend good loving moments with your family members. Your beloved will seek commitment. Enemies at work might become friends with you today just because of a one single good act.

Leo

Share family problems with your wife and spend some amount of time for each other to rediscover and reaffirm yourself as a loving nurturing couple. Your children too will catch the vibrations of joys and peace harmony at home. This will give you greater spontaneity and freedom in your interaction with each other. Finances improve later in the day.

Virgo

Health will remain fine despite a busy schedule but don't take your life for granted realize that the care for life is the real vow. If you had invested in any land overseas, then it can be sold today at a good price, which will help you earn profits. Home-improvement projects should be considered. Opportunities to show your skills will be with you today.

Libra

Meditation and yoga should be practiced for spiritual as well as physical gains. Use your innovative idea to make some extra money. Avoid arguments and confrontation and needless fault finding in others. Your husband will do things to keep you happy. Writers and media persons can look forward to major recognition.

Scorpio

Today you will be full of energy-Whatever you do- you will be able to do it in half the time you generally take. You will possess a considerable amount of money today, and with it there will be peace of mind. You can expect problems at home- if you do not spend time with family members.

Sagittarius

Your strong resilience and fearlessness will tremendously enhance the power of mental faculties. Keep this momentum going so that it would encourage you to keep any situation under control. According to the household requirement, you can go out with your spouse to buy some valuable items, which can make your financial situation a bit tight.

Capricorn

Identify the feelings which motivate you. You should leave your negative thoughts like fear doubts anger greed etc. as these works like magnets attract just opposite what you want. Investment is recommended, but seek proper advice. Auspicious day for giving and receiving gifts from those you love. Today you will achieve your goals provided you seek assistance from others.

Aquarius

Best day to restart to improve your health. You should not invest your money today without consulting anyone. Make sure you have approval of others before you make changes to your home environment. You can quarrel with your partner on this day just to prove yourself right. However, your partner will calm you down with better understanding.

Pisces

Take physical education along with mental and moral only then all round development is possible. Remember a healthy mind always remains in a healthy body. If you were about to take a loan and had been engaged in this work for a long time, then today is your lucky day. By sharing your problems with your family members, you feel lightheaded.

IT'S QUIZ TIME

- 1 'Vicks ki goli lo, Khich khich door karo' this ad for 'Vicks', where Jayant Kripalani appeared along with a little girl. The little girl grew up to be an actress and anchor. Name her?
- 2 Kerala is called as "God's own country". Name the signature products of Kerala tourism denoted through the code ABC?
- 3 Naima Khatoun was appointed as the Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) thus becoming the first woman VC of AMU in post-Independent India. However, in 1920 a woman was appointed as the Chancellor of AMU becoming the first woman in that capacity. Name her?
- 4 A flame at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park has burned since it was lit in 1964 It will stay lit until something happens. What is it ?
- 5 The magnificent St.Paul's Cathedral designed by Sir Christopher Wren sits on the highest point of the city of London. What is the name of the point?
- 6 There is a unique mythological reason why people donate money at the Tirupati temple. What is the reason?
- 7 Which is the largest temperate desert in the world?



(7) Patagonian desert
(6) The reason is that Lord Venkateswara of Tirupati temple borrowed some money from Veksha for his marriage. He was not able to return that money in time, so his devotees are returning that money on behalf of Lord Venkateswara
(5) Ludgate Hill
(4) Until all nuclear bombs on the planet are destroyed, and the world is free from the threat of nuclear destruction
(3) Her Highness Sultan Jahana Begum of Bhopal
(2) Ayurveda, Backwaters & Culture
(1) Ishita Arun, daughter of Ila Arun

RamaQuiz

TELL ME WHY?

Why does handwritten text last longer?

Yes, it is true that things written by hand are remembered for a longer time. Writing by hand involves both the body and the brain. When we write with our own hands, the brain has to think, understand, and control the movement of the hand at the same time. This creates a stronger memory trace. Handwriting also activates more areas of the brain, especially those related to attention and learning. Because the information is processed more deeply, it is stored in memory for a longer period. In contrast, typing or only reading usually requires less mental effort, so the information may be forgotten more quickly. Therefore, students often remember handwritten notes better and for a longer time.



The science behind methane disaster



July, 2026 India witnessed the death of 25 workers of the Teesta Stage-VI Hydro-electric Project in Sikkim. The death was due to methane gas inhalation trapped within underground rock strata. The science is - Methane has no colour and no smell, making it impossible to detect during standard pre-construction surveys.

SCIENCE WATCH

Himalayas are abode to methane gas



Methane gas gets trapped in Himalayan rocks because the mountains are young, highly folded, and contain carbon-rich layers that generate and seal the gas over millions of years. Dense, hard rocks trap the generated gas inside tiny pores.

Why death is inevitable with methane



Heavy drilling and blasting during tunnel construction breaks open pressurized methane gas pockets and when the air lacks oxygen, the body and brain suffer from severe hypoxia, leading to a quick loss of consciousness and death instantly.

Ways to Stay Positive In Dark and Difficult Times

1 Gratitude

For the small and great things in your life

2 Optimism

- Believe it's all going to work out. Have faith that you're being guided towards your greatest self

3 Surround yourself with uplifting people

4 Show compassion and kindness towards yourself

- For past mistakes and for missed opportunities

5 Release negative thinking

- Defeatist mentality
- All-or-nothing thinking
- Over-exaggeration
- Minimizing the good in your life

6 Positive affirmations

- "I am worthy"
- "I am powerful"
- "I am enough"
- "I love myself"

7 Humor

- Watching comedy
- Telling jokes
- Funny stories

8 Limit exposure to negativity

- Negativity on Social media
- Negative People
- Toxic environments

9 Listen to your favorite music

JULY 30- THE DAY IN HISTORY

■ JJuly 30 in Indian history marks key milestones including the birth of social reformer Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy and singer Sonu Nigam.

■ Same day in 2012 a massive northern power grid failure occurred impacting over 360 million people and in 1987 assassination attempt on Ex PM Rajiv Gandhi happened.

■ On July 30, 1957, the Export Risk Insurance Corporation (now ECGC of India) was established to promote the country's foreign trade.

■ On this day in 1980, Vanuatu gained its independence from France and the United Kingdom



FACT OF THE DAY

Parapuzosia seppenradensis had an incomplete fossil shell found in Germany in 1895 measuring about 5.7 to 5.9 feet (1.7 to 1.8 meters) across. If complete, scientists estimate the full shell would have grown up to 8.3 to 11 feet (2.55 to 3.5 meters) wide.



Parapuzosia seppenradensis
Late Carboniferous Period
(about 320 million years ago)

WORD OF THE DAY

Anfractuous

Meaning- Something that is full of twists, turns, bends, or complexities; difficult to follow because it is winding or complicated.

Example- The hikers followed an anfractuous mountain trail.

Synonyms- Winding, Tortuous, Meandering, Intricate and Labyrinthine.

Antonyms- Straight, Direct, Simple, Clear and Linear.



GUESS THE KEYWORD

E _ _ _ _ A _ _ _ _ E

Something derived from another source, or a financial contract based on assets.

ANSWER: DERIVATIVE

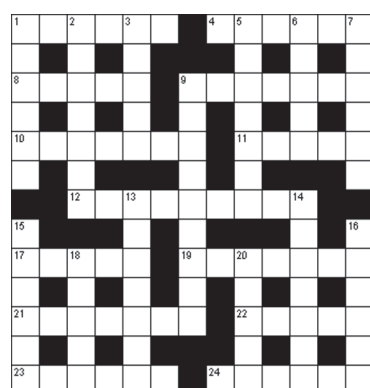
How it is abbreviated

Give full words for the following abbreviations:

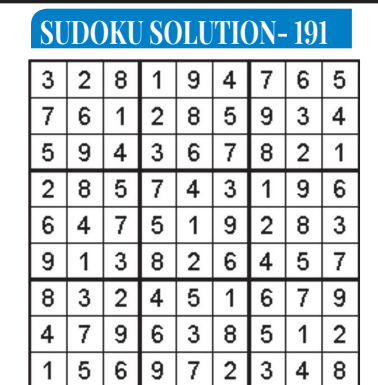
Abbreviations	Full Words
1) ICJ	_____
2) STP	_____
3) PGT	_____
4) CDV	_____
5) NSNIS	_____

ANSWERS: 1-International Court of Justice, 2-Sewage Treatment National Plant, 3-Postgraduate Teacher, 4-Canine Distemper Virus, 5-National Subhas Institute of Sports

CROSSWORD -192



SUDOKU- 192



DAILY WORD SEARCH

- Bonnard
- Manet
- Renoir
- Braque
- Matisse
- Seurat
- Corot
- Millet
- Signac
- Courbet
- Monet
- Sisley
- David
- Morisot
- Vuillard
- Degas
- Poussin
- Watteau
- Greuze
- Redon



Interaction with Housing for All Division



Minister of State for Housing & Urban Affairs, Tokhan Sahu, visit the Housing for All (HFA) Division to interact with officers, consultants, and support staff, in New Delhi on July 29.

Government expands Hub and Spoke air connectivity

Hub-and-Spoke aviation model to connect 44 airports, simplify international travel, boost regional connectivity, create jobs, and strengthen India's global aviation network.

Press Trust Of India

AMRITSAR: The government aims to have a total of 44 airports under the Hub-and-Spoke model, including 4 hub airports, to provide seamless international air connectivity, a senior government official said.

Under the model, passengers can drop baggage and complete immigration at the origin airport and travel seamlessly to overseas destinations. At the hub airport from where the international flight starts, passengers can just do the security check and board the flight concerned.

Air India on Tuesday launched flights under the Hub and Spoke model from Amritsar, the second airport after Varanasi from where such flights have been started. Presently, there is one hub airport -- Delhi -- and two spoke airports -- Varanasi and Amritsar. The next spoke airport will be Ahmedabad. The model, which

NUMBER

4

● **Government plans 44 airports to transform seamless international air travel nationwide.**

seeks to make India a global aviation hub, will enable seamless connectivity between Tier-II and Tier-III airports with international destinations through hub airports. Passengers arriving from smaller cities will be routed through major hub airports such as Delhi for onward international connections. At a function at the Amritsar airport to mark the launch of Hub and Spoke model flights, Civil Aviation Secretary Samir Kumar Sinha said 4 hubs and 40 airports would be developed. From Amritsar, Air India will connect to 27 international destinations through Delhi under the model. In a video message, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said Hub and Spoke is an "aviation sovereignty" and an "opportunity" model for India. The government aims to develop 100 airports and 200 heliports in 10 years, the minister said. Under the model, Air India has introduced 'Easy Connect' flights that will enable travellers from cities beyond major hubs to drop baggage and complete immigration at the origin airport and travel seamlessly to overseas destinations.

India remains key growth market for Coca-Cola: CEO

Press Trust Of India

Coca-Cola reaffirms long-term commitment to India.

NEW DELHI: The Coca-Cola Company has reaffirmed its commitment to India as a long-term growth market, as the soft drinks major sees significant opportunities in affordable and premium segments and is leveraging its revenue growth management to better meet evolving consumer needs. The top management on Tuesday described India as an attractive market with strong growth potential.

Responding to a query on the Asia-Pacific and India region, in the earnings call following the announcement of its June quarter results, The Coca-Cola Company CEO Henrique Braun said: "The region is a long-term



opportunity and continues to be very attractive to us, and we continue to build this for the future." "We have said in the past as well that this would be a place that we are going to continue to invest ahead of the curve, bringing more consumers to the base in the right way, dialing up our revenue growth management capabilities," Braun said, speaking about India, the country and the larger Asia Pacific region. The Coca-Cola company's unit case volume grew 5 per cent in the second quarter of 2026, led by markets including India, China, the United States and Brazil.

Toyota bullish on Auto industry growth

Press Trust Of India

Toyota expects passenger vehicle demand to remain strong ahead.

JAIPUR: Toyota Kirloskar Motor expects growth momentum in the passenger vehicles industry to continue in the second half of the fiscal year despite headwinds, including fuel price hikes, emanating from the West Asia war, according to a senior company official. The company, which launched the all-new version of its popular pick-up Hilux with prices starting at Rs 31.99 lakh, sees the festive season to drive sales further, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) Executive Vice President Sales-Service-Used Car Business, Sabari Manohar told reporters here. "Currently we see a lot of traction in terms of SUVs, and in the coming six months we expect the momentum to be more because we have the festive season coming. Normally we have festive season lined up till Diwali and the New Year, Christmas and New Year. We see a positive momentum at this point," he noted. Asked what is driving the market despite headwinds such as fuel price hike due to West Asia war, Manohar said, "The choice for the customer is so wide at this point of time. So, still, even though a lot of external factors are being said, the bigger impact is not clear." Noting that even the company was also very cautious about the market, he said, "But we see that month-on-month, the inquiry as well as the customer arrival at the showroom is still going well. We feel that is giving a positive impact in our sector." The growth momentum is also



HIGHLIGHT

● **Festive demand expected to sustain automobile industry growth momentum.**

being witnessed by other passenger vehicles manufacturers, not just TKM, Manohar said. On the new Hilux, TKM Deputy Managing Director Tadashi Asazuma said India is witnessing a significant shift in mobility preferences. Customers are looking for vehicles that go beyond transportation to support diverse lifestyles, professional needs and the pursuit of new experiences.

Gold steady at Rs 1.47 lakh/10g, silver recovers

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Gold prices remained flat at Rs 1.47 lakh per 10 grams in the national capital on Wednesday, while silver made a modest recovery by Rs 500 to Rs 2.25 lakh per kg amid firm trends in the international markets. According to the All India Sarafa Association, the yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity remained unchanged at Rs 1,47,000 per 10 grams. However, silver rebounded by Rs 500 to Rs 2,25,300 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes) from Tuesday's closing level of Rs 2,24,800. Traders said gold remained range-bound while silver slightly recovered after witnessing a sharp correction in the previous



session. Gold traded flat in both domestic and international markets on Wednesday. However, a stronger Indian rupee added pressure on domestic precious metal prices, said Samil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities. In the overseas markets, spot gold traded flat at USD 4,031.73 per ounce and silver edged up nearly 1 per cent to USD 57.54 per ounce. "Spot gold

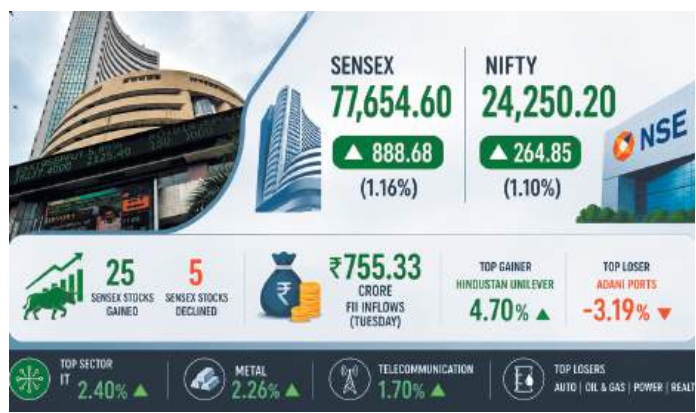
and silver are trading in a narrow range near USD 4,040 and USD 57.5 per ounce, respectively, as investors cautiously await the Federal Reserve's policy decision later in the day," said Kaynat Chainwala, AVP Commodity Research at Kotak Neo (formerly Kotak Securities). She added that a firm dollar continued to cap gold's upside by raising the opportunity cost of holding the precious metal.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

HOW THE MARKET BEHAVES TODAY?

Stock markets rebound; Sensex jumps 889 pts, Nifty closes at 24,250 on FII inflows



MUMBAI: Benchmark Sensex rebounded by nearly 889 points while Nifty closed at 24,250 on Wednesday following buying in blue-chip shares such as HDFC Bank, Larsen & Toubro and Infosys and fresh foreign fund inflows. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 888.68 points, or 1.16 per cent, to settle at 77,654.60 with 25 of its constituents ending with gains and five with losses. During the day, it surged 999.57 points, or 1.30 per cent, to 77,765.49. The 50-share NSE Nifty climbed 264.85 points, or 1.10 per cent, to end at 24,250.20. As many as 38 Nifty50 stocks advanced and 12 closed down. From the Sensex pack, Hindustan Unilever surged the most by 4.70 per cent and Infosys jumped 4.50 per cent. Larsen & Toubro rose by 2.55 per cent following its quarterly results. Trent, Tata Steel, Bharti Airtel, Tata

Consultancy Services, HCL Tech and HDFC Bank were also among the gainers. Adani Ports was the biggest loser, dropping by 3.19 per cent. Mahindra & Mahindra, which announced transfer of its truck and bus business to SML Mahindra for Rs 525 crore, dropped by 1.51 per cent. SML Mahindra shares shot up 20 per cent to close at the upper circuit level of Rs 4,565.50. Power Grid, Bharat Electronics and NTPC were the laggards among Sensex shares.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned buyers on Tuesday. They bought equities worth Rs 755.33 crore in the previous trade, according to exchange data. "Indian equity markets ended higher ahead of the US Federal Reserve's policy decision later today, with resilient domestic fundamentals outweighing weak global cues.

RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE

M&M to transfer trucks and bus biz to subsidiary SML Mahindra

MUMBAI: Auto major Mahindra and Mahindra on Wednesday announced a restructuring exercise under which it will transfer its trucks and bus division to subsidiary company SML Mahindra for Rs 525 crore consideration. The transfer will help SML, a listed entity where M&M has nearly 59 per cent ownership, grow much faster, an exchange filing said, adding that the deal will also help exploit synergies between the two businesses and improve profitability. The aim is to be India's fourth-largest commercial vehicle maker, with a revenue of Rs 12,500 crore by FY31, they said. Combined revenues of SML Mahindra and the truck and bus division stand at under Rs 6,000 crore, as per public disclosures. The Mahindra group last year acquired a majority stake in what was then known as SML Isuzu, which has a stronger presence in the intermediate and light commercial vehicle segment, and renamed it as SML Mahindra. The group's truck and bus division is more stronger on the heavy commercial vehicles front.

REVIEWS PROGRESS

Jyotiraditya Scindia reviews progress of Bharat 6G Alliance

NEW DELHI: Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Tuesday reviewed the progress and action taken by Bharat 6G Alliance towards advancing India's ambitions around this next-generation technology, according to an official release. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had released India's 6G Vision document on March 22, 2023. It envisages India as a front-line contributor in the design, development and deployment of 6G technology by 2030. "The Union Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya Scindia, today reviewed the progress of the Bharat 6G Alliance (B6GA) at...New Delhi, along with Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development and Shri Amit Agrawal, Secretary (Telecom)," an official release said. The meeting reviewed the progress and Action Taken by the Bharat 6G Alliance towards advancing India's 6G ambitions.



GLOBAL TOY MARKET CAPTURE

Indian toy sector expected to capture 4 pc of global toy market by 2047



NEW DELHI: The Indian toy sector is expected to capture about 4 per cent of the global toy market, estimated at USD 454.3 billion, by 2047, according to a report. As the country accounts for about 0.3 per cent of the global export trade, exports represent a significant opportunity for exponential growth by penetrating further in key toy-importing nations such as the US, Germany, and the UK, the DPIIT's Toy Sector Playbook, which is a comprehensive guide to enable innovation, manufacturing, and global competitiveness in India's toy sector, said.

"Considering the current projected growth rates for domestic (10.1 per cent) and global toy (6.2 per cent) markets, the Indian toy sector is expected to attain about 4 per cent global market share by 2047," it said. The government has set a tar-

get of capturing 5 per cent of the global toy market by 2032. To achieve this target, the Indian toy industry needs to focus on export-led growth, ensure that its products meet quality and safety standards, and invest in branding, packaging and product design, the report said. It also suggested the industry to move beyond assembly and create a complete manufacturing ecosystem, including domestic manufacturing of components, and make India self-reliant in toy production; and enhance manufacturing scale and become more competitive.

Central Chronicle

Classifieds

आवश्यकता है

220 / 132 सब स्टेशन में कार्य करने हेतु डिप्लोमा (इलेक्ट्रिकल) एवं आई.टी.आई. सिक्यूरिटी गार्ड, क्लीनर लड़को की आवश्यकता है सम्पर्क करे :-

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NMC shifts PwBD admissions to functionality

Boards assess MBBS eligibility by functional ability, support

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The National Medical Commission (NMC) has changed the way Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) will be assessed for admission to MBBS courses, shifting the focus from the percentage of disability to whether a candidate can successfully complete the course with appropriate support.

Under the new guidelines, disability assessment boards will determine candidates' eligibility for MBBS admission based on their functional abilities and the support they may require, rather than solely on the category or percentage of disability recorded in their disability certificates. Additionally, the admission-related disability certificate will now be known as an "eligibility certificate", with the NMC saying the new name better reflects its purpose of certifying whether a candidate is eligible for admission. The number of designated assessment centres has been



expanded from 16 to 61. Also, a competency-based framework incorporating reasonable accommodation has been introduced.

The guidelines on assessment of PwBD for admission to the MBBS course, 2026, notified by the undergraduate medical education board of the NMC, replace the earlier framework governing disability assessment for medical admissions.

The guidelines stated that the certificate issued by designated medical assessment boards for MBBS admissions, though commonly referred to as a

disability certificate, shall be known as an eligibility certificate as it is intended to certify whether a candidate is eligible for admission based on functional assessment rather than merely certifying the existence or extent of disability. The guidelines also stated that the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has "expanded the designated assessment centres from 16 to 61 across the country" to facilitate "greater accessibility, transparency and uniformity in the assess-

ment process".

Any further expansion of assessment boards will be notified by the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC).

The NMC said the guidelines introduce a competency-based and function-oriented assessment framework under which "the determination of eligibility shall not rest solely upon the numerical percentage or category of disability reflected in the UDID Card or other disability certification".

While benchmark disability under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, will continue to determine eligibility for reservation, admission to the MBBS course "shall be based upon an objective evaluation of the candidate's functional competencies", with due regard to reasonable accommodation, assistive technology, environmental accessibility and advances in rehabilitation science.

The document also lays down a detailed framework for providing reasonable accommodation.

AI tools

BENGALURU: Amazon India announced that Great Freedom Sale 2026 will go live from 12:00 AM on 7th August, bringing together top deals across categories including smartphones, fashion, beauty, home, kitchen, large appliances, groceries, everyday essentials and more. During the sale, customers can look forward to exciting savings through Top 100 Deals, Blockbuster Deals, Trending Deals, 8 PM Deals and more. Additionally, customers can avail a 10% instant discount on HDFC Bank Credit Card and EasyEMI transactions and Up to Rs 2,000 cashback rewards along with No-Cost EMI on select Credit and Debit cards. Apart from great deals across categories, customers can look forward to a range of affordability benefits including No-Cost EMI on select Credit and Debit cards, instant bank discounts, exchange offers and Amazon Pay rewards. With fast and convenient delivery across 100% serviceable pin-codes customers across the country can enjoy a seamless and convenient shopping experience.

Month-long 'Shravani Mela' starts

Press Trust Of India

Ministers inaugurate Dumma fair with Vedic rituals.

DEOGHAR: The month-long 'Shravani Mela' commenced in Jharkhand's Deoghar district on Wednesday, officials said.

State Tourism Minister Sudivya Kumar and Rural Development Minister Dipika Pandey Singh inaugurated the renowned fair amid Vedic rituals at Kanwariya Path in Dumma, bordering Bihar.

Lakhs of devotees from various parts of the country and abroad visit Deoghar during the 'Shravan' month of the Hindu calendar and offer prayers at the revered Baba Baidyanath Dham Temple. They also pay obeisance at Baba Basukinath Dham in Dumka.

"The month-long Shravani Mela has begun today. We warmly welcome all the devotees. On behalf of the Deoghar administration and the people of Jharkhand, we assure them that every effort has been made to provide the best arrangements for the devotees so

that when they leave, they carry with them pleasant memories of Jharkhand in their hearts," Kumar said.

Shravani Mela is not just a grand festival of faith, but is also one of service and dedication.

The state government is working continuously to ensure safety, cleanliness and better arrangements for the devotees so that this year's fair is more organised and magnificent than previous years, Singh said.

Tight security arrangements have been made for the devotees. AI-based drones, face recognition cameras and over 11,500 police personnel have been deployed, a senior officer said.

The fair, which is likely to witness the footfall of 35-40 lakh people, will conclude on August 28. "We have set up 100 outposts in and around Deoghar city. Thousands of CCTV cameras have been installed. AI-based drone surveillance will be used to strengthen aerial security. AI-based face recognition cameras have also been installed in and around the temple," Deoghar

Superintendent of Police Praveen Pushkar said.

He said more than 1,200 security personnel have been deployed in and around the Baba Baidyanath Dham Temple.

FORM NO.
[See Regulation 33(2)]
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL JABALPUR
2nd & 3rd Floor, Sanchar Vikas Bhavan (BSNL Building), Near Head Post Office
Residency Road, Jabalpur -482001, MP.
NOTICE FOR SETTLING A SALE PROCLAMATION UNDER RULE 53 OF THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 READ WITH THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993.
RC/220/2025 20.07.2026
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Versus
SIYA TRADERS SINGH
(To)
(C01) SIYA TRADERS SINGH
MAIN ROAD, JAINAGAR BISHRAMPUR, DISTRICT- SURAJPUR, CG-497226
(C02) ANANT KUMAR SINGH
MAIN ROAD, JAINAGAR BISHRAMPUR, DISTRICT- SURAJPUR, CG-497226
(C03) AJAY KUMAR SINGH
WARD NO. 1, BAJARPARA JAINAGAR, BISHRAMPUR, CG-497226
(C04) SANJAY KUMAR SINGH
WARD NO. 1, BAJARPARA, JAINAGAR, BISHRAMPUR, DISTRICT- SURAJPUR, CG-497226
Whereas you the was ordered by the Presiding Officer of the DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, JABALPUR who had issued the Recovery Certificate dated 11/09/2025 in OA/844/2023 to pay to the Applicant Bank(s)/Financial Institution(s) Name of applicant, the sum of Rs. 4088148 (Rupees Forty Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousands One Hundred Forty Eight Only) along with pendente lite and future interest @ 11.95% w.e.f. 19/07/2023 till realization and costs of Rs. 43000 (Rupees Forty Three Thousands Only), and whereas the said has not been paid, the undersigned has ordered the sale of undermentioned immovable/immovable property.
2. You are hereby informed that the **04/09/2026 at 10.30 A.M.** has been fixed for drawing up the proclamation of sale and settling the terms thereof. You are requested to bring to the notice of the undersigned any encumbrances, charges, claims or liabilities attached to the said properties or any portion thereof.
Specification of property
The immovable property, i.e., Khasra No.-33/2, Village Jainagar, Bishrampur, District-Surajpur (C.G.), area 1000 sq.mtr., Property in the name of Shri Ajay Singh S/o Late Shri R.N. Singh.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **20/07/2026.**
SEAL Recovery Officer
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Jabalpur

Preparations complete

DATIA: The Madhya Pradesh Election Commission and local administration have completed all preparations for the Datia assembly byelection scheduled for Thursday, where BJP's Ashutosh Tiwari and Congress's Ghanshyam Singh are locked in a direct contest.

A total of 2,20,344 voters, including 1,16,088 men and 1,04,246 women, are eligible to exercise their franchise in the constituency where 21 candidates are in the fray.

Polling will be conducted between 7 am and 6 pm. Votes will be counted on August 3.

Officials said 291 polling stations have been set up, including 186 in rural areas and 105 in urban areas.

The State Election Commission and the district administration have completed almost all preparations for the election, and all necessary security arrangements have been made.

Superintendent of Police Mayur Khandelwal said police personnel have been deployed and a control room has been set up to take immediate action if a complaint is received.

Rajnath launches first military medicine facility

Central Chronicle News

First exclusive academic, operational military medicine facility.

NEW DELHI: The threat of weapons of mass destruction persists in the current era, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Wednesday, as he inaugurated the country's first academic and operational facility exclusively for military medicine. The defence minister virtually inaugurated the Department of Military Medicine at the Command Hospital (Central Command) in Lucknow, asserting it will serve as a hub for research and development, preparing the nation to deal with "emerging threats".

Highlighting the growing importance of military medicine, Singh said the discipline studies the physical and mental stresses on soldiers during combat situations. "Our soldiers are deployed in some of the world's most complex regions and harshest cli-

mates, exposed to diverse challenges. This new department will develop medical protocols tailored for these operational environments," he said.

The defence minister emphasised that alongside traditional weaponry, the threat of weapons of mass destruction persists in

the current era. "In such a situation, the department will serve as a hub for research and development, equipping the nation to deal with emerging threats arising out of the rapid technologies advancements," he said.

As the world's largest democracy and a respon-

sible power, India is one of the largest military contributors to United Nations' peacekeeping missions, and at the forefront of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations far beyond national borders, the defence ministry said.

SBI
State Bank of India
SARB, Block B-1, Pujari Chamber, Pachpedi Naka, Raipur (C.G.) Ph: 9407685575, 7049119901

POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property) [See rule 8 (1)]
Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the State Bank of India under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the Powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated as below mentioned date calling upon the Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice described herein below and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the date mentioned below. The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, for an amount mentioned below and further interest, costs etc. thereon (minus subsequent credit, if any). **The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub- Section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.**

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower	Demand Notice Dt. Possession Notice Dt.	Outstanding Amount	Description of the Immovable Property
1.	Borrower- Firoza Begam alias Firoza Khanam W/o Mohd. Abdul Zahir Khan, Mohd. Zahir Khan S/o Mohd. Abdul Salam Khan & Mohd. Kafil Khan S/o Mohd. Abdul Zahir Khan	02.12.2025 24.07.2026	Rs. 32,98,048.03 as on 02.12.25 + Interest & other Charges from 03.12.25	Property owned by: Firoza Begum alias Firoza Khanam W/o Mohd. Abdul Zahir Khan. All that part and parcel of house property consisting of land and building bearing H No. 214, situated at Kh No. 161/31, PH No. 35, Gyafti Nagar Ward, Ward No. 11, Near Ravidas Mandir, Mouza Talapara, Block - Bilha, Tehsil & District Bilaspur (C.G.), Area - 1216 Sq Ft. and construction thereupon. (Cover under document: Book No. ATI 3, Granth No. 147, Page 44 to 50, S No. 63, Registered Will dated 08.06.2010, Sub-Registrar Bilaspur (C.G.). Boundaries (as per Title deed): North- Plot of Rewati Bai, South: Road, East- House of Fia Miya, West- House of Chhoti Miya
2.	Borrower- M/s Diwakar Tractors, Through his Partners- Mr. Arun Kumar Diwakar S/o Mr. Bharat Lal Diwakar, Mrs. Kanti Bai Diwakar W/o Mr. Bharat Lal Diwakar	29.09.2025 24.07.2026	Rs. 74,37,403.00 as on 29.09.25 + Interest & other Charges from 29.09.25	All part and parcel of the property consisting of Diverted Land and Building situated on at Part of Khasra No.- 270/1, Bhukhand Kramank - 2, Maharana Pratap Ward, Zila- Bilaspur, C.G. Area of Land- 1373 Sqft. or 127.602 Sq mtr in the name of Shri Arun Kumar Diwakar S/o Shri Bharat Lal Diwakar. (Book No. 1, Volume No.-2755, Page No-357-375, Document No.- CG-2023-24-119-1-1791 vide Sale Deed dated 08.02.2024 registered in the office of Sub-Registrar at Takhatpur (C.G.) Boundaries (as per Sale deed) dated 08.02.2024: North: Nistari Road, South: Remaining land of the seller, East: Nistari Road, West: Land of Shri Satish Srivast

This notice is also being published in Vernacular Language. The English Version shall be final in any case of interpretation arises.
Date: 24.07.2026, Place: Bilaspur Authorized Officer, State Bank of India, SARB, Raipur

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A Scheduled Commercial Bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

NOTICE OF SALE THROUGH PRIVATE TREATY
SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002. (SARFAESI ACT)
The undersigned as Authorized Officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited has taken over Physical Possession of the schedule property under the SARFAESI Act. The Authorized Officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, had already conducted multiple public auctions for selling the property, but they turned out to be unsuccessful as no bids were received. Hence please be informed that if the total outstanding dues in the aforesaid loan account are not paid within **Fifteen (15) Days** from the date of this publication of this notice, then the Authorized officer will proceed for sale via private treaty of the property as stated below.
Public at large is informed that the secured property as mentioned in the Schedule are available for sale through Private Treaty, as per the terms agreeable to the Bank for realization of Bank's dues.
Standard terms & conditions for sale of property through Private Treaty are as under:
1. Sale through Private Treaty will be on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".
2. The purchaser will be required to deposit 100% of the sale consideration on the expiry of publication of this notice.
3. In case of non-acceptance of offer of purchase by the Bank, the amount if any paid along with the application will be refunded without any interest with in the stipulated time.
4. The purchaser should conduct due diligence on all aspects related to the property (under sale through private treaty) to his satisfaction. The purchaser shall not be entitled to make any claim against the Authorized Officer / Secured Creditor in this regard at a later date.
5. The Bank reserves the right to reject any offer of purchase without assigning any reason.
6. The purchaser has to bear all stamp duty, registration fee, and other expenses, taxes, duties, societies dues in respect of purchase of the property.
7. Sale shall be in accordance with the provisions of SARFAESI Act / Rules.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Borrower/ Co-borrowers	Amount as per 13(2) Demand Notice under SARFAESI ACT.	Reserve Price for Private Treaty
1	45099610001569	1) Mr. Mineshchndra, S/o. Mishrilal, 2) Mrs. Meena Bai Patel, W/o. Mishrilal	Rs.6.31,022/- (Rupees Six Lakh Thirty One Thousand Twenty Two Only) as of 11.04.2025	Rs.3.25,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Only)

Description of Secured Assets/Immovable Properties: All that piece and parcel of Diverted land bearing Part of Khasra No.3762, total admeasuring area of 756 Sq.ft. (70.260 Sq.mtrs.), Mouja Saidda, P.H. No.41, Plot No.16/2, House No.7, R.N.M. Amnsena, Vikas Khand Takhatpur, Tehsil Sakri (Old Takhatpur) & District Bilaspur (C.G.). Bounded by: East by: Road, West by: Land of Budhiya, North by: Seller's Remaining Land and South by: Seller's Remaining Land.
The aforesaid Borrower/s/ Co-borrower/s are invited to provisions of section 13(8) of SARFAESI Act for redemption of secured assets mentioned hereinabove by tendering the aforementioned outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the bank before the sale of secured assets.
Correspondence Address: Mr. Ranjan Naik (Mob No.6362951653), Jana Small Finance Bank Limited, (formerly known as M/s. Janalakshmi Financial Services Ltd.), having Branch Office at Malay Heights 1st Floor, Above IDBI Bank, In front of RBI, Mahadevghat Road, Sundar Nagar, Raipur (C.G.)-492001.
Date: 29.07.2026, Place: Bilaspur Sd/- Authorized Officer, Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

Regional Office - Bilaspur, 1st floor, TR Complex, Rajkishore Nagar Branch, Lingiyadihi, BILASPUR - 495006 (C.G.), PH: 07752-310229/ 310231, E-mail: recovery.bilaspur@bankofbaroda.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES "APPENDIX- IV-A [SEE PROVISO TO RULE 6(2) & 8(6)]
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to **Rule 6(2) and Rule 8(6)** of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower, Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Bank of Baroda**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s.
The details of Borrower(s)/Mortgagor (s)/ Guarantor (s)/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/E-auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 25/08/2026 FROM 2:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

No.	NAME OF BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(S)	SHORT DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY WITH ANY ENCUMBRANCE	TOTAL DUES	RESERVE PRICE, EMD AND BID INCREASE AMOUNT	STATUS OF POSSESSION	PROPERTY INSPECTION DATE AND TIME
01	Borrower: M/s. Garudex Drones, Prop. Mr. Ankit Agrawal, Address: Ward No-01, Hamalpara,Madanpur Road, Kharsia, Raigarh(C.G.)-496661 Borrower: Mr. Ankit Agrawal S/o Mr. Arun Kumar Agrawal, Address: H. No. 6/109, Ward No-13, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee marg, Kharsia, Raigarh (C.G.)-496661 Guarantor: Mr. Amar Agrawal S/o Mr.Arun Kumar Agrawal, H.No-6/109, Ward No-13, hyama Prasad Mukherjee marg, Kharsia, Raigarh (C.G.)-496661	Land Situated at KH NO-327/3 area 0.467 Hectare diverted land(Commercial Purpose) situated at Village Nawaparatenda,PC NO-20.Tehsil-Ghargouda,Distt- Raigarh(C.G) Boundaries of Property: East- Land of Sitaram and others, West- Land of Narayan Agrawal & Natwar Mittal & others, North- Paccki Sadak, South- Land of kuwaro and others.	₹ 49,75,077.19 + Interest + Other Charges	₹ 85,50,000/- ₹ 8,55,000/- ₹ 10,000/-	Physical Possession	20/08/2026 01.00 PM to 04.00 PM

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and online auction portal <https://baanet.com> Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on (077) 52310231/(+91) 6232927350.

Date: 29.07.2026, Place: Kharsia (C.G.) Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda



Central Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 14 No. 121

QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

Democracy survives through truth, unity, compassion and peaceful collective action together.

[Aruna Asaf Ali]

| OUR VIEW |

Tougher Laws Must Restore Exam Trust

The Lok Sabha's passage of the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, is a necessary response to an examination system suffering from a serious crisis of credibility. The legislation proposes imprisonment of five to 10 years and a fine of up to Rs. 50 lakh for individuals using unfair means, while prescribing still harsher penalties for organised examination crime. The amendment follows sustained student protests over alleged irregularities in NEET and other competitive examinations. Introduced by Union Minister Jitendra Singh on July 27, it could not initially be discussed because repeated Opposition protests forced adjournments. Speaker Om Birla subsequently intervened to facilitate a debate, after which the Bill was passed amid renewed sloganeering. The original law, enacted in February 2024 and brought into force that June, was itself presented as a decisive answer to paper leaks. Yet the registration of 52 cases since its implementation demonstrates that legislation alone has not eliminated organised malpractice. The government's willingness to strengthen the law after reviewing its operation is welcome. Provisions for faster investigations, special courts, dedicated prosecutors and time-bound appeals may prove more consequential than longer prison terms. However, punishment after a leak cannot compensate candidates for lost years, wasted fees or severe emotional distress. Prevention must therefore receive equal attention. Examination agencies need secure technology, independently audited procedures, accountable officials and clear protocols for responding to suspected breaches. Investigations must reach organisers, service providers and complicit insiders instead of ending with minor intermediaries. The government must also publish reliable information about cases, prosecutions and convictions. Ministerial claims that paper-leak-related suicides have declined should be supported by transparent data. Equally, personal attacks on Opposition leaders contribute little to a debate that demands institutional seriousness. Opposition parties, too, should allow Parliament to examine such legislation thoroughly while continuing to demand accountability. Young Indians deserve more than political point-scoring. A strong law can deter criminal networks, but only fair administration, swift justice and transparent oversight can restore trust in public examinations.

| GUEST VIEW |

Democracy Demands Responsible Public Discourse Always

Public protests over alleged examination irregularities and the NEET paper leak culminated in Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation, marking a significant political moment. The demonstrations reflected widespread concern among students and parents about transparency, accountability and fairness in the examination system. However, the controversy did not end with the resignation. Remarks attributed to Hindutva ideologue T.G. Mohandas, reportedly advocating harsh action against protesters and making derogatory comments about women participants, drew widespread criticism. The RSS Kerala unit publicly distanced itself from those statements, while the Kerala Government ordered a police inquiry into the alleged hate speech. Similarly, comments made by BJP MP and actress Kangana Ranaut about young women involved in the protests also generated controversy. Public representatives and influential personalities should exercise restraint, as sweeping generalisations about an entire generation of women undermine healthy democratic debate. India's democracy thrives on peaceful dissent and constitutional methods of protest. Equally, those holding public office or enjoying public influence must recognise that their words carry weight and can deepen social divisions. Political disagreements should never justify language that demeans individuals or communities. The episode serves as a reminder that accountability is expected not only from governments but also from public figures across the political spectrum. Respectful dialogue, responsible speech and institutional transparency remain essential for preserving democratic values and public confidence.



BK Chatterjee, Faridabad

Comment

Balancing Credit Growth With Strong Deposit Mobilisation Strategies

India's banking sector is witnessing a phase of robust credit expansion, reflecting growing economic activity and stronger demand for finance. According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), bank credit grew by 18.6% year-on-year as of June 30, 2026, compared with 9.5% a year earlier. Deposits also increased, rising from 10.1% to 13.3%, yet they have failed to keep pace with lending. The widening gap of 5.3 percentage points between credit and deposit growth has emerged as a key challenge for banks, placing increasing pressure on liquidity management.

During the first quarter of 2026-27, banks extended nearly Rs 5.6 lakh crore in fresh credit, while deposits increased by only Rs 3.09 lakh crore. Financial resources flowing to the commercial sector during April and May touched Rs 2.82 lakh crore—almost eight times the level recorded in the corresponding period last year. This sharp rise reflects growing investment activity and business confidence, particularly in infrastructure and manufacturing.

Nearly three-fourths of incre-

mental bank credit has been driven by industrial and personal loans. Infrastructure sectors such as power, chemicals and manufacturing have accounted for a substantial share of industrial lending. At the same time, RBI's regulatory measures have moderated unsecured personal lending, encouraging banks to direct more resources towards productive sectors. Gold loans have remained an important contributor to retail credit, while demand for long-term housing loans has moderated following changes in the income-tax regime.

Equally significant is the transformation in India's deposit landscape. Deposit mobilisation is no longer concentrated in metropolitan cities. Rural and semi-urban regions are emerging as important sources of fresh deposits, supported by financial inclusion initiatives. Of the nearly 58 crore Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana accounts, around 45 crore are maintained in rural and semi-urban branches. Expanding banking infrastructure, rising rural incomes and direct benefit transfers have strengthened household participation in the formal financial system.



Satish Singh
Senior Banking and Economic Columnist

Women-centric welfare programmes have further accelerated this trend. Government schemes transferred nearly Rs 4 lakh crore during 2025-26, including about Rs1.7 lakh crore in direct income support by State governments. These transfers have expanded banking penetration, strengthened women's financial participation and broadened the deposit base across rural India.

However, households are gradually diversifying their savings beyond traditional bank deposits. Increasing investments in mutual funds, equities and other market-linked instruments have reduced the relative share of bank deposits in household financial assets. Institutional deposits from trusts, societies and educational institutions have also grown, providing banks with additional funds but introducing greater sensitivity to interest-rate movements.

Changing deposit maturities present another challenge. Depositors increasingly prefer one-to-three-year deposits, while longer-term deposits have declined. Although this helps

banks manage liquidity more efficiently, it requires careful asset-liability management to avoid maturity mismatches.

External factors also influence banking liquidity. Rising crude oil prices, food inflation and geopolitical uncertainties increase businesses' working-capital requirements while simultaneously reducing household savings capacity. Such developments widen the gap between credit demand and deposit growth.

Fortunately, Indian banks remain well-capitalised, with healthy capital adequacy ratios and declining non-performing assets. Yet sustaining strong credit growth will require equally strong deposit mobilisation. A stable domestic deposit base, prudent liquidity management, balanced deposit pricing and continued financial inclusion will remain essential. As India pursues higher economic growth, maintaining equilibrium between credit expansion and funding stability will determine the long-term resilience of its banking system.

Nature's Timeless Lessons In Parenthood

From village birds to Antarctic penguins, nature reveals that patience, sacrifice, protection and unwavering care remain the enduring foundations of successful parenting everywhere.

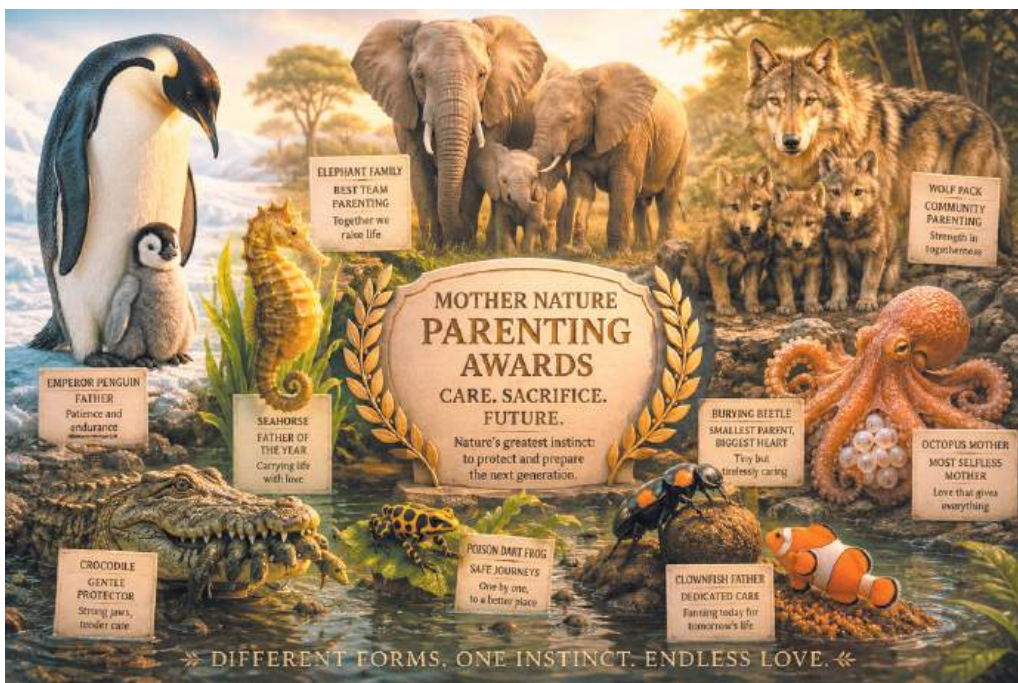


Dr. Debapriya Mukherjee
Former Senior Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board

One early morning in my village, Moutorh, in Purulia district, I was searching for ripe mangoes in my garden. As I walked beneath the mango trees, a small bird caught my attention. It flew tirelessly between a nearby bush and its nest, each journey rewarded with a tiny insect clasped in its beak. The hungry chicks stretched their necks, their mouths wide open, and the parent patiently fed each one before disappearing once again into the morning light.

A little later, outside the garden, another scene unfolded. A stray village dog lay quietly with her litter of puppies. She had sensed my footsteps long before I noticed her. She neither barked nor attacked. Instead, she gently drew the puppies closer to her body and watched me with calm but unmistakable vigilance until I had passed. Protecting her young mattered more than resting after a long night in search of food.

There was no applause, no audience and no expectation of reward—only an unwavering commitment to the next generation. Watching these ordinary village scenes reminded me of count-



less examples of parental care I had witnessed during my travels through forests, rivers, lakes and mountains in India and abroad. Later, as I explored the scientific literature, I found that biologists define parental care simply as any behaviour that increases the survival and future success of offspring at a cost to the parent. Nature has been refining this strategy for millions of years.

That thought inspired a playful question. If Mother Nature organised her own annual award ceremony, who would receive the trophies?

The first standing ovation would surely go to the Emperor Penguin Father. While many of us complain about waiting in a queue for twenty minutes, he balances a single egg on his feet through the Antarctic winter for nearly two months without food, shielding it from freezing temperatures.

The Father of the Year Award would belong to the seahorse. In one of nature's most remarkable

role reversals, the male carries hundreds of developing babies in a brood pouch until they are ready to enter the world.

The Best Team Parenting Award would undoubtedly go to elephant families. Mothers, grandmothers, aunts and older sisters work together to protect, guide and nurture calves, creating one of the most effective childcare systems found in nature.

The Community Parenting Award would be presented to wolves. Far from the villains of folklore, wolf packs raise their pups collectively, sharing food, protection and the skills needed for survival.

The Smallest Parent, Biggest Heart Award might go to the humble burying beetle. Despite its tiny size, it prepares food, guards its larvae and feeds them until they can survive on their own.

Finally, the Most Selfless Mother Award would surely belong to the octopus. She spends months guarding and cleaning

her eggs, often refusing to eat until the young hatch, sacrificing her own life in the process.

The list could easily continue. Crocodiles gently carry their hatchlings in their powerful jaws. Poison dart frogs transport tadpoles one by one to safe pools. Clownfish fathers tirelessly fan their eggs to keep them supplied with oxygen. Nature is full of stories that combine tenderness with determination.

Of course, the purpose of this imaginary award ceremony is not to compare animals with humans or to suggest that animals make "better" parents. Human parenting is uniquely enriched by love, ethics, education, culture and conscious choice. Parents across the world make extraordinary sacrifices for their children while balancing work, financial responsibilities and the many pressures of modern life.

Yet nature offers a gentle reminder. Successful parenting has never depended on expensive

gadgets, fashionable advice or the latest technology. It has always rested on patience, protection, guidance and, above all, time.

Today, our greatest challenge is not a lack of love but a shortage of attention. Smartphones compete with conversations, work deadlines reduce family time, and digital distractions often replace shared moments that children remember for life. A penguin has no smartphone, an elephant has no office schedule and a wolf has no social media account. Yet each invests precious time in its young. Humans possess intelligence, science and technology unmatched in the natural world. Our challenge is to ensure that these achievements strengthen family life rather than quietly replace it.

Scientific research reinforces this perspective. A study published in Nature Communications analysing more than 1,300 amphibian species showed that parental care has evolved independently many times, ranging from simple egg guarding to prolonged care after birth. Across the animal kingdom, one lesson remains remarkably consistent: investing in offspring improves their chances of survival.

As I left my garden that morning, the bird was still feeding its chicks, and the village dog was still watching over her puppies. Neither had attended a parenting workshop or read a book on child psychology. Yet both were following an instinct shaped by millions of years of evolution—the instinct to feed, protect and prepare the next generation. Perhaps that is why the quiet teachers of the natural world continue to inspire us. They remind us that while the forms of parenting may differ, its enduring foundations remain the same: care, sacrifice, responsibility and hope for the future.

YOURLETTERS

Private space revolution gains historic momentum

Skyroot Aerospace's successful Vikram-1 launch marks a transformative chapter in India's space journey, validating the 2020 space sector reforms and the role of IN-SPaCe. The achievement ends ISRO's exclusive dominance and places India among nations with successful private orbital launches. However, sustaining this success requires regular commercial missions, stronger venture funding and continued government support for infrastructure. Only then can this historic milestone evolve into a globally competitive private space ecosystem.

Dr. Vijaykumar H. K., Raichur

Judiciary must safeguard democratic constitutional values

Democracy thrives on dissent, and its suppression through excessive force or prolonged detention weakens constitutional values. Judicial accountability remains essential for maintaining public confidence in the justice delivery system. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan's observations serve as a timely reminder that justice must not only be delivered but must also be seen to be delivered. Both the judiciary and the executive should treat this as an opportunity for timely course correction.

M.K. Nair, Raipur

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

Rs 20 crore cash, 15 kg gold seized

Police seized 14 gold bars and 10 biscuits worth Rs 21.5 crore from Mondal's residence.

Press Trust Of India

SURI: In one of the biggest recoveries of suspected illegally amassed cash and gold since the ED's haul from properties linked to former West Bengal minister Partha Chatterjee's close aide four years ago, the police on Wednesday seized at least Rs 20 crore in cash and 15 kg of gold in Birbhum district. Police said 14 gold bars weighing one kilogram each and 10 gold biscuits of 100 grams each, valued at around Rs 21.5 crore at current market prices, were recovered from the two-storey residence of Minar Mondal, a former government bus driver-turned stone trader at Deucha village.

The cash, packed inside multiple bags, was still being counted at the time of filing of this report and had already crossed Rs 20 crore, officers said.

Police identified Minar as the brother-in-law of absconding businessman Tullu Mondal alias Mohd Nazibuddin, who has substantial interests in Birbhum's stone quarrying business and whom Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari described as an



"sand mafia" operator.

The recovery comes amid a wider crackdown on alleged illegal mining and revenue leakages in Birbhum, a district long under the scanner

HIGHLIGHT

● Cash in bags crossed Rs 20 crore, still being counted.

● Recovery amid crackdown on Birbhum illegal mining, revenue leakages.

over allegations of illegal quarrying and organised crime linked to the stone

trade. A total of nearly Rs 50 crore in unaccounted cash, along with gold and foreign exchange, had been recovered from properties linked to Arpita Mukherjee, a close aide of former education minister Partha Chatterjee, during Enforcement Directorate raids in July 2022 tied to the school jobs recruitment scam in the state.

Prez Murmu visits Bal Bharati School in Delhi

President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday visited Air Force Bal Bharati School at Lodhi Road here and encouraged students to pursue excellence, uphold strong moral values and contribute meaningfully to the nation's progress. According to an update shared by the defence wing of the Press Information Bureau (PIB), the President engaged in a special interaction with the students during her visit.



बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda

Regional Office - Bilaspur, 1st floor, TR Complex, Rajkishore Nagar Branch, Lingiyadih, BILASPUR - 495006 (C.G.), PH: 07752-310229/ 310231, E-mail: recovery.bilaspur@bankofbaroda.com

E-AUCTION
SALE NOTICE

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES "APPENDIX- IV-A [SEE PROVISIO TO RULE 6(2) & 8(6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to **Rule 6(2)** and **Rule 8(6)** of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower, Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Bank of Baroda**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "**As is where is**", "**As is what is**", and "**Whatever there is**" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s.

The details of Borrower(s)/Mortgagor (s)/ Guarantor (s)/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 08/09/2026 FROM 2:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

No.	NAME OF BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(S)	SHORT DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY WITH ANY ENCUMBRANCE	TOTAL DUES	RESERVE PRICE, EMD AND BID INCREASE AMOUNT	STATUS OF POSSESSION	PROPERTY INSPECTION DATE AND TIME
01	1. Mr. Krishna Kumar Yadav S/o-Mr. Jhadiam, 2) Smt. Binla Bai Yadav W/o- Krishna Kumar Yadav and 3) Mrs. Mamta Yadav W/o- Mr. Raghavendra Yadav All Address: Behind high school Shakti ward, Bhatapara, Dist-Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh-493118, Guarantor- Mr. Raghavendra Yadav S/o-Krishna Kumar Yadav, Address: Behind high school Shakti ward, Bhatapara, Dist-Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh-493118.	Equitable mortgage admeasuring area 1280 Sq Ft, PH no.12, Khasra No. 13/27, Mouja- Dhourabhata Gram Panchayat Dhabadih, Bhatapara, RIC- Tah- Bhatapara and Dist-Baloda Bazar, Chhattisgarh-493118 belonging to Mr. Krishna Kumar Yadav S/o-Mr Jhadiam.	₹ 949,738.53 + Interest + Other Charges	₹ 13,08,867/- ₹ 1,30,887/- ₹ 10,000/-	Physical Possession	04/09/2026 01.00 PM to 04.00 PM

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and online auction portal <https://baanknet.com> Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on (077) 52310231/ (+91) 6232927350.

Date: 29.07.2026, Place: Bhatapara (C.G.) Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda



AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED
(CIN:L65922RJ2011PLCO34297) Regd. & Corp. Office: 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur. 302020



AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED
SARFAESI APPEAL, SOUTH HAWAARI

APPENDIX-IV-A [See proviso to rule 8(6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s)/ Co-Borrower (s)/Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED**, the same shall be referred herein after as AFL. The Secured Assets will be sold on "**As is where is**", "**As is what is**", and "**Whatever there is**" basis through E-Auction for recovery of amount mentioned in the table below along with further interest, cost, charges and expenses being due to AFL viz. Secured Creditor.

It is hereby informed you that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>

Loan A/c Number / Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Mortgagors	Dues As on	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time of E-Auction	Date of Bid Submission	E-Auction Place of Tender Submission	Contact Person, Property Visit Date & Time
(AC NO.) LNBI02221-220191214 Dharmeshsingh Rajpoot, Deepa Singhrajpoot	Rs. 1510842/- Dues As On 27 July 2026	07 Oct 24 Rs. 1311750/- Dues As On 04-Oct-2024	19 Jan 26	Mauja - Parsada, Near Parsad Main Old Colony, P.C. No. 39, Kh. No. 609/10, Rnm-Bilaspur, Vikaskhand - Bilha Tehsil-Bilaspur, District - Bilaspur Chhattisgarh (India)- Pin-495003/ Admeasuring 2180. Sq. Ft	Rs. 1766520/-	Rs. 176652/-	11.00 Am To 01.00 Pm 31 Aug 2026	On Or Before 30 Aug 2026	B-206, 2nd Floor, Shri Narayan Plaza, Link Road, Near Motilal Khurana Petrol Pump, Bilaspur-495001, Chhattisgarh-India	Amit Sahu - 7374002263, Property Visit Date 29 Aug 2026 9:00 am TO 5:00 pm

The terms and conditions of e-auction sale:-
(1.) The E-auction sale of Secured Asset is on "as is where is", "as is what is", "whatever there is" and "no recourse" basis for and on behalf of the Secured Creditor viz. AUSFB and there is no known encumbrance which exists on the said property. (2.) For participating in online e-auction sale, Bid document, copies of PAN Card, Board Resolution in case of Company and photo ID, address proof are required to be submitted along with EMD, which is payable by way of RTGS/NEFT/DD in the name of **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED**, Current account No.00548470000107 AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED, Regd. & Corp Office : 201-202, 2nd Floor, South End Square, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Jaipur 302020 IFSC Code: HDFC0000054, Once an Online Bid is submitted, same cannot be withdrawn. Further an EMD submitted by bidder will be required to send the UTR/Ref no/DD No of the RTGS/NEFT/DD with a copy of cancelled cheque on the following email IDs I.e. auction@avaas.in (3.) All interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> and <https://avaas.in/sarfaesi-sale-notices> for further details help procedure & online training on E-Auction prospective bidder may contact including Terms & Conditions, to take part in e-auction sale proceeding and are also advised to contact e-mail of auction@avaas.in & rampasad@auctiontiger.net, Contact No. 8000023297 (Aavas Contact Person : Amit Sahu - 7374002263, Mohd. Kalim - 7849821425)

Please Note - This is also a 30 days notice Under Rule 8(6) read with Rule 9(1) to the Borrowers/Co Borrowers/Mortgagors of the above said loan account above sale through tender / Inter se bidding on the above-mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their outstanding dues are not repaid in full by the borrower in the given notice period.

Place : Chattisgarh Date : 30-07-2026 Authorised Officer Aavas Financiers Limited



बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda

Regional Office - Bilaspur, 1st floor, TR Complex, Rajkishore Nagar Branch, Lingiyadih, BILASPUR - 495006 (C.G.), PH: 07752-310229/ 310231, E-mail: recovery.bilaspur@bankofbaroda.com

E-AUCTION
SALE NOTICE

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES "APPENDIX- IV-A [SEE PROVISIO TO RULE 6(2) & 8(6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to **Rule 6(2)** and **Rule 8(6)** of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower, Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Bank of Baroda**, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "**As is where is**", "**As is what is**", and "**Whatever there is**" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s.

The details of Borrower(s)/Mortgagor (s)/ Guarantor (s)/Secured Asset/s/Dues/Reserve Price/e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below.

DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION: 08/09/2026 FROM 2:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

No.	NAME OF BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(S)	SHORT DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY WITH ANY ENCUMBRANCE	TOTAL DUES	RESERVE PRICE, EMD AND BID INCREASE AMOUNT	STATUS OF POSSESSION	PROPERTY INSPECTION DATE AND TIME
01	Mrs. Snehlata Tripathi W/o Mr. Ramashankar Tripathi and Mr. Ramashankar Tripathi. Address: Ward No 9, Sargaon Post Sargaon, Mungeli, Chhattisgarh - 495224	Land & Building at Shri Ganesh 93, Prem Prakash Nagar SantKarwar Ram Ward PH No. 11, Diverted Kh No. - 152/85 (old), Area- 1139 Sqft, RIC & Tehsil Bhatapara, Dist.- Balodabazar (C.G.)-493118 standing in the name of Mrs. Snehlata Tripathi W/o Mr. Ramashankar Tripathi as mentioned in Sale deed - book No. - A1, Vol No. - 3410, Page No. 83-101 Sale deed No. 400 dated-21.05.2019. Boundaries: North: Road, South: Plot No. 92, East: Plot No. 94, West: Road	₹ 29,48,833.95 + Interest + Other Charges	₹ 39,50,000/- ₹ 3,95,000/- ₹ 10,000/-	Symbolic Possession	Any working day within working hours with prior appointment
02	Mrs. Rani Sharma W/O Raju Sharma, Address: Shree Ganesh 73, Prem Prakash Nagar, Bhatapara- 493118 situated at plot no. Shree Ganesh 73 in approved layout of Prem Prakash Nagar, Bhatapara, ph no. 11, Tehsil- Bhatapara, Dist.- Baloda Bazar, Bhatapara C.G. Owner: Rani Sharma. Boundary of property: North: ROAD, South: SHREE GANESH 58, East: SHREE GANESH 74, West: SHREE GANESH 72.	Equitable Mortgage of residential land and building located at part of Diverted kh no 152/1, amalgamated 152/2, 152/3, 152/4, 168/4, 168/5, 168/47, 168/48 total area 1.992 Hectare out of which are admeasuring plot area 1175 sq.ft.	₹ 31,80,352.09 + Interest + Other Charges	₹ 22,50,000/- ₹ 2,25,000/- ₹ 10,000/-	Symbolic Possession	Any working day within working hours with prior appointment
03	Mr. Ravi Wadhvani and Mr. Rohit Wadhvani, Address: Village- Dhourabhata, Teuram Colony, Bhatapara, Baloda Bazar, 493118 Chhattisgarh	Equitable Mortgage of Immovable Property, PH No. 12, KH No. 65/174, amalgamated 70/179 Area: 1200 sq. ft. RIC & Tehsil- Bhatapara, Baloda bazar, C.G in the name of Mr. Ravi Wadhvani and Mr. Rohit Wadhvani Boundaries: North: Road Left by Seller, South: Land of seller, East: Land of seller, West: Land Of seller	₹ 12,75,216.00 + Interest + Other Charges	₹ 20,22,000/- ₹ 2,02,200/- ₹ 10,000/-	Symbolic Possession	Any working day within working hours with prior appointment
04	Mrs. Nikhat Khan w/o Shadab Khan, Ward No. 39 Near Masjid, Bilaspur (M) Corp. Ganeshnagar, Bilaspur CG - 495001	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Land and Building situated at Khasra no 1671/1 comprising area 1612 sqft Village- Mopka, PH. No 19/29, R.L.C. Mopka, Tahsil & Dist.- Bilaspur CG belonging to Mrs. Nikhat Khan w/o Shadab Khan. Bounded: On the North by- Open Land, On the South by- Road, On the East by- Open land, On the West by- Open land	₹ 37,43,516.00 + Interest + Other Charges	₹ 7,20,000/- ₹ 72,000/- ₹ 10,000/-	Symbolic Possession	Any working day within working hours with prior appointment

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the website link <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and online auction portal <https://baanknet.com> Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on (077) 52310231/ (+91) 6232927350.

Date: 29.07.2026, Place: Bhatapara (C.G.) Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda



शेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)



Central Bank of India
Regional Office, Raipur (C.G.)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISIO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the symbolic / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Central Bank of India- Secured Creditor, will be sold on "**As is where is**", "**As is what is**", and "**Whatever there is**" on the date and time specified hereinbelow, for recovery of due to the Central Bank of India- Secured Creditor from the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit of the respective properties is mentioned hereinbelow:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrowers	Description of the property	Outstanding Amount Posses. Notice Date	Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount
1	Borrower: M/s Fortune Tiles, Partners & Guarantors 1. Mr. Ashish Soni, 2. Mrs. Priya Soni & 3. Mr. Abhishek Soni, Unit: Near Railway Crossing, Vill. Belsonda, Tehsil & Dist. Mahasamund (CG) and Residence: Lilly Chowk, Purani Basti, Raipur (CG), Branch- Fafadih, Raipur (CG)	Property No. 1) Equitable Mortgage of Factory Land and Building with embedded Plant & Machinery at Kh. No. 356/2, PH No.140(old), PH No.87/36(new), Area-21750.00 sq.ft. Gram- Belsonda, Tehsil & Dist.- Mahasamund in the name of Shri Ashish Soni S/o Shri Purnanad Soni. Boundaries: North: Railway Line, South: Govt. Mahasamund to Raipur Road, East: Seller Land, West: Land of Ishwar Singh. * Symbolic Possession Property No. 2) Equitable Mortgage of Factory land and Building with embedded Plant & Machinery at Kh. No. 356/3, PH No.140(old), PH No.87/36(new), Area-47344.00 sq.ft. Gram- Belsonda, Tehsil & Dist.- Mahasamund (CG) in the name of Shri Abhishek Soni s/o Shri Purnanad Soni. Boundaries: North: Land of Railway, South: Govt. Mahasamund to Raipur Road, East: Land of Satish Singh, West: Land of Priya Soni. * Symbolic Possession Property No. 3) Equitable Mortgage of Factory Land and Building with embedded Plant & Machinery at Kh. No. 356/4, PH No.140(old), PH No.87/36(new), Area-43560.00 sq.ft. Gram- Belsonda, Tehsil & Dist.- Mahasamund (CG) in the name of Mrs. Priya Soni w/o Ashish Soni Boundaries: North: Land of Railway, South: Govt. Mahasamund to Raipur Road, East: Land of Abhishek Soni, West: Land of Ashish Soni. * Symbolic Possession	₹ 2,89,50,818.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 30.10.2024 13.04.2026	₹ 8,65,00,000/- ₹ 86,50,000/- ₹ 1,00,000/-
2	Borrower: M/s Laxmi Enterprises, Prop. Mr. Pawan Kumar Sahu & Mr. Pawan Kumar Sahu, S/o Mr. Chandan Prasad Sahu, and Guarantor- Mr. Chandan Prasad Sahu S/o Mr. Kawal Prasad Sahu, All of their Add.: Vill. Kuli, PO- Bachhoud, Tehsil- Masturi, Dist.- Bilaspur (CG), Branch- Seepat, Dist- Bilaspur (C.G.)	All the Part and Parcel of Residential property situated at Kh No. 104, PH No. 12/34 (41), Mouza- Kuli, Block-Masturi, RNM-Seepat, Area 0.36 acre or 15682.00 sq ft., Tehsil- Masturi, District- Bilaspur (CG) in the name of Mr. Pawan Kumar Sahu. Boundaries: North : Bhata / Pond, South: Khetlaji / Lakhani Lal Sahu (Property), East: Pond, West: Bhata/20 feet wide CC Road. * Symbolic Possession	₹ 15,03,282.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 04.01.2023 17.08.2024	₹ 52,70,000/- ₹ 5,27,000/- ₹ 50,000/-
3	Borrower:- Mrs. Jag Kumari W/o Mr. Sanat Singh, Co-Borrower- Mr. Sanat Singh Parihar S/o Mr. Pachkoud Singh, Both are resident of Raipur Marg, Shivaji Ward No. 08, Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG) and Guarantor- Mr. Shrikant Singh Parihar S/o Mr. Sanat Singh Parihar, Shivpur Marg No. 01, Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All the Part and Parcel of Residential Land and Building, situated at Khasra No. 960/2 PH.No 29/06, Khevat No 443, Shivaji Ward, total area 1800 sq.ft. Mungeli, Tahsil + Dist - Mungeli (C.G.) in the name of Smt. Jag Kumari W/o Shri Sanat Singh. Boundaries: North : Plot No.08, South: Plot No-08, East: Road, West: Plot No -16. * Symbolic Possession	₹ 26,95,737.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 24.07.2023 13.12.2024	₹ 14,54,000/- ₹ 1,45,400/- ₹ 10,000/-
4	Borrower- M/s Goel Agriculture & Hardware, Prop. Mr. Amit Kumar Goyal and Mr. Amit Kumar Goyal S/o Late Derha Prasad Goyal, Both are resident of 34, Sadak Para, Village Shitalkunda, PO Karesara, Tehsil- Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All the Part and Parcel of Land & Building with Embedded Plant & Machinery situated at Khasra No. Part of (59/1, 62, 63, 64/1, 65/1 & 66), PH. No. 24/10, Mouza Shitalkunda, RNM, Block & Tehsil- Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG) Admeasuring- 0.50 Acre or 0.202 Hect., in the name of Mr. Amit Kumar S/o Mr. Derha. Boundaries : North : Land of Ramadhar S/o Derha, South: Main Road (Mungeli - Pandariya), East: Land of Ramadhar & others, West : Land of Amaria & Kunjan. * Symbolic Possession	₹ 7,68,861.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 04.06.2021 12.08.2025	₹ 24,65,000/- ₹ 2,46,500/- ₹ 10,000/-
5	Borrower - M/s. Padmeshwari Singh W/o Mr. Nilkamal Singh, Co-Borrower- Mr. Nilkamal Singh S/o Mr. Raj Kumar Singh and Guarantor- Mr. Ashish Singh S/o Mr. Mahan Singh, All are resident of Shivaji Ward, Navaghar Road, Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All the Part and Parcel of Land & Building situated at Khasra No. 960/76 (Part), PH. No. 06/29, Rakba- 108.36 Sq. Mtr. (22x53=1166 sq. ft.), R.N.M. Mungeli, Ward No. 08, Shivaji Ward, Tehsil & Dist.- Mungeli (C.G.) in the name of Mrs. Padmeshwari Singh W/o Sri Nilkamal Singh. Boundaries:- North- Land of vendor, South- Land of vendor, West- Road * Symbolic Possession	₹ 16,52,631.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 04.06.2021 11.12.2021	₹ 11,05,000/- ₹ 1,10,500/- ₹ 10,000/-
6	Borrower- M/s New Goyal Agro, Prop.- Mr. Pradip Goyal and Mr. Pradip Goyal S/o Mr. Dehra Goyal, Address of Both: Village Shitalkunda, PO- Karsara, Tehsil & Dist.- Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All the Part & Parcel of Factory Land and Building with Embedded Plant and Machinery Property situated at KH No 59/4, PH. No. 24, Area-0.202 Hectare (21800 sq.ft.), Village- Shitalkunda, RNM, Block & Tehsil- Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG) in the name of Mr Pradip Goyal S/o- Shri Dehra Goyal. Boundaries: North : Land of Ramadhar, South: Kawardha Mungeli Road, East: Land of Ramadhar, West : Land of Amit Goyal * Symbolic Possession	₹ 23,21,646.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 24.07.2023 11.12.2021	₹ 34,50,000/- ₹ 3,45,000/- ₹ 25,000/-
7	Borrower - Mr. Lok Ram Sahu S/o Mr. Leela Ram Sahu, Thakkar Baba Ward, Nawagarh Road, Mungeli, Dist. Mungeli (CG), Co-Borrowers- Mr. Tula Ram Sahu S/o Mr. Leela Ram Sahu, H. No. 111, Ward No. 16, Danteswari Marg, Kawardha, Dist.- Kabirdham (CG) and Mr. Nanhe Ram Sahu S/o Mr. Leela Ram Sahu, Gupta Mohalla, Near Ram Mandir Sirgitti, Bilaspur, Dist.- Bilaspur (CG), Common Address of all is Ravan Bhatta, Mungeli, Dist. Mungeli (CG) and Guarantor- Mr. Parmanand Singh S/o Mr. Mahendra Singh, Shivaji Ward, No.12, Near New Bus Stand, Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All that part and parcel of Residential Land and Building situated at Kh. No. Part of 931, PH. No. 06, Ward No. 12, Shivaji Ward, Main Road Nawagarh, Mouja Mungeli, Block & Circle Mungeli, Tahsil & Dist.- Mungeli (CG), Area- 3500.00 Sq.ft. (70'x50') in the name of Mr. Lok Ram Sahu, Mr. Nanhe Ram Sahu and Mr. Tula Ram Sahu. Boundaries : North - Remaining Land of Seller, South - Remaining Land of Seller, East - Govt. Road, West - Remaining Land of Seller * Symbolic Possession	₹ 12,17,816.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 04.06.2021 12.08.2025	₹ 54,23,000/- ₹ 5,42,300/- ₹ 50,000/-
8	Borrower - Mr. Ashish Singh Parihar S/o Mr. Mahan Singh Parihar, Co-Borrower - Mrs. Bameshwari Singh W/o Mr. Ashish Singh, Both are resident of New Bus Stand Mungeli, Dist.- Mungeli (CG) and Guarantor- Mr. Nilkamal Singh S/o Mr. Raj Kumar Singh, Shivaji Ward, Nawagarh Road, Mungeli, Dist. Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All the part and parcel of land & building situated at Khasra No. 960/90 (Part), PH. No. 06/29, Rakba 182.24 sq.mtr. (37x53=1961 sq. ft.), R.N.M. Mungeli, Ward No. 08, Shivaji Ward, Tehsil & Dist.- Mungeli (C.G.) in the name of Shri Ashish Singh Parihar S/o Sri Mahan Singh Parihar. Boundaries:-North- Land of Uday Pratap Singh, South- Land of Vendor, East- Land of Briji Kishore, West- Rasta. * Symbolic Possession	₹ 24,62,432.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 04.06.2021 11.12.2021	₹ 13,91,000/- ₹ 1,39,100/- ₹ 10,000/-
9	Borrower- Mrs. Jag Kumari W/o Mr. Sanat Singh, Co-Borrower- Mr. Sanat Singh Parihar S/o Mr. Pachkoud Singh, Both are resident of Raipur Marg, Shivaji Ward No. 08, Dist. Mungeli (CG), Guarantors: Mr. Shrikant Singh Parihar S/o Mr. Pachkoud Singh and Smt. Pooja Singh W/o Mr. Shrikant Singh Parihar, Both are resident of Shivpur Marg No. 01, Shivaji Ward, Mungeli, Dist. Mungeli (CG), Branch: Mungeli (C.G.)	All the Part and Parcel of Residential Open Land, situated at Khasra No 960/2 Plot No-02, Khevat No 443, total area 1800 Sq.ft. Mungeli Tahsil + Dist. - Mungeli C.G. in the name of Smt Jag Kumari W/o Shri Sanat Singh. Boundaries: North : Plot No.05, South: Plot No-07, East : Road, West: PlotNo-17. * Symbolic Possession	₹ 15,32,783.00 + plus further interest and expensed thereon as on 24.07.2023 13.12.2024	₹ 42,37,000/- ₹ 4,23,700/- ₹ 40,000/-

Terms & Condition : 1. Date & Time of e-auction: 31.08.2026 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM (with auto extension clause in case of bid in last Ten minutes before closing). The auction will be conducted through the Bank's approved service provider "<https://baanknet.com>" For further details, terms and conditions, the interested bidders can visit our Bank's website at <https://www.centralbankofindia.bank.in> and <https://baanknet.com>. 2. For more details please Contact- For Serial No. 1 Shri Alok Kumar, BM, Branch-Fafadih, Mob. No. 9584469564, For Serial No. 2 Shri Rajeev Ranjan Vinit, BM, Branch-Seepat, Dist.- Bilaspur, Mob. No. 7509062713 For Serial No. 3 to 9 Shri Narmada Jain, BM, Branch-Mungeli, Mob. No. 8109159795 at any working day during office hours. 3. The Auction Sale is conducted on "As is where is, As is What is and Whatever there is" Basis. Bank is not aware of any pending charges, taxes, etc. Purchasers are bound to verify the same and, if any have to bear the same. Note- 1% TDS is applicable on auction property purchases if the sale price exceeds ₹50 Lakh. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.centralbankofindia.bank.in and service provider's website <https://baanknet.com>

STATUTORY 15 & 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 9 (1) & 8 (6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagor are hereby Notified for sale of immovable / movable secured asset toward realization of outstanding dues of Secured Creditor.

Date : 30.07.2026 Place : Raipur, Bilaspur & Mungeli Authorized Officer / Central Bank of India

“All the people who have watched Ramayan, they all have their own interpretation of Lord Ram. There is no fixed face to it. Many people will probably feel like I am the wrong casting. Some people will say I am the right casting. But the honest truth is that the right casting for Ram.”

Ranbir Kapoor



&Glitters

CLOSE UP

Rekha to be honoured with ‘Excellence in Cinema Award’

Rekha says Umrao Jaan continues living forever within her cherished memories.

Central Chronicle News

IFFM honours legendary actor with award and iconic film screening together.

Rekha is set to receive a grand tribute at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM) 2026, where she will attend as the Guest of Honour, receive the prestigious Excellence in Cinema Award and be part of a special screening of her iconic film Umrao Jaan. She will also hoist the Indian National Flag in Melbourne as part of the festival's annual Independence Day celebrations.

Reflecting on the honour, Rekha spoke about her enduring bond with Umrao Jaan. “Umrao Jaan has never left me. She lives in my memories, in my silences, and in the hearts of those who have embraced her with a lot of love over the years. To revisit that journey and see the film being celebrated on a global stage is both humbling and moving,” she said. The veteran actor also shared her gratitude for receiving the Excellence in Cinema Award. “Cinema has been my life's greatest blessing, and to be honoured with the Excellence in Cinema Award at IFFM 2026 is special. I accept this honour with immense gratitude, not only as a recognition of my own journey, but



Rekha will attend IFFM 2026 as Guest of Honour.



also as a tribute to the filmmakers, writers, musicians and countless collaborators who have enriched my life and shaped my work,” she added. Directed by Muzaffar Ali, Umrao Jaan remains one of the defining films of Rekha's celebrated career. Her unforgettable portrayal of the graceful courtesan continues to be regarded as one of Indian

cinema's finest performances. Rekha's recognition at IFFM celebrates her remarkable contribution to Indian cinema and her lasting influence across generations. Her participation also adds another memorable chapter to the festival's long-standing tradition of honouring legendary artists who have shaped Indian cinema on the global stage.

| SMALL SCREEN |

Barkha to portray an IRS officer in crime thriller

Central Chronicle News

Actor Barkha Singh says she is consciously choosing projects that allow her to portray strong, meaningful characters instead of simply being part of the story. The actress, who will next be seen in the upcoming crime thriller Tax Department Story, believes the project reflects the direction she wants her career to take. In the series, Barkha plays an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer, a role she describes as both challenging and rewarding. Sharing her excitement, Barkha said playing an IRS officer has strengthened her desire to take on characters that influence the narrative and leave a lasting impact on audiences. She added that she is drawn to roles with a strong voice that reflect the com-



HIGHLIGHT

● Barkha Singh embraces stronger roles with exciting career ambitions ahead.

plexities of modern life and give viewers something to think about.

Barkha chooses powerful stories

Over the years, Barkha has steadily expanded her acting range. After gaining popularity through romantic dramas and slice-of-life projects, she showcased a different side of her talent with Criminal Justice. Now,

Tax Department Story will see her step into a gritty crime drama, presenting a fresh on-screen avatar. The actress also revealed the filmmakers she hopes to collaborate with in the future. Barkha named Kiran Rao, praising her work in Laapataa Ladies, along with Prosit Roy for his atmospheric storytelling in Raakh, and Avinash Arun for his acclaimed work on Paatal Lok. She said working with these filmmakers would be a dream because each brings a unique storytelling perspective.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Bollywood

Sujoy Ghosh plans new ‘Kahaani’ with Yami

Yami Gautam is reportedly set to lead Kahaani 3, taking over the franchise from Vidya Balan. According to reports, the upcoming film will feature an entirely new storyline while preserving the suspenseful essence that made the original a hit. Director Sujoy Ghosh is said to be crafting a powerful role for Yami, with the project currently in the pre-production stage. The makers are reportedly working on the shooting schedule and other details. While Kahaani (2012) became a blockbuster, Kahaani 2 (2016) failed to match its success. An official confirmation from the filmmakers is still awaited.

Web Series

‘Ikka’ boosts Jyoti Mukerji's career again

After earning praise for her role in Netflix's Ikka, actor Jyoti Mukerji has credited director Siddharth P. Malhotra for inspiring her return to acting after a 16-year break. She said he believed in her talent even more than she did herself.

Comparing television with OTT and films, Jyoti explained that TV demands speed and precision, while digital projects allow actors more time to explore their characters. She also revealed she is in talks for several films, Netflix projects and a new show, marking an exciting new phase in her career.

The bollywood hot pair

Kabir Bahia's post keeps romance buzz alive



Rumoured couple Kriti Sanon and Kabir Bahia have once again set social media buzzing after Kabir's heartfelt birthday wish for the actress. Sharing a smiling selfie and a cosy vacation picture on Instagram Stories, he wrote, “Happy K dayyy,” reigniting romance rumours. The affectionate posts came weeks after

speculation about their alleged breakup surfaced online. Fans believe the latest pictures have put those rumours to rest, though neither Kriti nor Kabir has confirmed their relationship. Their public interactions continue to keep followers guessing about the status of their much-discussed romance.

Fashion

Karisma Kapoor nails timeless ivory glamour

Karisma Kapoor made a stylish statement while filming for a television show in an elegant ivory ensemble by designer Manish Malhotra, priced at Rs 2.45 lakh. The outfit featured a lace and thread-embroidered blazer with pearl embellishments, sharp lapels and a dramatic cape-style drape, paired with matching wide-legged embroidered trousers. Keeping the look sophisticated, Karisma opted for a sleek low ponytail, soft makeup and minimal diamond jewellery.



Trending on Insta



@priyankachopra

Malti dances to Priyanka Chopra's hit song

Priyanka Chopra shared a glimpse of daughter Malti Marie enjoying Hyderabad while grooving to her song. The actor arrived in India with Nick Jonas and Malti, sparking speculation about resuming SS Rajamouli's upcoming film shoot.

@imeshadeol

Esha Deol's sweet birthday wish for Ahana

Esha Deol penned a heartfelt birthday wish for sister Ahana Deol, calling her “the youngest and the wisest.” She reminded Ahana that their father Dharmendra's blessings are always with her and wished her happiness, health, strength and success.



OTT Watch



Ted Lasso returns with season four

Apple TV has released the Ted Lasso Season 4 trailer, with Jason Sudeikis returning as the beloved coach. Premiering August 5, the season follows Ted as he takes charge of a second-division women's football team.



Ram Kapoor approached for Season 2

Ram Kapoor was reportedly approached for Karan Johar-hosted The Traitors Season 2, sources claim. The actor, currently seen on Lock Upp Season 2, has not confirmed his participation. Munawar Faruqui and Mallika Sherawat are confirmed contestants.



Maitreyi leads Best of the Best

Netflix has released the first look of Best of the Best, a coming-of-age dance comedy starring Maitreyi Ramakrishnan and Priyanka Kedia. Set in UCLA's competitive Bollywood-fusion dance scene, the film premieres on September 18, 2026, on Netflix.



Diljit's Main Vaapas Aaunga on Netflix

Imtiaz Ali's Main Vaapas Aaunga is reportedly arriving on Netflix on August 7. Starring Diljit Dosanjh, Sharvari and Vedang Raina, the romantic drama became one of the director's highest-grossing films after a successful theatrical run.



Satyadev's thriller lands on Netflix

Netflix has announced that Satyadev's critically acclaimed psychological drama Rao Bahadur will begin streaming on July 31. Directed by Venkatesh Maha, the film will be available in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam after its theatrical release.



Art & Culture

SPORTING HERITAGE

‘Commonwealth Games’ building bridges across cultures

The Commonwealth Games unite sport, culture and global friendships through excellence.

The Commonwealth Games are far more than a global sporting event they are a celebration of culture, heritage and human connection. Every four years, athletes from more than 70 Commonwealth nations and territories come together, not only to compete for medals but also to share traditions, stories and identities that reflect the richness of their diverse cultures. Since the inaugural Games in 1930, the event has evolved into a unique platform where sport and culture exist side by side. While thrilling competitions capture global attention, the opening and closing ceremonies steal the spotlight with spectacular performances, traditional dances, music, costumes and visual storytelling that showcase the host nation’s artistic legacy. Each host city uses the Games to introduce visitors to its history, architecture, cuisine and local traditions. Cultural festivals, exhibitions, public art installations and

HIGHLIGHT

● Every edition celebrates heritage, diversity and unforgettable moments beyond competition.

community programmes run alongside sporting events, turning the Games into an immersive experience rather than just a tournament. The Commonwealth Games have also become a symbol of inclusion and equality. They were among the first major international sporting events to



Champions celebrating shared global spirit



feature equal medal opportunities for men and women, while para sports remain fully integrated into the main programme. This commitment reflects the values of respect, diversity and equal opportunity. Beyond the stadiums, the Games leave a lasting legacy. Improved infrastructure, new sporting venues and cultural landmarks continue benefiting communities long after the final medal is awarded. More importantly,

they inspire young athletes to dream bigger and encourage people from different backgrounds to celebrate their shared humanity. In an increasingly connected world, the Commonwealth Games remind us that sport has the power to build bridges across cultures. Every handshake, every cheer and every shared celebration endure.



300-year-old stepwell returns to life

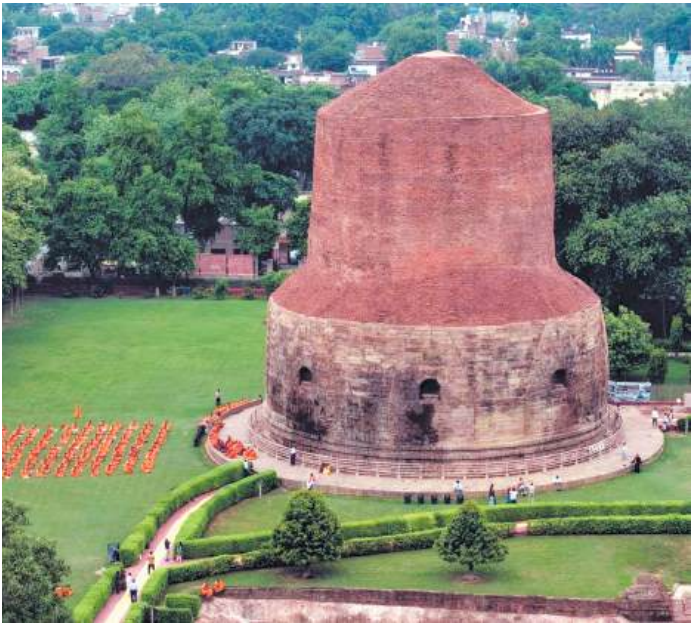


A forgotten 300-year-old stepwell in Karnataka’s Belagavi has been restored after spending nearly three decades buried under garbage, sewage and debris. Volunteers from the Pyaas Foundation, NSS students and local residents led the clean-up, uncovering the 80-foot-deep structure with its 53 stone steps, natural springs and beautifully preserved stone carvings. Viewed from above, the stepwell resembles a Shiva Lingam, making

it even more remarkable. Historians believe it dates back to the Adil Shahi or early Maratha period, highlighting India’s rich architectural heritage and the importance of preserving traditional water conservation systems for future generations.

MASTERPIECE

Sarnath shines on global heritage map



Sarnath, near Varanasi, has been inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, becoming India’s 45th World Heritage Site. The ancient destination is revered as the place where Gautama Buddha delivered his first sermon, marking the beginning of Buddhism’s teachings. Visitors can explore the magnificent Dhamek Stupa, monastery ruins, archaeological remains and the site of the Ashoka Pillar, whose Lion Capital became India’s National Emblem. Known for its peaceful surroundings and deep spiritual significance, Sarnath offers an unforgettable blend of history, culture and faith, making it an essential destination for travellers exploring India’s remarkable heritage.

CULINARY HERITAGE

This century-old bakery preserves culinary legacy

Central Chronicle News

For more than a century, J Hearsch & Co. has quietly stood on Mumbai’s bustling Hill Road, preserving not just recipes but stories woven into the city’s multicultural past. Hidden inside an old bungalow compound in Bandra, this iconic bakery is a living reminder that food often carries history as powerfully as any monument.

The bakery’s journey began in the early 1900s with German-Jewish baker Jacob Hearsch. As the political climate surrounding World War I changed, Hearsch decided to leave India, passing on the bakery that would eventually become one of Bandra’s most cherished landmarks. Over the



120-year-old Mumbai bakery.

decades, ownership changed hands from a Parsi proprietor to Sophia Liberata Fernandes, whose family continued the bakery’s legacy with dedication and care. Today, J Hearsch & Co. reflects Mumbai’s diverse cultural identity. Founded by a European baker and nurtured



by an Indian Christian family, it represents the city’s unique ability to embrace different communities while preserving tradition.

The bakery’s old-world charm, modest interiors and loyal customer base remain largely unchanged despite the rapid transformation of the

neighbourhood around it. Its menu blends European baking traditions with beloved Indian favourites. Warm chicken puffs, vegetable rolls, sandwiches, pastries, burgers and the bakery’s famous homemade mayonnaise continue to attract generations of regulars. Freshly prepared using a

HIGHLIGHT

● Mumbai’s iconic bakery serves history alongside timeless flavours and cherished traditions.

closely guarded family recipe, the mayonnaise has become one of the bakery’s signature offerings.

More than a place to grab a quick snack, J Hearsch & Co. is a cultural landmark where history, heritage and flavour meet. Every bite reflects decades of craftsmanship, resilience and community spirit. In a city constantly reinventing itself, this 120-year-old bakery stands as a delicious reminder that some traditions are worth preserving one freshly baked puff, sandwich and pastry at a time.

Cultural Hues

Ancient world had more languages

A new study suggests humans may have spoken between 20,000 and 75,000 languages during a linguistic “golden age” between 1000 B.C.E. and 1000 C.E. Researchers believe language diversity later declined as expanding empires spread dominant languages, replacing many smaller ones. Around 7,500 languages exist today, but at least four disappear every year. Scientists say modern languages may represent only a small fraction of humanity’s past linguistic richness, though some experts consider these findings speculative.



Ancient pot found at Florida mission

University of Florida archaeology students uncovered a rare, fully intact 400-year-old clay pot at the former Mission San Francisco de Potano in Florida. The vessel was likely made by the Potano Indigenous community during Spanish rule. Researchers say the discovery offers valuable clues about the region’s history, where Indigenous people, Spanish settlers and later English raiders all played a role. Archaeologists hope the unusual find will reveal more about daily life and why the pot was carefully buried..



Gold tongues linked to afterlife

Archaeologists in Egypt discovered about two dozen rare gold tongue amulets while excavating 18 ancient tombs at Marina el-Alamein, west of Alexandria. Ancient Egyptians believed these gold pieces helped the dead speak before the god Osiris and communicate in the afterlife. One amulet is shaped like the Eye of Horus, a symbol of protection. Researchers also uncovered a sphinx statue, limestone carvings and other artifacts, offering fresh insights into ancient Egyptian burial traditions.



Iconic Cinerama dome returns in 2028

Hollywood’s iconic Cinerama Dome in Los Angeles is set to reopen in early 2028 after remaining closed since the Covid-19 pandemic. Sony Pictures and Alamo Drafthouse are leading the restoration while preserving the theater’s historic design, curved screen and classic atmosphere. Opened in 1963, the famous venue has hosted major film premieres and appeared in several movies. Its return comes as theater attendance continues to recover, with younger audiences showing renewed interest in big-screen experiences.



Lost portrait rewrites art history

Art experts have identified a lost 18th-century portrait of an elite Indian woman as the work of pioneering Scottish artist Katherine Read. The painting, valued at about \$130,000, is believed to be the earliest known portrait of an Indian person created by a female European artist. Researchers confirmed its authenticity through pigments, brushstrokes and historical records. They believe the woman belonged to a royal Mughal court, making the artwork an important discovery in art history.



Ancient faces recreated after 2,000 years

A new exhibition in Budapest showcases 16 facial reconstructions of people who lived in the ancient Roman city of Aquincum nearly 2,000 years ago. Created using excavated skulls, the lifelike faces offer a glimpse into the past. While historians do not know the individuals’ real names or stories, curators imagined realistic backstories based on clues from their bones and burials, helping visitors connect with the lives of ordinary people from the Roman era.



Sports



At the same time, when you're facing the new ball, you have to survive the first 20 overs, build partnerships

Babar Azam
Pakistan captain

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

GALLANT YET BEATEN

AC Milan signs promising French defender Sankhoun Diawara from Troyes



MILAN: AC Milan signed defender Sankhoun Diawara on Wednesday from Troyes, following the youngster's breakout season in the French second division. The 20-year-old Diawara signed five-year deal through July 2031. "A left-footed centre-back, Diawara combines technical quality, physical strength and personality," Milan said in a statement. "These

attributes make him a highly promising talent, already proven at professional level in France and ready to continue his development in the Rossoneri colours." Diawara progressed through the ranks at Troyes, making his senior debut in November, 2024. He was a key part of the team that won the second division title last season. **PTI**

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Sajan Prakash fails to qualify for 200m freestyle finals



GLASGOW: Seasoned Indian swimmer Sajan Prakash failed to qualify for the men's 200m freestyle finals at the Commonwealth Games, signing off a disappointing fifth in his heat and 20th overall here on Wednesday. Only the eight fastest swimmers advance to the final and Sajan was way off the mark at 1:51.99 seconds. His personal best and the National Record stands at 1:46.61 seconds. The 32-year-old finished behind debutant compatriot Aneesh Gowda, who too failed to move ahead by ending 18th overall with a timing of 1:51.64 seconds. Gowda's performance was marginal improvement on his personal best of 1:51.88secs but it was never going to be enough as the fastest time recorded was 1:45.69sec by England's James Guy. The slowest qualifier was another Englishman, Thomas Dean, who clocked 1:47.46sec. **PTI**

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Animesh qualifies for 200m semifinals with season best time



GLASGOW: National record holder Animesh Kujur clocked his season best time to qualify for the 200m semifinals in the Commonwealth Games here on Wednesday. The 23-year-old Kujur ran 20.46 seconds to win Heat 4 in round one races and finish seventh overall.

The 16 fastest from across 10 heats advance to the semi-finals to be held on Thursday. The national record in the name of Kujur stands at 20.32 seconds. His earlier season's best was 20.47 seconds he had clocked last month at the New Taipei City Athletics Open. **PTI**

TRIBUTE

Tendulkar remembers mentor Achrekar with heartfelt Guru Purnima tribute



MUMBAI: Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar paid heartfelt tribute to his childhood coach late Ramakant Achrekar on Guru Purnima, saying he always has "one more 'thank you' left to say" to the man who played a defining role in shaping him as a cricketer and human being. Tendulkar, who always made it a point to visit Achrekar's residence every year to seek his blessings when the legendary coach

was alive, continued the tradition of remembering his mentor through an emotional post on social media. "Standing here today, I realised something. No matter how many years pass, I'll always feel like I have one more 'thank you' left to say. Thank you for believing in me, guiding me, and helping me become the person I am. Happy Guru Purnima, Achrekar Sir," Tendulkar wrote on X. **PTI**

Prannoy, Unnati progress in Taipei Open

Seeded seventh, Prannoy defeated Minoru Koga of Japan 21-11 21-14 in his opening round men's singles match that lasted just 35 minutes. He will next take on Hong Kong's Jason Gunawan.

Press Trust Of India

Unnati started her women's singles campaign on a positive note by registering a 21- 12 21-18 win Pei Yu Wang of Chinese Taipei.

TAIPEI CITY: Seasoned shuttler HS Prannoy and Unnati Hooda, the spearheads of India's campaign, advanced to the second round of their respective singles events at the Taipei Open Super 300 here on Wednesday.

Seeded seventh, Prannoy defeated Minoru Koga of Japan 21-11 21-14 in his opening round men's singles match that lasted just 35 minutes. He will next take on Hong Kong's Jason Gunawan, who beat another Indian Mithun Manjunath 21-18 21-4 in another first round tie.

Among other Indian men's singles players to progress to the second round were Kiran George and Tharun Mannepalli.

While George defeated Wang Po-Wei of Chinese Taipei 21-10 21-18, Mannepalli stunned eight seed Jeon Hyeok Jin of Korea 21-12 21-15. George and Mannepalli will play each other in the next round.

But it was curtains for the likes of rising Rounak Chauhan, who progressed through men's singles qualifiers, as he was shown the door by Richie Duta Richardo of Indonesia 14-21 16-21.

Third seed Unnati started her women's sin-



Unnati Hooda in action.

gles campaign on a positive note by registering a 21- 12 21-18 win Pei Yu Wang of Chinese Taipei. The Indian will next play compatriot Tanya Hemanth, who defeated another Taipei shuttler Wen Chi Hsu 21-16 14-21 21-16 in a tough three-game opener.

Young Devika Sihag, seeded eighth here, Tanvi

Sharma and Anmol Kharb also progressed to the next round of women's singles.

While Devika beat Korea's Ga Eun Park 14-21 21-7 21-15, Tanvi got the better of compatriot Tasnim Mir 21-16 22-20 and Anmol defeated Ishika Jaiswal of USA 21-15 11-21 21-19.

Devika will next face

Indonesia' Ni Kadek Dhinda Amartya Pratiwi, who beat India's Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj 21-10 20-22 21-14.

Tanvi will next take on Indonesia's Thalita Ramadhani Wiryawan, while Anmol will up against second seed Hsiang Ti Lin of Chinese Taipei. Lin defeated India's Ashmita Chaliha 16-21 21-14 21-15 in

another opening round match.

Shriyanshi Valishetty is the other Indian women shuttler to bow out of the competition after losing 11-21 12-21 against fourth seed Supanida Katethong of Thailand.

Isharani Baruah will take on local favourite and top seed Pin-Chian Chiu of later in the day.

| RCB REIGNS SUPREME |

RCB 1st cricket team to cross USD 300 million brand value: Study

Press Trust Of India

RCB becomes cricket's first \$300-million brand as IPL's commercial value surges globally.

NEW DELHI: Royal Challengers Bengaluru has become the world's first cricket team to cross \$300 million in brand value, according to Houlihan Lokey's 2026 Brand Valuation Report.

RCB retained the top position among IPL franchises after its value climbed 16 per cent from \$269 million in 2025 to \$312 million. Mumbai Indians ranked second at \$264 million, followed by Kolkata Knight Riders at \$245 million and Chennai Super Kings at \$244 million.

The report valued the IPL at \$20.6 billion, representing 11.4 per cent annual



growth and a second consecutive double-digit increase. Its brand value advanced 10.3 per cent to \$4.3 billion, adding more than \$1.1 billion since 2023.

Ownership transactions strengthened investor confidence. A Blackstone-backed consortium acquired RCB at a reported valuation of \$1.78 billion,

while Rajasthan Royals changed hands for \$1.65 billion.

The league's digital expansion accelerated, with the 2026 season reaching 1.06 billion screens. Overall viewership increased seven per cent, while connected television reach rose 26 per cent despite an 18.8 per

cent decline in linear television ratings.

Premium partnerships, digital consumption and media rights lifted seasonal revenue beyond \$1.8 billion, reinforcing the IPL's growing standing among the world's leading sports competitions and attracting major global investors.



Creating goals matters more than scoring; intelligent midfield play can shape India's World Cup destiny.

Vivek Sagar Prasad
Indian hockey midfielder



22 goals in 194 international appearances,

believes India can end its drought at the tournament, scheduled in Belgium and the Netherlands from August 15 to 30.

He said the team would approach the competition with a winning mindset, drawing confidence from Olympic medals and victories over sides. Rather than treating the drought as pressure, the players consider it a responsibility.

Indian women's hockey team leaves for Germany

BENGALURU: The Indian women's hockey team departed for Frankfurt, Germany, on Wednesday, where it will undergo the final phase of its preparations for next month's FIH World Cup, to be co-hosted by the Netherlands and Belgium. The team travelled from Bengaluru to Mumbai before boarding its onward flight to Frankfurt. The Indian team will play two practice matches against Germany on July 31 and August 1 apart from its training camp to fine-tune combinations and adapt to the European conditions. The team will depart for Amsterdam on August 2 to continue its World Cup preparations in the Netherlands. India will begin its campaign against China on August 16, followed by matches against South Africa and England in Pool D.

| VIVEK EYES HISTORY |

Vivek Sagar draws on mentor's wisdom for World Cup

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Two-time Olympic medallist Vivek Sagar Prasad is drawing inspiration from mentor Ashok Kumar as India targets its first Hockey World Cup medal in 51 years.

India last reached the podium in 1975, winning gold after Ashok scored the decisive goal in a 2-1 final victory over Paki-

stan. The forward has advised Vivek to prioritise creating goals, anticipate situations and study opponents' positioning.

Ashok spotted Vivek at a tournament in Akola in 2013 and brought him to his Bhopal academy. The 26-year-old midfielder credits his mentor with shaping his skills, fitness, discipline and handling pressure.

Vivek, who has scored



"I think social care in England is as unfair as American healthcare. The vulnerable pay with everything."

Andy Burnham
British Prime Minister

APTOPIX Peru Inauguration



Peru's President Keiko Fujimori walks to the presidential palace after her inauguration in Lima, Peru. AP/PTI

Jordan intercepts Iran's missiles as US, Saudi strike Iraq

Jordan intercepted and destroyed five ballistic missiles fired by Iran's Revolutionary Guard at regional military sites.

Press Trust Of India

CAIRO: Jordan intercepted missiles launched from Iran early Wednesday, hours after the US military said it knocked down another Iranian barrage launched against American forces in the Middle East, ending a brief pause in fighting between Tehran and Washington.

The US also said it worked with Saudi Arabia to fire on Iran-backed militias in Iraq that have targeted the kingdom in recent days. The militias said at least 20 of their fighters had been killed. The fighting came after days in which mediators



Iranian pro-government demonstrators chant slogans as one of them waves a flag bearing a portrait of the late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in a gathering at a square in Tehran, Iran. AP/PTI

said some progress had been made in negotiations to end the war, which began February 28 with American and Israeli attacks on Iran. Though the two sides signed an interim deal

in June, intense bombing resumed this month over disagreements on how to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the waterway crucial for the world's energy supplies that Iran effectively shut down dur-

FASTFACTS

● The US and Saudi Arabia launched coordinated strikes against Iran-backed militias in Iraq, resulting in at least 20 fighter casualties.

● Renewed hostilities and security threats to critical infrastructure, including Saudi oil facilities and the Strait of Hormuz, caused Brent crude prices to spike 3.1%.

ing the war. The attacks again highlight how difficult it has been for US

President Donald Trump to end the war, which has caused the price of fuel and other basics to skyrocket far beyond the region and is deeply unpopular at home. In recent weeks, four US troops died during the fighting, while the Pentagon asked an increasingly sceptical Congress for money to cover the conflict's ballooning costs. The renewed hostilities sent oil prices spiking. Brent crude, the international standard, jumped 3.1 per cent to USD 84.58 a barrel. The Jordanian military said five missiles had been "intercepted and destroyed."

New UK Leader Burnham promises social care reform

LONDON: British Prime Minister Andy Burnham pledged on Wednesday that he will succeed where decades of predecessors have failed and fix a "broken" social care system built on an overstretched public sector and profit-making private firms. Burnham, 56, said it was a "major dereliction of duty" that his generation of politicians had failed to provide decent care in a way that is affordable for both individuals and the state. "I think social care in England is as unfair as American healthcare," Burnham said. "The vulnerable pay with everything." The Labour Party leader said he would try to work with other political parties to create a "national care service".

Ukraine hits major Russian refineries after Zelenskyy meets Trump

Press Trust Of India

Ukrainian long-range drone strikes hit two major Russian oil refineries in Perm and Ryazan, sparking fires.

KYIV: Ukrainian forces hit two of Russia's biggest oil refineries overnight in its latest long-range strikes, officials said, as Kyiv deepened its economic, military and diplomatic pressure on Moscow.

Ukraine's almost daily long-range drone and missile strikes using domestically developed weapons have battered Russian oil facilities for months. The



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy stands with a bipartisan group of Senators in the Capitol building in Washington. (AP Photo)

operation has brought a fuel crisis that is embarrassing the Kremlin more than four years after Russia's all-out invasion of its neighbour. The overnight attacks started fires at a Lukoil refinery in Russia's Perm region, more

than 1,500 kilometres (900 miles) from Ukraine, and a refinery in Ryazan, about 400 kilometres (180 miles) from the border, Ukraine's Security Service and General Staff said in separate statements. The refineries

FASTFACTS

● Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy met with US President Donald Trump in Washington to secure vital support.

● Kyiv's ongoing strikes aim to deepen Russia's fuel crisis and increase the economic cost of the war.

have a combined annual production capacity of around 30 million tons of oil, according to Ukraine, and make a vital contribution to Russia's military effort and its government revenue.

EUROPE WILDFIRES |

Intensifying heat wave threatens French wildfire

Press Trust Of India

LEGE-CAP FERRET :A wildfire covering an area four times the size of Paris remained uncontained in southwest France on Wednesday as temperatures were forecast to reach 40 C (104 F), threatening to erase firefighters' overnight gains.

Authorities in the Gironde region said the blaze had not spread further during a calm night, but warned that forecast heat and winds could cause the flames to surge again. At the command centre in Lege, firefighters bent over



maps spread across a car hood as commanders tracked three danger zones: northern Cap-Ferret, the wooded corridor around Marcheprime, Cestas and Saint-Jean-d'Illac, and a military site near Martignas, where a significant new outbreak required a major deploy-

ment. More than 2,200 firefighters and over 20 aircraft remain mobilised, supported by crews from across France and European partners. "We strike quickly and strike hard at any new smoke emissions," Gironde fire commander Matthieu Jomain said. The fire

The situation remains complicated. That's clear. We're not out of the woods. Sophie Brocas Gironde Prefect

forced 220,000 people to flee at its peak. Tens of thousands have since been allowed home, but authorities warned that the danger had not yet passed. The extreme heat strips moisture from veg-

etation and drives humidity down, turning grasses, brush and forest litter into faster-burning fuel. Winds can lift embers over firebreaks and ignite new fronts beyond the reach of crews.

Meteo-France, the national meteorological service, said Wednesday would be the hottest and driest day of the week, with elevated wildfire danger across every region of the country. Drought now covers mainland France and Corsica, with soils approaching the record dryness reached in August 2022, the agency said.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

US CHINA ROBOTS

US bans foreign-made humanoid robots, targeting China over national security



HONG KONG: The US Federal Communications Commission is banning imports of new foreign-made humanoid robots and power inverters, citing national security risks, in a move that targets China. The measures are likely to test relations with Beijing ahead of a planned US visit by Chinese leader Xi Jinping to meet with US President Donald Trump in September. China dominates the global market for humanoid robots with an estimated market share of roughly 85 per cent.

The FCC's ban also includes new imports of quadruped robots - often referred to as four-legged robot dogs. The agency said imports of advanced robots pose cybersecurity and other national security risks. Offshore production of such equipment also leaves US supply chains vulnerable to dis-

ruptions. The ban on power inverters, which are used to convert direct current (DC) electricity into alternating current (AC) electricity and are used in renewable energy systems, data centres, and household appliances, could have sweeping ramifications.

FCC chairperson Brendan Carr said on Tuesday that the move was to "secure America's critical supply chains." He said the bans apply to "new versions" of such imports. The FCC's bans follow a slew of US restrictions on imports of Chinese products, including drones, and on exports of US advanced technology to China. The US is also weighing controls on the use of Chinese open-source artificial intelligence models at a time when Chinese AI is rapidly gaining ground.

NEPAL CURFEW PARTIES

Nepal parties urge unity amid Sunsari violence

KATHMANDU: An all-party meeting on Wednesday expressed serious concern over the communal violence in eastern Nepal's Sunsari district and called all stakeholders to maintain social harmony and peace after a person was killed during a dispute between two religious communities. The all-party meeting took place a day after Prime Minister Balendra Shah expressed grief over the violence and appealed for calm, refrain from provocation and contribute to maintaining social harmony. One person was killed and more than a dozen people, including security personnel, were injured when police opened fire to disperse clashing groups after a dispute during celebrations by two religious communities on Sunday in Kaptangunj area in Sunsari district, bordering India. Restrictions were imposed on Monday and as of Wednesday, continued to be in place for an indefinite period. The all-party meeting, which was called by ruling Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) president Ravi Lamichhane, extended condolences to the bereaved family and wished for speedy recovery of those who sustained injuries in the incident.

THAILAND INDIANS ARREST

Five Indians held in Thailand for abducting 3 tourists: report

BANGKOK: Five Indian nationals have been arrested in Thailand for allegedly abducting three fellow countrymen and demanding a ransom for their release, according to a local media report. The five suspects were arrested at a hotel in Bangkok's Khlong Tan area on Tuesday while they were waiting to board an outbound flight, the Bangkok Post reported, citing the police. The suspects were identified as Avtar Singh (38), Jagjit Singh (38), Ram-balak Kumar (24), Sukhbir Singh (37) and Kulra Singh (27). The suspects told investigators that they were instructed by a Pakistani national, whom they had known through a chat application over the past month, to abduct the three Indian men - all of them tourists.

The alleged mastermind is believed to be based in Dubai and had planned to receive ransom payments in cryptocurrency, according to the report. The police told the press that the accused were promised valuables, cash and airline tickets to leave Thailand after carrying out the operation.

JAPAN QUAKE

Death toll rises to 18 as rescuers comb through quake rubble in southwestern Japan



KUMAMOTO: Soldiers and emergency workers combed through a badly damaged shopping mall and collapsed houses looking for trapped survivors Wednesday after a powerful earthquake that killed at least 18 people in southwestern Japan. The magnitude 7.1 earthquake that hit a day earlier in the Kumamoto area on the southern main island of Kyushu, also left at least 62 people injured, six of them seriously, the prefectural government said. The tally has been steadily growing, fanning fears it may continue to rise.

The sweltering weather heightened worries about the survivors as rescuers braved the heat. It remained

unclear how many people might still be missing. Some of the most serious damage was at the Aeon Mall shopping centre in Kashima city, which was bustling with thousands of people when the quake happened. The company said some 3,000 customers were evacuated to a parking lot before a gas explosion happened in another part of the mall, where some people were still working.

The mall's second floor collapsed, trapping people. Witnesses said the explosion shook the area as much as did the quake. Three people remained missing, while four deaths were confirmed at the mall site, according to Aeon.