

Raipur



AI mission claims
baseless; government has
lost investor confidence.

Surendra Verma
Cong Spokesperson

CM Sai directs timely delivery of welfare schemes

CM Sai reviews schemes, directs timely implementation.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai has directed officials to ensure the timely, transparent and effective implementation of government welfare schemes, stressing that every eligible beneficiary must receive the intended benefits. He said negligence in public welfare programmes would not be tolerated. The Chief Minister expressed displeasure over delays in land demarcation cases and directed District Collectors to ensure that every case is resolved within the prescribed time-frame. He said negligence at the grassroots level and inadequate district-level



Bharat G-Ramji, DBN-funded mobile towers and school education initiatives.

The Chief Minister expressed displeasure over delays in land demarcation cases and directed District Collectors to ensure that every case is resolved within the prescribed time-frame. He said negligence at the grassroots level and inadequate district-level

monitoring were causing hardship to citizens and ordered strict action against responsible officials.

Reviewing AgriStack, Sai directed 100 per cent registration of eligible farmers, emphasizing that the platform is crucial for delivering multiple government schemes and is not limited to paddy procurement. District-specific campaigns

should be conducted to complete registration, with disciplinary action against officials if eligible farmers are deprived of benefits due to negligence.

The CM Helpline has received more than 1.10 lakh complaints, of which over 65,000 have been resolved.

The Chief Minister directed departments to prepare action plans

HIGHLIGHT

● Negligence in welfare delivery will face action.

based on complaints and feedback. Under Seva Setu, 721 services across 27 departments are currently available. Sai instructed officials to digitize remaining services and promote the portal through Gram Panchayats, CSCs and Atal Seva Kendras.

He also reviewed 476 DBN-funded mobile towers and school schemes, including textbooks, uniforms, Saraswati Cycle Yojana and PM Poshan. He called for faster development of school kitchen gardens.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

DIKSHARAMBH CONCLUDES

Anjaney University's Diksharambh concludes, inspiring new students



RAIPUR: The three-day 'Diksharambh' induction programme at Anjaney University concluded on Thursday, marking the beginning of a new academic journey for newly admitted students. The concluding day featured departmental orientation sessions, group activities, motivational lectures, quizzes, cultural performances and interactive activities. Through the programme, students were introduced to faculty members and familiarized with the university's academic environment, facilities and functioning. Students said the experience gave them an opportunity to learn, make new friends and move closer to their aspirations. Renowned motivational speaker and chief guest

Ujjwal Deepak energized students with his inspiring address. He emphasized the importance of determination, self-confidence and consistent effort in achieving goals.

He urged students to become contributors to society rather than merely acquiring academic qualifications. Deepak encouraged students to dream big and said they could pursue careers as writers, scientists, entrepreneurs or leaders. He stressed that circumstances do not determine a person's identity; persistent efforts and the courage to move forward do. Vice-Chancellor Dr. T. Rama Rao said curiosity and the desire to learn are students' greatest strengths.

SC sets August 2028 TET deadline for serving teachers

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Supreme Court has set August 31, 2028, as the deadline for serving primary and secondary school teachers to clear the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET), potentially affecting promotion prospects and, in some cases, continuation in service. The development was highlighted by the Chhattisgarh Pradesh Shikshak Federation, whose State President Rajesh Chatterjee and General Secretary Satish Byauhare said the state government must conduct TET regularly to enable serving teach-



ers to meet the statutory requirement. According to the Federation, the Supreme Court's May 29, 2026 order in State of U.P. vs. Anjuman Ishaate-Taleem Trust & Others directed competent authorities to conduct TET regularly, ideally twice a year at intervals

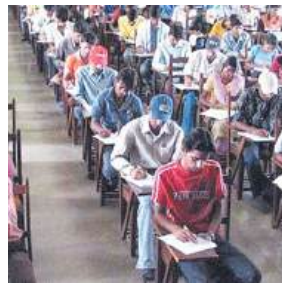
of around six months. The Federation cited the Court's earlier directions stating that teachers with less than five years of service remaining may continue until retirement but would not be considered for promotion. Serving teachers without TET qualification would also

Baghel takes dig at CGPSC results

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has taken a sarcastic dig at the Chhattisgarh Public Service Commission (CGPSC) over the preliminary examination results for Subedar, Sub-Inspector and Platoon Commander posts, after unusual names appearing in the selection list triggered discussion on social media.

In a post on X, Baghel sarcastically congratulated candidates listed as "NEWS" and "SPACE RANI", describing their



success as remarkably swift.

Referring to the earlier controversy over the Mahtari Vandan Yojana benefit being availed in the name of "Sunny Leone", he termed the development another "achievement" of the Vishnu Deo Sai government.

CG notifies rules under Freedom of Religion Act

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh government has brought the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act, 2026 into effect across the state following the publication of its rules in the official gazette on August 4. The rules establish the administrative and legal framework for implementing provisions related to religious conversion. The notified rules are divided into four parts and 24 sections, covering procedures, notification requirements, investigation processes and mechanisms for taking action in cases involving alleged illegal religious conversion. With the rules now notified, authorities have a defined process for enforcing the legislation



statewide. Home Minister Vijay Sharma said the government is committed to ensuring effective implementation of the Act and that strict action will be taken against those found involved in illegal conversions. He said there would be no tolerance for activities carried out in violation of the law.

Sharma emphasized that the Act and its rules are now fully operational across Chhattisgarh and that enforcement agencies will act according to the prescribed legal provisions.

VY Hospital opens monthly Hearing Aid Clinic

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: NABH-accredited VY Hospital has launched a Hearing Aid Clinic in collaboration with Heterth Speech & Hearing Centre to provide accessible and specialized hearing care services to patients at a nominal cost.

The clinic will commence from August 8, 2026, and will operate on the second Saturday of every month from 11 AM to 1 PM at the ENT Clinic on the ground floor of VY Hospital, Mangal Bhavan, Amangalhari.

The clinic will provide hearing assessment and counselling, hearing aid trials and tuning, digital hearing aid guidance



and follow-up support. Patients will be able to receive assessment, consultation and guidance regarding suitable hearing aids at one location.

Addressing the scribes here, VY Hospital CEO Dr Anil Karnawat said the initiative has been developed to make hearing aids more accessible to people who can benefit from them.

Essential audiometry and other tests will be conducted during the monthly clinic to identify suitable hearing solu-

tions. The consultation fee has been fixed at Rs 3,000 per patient.

ENT Consultant Dr Anupama Joshi said hearing loss can result from several causes, including congenital conditions, infections, eardrum problems and prolonged exposure to high-decibel sounds.

She emphasized timely diagnosis and treatment, noting that untreated hearing difficulties can affect an individual's social and family life.

GRAND KANWAR YATRA

Children lead Grand Kanwar Yatra, VIP Road echoes with Bam-Bam Bhole

RAIPUR: A grand Kanwar Yatra was organized during the holy month of Sawan from Ram Mandir on VIP Road to Maulshri Vihar, with the aim of connecting children with religious traditions, Indian culture and spiritual values. A large number of children participated enthusiastically in the procession. Dressed in saffron T-shirts, the young participants carried small kanwars on their shoulders and water vessels in their hands. The atmosphere along VIP Road reverberated with chants of "Bam-Bam Bhole" and "Har-Har Mahadev" as the children proceeded along the designated route. The devotion and enthusiasm of the young participants remained evident throughout the yatra. Their participation added a special dimension to the



religious procession and attracted the attention of residents and devotees along the way. At several points, devotees welcomed the children by showering flower petals on the procession. Parents and local residents also joined the yatra and accompanied the children, contributing to the successful organization of the event.

TIRANGA CAMPAIGN

CAIT prepares statewide 'Har Ghar Tiranga, Har Dukan Tiranga' campaign



RAIPUR: The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) Chhattisgarh unit is preparing to launch a statewide "Har Ghar Tiranga - Har Dukan Tiranga" campaign in collaboration with trader associations across the state ahead of Independence Day.

A meeting of representatives from various trade associations was held at the CAIT Chhattisgarh office, where participants unanimously resolved to take the campaign to cities, towns and markets and encourage maximum participation from traders and citizens. CAIT National Vice Chairman Amar Par-

wani said the trading community would uphold the spirit of "Nation First" and turn the campaign into a mass patriotic movement. He said the initiative will involve hoisting the Tricolour at major markets, shops, commercial establishments and homes, besides organizing rallies and awareness programmes. Trader associations will conduct public outreach activities in their respective areas to promote respect for the national flag, national unity and integrity. As part of the campaign, Yuva CAIT Chhattisgarh will organize a grand Tiranga bike rally across the state.

RATE HIKE

Toll rates raised at 10 plazas in Chhattisgarh

Central Chronicle News

Highway travel gets costlier across Chhattisgarh.

RAIPUR: National highway travel in Chhattisgarh has become costlier after the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) implemented revised toll rates at 10 toll plazas across the state from August 1. The new rates have increased



charges by Rs 5 to Rs 10 for several vehicle categories. The revised toll charges apply at Mudiyapara, Baiji, Limha, Madanpur, Chotiya, Pachira, Maharajpur, Lodam, Paraghat and Kesla toll plazas. The hike will affect cars, jeeps, vans,

light commercial vehicles, mini-buses, buses and multi-axle trucks using national highways.

At Mudiyapara, the toll for cars has increased from Rs 45 to Rs 50, while charges for heavy vehicles have risen from Rs 160 to

HIGHLIGHT

● NHAI hikes toll charges by Rs 5- Rs 10.

Rs 165. At Baiji, the toll for cars remains unchanged at Rs 65. However, the charge for light motor vehicles has increased from Rs 100 to Rs 105, while buses and trucks will now pay Rs 220 instead of Rs 215. According to the revised rates, charges have increased across most vehicle categories,

although there has been no change for certain categories at some toll plazas. The changes are expected to directly impact people who frequently travel on national highways for work, business and other purposes. Daily commuters using toll routes will face higher monthly travel expenses following the revision. The increased charges may also raise operating costs for taxi, bus and commercial vehicle operators.

CM launches ‘Meri Beti–Mera Abhiman’ campaign

CM Sai launched the statewide ‘Meri Beti–Mera Abhiman’ campaign under the VB-G-RAM-G Campaign.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Thursday launched the statewide ‘Meri Beti–Mera Abhiman’ campaign under the Viksit Bharat–Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) during a press conference at Mahanadi Bhawan, Nava Raipur. He announced that the special campaign will be conducted from August 15, 2026, to January 26, 2027, with a focus on strengthening the dignity of daughters, improving rural sanitation, enhancing social infrastructure, and promoting water conservation.

As part of the campaign, toilets for girls will be constructed in all government schools in rural areas, while cremation grounds with waiting sheds will be developed in every village. The Chief Minister said 6,671 girls’ toilets will be built at a cost of Rs. 286.85 crore, with each unit costing Rs. 4.30 lakh. Similarly, cremation grounds with waiting sheds will be constructed in 6,524 villages at a cost of Rs. 391.44 crore. In contrast, an additional 549 cremation grounds will be developed at a cost of Rs. 18.22 crore.

Giving priority to water conservation, Shri Sai announced that 10,027 closed or defunct bore-



FASTFACTS

- Special campaign to run from August 15 to January 26; cremation grounds in every village and toilets for girls in Government Schools.

- Development works to be approved by Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabha.

wells across the state will be fitted with sand filters and recharge structures at a cost of Rs. 52.14 crore. He said these structures will help improve groundwater recharge, conserve rainwater, and reduce drinking water shortages in rural areas. He directed officials to approve all priority works and begin implementation without delay. The Chief Minister said the VB-G RAM G Yojana, which came into effect across the

‘Water conservation to be accorded highest priority’

The Chief Minister said water conservation has been accorded the highest priority under the scheme, with expenditure on such works to be ensured according to local water availability. He added that the State Government’s ‘Mor Gaon-Mor Pani’ campaign would receive fresh momentum through the initiative. Sai informed that Rs. 5,591.42 crore has been earmarked for VB-G RAM G during the financial year 2026-27, while Rs. 1,264 crore has already been spent during the first quarter from April to June 2026, significantly accelerating rural development works.

country on July 1, 2026, is the largest rural employment and development initiative undertaken so far. Under the scheme, all development works will be selected with the approval of Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas. The daily wage rate has been increased to Rs. 300. He said the scheme would play a key role in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s

vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. He informed that Chhattisgarh will receive nearly Rs. 6,855 crore under MGNREGA and VB-G RAM G during the current financial year, representing the largest financial investment in rural employment and infrastructure in the state’s history. The Government of India has already released the first instalment of over Rs. 1,538 crore.

AIIMS Raipur convocation to be graced by V-P

RAIPUR: Executive Director of AIIMS Raipur, Lieutenant General Ashok Jindal (Retired), along with his wife Usha Jindal, met the Vice President in New Delhi and formally invited him to attend the convocation. Accepting the invitation, C. P. Radhakrishnan conveyed his consent to attend the ceremony and extended his best wishes to the graduating students, faculty members and the entire AIIMS Raipur fraternity.

During the meeting, Lieutenant General Ashok Jindal briefed the Vice President on the institute’s growth and achievements in patient care, medical education, research, innovation, digital health and public health initiatives. He highlighted the institution’s emergence as a leading tertiary healthcare centre serving Chhattisgarh and the wider Central Indian region.

The Executive Director also apprised the Vice President of several recent milestones achieved by AIIMS Raipur, including advanced robotic surgery services, kidney transplantation, artificial intelligence-based healthcare research, biomedical innovations and various academic and research initiatives. The Vice President appreciated the contribution of AIIMS Raipur towards strengthening healthcare services in Chhattisgarh.

Police foil Kalyan Jewellers robbery plot, three arrested



Central Chronicle News

FASTFACTS

- Pistol, cartridges, knives and mobile phones seized from accused.

Police foiled a planned jewellery store robbery before execution.

RAIPUR: Raipur Police have foiled an alleged robbery plot targeting Kalyan Jewellers in Pandri and arrested three persons following a tip-off. A country-made pistol, two live cartridges, two knives, three mobile phones and Rs 2,500 cash were recovered from the accused.

Acting on information from an informant, the Gudhiyari Police team intercepted the suspects in a suspicious condition near Naya Road, behind Platform No. 7 of the railway station. During the search, the weapons and other items were seized. According to police, interrogation revealed that the accused were allegedly planning to rob Kalyan Jewellers during the night. One of them had reportedly conducted reconnaissance of the jewellery store on April 1, 2026, gathering information about its security arrangements, surrounding area and other details required

to execute the alleged robbery. Police said two other accomplices were involved in the planning and remain absconding. They allegedly received updates through mobile phones, including photographs from the reconnaissance, and assisted in preparing the plan. Raids are being conducted to trace them.

The arrested accused have been identified as Devansh Sharma (19), a resident of Delhi; Sushant Kumar Paswan (19), also from Delhi; and Mayank Singh (19), a resident of Muzaffarpur, Bihar. A case has been registered at Gudhiyari Police Station under Section 310(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 25 of the Arms Act. Police are examining technical evidence related to communications among the accused and gathering information about the alleged procurement of weapons and the wider robbery plan.

Ch’garh Women’s team departs for Nat’l Kayaking & Canoeing Ch’ship

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The women’s kayaking and canoeing team representing Chhattisgarh departed today to participate in the Asmita National Kayaking & Canoeing Championship 2026, scheduled to take place in Bhopal from August 8 to August 10. Prior to their departure, the team paid a courtesy visit to Tanuja Salam, IAS, Director of the Sports and Youth Welfare Department. During the interaction, Director Salam extended her best wishes for their bright future and encouraged the athletes to aim for top honors at the national event. The team enters the national championship on the back of a strong domestic performance. At the recently held Asmita Zonal League competition in Raipur,



the state’s female athletes clinched a total of 19 medals—8 Gold, 3 Silver, and 8 Bronze—securing an overall second-place finish for Chhattisgarh. The list of players includes Tannu Sahu, Priya Nishad, Palak Sahu, Sonam Pujari, Muskan Bharti, Dutika Kashyap, Sumani Nag, Isha Goyal, Anjana Goyal, Malti Kashyap, Raoshni Sodhi, Seema Yadav, Manmati Baghel, Palak Chaudhary, Manvi Sahu, Pyare Sahu, Radha Dangi, Vanshika, Gargi Singh, Kaushal Nandani, Swati Sahu, Neetu Sonwane, Manmati Baghel, Kanchan Nag, Krishna Kachhare, and Kashish Nirmalkar.

Six injured as ambulance tossed atop a pothole

BALODABAZAR: The issue of dilapidated roads in the district has once again led to a serious accident. An ambulance overturned after losing control upon hitting a pothole on National Highway 130-B (NH-130B) within the Kasdol police station limits. Six people were injured in the accident, with two reported to be in critical condition. All the injured were taken to the Kasdol Community Health Center with the help of the Dial-112 police team, local villagers, and a private ambulance; they are currently undergoing treatment. The accident occurred on Thursday afternoon near Jaiswal Dhaba in Pisid village on the Kasdol-Katgi main road. According to reports, the ambulance (Registration No. CG 04 PP 4032) was returning towards Bargarh district in Odisha after the patients had received treatment in Raipur.

Niti Aayog, UNICEF discuss stronger child welfare.

Central Chronicle News

Niti Aayog, UNICEF discuss stronger child welfare.

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh State Niti Aayog and UNICEF held a high-level meeting to strengthen nutrition, maternal and child health, and child welfare initiatives, with special focus on the Bastar and Sarguja regions.

The meeting was chaired by State Niti Aayog Vice-Chairman Ganesh Shankar Mishra and attended by senior UNICEF officials. Discussions focused on improving the effectiveness of government programmes, promoting innovation and developing evidence-based policies to address nutritional and health chal-



FAST FACTS

- Focus on nutrition, maternal and child health.

lenges. Mishra said nutrition and child welfare are the cornerstones of a developed and empowered society. He stressed the need for practical, innovative and result-oriented measures, particularly in regions such as Bastar and Sarguja. He urged UNICEF experts to develop solutions that benefit every

Niti Aayog, UNICEF join hands for child welfare

| NITI AAYOG |

FAST FACTS

- Focus on nutrition, maternal and child health.

child, pregnant woman and family. Experts discussed innovations in maternal and child healthcare, including a newer approach under which the benefits earlier requiring five injections can reportedly be achieved through a single injection. The initiative was highlighted as a potentially more convenient intervention for mothers and an important step towards improving maternal and child health outcomes. The meeting also held detailed

discussions on tackling anaemia and malnutrition among women and children. Officials emphasized stronger inter-departmental coordination, effective monitoring and the use of reliable evidence in policy formulation.

UNICEF Chief of Field Office Seema Kumar said collaboration with the state government on maternal and child health and nutrition remains a priority, particularly in Bastar division. UNICEF Social Policy Specialist Dr Bal Paritosh Dash said sustainable improvements require coordinated efforts across departments and evidence-based policies. The meeting emphasized that a healthy, safe and well-nourished childhood is the foundation for a developed Chhattisgarh and India.

NEWSLINE

CRIME

Nephew arrested for threatening uncle with knife



RAIPUR: A 30-year-old man was arrested by Azad Chowk Police for allegedly threatening his uncle with a knife after demanding money to buy alcohol. According to police, complainant Uttam Tiwari, a resident of Khaprabhatti, Amapara, reported that on the night of August 5, his nephew Mayank Tiwari arrived at his house around 12:30 am in an intoxicated condition. He allegedly shook the door forcefully and demanded money for purchasing alcohol. When Uttam told him that he had no money, Mayank allegedly pulled out a knife and threatened to kill him. Following the complaint, Azad Chowk Police registered Crime No. 170/26 under Section 119(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Sections 25 and 27 of the Arms Act.

ILLICIT LIQUOR

Illegal liquor sale busted, 30 bottles seized



RAIPUR: Mujgahan Police arrested a 31-year-old man for allegedly selling country-made liquor illegally from a dilapidated house in Housing Board Colony, Boriakala, on August 5. According to police, information was received regarding the illegal sale of liquor in the area. Acting promptly on the tip-off and under the direction of senior officers, a Mujgahan Police team reached the location and conducted a raid. During the operation, police apprehended Umesh Yadav (31), son of Upkar Yadav, a resident of Housing Board Colony, Boriakala. A total of 30 pauvas of country-made liquor, amounting to 5,400 litres, were recovered from his possession.

| SCHOOL-ZONE DRIVE |

Traffic Police intensifies school-zone drive

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Raipur Traffic Police has intensified its special drive outside schools to ensure the safety of students and curb violations involving underage drivers and school transport vehicles.

The campaign, conducted under the direction of Traffic DCP Dr. Archana Jha, continued with checks outside several government and private schools across the city. On Thursday, teams inspected vehicles near Ryan School, Dronacharya School, Brahmavid



School, KPS School, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Vin-dhya Public School, MGM School, Deshbandhu School and Holy Heart School. During the drive,

action was taken against 63 vehicles, including 59 vehicles driven by minors, three school vans and one school auto. Parents of minors caught

driving were summoned to the Traffic Auditorium, where ACP Traffic Snehil Sahu and Seema Ahirwar counseled them about the serious risks and legal consequences of allowing children to drive.

Traffic Police officials warned parents against handing over two-wheelers or other vehicles to minors, stressing that such violations endanger both children and other road users. So far, the special campaign has resulted in action against 340 vehicles, comprising 269 cases involving underage drivers and 71

involving school autos. Vehicles being driven by minors are being impounded as per rules, with further legal proceedings underway. Police clarified that if a minor is caught driving for a second time, stricter action will be initiated under Section 199(A) of the Motor Vehicles Act. The Traffic Police appealed to parents to ensure that minors do not drive motor vehicles under any circumstances. The special campaign will continue across Raipur to promote road safety and prevent accidents.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Two promising hockey players, Madhu Sidar and Geeta Yadav, from the Khelo India State Centre of Excellence in Bilaspur, have been selected to represent the Indian national team at the upcoming Junior Asia Cup 2026. The prestigious tournament is scheduled to take place in Moki, China, from August 30 to September 13. Both athletes hone their skills at the state’s premier residential sports academy under the guidance of senior trainer Rakesh Toppo and head



coach Ajit Lakra. Acknowledging their achievement, Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao extended his heartiest congratulations to the athletes during a video call. Sports and Youth Welfare Department Secretary Yashwant Kumar and Director Tanuja Salam also lauded their selection and wished them success on the inter-

national stage. Hailing from Pongro, a small village in Jaspur district’s Kansabel block—a region known as a nursery for Indian hockey—Madhu Sidar comes from a farming family. Her impressive tracking record includes performances in the Sub-Junior National Championship (2024-25), the School Nationals (2024-25), a third-place finish at the Sub-Junior Inter-Zone Championship in Haryana (2025), and a fourth-place standing at the Hockey India National Championship in Andhra Pradesh in August 2025.



“The farmers can now avail the insurance scheme for horticulture crops till August 14.”

Sanjay Agrawal
Collector, Bilaspur

CIMS doctors perform ovarian cancer surgery

CIMS Bilaspur successfully performed its first complex ovarian cancer surgery on a 78-year-old woman, providing lifesaving treatment free under Ayushman Bharat.

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: August 6, The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences (CIMS), Bilaspur, has successfully performed its first highly complex ovarian cancer surgery on a 78-year-old woman, marking a significant milestone in advanced cancer care at the government medical institution. The patient, a resident of Darrighat in Bilaspur district, is recovering well following the lifesaving operation.

According to hospital authorities, the elderly woman had been suffering from persistent lower abdominal pain and a rapidly enlarging abdominal swelling for nearly six months. She initially visited a private hospital, where doctors reportedly estimated treatment and surgery costs of around Rs 2 to 3 lakh. Unable to afford the expenses, her family sought treatment at SIMS, where she was admitted under the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme and received complete treatment free of cost.

Detailed clinical evaluation revealed that the post-menopausal patient



FASTFACTS

- **Multidisciplinary specialists successfully removed a massive ovarian cancer tumor despite significant surgical risks.**

- **Ayushman Bharat enabled comprehensive cancer treatment without financial burden on the patient's family.**

had developed a cancerous tumour measuring approximately 15x12x10 centimetres in her left ovary. The tumour weighed nearly one kilogram and had grown large enough to exert pressure on nearby vital organs. The abnormal growth was identified through ultrasonogra-

phy conducted under the supervision of Dr Archana Singh, Head of the Department of Radiology. The findings confirmed that the surgery would be technically demanding and carried substantial risks. Following a comprehensive assessment by a multidisciplinary medical team, surgeons carried out the operation on August 3.

The procedure involved cancer staging surgery, tumour debulking, removal of the uterus along with both ovaries, repair of the left ureter, and placement of a Double-J ureteric stent.

Doctors said each stage of the surgery required meticulous planning and coordination to avoid injury to surrounding organs.

Large ovarian tumour is rare: Dr Murti

Dean Dr Ramanesh Murti described such large ovarian cancer tumours in post-menopausal women as extremely rare and high-risk. He said the successful surgery demonstrated SIMS' growing capability to manage advanced cancer cases through modern facilities, expert teamwork and timely intervention. The patient's condition remains stable, and her family has expressed gratitude to the medical team for providing lifesaving treatment without financial hardship under the Ayushman Bharat scheme.

HC rejects OMR claim

BILASPUR: The Chhattisgarh High Court has ruled that allegations of tampering with a NEET-UG 2026 candidate's OMR answer sheet cannot be accepted without credible and independent evidence. A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Ramesh Sinha and Justice Ravindra Kumar Agrawal delivered the order while hearing a writ petition seeking production of the original OMR sheet and re-evaluation of the answer sheet.

The petitioner claimed that although the scanned OMR sheet contained his roll number, booklet number and signature, the answers shown on it differed from those he had marked in the examination. He alleged that tampering reduced his score to 200 instead of the 600-plus marks he expected. The respondents argued that the candidate had not exhausted the prescribed grievance redressal process before approaching the High Court. The Bench observed that the allegation was based only on the petitioner's own comparison chart and lacked independent or reliable evidence. Since no substantial proof was produced to establish that the scanned OMR sheet differed from the one submitted during the examination, the court refused to accept the allegation of tampering and declined the requested relief.

Phone interception against SRSMI chairman quashed

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: The Chhattisgarh High Court has quashed the telephone interception order issued against Ravishankar Maharaj, chairman of Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Medical Institute, while allowing the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) case and the ongoing corruption trial against him to continue. The court held that although the surveillance order failed to satisfy the legal requirements under the Telecommunication Act, 2023, the criminal proceedings could proceed on the basis of other legally admissible evidence. A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Ramesh Sinha and Justice Ravindra Kumar Agrawal set aside the interception order dated June 28, 2025, along with its subsequent confirmation by the Union Home Ministry and the Review Committee. The Bench observed that the interception did not conform to the statutory safeguards prescribed under the law and therefore could not be sustained.

The case originated from a CBI FIR registered on June 30, 2025, alleging a conspiracy involving Health Ministry officials, members of the National Medical Commission,



FASTFACTS

- **Invalid surveillance evidence was rejected, but criminal proceedings will continue before the special court.**

middlemen and representatives of private medical colleges. The investigation relates to allegations of bribery, manipulation of inspection records, use of ghost faculty and fake patients to obtain regulatory approvals. The High Court, however, declined to quash the FIR, chargesheet, summons or the criminal proceedings pending before the Special CBI Court in Raipur. It clarified that the prosecution may continue by relying on evidence that is legally admissible and independent of the invalid interception. The court also directed that copies of intercepted communications obtained solely through the quashed order be destroyed in accordance with legal requirements.

CIMS interns commence indefinite stipend strike

Central Chronicle News

MBBS interns at CIMS launched an indefinite strike demanding higher monthly stipend immediately.

BILASPUR: Around 180 MBBS interns at the Chhattisgarh Institute of Medical Sciences (CIMS) began an indefinite strike and work boycott on Wednesday, demanding that their monthly stipend be raised from the existing Rs 15,900 to at least Rs 30,000. The interns submitted a formal notice to the Medical Superintendent, stating that the agitation is part of a state-wide movement by MBBS interns seeking better financial support during their compulsory internship. They said they regularly perform demanding clinical duties, including shifts extending from 24 to 36 hours, but continue to receive one of the lowest internship stipends in the country. According



FASTFACTS

- **Hospital authorities assured uninterrupted emergency services despite interns continuing their indefinite work boycott.**

to the protesting interns, neighbouring Odisha provides a monthly stipend of Rs 44,319 to MBBS interns, highlighting the disparity in financial assistance despite similar responsibilities and workloads. They argued that the current amount does not adequately compensate them for their long working hours and the essential healthcare services they provide. The interns

said they had previously organised black-ribbon protests and peaceful marches while repeatedly submitting representations to the state government and the Health Department. Although they received assurances that their concerns would be addressed, no concrete decision has been taken so far, prompting them to intensify their agitation.

The protesters clarified that their movement is not intended to inconvenience patients or disrupt healthcare delivery. However, they warned that if the government continues to delay action, any impact on hospital services would be its responsibility.

MLA seeks better healthcare in Malaria-hit Kota villages

Central Chronicle News

Kota MLA urged immediate measures to strengthen malaria prevention and healthcare services urgently.

BILASPUR: Kota MLA Atal Shrivastava on Wednesday urged the district administration to strengthen healthcare services in malaria-affected villages of the constituency and take immediate preventive measures to control the spread of seasonal diseases during the monsoon.

During a meeting with Collector Sanjay Agrawal, the legislator highlighted the recurring health challenges faced by residents of remote and forested areas. He requested the administration to organise special health camps in villages reporting



FASTFACTS

- **District administration assured continued health camps and disease surveillance in affected villages regularly.**

malaria cases to ensure early detection, timely treatment and public awareness about disease prevention.

Shrivastava also sought the distribution of around 5,000 mosquito nets in vulnerable and

inaccessible villages to reduce the risk of mosquito-borne diseases. In addition, he requested the deployment of a permanent 108 ambulance at either Belgahna or Kenda so that patients from remote areas can receive emergency medical assistance without delay.

The MLA said the tribal-dominated Kota Assembly constituency experiences a rise in malaria, dengue and diarrhoea cases during the rainy season because of its geographical con-

ditions. He stressed that preventive healthcare, rapid diagnosis and quick medical response are essential to protect residents and prevent avoidable deaths.

Shrivastava has also written to the State Health Minister seeking additional resources for malaria surveillance, treatment and prevention programmes in the constituency.

Collector Sanjay Agrawal informed the MLA that the Health Department has already intensified its activities in the affected areas.

He said regular health camps, disease screening, medical treatment and awareness campaigns are being conducted, while health teams are continuously monitoring the situation to ensure timely intervention and prevent further spread of seasonal diseases.

| INSPECTION |

DG-Jail announces inmate welfare measures

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Director General (Prisons) Himanshu Gupta conducted a surprise inspection of Bilaspur Central Jail on Wednesday and announced several measures to improve security, inmate welfare and prison facilities. The visit came after recent inmate deaths and a custodial murder that raised concerns about prison management. During the inspection, Gupta



visited prison barracks and reviewed security arrangements, administrative functioning and overall conditions inside the jail. He also held discussions with jail officials on health-

care, education, prison industries and the availability of basic facilities for inmates. The Director General interacted with prisoners to understand their problems and instructed jail authorities

“Following recent custodial deaths, security & inmate welfare measures are must.”
Himanshu Gupta
DG- Jail

to resolve genuine grievances at the earliest. He stressed that along with

maintaining security, the prison administration should focus on rehabilitation and welfare of inmates. To modernise prison infrastructure, Gupta approved the installation of a colour offset printing unit, an LED bulb and tube light manufacturing unit, and a smart board for educational activities. The prison library will also receive English newspapers to help inmates improve their language skills and stay informed.

Students sensitised on good & bad touches, cyber security

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Smile Welfare Foundation organised a special awareness programme for students at Krishna Public School to educate them about self-defence, personal safety and cyber security. The initiative aimed to equip children with practical knowledge to protect themselves from physical and online threats. Neeru Bisht, Founder and President of Smile Welfare Foundation, conducted an interactive session on

self-defence techniques and explained the concepts of good touch and bad touch. She encouraged students to immediately inform their parents, teachers or any trusted adult if they experience any inappropriate behaviour or feel uncomfortable in any situation. She also urged children to remain confident and aware of their personal safety. Sub-Inspector Shekhar Verma and Sub-Inspector Saraswati Mandavi from Sakri Police Station addressed the students on cyber safety.

NEWSLINE

TRAIN

Bilaspur trains cancelled

BILASPUR: Rail services on several routes passing through the South East Central Railway (SECR) zone will be affected due to pre-non interlocking (Pre-NI) and non-interlocking (NI) works in the Danapur Division of East Central Railway. The works are part of a railway line doubling project and the integration of a new rail bridge between Rajendra Pul, Dinkar Gram Simaria and Barauni stations.

As a result, Train No. 22843 Bilaspur-Buxar Express will remain cancelled from Bilaspur on September 25 and October 2. Train No. 22844 Buxar-Bilaspur Express will also remain cancelled from Buxar on September 26 and October 3. Railway authorities said Train No. 17007 Charlapalli-Darbhanga Express will run via the diverted Kiul-Munger-Barauni route on September 26 and 29. Similarly, Train No. 17008 Darbhanga-Charlapalli Express will operate through the Munger-Kiul diversion on September 25, 29 and October 2.

Officials said the temporary changes are essential for safe execution of infrastructure works and will help improve future rail connectivity and operational efficiency.

ARREST

Nine arrested in extortion case

BILASPUR: Bilaspur police have arrested nine persons, including two alleged receivers of stolen property, in connection with an extortion case involving a minor girl. The accused allegedly extorted Rs 14.5 lakh in cash and around 450 grams of gold jewellery by threatening the girl and intimidating her with threats to kill her family members. Police said the offences were committed between January 2025 and July 1, 2026. The case was registered at Saranda police station after the victim's grandfather, a resident of Rajiv Vihar, lodged a complaint. A special investigation team was formed under the supervision of senior police officers. Four accused were arrested on August 2, and further interrogation led to the arrest of five more suspects during a 72-hour operation.

ACCUSED

Rape accused still at large

BILASPUR: A woman who has accused a man of rape, blackmail and criminal intimidation has appealed to the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), alleging an inordinate delay in the accused's arrest despite an FIR being registered. In her representation to the SSP, the complainant said Prashant Narang alias Bantu, against whom a case has been registered at Civil Lines police station under Crime No. 949/2026, remains absconding. She alleged that the accused's associates have been threatening and intimidating her, leaving her in constant fear.



The Govt is contemplating reforms in commercial coal mining and leveraging private sector participation.

G Kishan Reddy
Union Minister

Govt signs MoU to explore electric seaplane technology

Govt has signed MoU with Norway-based company to explore sustainable aviation technologies, including electric seaplane.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Government-owned helicopter operator Pawan Hans Limited (PHL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Norway-based Noemi Aerospace (Elfly AS) to explore collaboration in next-generation sustainable aviation technologies, including electric seaplane solutions, as India seeks to expand regional connectivity through green aviation.

The non-binding agreement was signed in the presence of Union



Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu and Civil Aviation Secretary Samir Kumar Sinha. The MoU was signed by Pawan Hans Chairman and Managing Director Sunil Kumar Nagdawne and Noemi Aerospace Chief Executive Officer Eric François

Lithun.

Under the agreement, the two organisations will explore cooperation in electric seaplane technologies, skill development, capacity building, technical knowledge sharing, workshops and feasibility studies. The collaboration is intended to sup-

HIGHLIGHT

• The non-binding agreement was signed in the presence of Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu.

port the development of sustainable aviation solutions while strengthening India's capabilities in emerging aviation technologies. Speaking on the occasion, Naidu said the partnership reflects the government's broader vision of strengthening indigenous capabilities

and promoting innovation in the civil aviation sector.

"Our vision is not limited to operating seaplanes in India; we also want to build them in India, guided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make in India vision," the minister said.

He noted that the Union Budget 2026 has laid special emphasis on promoting seaplanes by proposing incentives for indigenous manufacturing and introducing a Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme to support seaplane operations.

Rainfall brings relief from humidity in Delhi



Press Trust Of India

Delhi-NCR woke up to moderate rainfall on Thursday morning, bringing much-needed relief from humid weather conditions.

NEW DELHI: Delhi-NCR woke up to moderate rainfall on Thursday morning, bringing much-needed relief from humid weather conditions.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast another spell of wide-

EASTFACTS

• India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast another spell of widespread monsoon rainfall across large parts of the country

spread monsoon rainfall across large parts of the country, with heavy to very heavy showers likely over several regions in north, east, west and south India.

The IMD said multiple states are expected to witness intense rainfall activity over the next 24 hours as active monsoon conditions continue to prevail. For the Delhi-NCR region, the weather department has predicted generally cloudy skies with the possibility of heavy rainfall during the day.

NEWSLINE

GUJARAT

Parliament session continues

The Monsoon Session of Parliament continued on Thursday with the government pushing its legislative agenda while the Opposition sought discussions on several national issues. Both Houses witnessed debates over policy matters as ministers introduced and defended key proposals before members. Government leaders maintained that pending legislation was aimed at improving governance and streamlining administration, while Opposition parties demanded greater scrutiny and wider consultation before passage of important Bills.

NEW DELHI

Diplomatic row erupts

A diplomatic controversy intensified on Thursday after former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina announced from New Delhi that she intends to return to Bangladesh later this year despite legal proceedings against her.

Bangladesh strongly criticised India for allowing the media interaction, calling it insensitive on the anniversary of the political upheaval that led to her removal from office.

India clarified that the event was organised by a private organisation and that the Government of India had no role in hosting or endorsing the views expressed during the interaction.

NEW DELHI

Government clarifies position

The Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday clarified that the Government of India had no involvement in the media event at which former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressed journalists from New Delhi. Official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal stated that the programme had been organised by a private media body and that the government neither sponsored nor endorsed any statement made during the event. The clarification followed criticism from Bangladesh, which expressed displeasure over Hasina's public appearance from Indian territory.

NEW DELHI

Opposition targets government

Opposition parties sharpened their criticism of the Centre during the ongoing Parliament session on Thursday, demanding detailed discussions on issues relating to governance, public welfare and legislative proposals. Leaders from several parties accused the government of attempting to rush important Bills without sufficient debate, while ministers countered that Parliament provided adequate opportunities for discussion and amendment. Heated exchanges were witnessed during proceedings before the presiding officers appealed for order and constructive participation.

NIA files detailed charge-sheet in Red Fort blast conspiracy case

Press Trust Of India

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a detailed charge sheet in the Red Fort blast case

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a detailed charge sheet in the Red Fort blast case, alleging that the attack was part of a larger conspiracy aimed at destabilising the coun-



try. According to the agency, the investigation uncovered evidence suggesting that the accused were involved in a coordinated plot referred to as "Operation Heavenly Hind."

The charge sheet, running into nearly 7,500

pages, has been submitted before a special NIA court in Delhi.

Investigators said the document includes witness statements, forensic reports, digital evidence and financial records collected during the probe.

Student protest triggers debate

BENGALURU: The nationwide student movement triggered by examination paper leak allegations continued to dominate political discussions on Thursday, with Opposition parties extending support to the protesters while the Centre defended its handling of the issue. The demonstrations, which began over the cancellation of a major medical entrance examination following allegations of question paper leaks, have evolved into a broader campaign highlighting youth unemployment and examination reforms.

Centre reviews measures to strengthen integrity of public examination system

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Central Government on Thursday reiterated its commitment to strengthening the integrity of public examinations while reviewing reforms proposed after the nationwide examination paper leak controversy. Senior officials stated that measures aimed at preventing future leaks, improving security protocols and ensuring transparency in recruitment and entrance exami-

EXAMINATION



nations remain a priority. The government has indicated that stricter legal provisions and enhanced technological safeguards are being considered to restore confidence among

students and parents. The issue has remained under discussion following widespread protests by aspirants demanding accountability and systemic reforms.

Government defends legislative agenda during monsoon session of Parliament

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Union Government on Thursday defended its legislative agenda during the Monsoon Session of Parliament, stating that priority Bills are intended to improve governance, strengthen institutions and enhance administrative efficiency. Ministers responding to



Opposition criticism said adequate opportunities were being provided for discussion on all important legislative proposals. Opposition parties,

meanwhile, continued to press for detailed debates on issues concerning public welfare, governance and accountability.

Proceedings in both Houses witnessed frequent exchanges between treasury and Opposition benches, although parliamentary business continued with scheduled discus-

sions and official statements. Government leaders expressed hope that consensus could be achieved on several pending Bills through constructive dialogue. Parliamentary Affairs officials indicated that floor coordination meetings would continue to ensure smooth functioning of both Houses.

JP Nadda visits flood-hit Arunachal Pradesh



Union Minister JP Nadda visited the flood and cloudburst affected areas, in Keyi Panyor district, Arunachal Pradesh. PTI.

Opposition intensifies attack on Centre during ongoing Parliament monsoon session

NEW DELHI: Opposition parties on Thursday intensified their attack on the Central Government over governance issues during the ongoing Monsoon Session of Parliament, demanding wider consultations before the passage of important legislation. Leaders from several parties alleged



that crucial Bills required greater scrutiny through parliamentary committees, while ministers maintained that existing procedures ensured ade-

quate debate and transparency. The exchanges reflected the increasingly political atmosphere inside Parliament as both sides sought to shape public opinion on legislative priorities.

Government representatives defended their reform agenda, arguing that the pro-

posed measures were designed to improve administrative efficiency and public service delivery.

Opposition leaders also addressed the media outside Parliament, reiterating demands for accountability and greater discussion on national issues.

Priyank Kharge clarifies controversial remarks amid political row over students

BENGALURU: Karnataka Minister Priyank Kharge on Thursday reiterated that controversial remarks attributed to him regarding a "lathi-charge" on protesters had been misrepresented. He maintained that his comments were directed at the Bharatiya Janata



Party during a political exchange and not at students protesting over examination issues. The

clarification came after the matter triggered sharp political reactions and a report quoting the minister was later withdrawn. Kharge accused the BJP of spreading misinformation and attempting to create unnecessary controversy over his statement.

PLANTATION

10,000 saplings planted in ITIs in Gujarat

Press Trust Of India

GANDHINAGAR: More than 10,000 saplings were planted across 289 Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in Gujarat on Thursday as part of a statewide plantation drive jointly organised by the state's Labour, Skill Development and Employment

Department and the Forest Department. The initiative aimed to promote environmental conservation, expand green cover and raise awareness about the importance of tree plantation through vocational training institutions.

Labour, Skill Development and Employment Minister Kunvarji Baval-



iya participated in the campaign at the Government ITI in Gandhinagar, where he planted a sapling along with public representatives, offi-

cials, staff members and trainees.

Addressing the gathering, Bavalji said planting and nurturing trees had become essential to tackle the growing challenges of pollution and global warming.

"Planting more trees and properly caring for them is the need of the hour to tackle ris-

ing pollution and global warming," the minister said. He urged young people to complement skill development with environmental responsibility and called on citizens to not only plant trees but also ensure their long-term care so the initiative delivers lasting ecological benefits.

Builder held for allegedly cheating home-buyers

MUMBAI: Police on Thursday arrested a city-based builder for allegedly cheating several homebuyers by collecting money for redevelopment projects that never progressed. According to investigators, the accused is alleged to have accepted advance payments from multiple families while repeatedly delaying construction and

failing to hand over promised flats. Police said complaints had been received from affected buyers over the past several months, prompting a detailed inquiry into the financial transactions. Documents seized during the investigation are being examined to determine whether additional investors were similarly defrauded.

Fun & Focus



Daily Horoscope

ARIES

A wonderful day to do things that would make you feel good about yourself. Today you can invest your money in religious activities, and most likely to incur mental peace and stability. The time requires you to understand that anger and frustration would only hamper your sanity. This in turn would lead you towards a grave loss.
COSMIC TIP: Learn new ways of going about this.

TAURUS

Meditation would bring relief. You need to talk to your family members today regarding money investment and savings. Their advice will prove to be helpful in improving your financial situation. A lack of communication with someone you care will leave you depressed. Great day to implement new projects and plans
COSMIC TIP: Do your research and make wise decisions.

Gemini

Some family members could irritate you by their envious behaviour. But no need to lose your temper otherwise situation could go out of control. Remember what can't be cured must be endured. Monetary gains will be from one than one source. People close might take undue advantage of you- if you behave extra generous.
COSMIC TIP: Believe in yourself and you will do it.

Cancer

Today, your health is expected to be healthy. Due to your good health, you can plan to play with your friends today. If you are travelling, then take special care of your valuables. Acting carelessly can increase the chances of theft or misplacing your items. Visit to a religious place or to a relative seems likely on your cards.
COSMIC TIP: Get to know yourself enough to trust yourself.

Leo

Boundless energy and enthusiasm will grip you and you would use any given opportunity to your advantage. Improvement in finances is certain. Relatives/ friends drop by for a wonderful evening. A good communication or a message from your beloved or spouse will enhance your morale today. Bold steps and decisions would bring favourable rewards.
COSMIC TIP: Your awareness is showing you something.

Virgo

Today you might have to face several tensions and difference of opinion that will make you feel irritated and uneasy. Monetary gains will be from one than one source. Today, any of your old work at the workplace can be appreciated. Businessmen today can seek useful advice from experienced people on expanding their business.
COSMIC TIP: Gain objectivity to notice the humour.

Libra

A day when rest will be important- As you have been facing lot of mental pressure recently- Recreation and entertainment will help you relax. If you are going on a trip, then look out for your valuables and bags, as they are likely to be stolen. Especially, keep your purse at a safe place today. Friends will come to your aid if needed.
COSMIC TIP: Your energy determines the outcome of your life.

Scorpio

It is high time for you to cure your fear. You must realize that it not only wears down physical vitality but and shortens life. Improvement in finances is certain. Relatives will be willing to give you a helping hand. Partners will be enthusiastic about your new plans and ventures, though free time should be used properly.
COSMIC TIP: You are being recognised for all you do.

Sagittarius

Quit coffee especially heart patients. Lack of money can be the reason of discord in the family today. In such a situation, think well before talking to other family members and seek advice from them. Gracefully accept the invitation- if you are invited to somewhere you haven't been. Do your work and improve your looks.
COSMIC TIP: Review everyone's motives and perspectives

Capricorn

Start your day with a little exercise- It's time you start feeling good about yourself- Make it a regular feature everyday and try to stick to it. Unexpected bills will increase financial burden. Some people could get on your nerves simply ignore them. The low health of your spouse might become an hindrance in your work.
COSMIC TIP: What is this situation teaching you?

Aquarius

Take complete rest to regain your energy as a feeble body weakens the mind You must realize your true potentials as you are not lacking strength but will. Surplus money should be invested in real estate. Your thirst for knowledge will help you make new friends. Good day for retailers and wholesalers.
COSMIC TIP: Move your focus to the real soul in

Pisces

Don't depend on fate and try to improve your health as fortune is a lazy goddess which will never come to you. It is high time for you to control your weight and restart exercising to regain your health. Unexpected bills will increase financial burden. Associate with people who can give you insight into future trends.
COSMIC TIP: Make a decision and work tirelessly at it.

IT'S QUIZ TIME

- 1 A speedball and a tarball may sound similar, but they belong to entirely different worlds. What are they?
- 2 Contrary to popular belief, Russia does not span the most time zones. Which country does, with 12 in total?
- 3 The Voynich manuscript dating back to the early 15th century is considered the world's most mysterious manuscript. It is hand-written in an unknown script and comprises about 240 vellum pages, mostly illustrations. Why is it called the Voynich manuscript?
- 4 Dalip Singh Saund, a democrat, is the first person of Indian origin elected to the U.S. Congress. Who is the first Indian American Republican in the USA House Congress?
- 5 Name the only movie where three super stars Amitabh Bachchan, Rajni Kanth and Kamal Hasan acted together?
- 6 The ACA VDCA cricket stadium is known for its magnificent backdrop of Eastern Ghats. What does ACA-VDCA stand for?
- 7 Thukpa is from the Tibet-Himalayan region, Pho is from Vietnam, and Ramen is from Japan. Which country is Pozole from?

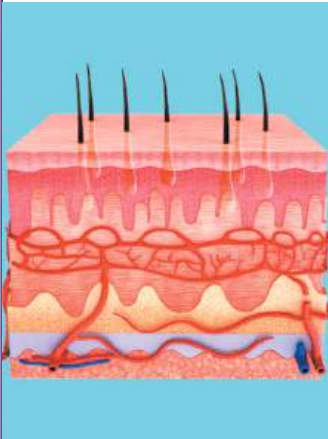


ANSWERS-

★ RamaQuiz ★

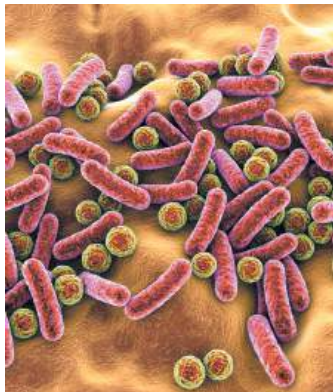
SCIENCE WATCH

The story of skin



The human skin is the body's largest and heaviest organ. An average adult has about 22 square feet of skin. It is thinnest on your eyelids (0.2 mm) and thickest on the soles of your feet (1.4 mm or more).

Skin is home to them



Your personal mix of skin microbes is unique to you, much like a fingerprint. It is home to a trillion tiny microbes and this community is called the skin micro biome. They guard, heal and also advise your body!

There are also deep homes



When you wash your skin, microbes deep inside hair follicles and sweat glands stay safe and quickly repopulate the surface; thereby never the skin is running out of its microbial population.

Mother of Trees

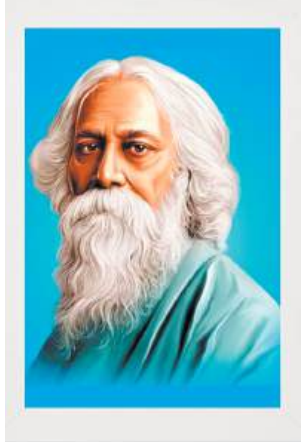
Saalumarada Thimmakka was a famous Indian environmentalist from Karnataka known as the "Mother of Trees" for planting and tending to 385 banyan trees along a four-kilometer highway stretch, plus over 8,000 other trees. She passed away on November 14, 2025, at the age of 114.

- “Saalumarada” means a “row of trees” in the Kannada language.
- She and her husband had no children, so they decided to raise banyan saplings as their own children, watering and protecting them from cattle.
- The main stretch of 385 banyan trees is between the villages of Hulikal and Kudur in Karnataka's Ramanagara district.
- She was awarded by the Government of India in 2019 for her selfless services.
- An environmental organization in the United States was named “Thimmakka's Resources for Environmental Education” in her honour.



August 07- THE DAY IN HISTORY

- August 7 holds major importance in Indian history, marked by the launch of the Swadeshi Movement in 1905, the death of poet Rabindranath Tagore in 1941, and the modern observance of National Handloom Day.
- Also on this day in 2021, Neeraj Chopra won India's historic first Olympic gold medal in athletics (javelin throw) at the Tokyo Olympics.
- On this day was born the father of India's Green Revolution M.S. Swaminathan.
- This very day in 1974, French tightrope walker Philippe Petit illegally walked on a high wire between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center.



FACT OF THE DAY

The most massive known star in the sky is R136a1, a star more than 300 times as massive as our sun. And it's not alone in dwarfing Earth's dominant star. RMC 136a1, abbreviated as R136a1, lies about 163,000 light-years from Earth in the Tarantula Nebula. This massive star lies outside our galaxy; and its part of the Large Magellanic Cloud, one of the Milky Way's satellite galaxies.



WORD OF THE DAY

Ineffable

- Meaning-** Too great, beautiful, or extraordinary to be expressed in words.
- Example-** The musician created an ineffable atmosphere with his performance.
- Synonyms-** Indescribable, Inexpressible, Unspeakable, Unutterable and Beyond words.
- Antonyms-** Expressible, Describable, Ordinary, Definable and Articulate.

Some things are simply ineffable.



CHECK YOUR IQ

SCRAMBLED WORDS

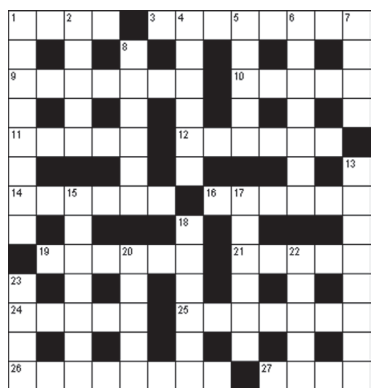
- 1) NICNTETON-
- 2) EOKSLENT-
- 3) PIEELCS-
- 4) SURREPSE
- 5) ONACNMIMOTUC



ANSWERS-

(1) CONTINENT (2) SKELETON (3) ECLIPSE (4) PRESSURE (5) COMMUNICATION

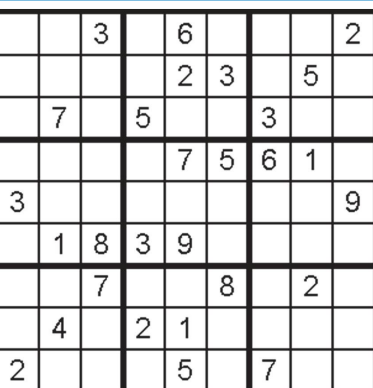
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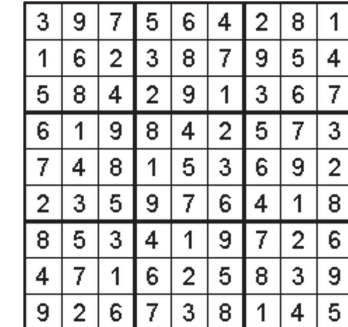
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SUDOKU SOLUTION- 200



DAILY WORD SEARCH

- ADA
- COMAL
- JOVIAL
- ALGOL
- CORAL
- LISP
- ASSEMBLER
- FORTH
- LOGO
- AUTOCODE
- FORTRAN
- PASCAL
- BASIC
- HTML
- PROLOG
- COBOL
- JAVA
- SNOBOL





No proposal to blend ethanol with ATF.

K Rammohan Naidu

Civil Aviation Minister

Nirmala Sitharaman meets Bernard Mensah in Delhi



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with International for Bank of America President Bernard Mensah during a meeting, in New Delhi on August 6.

Lok Sabha clears bill allowing UPI transaction charges

Lok Sabha passed a key amendment allowing the government to permit charges on UPI and other notified electronic payment modes in future.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Lok Sabha on Thursday passed a Bill amending the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, paving the way for the government to permit banks and payment service providers to levy charges on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and other notified electronic payment modes.

The amendment was passed by voice vote amid opposition protests and without dis-

cussion. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman moved the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, which also seeks amendments to the Income Tax Act, 2025, and Finance Act, 2026. The amendment removes the existing restriction on imposing Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on specified electronic payment modes. Under the revised provision, the Central Government may notify one or more electronic payment modes on

NUMBER

50

Government may now permit charges on UPI payments.

which charges could potentially be imposed. At present, UPI transactions do not attract such charges, while services such as RTGS and NEFT involve service fees. The proposed framework is aimed at creating a sustainable revenue model

for banks, payment service providers and payment infrastructure companies supporting India's digital payments ecosystem. The existing Section 10A prohibits banks and system providers from directly or indirectly charging users for electronic payment modes prescribed under Section 269SU of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The provision requires large businesses with annual turnover exceeding Rs 50 crore to provide specified electronic

payment facilities, including RuPay debit cards and BHIM-UPI QR codes. However, the passage of the amendment does not immediately mean that UPI users will start paying transaction charges. It only gives the government the legal authority to notify electronic modes on which such charges may be permitted. RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra on Wednesday termed it premature to discuss the introduction of MDR on digital payments.

Small businesses to drive future job creation

Press Trust Of India

AI may reduce jobs in large corporations.

NEW DELHI: Large, well-structured corporations in India are likely to become "net job losers" in the coming years as automation and artificial intelligence (AI) streamline tasks, making millions of small businesses the primary engine for future employment, Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani said on Thursday. Speaking at the NCAER India Policy Forum 2026, Nilekani, who is also the Chairman of the Board of Governors of NCAER, called for a fundamental shift in the "mental model" of how India views job creation. "Large companies, which are very well structured, will actually be the most vulnerable to job loss, because every job is reduced to a



few set of tasks. It's also easy to automate that and remove jobs. So, large companies actually will probably be net job losers in the coming years," Nilekani said. In contrast, he argued that the future of the Indian economy lies in its "millions of small businesses", which are more resilient to the disruptions caused by AI.

"If you're millions of small companies, it's far more complicated to use AI to motivate them, they are actually more resilient or more impervious to job losses, he said.

Trent Q1 profit rises 22% to Rs 518 crore

Press Trust Of India

Trent reports strong Q1 growth despite volatility.

NEW DELHI: Tata Group retail company Trent Ltd reported a 22 per cent rise in consolidated net profit to Rs 518.07 crore for the June quarter of FY27, compared with Rs 424.7 crore in the corresponding period last year. Revenue from operations increased 17.84 per cent year-on-year to Rs 5,754.71 crore, while total consolidated income, including other income, rose 17.47 per cent to Rs 5,784.54 crore.

Trent, which operates brands including Westside, Zudio and Star, reported an improvement in operating EBIT margin to 12.9 per cent in Q1 FY27 from 11.5 per cent a year earlier. Total

Q1 RESULTS |



expenses increased 16.3 per cent to Rs 5,082.96 crore. The company said emerging categories such as beauty and personal care, innerwear and footwear contributed more than 21 per cent of revenues.

Westside's online business, including its offering on Tata Neu, continued to grow profitably, with online sales accounting for over 6 per cent of Westside revenue during the quarter. Trent Chairman Noel N Tata said the company delivered an encourag-

ing performance despite macroeconomic volatility and geopolitical developments. He said the company's brands continue to have significant growth potential across geographies and customer segments. During the quarter, Trent opened one Westside and 22 Zudio stores, including one Zudio outlet in the UAE, while entering nine new cities. As of June 30, the company operated 301 Westside, 982 Zudio and 29 other lifestyle stores across more than 18 million square feet.

SUPPLIED 100% OF THE SPECIALISED STEEL |

AM/NS India Steel supports Navy's INS Malvan

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI: ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India (AM/NS India) has supplied 100 per cent of the specialised steel used in the construction of INS Malvan, the Indian Navy's latest indigenously built Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Watercraft (ASW-SWC). The vessel was commissioned on July 22, 2026, at Karwar, Karnataka. The specialised naval-grade steel



was manufactured at AM/NS India's integrated steelmaking facility in Hazira, Gujarat. The company said the supply highlights the growing capabilities of India's advanced steelmaking industry in supporting the country's

defence manufacturing ecosystem and maritime security requirements. Ranjan Dhar, Director and Vice President-Sales & Marketing, AM/NS India, said the commissioning of INS Malvan demonstrates how

advanced manufacturing in India is contributing to defence preparedness. He emphasized that naval-grade steel requires stringent quality standards, advanced metallurgical expertise and close coordination with customers. Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, INS Malvan is the second of eight Mahe-class ASW-SWCs and the second vessel of the class to enter service with the Indian Navy. The programme

incorporates more than 80 per cent indigenous content, supporting the government's Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Viksit Bharat initiatives. The vessel has been designed for underwater surveillance, anti-submarine warfare, mine warfare and coastal security operations. Its induction is expected to strengthen the Navy's capabilities in coastal waters and enhance protection of India's maritime interests.

BizBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

HOW THE MARKET'S BEHAVE TODAY?

Sensex climbs 374 points on buying in Reliance, ICICI Bank; Nifty ends flat



MUMBAI: Benchmark BSE Sensex climbed 374 points on Thursday, drawing support from moderation in crude oil prices and buying in heavyweights Reliance Industries and ICICI Bank. After trading in the positive territory throughout the day, the 30-share Sensex closed higher by 373.76 points, or 0.48 per cent, at 78,954.76. As many as 11 Sensex components closed higher, 16 with losses and three remained unchanged. The broader NSE Nifty traded in a narrow range during the day and closed marginally higher by 11.35 points, or 0.05 per cent, at 24,636. During the day, the benchmark hit a high of 24,677.05 and a low of 24,604.15. Since Monday, both the benchmark indices have been facing divergence after stock exchanges introduced a new auction mechanism for shares having futures and options (F&O)

contracts. From the Sensex pack, Reliance Industries climbed 3.43 per cent, the most among the blue-chip firms. State Bank of India, Bharat Electronics, ICICI Bank, Eternal and Titan were also among the major winners. Power Grid, Tata Consultancy Services, InterGlobe Aviation and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the laggards. State-owned Power Grid Corporation of India declined 3.99 per cent after it reported a marginal year-on-year dip in consolidated net profit to Rs 3,598.42 crore in the June quarter. "Indian equity markets ended the session on a mixed note, with the benchmark indices displaying a notable performance divergence even as investor sentiment remained cautiously constructive amid continued optimism over a potential diplomatic resolution to the Middle East conflict," Hariselman.

STRONG PERFORMANCE

SETL posts strong Q1 FY27 growth, expands into AI data centres

NEW DELHI: Standard Engineering Technology Limited (SETL) reported a strong performance for the first quarter of FY27, with total income rising 41.5% year-on-year to Rs 252.2 crore. EBITDA increased 27.3% to Rs 44.1 crore, while Profit After Tax (PAT) grew 26.6% to Rs 26.7 crore. The company is simultaneously pursuing two major strategic expansion initiatives aimed at creating new growth engines.

SETL has announced plans to acquire up to 51% equity in GScale Energy Private Limited, marking its entry into India's rapidly expanding AI data centre infrastructure market. The company plans to invest around Rs 500 crore through internal funding to establish an integrated data centre engineering and manufacturing platform. The proposed business will provide power distribution, backup power, cooling solutions, prefabricated modules and turnkey infrastructure services. SETL has also invested Rs 71.5 crore for a 19.19% stake in Japan's GL Hako Co. Ltd., with an option to increase its holding to 51.07% over three years.

NEW LAUNCH

Bandhan Mutual Fund launches Contra Fund

BENGALURU: Bandhan Mutual Fund has announced the launch of the Bandhan Contra Fund, an open-ended equity scheme that will follow a contrarian investment strategy to identify fundamentally strong businesses that are temporarily out of favour. The New Fund Offer (NFO) will open on August 10 and close on August 24, 2026. Investors can subscribe through licensed mutual fund distributors, online platforms and directly through Bandhan Mutual Fund's official website. The fund will seek opportunities in companies and sectors facing temporary challenges due to cyclical factors, sector-wide concerns, macroeconomic uncertainties or prevailing market sentiment. It aims to benefit from improving fundamentals, earnings recovery and potential market re-rating as investor perceptions change. Vishal Kapoor, CEO, Bandhan AMC, said widening valuation differences across sectors have created opportunities for selective contrarian investing.



STAY ALERT

NPCI urges public to stay alert against text message scams

NEW DELHI: The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has launched an awareness drive urging digital payment users to remain vigilant against text message scams, which often exploit fear, urgency or curiosity to manipulate people into making unsafe financial decisions. NPCI said such scams rely primarily on social engineering rather than sophisticated technical methods. Fraudsters often send fake SMS messages pretending to represent banks, government agencies, delivery companies, telecom operators or other trusted organisations. The messages are designed to appear genuine and persuade recipients to act without verifying the information. According to NPCI, scammers typically attempt to make victims click on links leading to fake websites, call fraudulent customer-care numbers, download unknown applications or files, share sensitive information such as OTPs, UPI PINs and passwords, or transfer money. Fake messages claiming that money has been credited to an account are another common tactic used to induce fraudulent transfers. NPCI advised users to carefully read unexpected messages and indepen-



dently verify requests through an organisation's official website, app or customer-care channel. Users should avoid clicking unknown links, downloading applications from untrusted sources and sharing OTPs, UPI PINs or passwords with anyone. Apps should preferably be downloaded only from official app stores, while permissions should be reviewed carefully. The organisation also advised people to verify any SMS claiming that money has been credited by checking their actual bank account statement rather than relying solely on the message. In case of suspected fraud, users should preserve the SMS, take screenshots and document relevant interactions. Suspicious numbers can be reported to the national cybercrime helpline by dialling 1930.

‘Shiv Sena constitution made party ‘one-person structure’

When institutions are expected to safeguard democratic values, political parties too must be examined on whether they function democratically.

Press Trust Of India

He said that the Shinde faction's numbers grew from 31 to 56 then only after Eknath Shinde was sworn in as Chief Minister.

NEW DELHI: Observing that democratic principles should not be confined to institutions, the Supreme Court on Thursday questioned the amended constitution of Shiv Sena, saying it appeared to have made the party “virtually a one-person structure.”

The top court, while continuing with the final hearing on the pleas of the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction against the Election Commission’s decision recognising the Eknath Shinde-led faction as the “real Shiv Sena”, said when institutions are expected to safeguard democratic values, political parties too must be examined on whether they function democratically.

“Originally, the party (Shiv Sena) Constitution was founded on democratic principles. Subsequently, it was amended



Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Anil Desai arrives to appear before the Supreme Court regarding the party symbol case, in New Delhi, Thursday.

and became virtually a one-person structure,” a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joyimalya Bagchi and V Mohana said.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction, said, “The real question is that this is not within the Election Commission’s remit.”

“When we speak of democratic principles and institutions safeguarding democratic values, the question naturally arises whether a political party is itself expected to function democratically,” the CJI said. Sibal said he

ity could have asked the party to amend its constitution, he said. “We know of several political parties that have not held organisational elections for years,” he added.

“Has the (Election) Commission ever held that their constitutions are undemocratic and therefore refused to recognise them? That is precisely the reasoning by which it refused to rely upon the 2018 constitution here,” the senior lawyer said. Ultimately, institutional integrity lies at the heart of a democratic system and its absence destroys the very foundations of democracy, he said.

Justice Bagchi said the poll body itself eloquently quoted the importance of institutional integrity and quoted Dr BR Ambedkar.

“It repeats Dr. Ambedkar’s observations and also refers to the view that defection is a constitutional sin. Today, however, it appears to have become a badge of honour rather than a sin...Dr. Ambedkar had said that however good a Constitution may be, it is bound to turn out bad if those who are called upon to work it happen to be bad,” he said.

Nine convicted, sentenced to life imprisonment

BALLIA (UP): A court here on Thursday sentenced nine people, including two father-son duos, to life imprisonment after convicting them in a nearly seven-year-old murder case in which one person was killed and four others were injured, a prosecution official said.

District Government Counsel (Criminal) Sanjeev Singh said District Judge Anil Kumar Jha convicted all nine accused and sentenced them to life imprisonment. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 91,000 on each convict.

According to the prosecution, the case relates to an attack that took place on June 29, 2019, in Kushahar village under Sahatwar police station limits.

An FIR was registered on the complaint of Raj Narayan Verma against Shukul Verma, Laxman Verma, Shiv Muni Verma, Chhatthu Verma and his sons Arvind and Shivji Verma, Shivji’s son Jawahar, Jeetan Verma and Mangru Verma under various sections of the erstwhile Indian Penal Code, including those related to rioting, murder, attempt to murder and criminal intimidation.

The prosecution said Raj Narayan alleged that he and his family members had gone to sow crops in their field on the morning of June 29, 2019, when the accused attacked them with sticks, axes and other sharp-edged weapons.

‘Bihar’s law & order has completely collapsed, patronising criminals’



Press Trust Of India

PATNA: RJD national working president Tejashwi Yadav on Thursday attacked the NDA government in Bihar, alleging that the state’s law and order had “completely collapsed” and accused the government of patronising criminals. Yadav, who is Leader of Opposition in the state assembly, also alleged that the government is least bothered about incidents of murder, rape, molestation or other crimes happening every single day in the state.

Addressing a press conference here, he said, “Bihar’s law and order situation has completely collapsed. The state government has miserably failed in checking it. NDA leaders are patronising criminals”. Those who are at the helm of affairs in the state are maintaining a stoic silence about the crimes, Yadav

FASTFACTS

● On July 6, Bunty Yadav was allegedly abducted from the high-traffic Karbigahiya/Patna Junction area.

claimed. aising the alleged abduction and murder of 25-year-old Bunty Yadav in Patna, Yadav demanded a government job for the victim’s wife.

He handed over a cheque of Rs 5 lakh to the family for the education of the deceased’s two children up to Class 12 and urged the state government to ensure their further education. On July 6, Bunty Yadav was allegedly abducted from the high-traffic Karbigahiya/Patna Junction area.

Although Yadav’s family immediately alerted the authorities, it was alleged that the police failed to take prompt and effective action. Five days after the abduction, Yadav’s body was recovered from the Athmalgola region.

The RJD national working president also demanded action against the Siwan district SP and DM over the alleged use of an AK-47 rifle during the July 25 student protest in the district.

NEWSLINE

DOCTORS ASSAULT CASE:

HC likely to pass order on Sena corporator’s bail on Aug 7

MUMBAI: The Bombay High Court on Thursday said it intends to grant bail to Shiv Sena corporator Ramesh Mhatre, accused of assaulting doctors at a municipal hospital in Thane district, with strict conditions, including asking him to stay outside Maharashtra until the chargesheet is filed.

After hearing all the parties concerned, a bench comprising Acting Chief Justice Ravindra V Ghuge and Justice Gautam Ankhad listed some of the bail conditions and said a formal order would be passed on Friday.

Besides directing the politician not to enter the state until the filing of the chargesheet, he will also be told not to contact witnesses directly or indirectly and provide the address and contact number of the place where he will be staying.

During the hearing on Thursday, when the court inquired about the status of the chargesheet, Public Prosecutor Sishir Hiray said it can be filed after they receive the forensic analysis report.

| KANWAR YATRA |

Over 1,500 police personnel, CAPF units deployed in northeast Delhi

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: More than 1,500 police personnel, along with contingents of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF), have been deployed across northeast Delhi as part of security measures in view of the ongoing Kanwar Yatra, an officer said on Thursday. The annual pilgrimage, which began July 30 with the ushering in of the month of Shravan, will conclude August 11 on the occasion of Shravan Shivaratri, when devotees offer holy Ganga water at Shiva temples.

“A large number of Kanwariyas from Uttar Pradesh pass through northeast Delhi en route to Haryana and Rajasthan, making the district one of the key transit corridors for the yatra,” a senior police officer said.

The officer said com-



'Kanwariyas carry water from the Ganga river amid rain as part of "Kanwar Yatra" during the month of "Shravan", in Haridwar, Thursday.

prehensive law and order, security and traffic measures have been put in place to ensure smooth and peaceful movement of devotees. The district, which shares a border with Uttar Pradesh, has six permanent border pickets and nine motorable entry points through which Kanwariyas enter Delhi. Police said 78 Kanwar camps have

near Gokalpuri T-Point to provide round-the-clock assistance and coordinate emergency response,” the officer said.

According to police, a total of 1,533 personnel have been deployed, including four assistant commissioners, 40 inspectors, 262 sub-inspectors and assistant sub-inspectors, 1,145 constables and head constables, and 81 women personnel. An additional 250 CAPF personnel have been deployed in two shifts to assist in maintaining security and law and order. The police have also deployed 27 PCR vans, five Prakhar vehicles and 107 motorcycles for patrolling along Kanwar yatra routes. Authorities have directed Kanwar camp organisers to install CCTV cameras and erect ‘machans’ (watch towers) to strengthen surveillance.

NAME CHANGE

It Is, Informed To The General Public That I Neelam Rani Agrawal W/o Ramesh Kumar Agrawal Resident Of House No. 640 Ward No. 30, Harikishan Colony, Near PGBT College, Tarbahar Chowk Bilaspur Chhattisgarh 495001 Have Changed My Name to Neelam Agrawal W/o Ramesh Kumar Agrawal, So in Future I Should be Recognized by My New Name That Is Neelam Agrawal W/o Ramesh Kumar Agrawal In All Government And Other Documents.

Neelam Agrawal
W/o Ramesh Kumar Agrawal
Resident Of House No. 640
Ward No. 30, Harikishan Colony, Near PGBT College, Tarbahar Chowk, Bilaspur Chhattisgarh - 495001

Protesters form team to hold talks

RANCHI: Students and job aspirants, who have been protesting against the alleged irregularities in recruitment examinations in Jharkhand, on Thursday announced that they formed an 11-member delegation to hold talks with the government to resolve the issue.

homefirst
We'll take you home

Home First Finance Company India Limited
CIN: L65990MH2010PLC240703, Website: homefirstindia.com
Phone No.: 180030008425 Email ID: loanfirst@homefirstindia.com

DEMAND NOTICE U/s 13(2)

You the below mentioned borrower has availed loan by mortgaging the schedule mentioned property and you the below mention has stood as borrower/co-borrower/guarantor for the loan agreement. Consequent to the defaults committed by you, your loan account has been classified as non-performing asset on 03-08-2026 under the provisions of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (in short SARFAESI Act). We Home First Finance Company India Limited have issued Demand Notice u/s 13(2) read with section 13(1) of the SARFAESI Act to the address furnished by you. The said notices are issued as on 03-08-2026 and these notices state that you have committed default in payment of the various loans sanctioned to you. Therefore, the present publication carried out to serve the notice as the provision of Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act and in terms of provision to the rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Sr. No.	Name and Address of the Account, Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s)	Details of the security to be enforced	Total Outstanding as on date of Demand Notice plus further interest and other expenses (in Rs.)
1.	Ashok Kumar Sahu, Harsh Kumar Sahu	Plot-Kh No.-37/62 part Mouza - saida mahal no.7 PH No.41, RNM amsena, vikas khand takhatpur Tahsil - sakri, Distt.- Bilaspur, (C.G.), Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh-495003, Bounded By: East-sellers plot, West-nistari rasta, North-sellers plot, South-sellers plot	10,06,587
2.	Maneesh Kumar Baghel, Sarita Baghel	Plot-Kh no.365/2, Mauja Mudhipar, Phn 09, Rnm & Tehsil Bilha, District Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh-495001, Bounded By: East-land of seller, West-20ft nistari rasta, North-land of seller, South-land of seller	9,59,166
3.	Mohan Namdev, Ganga Namdev	House-126/69, Mauja Patharkhan, PHN 30, R.N.M Bilha Vikas Khand, Teh Bilha & Dist. Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh-495001, Bounded By: East-nistari rasta, West-plot of nagma parveen, North-sellers plot, South-plot of ashwini trilok	8,30,654
4.	Neelam Khudshah, Sachin kumar Khudshah	Plot-Kh no.519/19, Mauja Tilsara, Phn 09, Rnm Bilha, Block & Tehsil Bilha, District Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh-495001, Bounded By: East-nistari rasta, West-plot of pall, North-plot of balram, South-plot of ajay yadav	10,51,185

You are hereby called upon to pay Home First Finance Company India Limited within the period of 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice the aforesaid amount with interest and cost falling which Home First Finance Company India Limited will take necessary action under the Provisions of the said Act against all or any one or more of the secured assets including taking possession of secured assets of the borrowers, mortgagors and the guarantors. The power available to the Home First Finance Company India Limited under the said act include (1) Power to take possession of the secured assets of the borrowers/guarantors including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment of sale for releasing secured assets (2) Take over management of the secured assets including rights to transfer by ways of lease, assignment or sale and realize the secured assets and any transfer as of secured assets by Home First Finance Company India Limited shall vest in all the rights and relation to the secured assets transferred as it the transfer has been made by you.

In terms of the Provisions of the Section 13(13) of the said act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the normal course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to above and hypothecated/mortgaged to the Home First Finance Company India Limited without prior consent of the Home First Finance Company India Limited.

Place: Bilaspur
Date: 07-08-2026

Signed by: AUTHORISED OFFICER,
Home First Finance Company India Limited

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We'll take you home

Home First Finance Company India Limited
CIN: L65990MH2010PLC240703 Website: homefirstindia.com
Phone No.: 180030008425 Email ID: loanfirst@homefirstindia.com

POSSESSION NOTICE

REF: POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER SUB-RULE (1) OF RULE 8 OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of HOME FIRST FINANCE COMPANY INDIA LIMITED, pursuant to demand notice issued on its respective dates as given below, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 calling upon you/Borrowers, the under named to pay outstanding dues as within 60 days from the date of receipt of respective notices. You/Borrowers all, however, have failed to pay the said outstanding dues within stipulated time, hence HOME FIRST FINANCE COMPANY INDIA LIMITED are in exercise and having right as conferred under the provision of sub section (4) of section 13 of SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with rules thereunder, taken POSSESSION of the secured assets as mentioned herein below:

Sr. No	Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors	Description of Mortgaged Property	Date of Demand Notice	Total O/s as on date of Demand Notice (in INR)	Date of possession
1.	Bajrang Baghel, Chit Kumari Baghel,...	House-248/3(part), Ph no 41, Mauja Saida, Kh no 248/3(part), Ph no 1, mauja saida, Tehsil sakri, District Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495001, Bounded by : East-sellers plot, West-nistari rasta, North-nistari rasta, South-sellers plot	03-06-2026	994,243	04-08-2026
2.	Usha Korda, Ram Bishwal	Plot-Kh no. 1061/41, Mauja Sirgitti, Phn 41, Rnm Bilaspur, Tehsil & District Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495001, Bounded by : East-road, West-sellers plot, North-chandra shekhar plot, South-25' wide road	03-06-2026	1,166,254	04-08-2026
3.	Lala Das, Tarun Das Manikpuri, Sarita Manikpuri,...	Plot-Mauja Patharkhan, KH.NO- 126/114, PH No. 30, Mauja Patharkhan, Tehsil Bilha, Dist-Bilaspur (C.G), Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495224, Bounded by : East-plot of govind and komal, West-nistari rasta, North-plot of chandraprakash pandey, South-plot of chandraprakash pandey	03-06-2026	952,755	04-08-2026
4.	Durgesh Sahu, Janki Sahu,...	House-Mauja Mudhipar, Mauja - Mudhipar, KH No. 360/1, PHN 9, RNM - Bilha, Tah - Bilha, DIST - Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495006, Bounded by : East-land of seller, West-land of seller, North-land of jagannath duri, South-nistari rasta	03-06-2026	860,725	04-08-2026
5.	Hari Prasad Tamboli, Sandhya Tamboli,...	Plot-PHN- 24/41, Mauja Saida, Kh no 250/13 part, Ph no 41 RNM Sakri Mauja Saida, Tehsil Sakri and Zilla Bilaspur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, 495001, Bounded by : East-remaining land of seller, West-land of geeta kashyap, North-rasta, South-land of vimla bai	03-06-2026	688,752	04-08-2026

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/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned above.

The BORROWERS/ GUARANTORS and the PUBLIC IN GENERAL are hereby cautioned not to deal with the above referred Properties/Secured Assets or any part thereof and any dealing with the said Properties/Secured Assets shall be subject to charge of HOME FIRST FINANCE COMPANY INDIA LIMITED for the amount mentioned hereinabove against Properties/Secured Assets which is payable with the further interest thereon until payment in full.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of subsection (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset.

Place: Bilaspur Date: 07-08-2026

Authorised Officer, Home First Finance Company India Limited



QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

Wisdom grows where truth, humility and selfless service unite humanity always.

[Swami Dayananda Saraswati]

| OUR VIEW |

Hasina Episode Tests India-Bangladesh Diplomatic Reset

Bangladesh’s angry response to Sheikh Hasina’s virtual interaction with journalists in New Delhi has created another obstacle in the effort to rebuild India-Bangladesh relations. Dhaka argues that allowing the deposed Prime Minister to speak from Indian soil, despite its objections, offended public sentiment and undermined sovereignty. New Delhi, however, maintains that the programme was privately organised by the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of South Asia and neither arranged nor endorsed by the Indian government. The distinction between a private media event and official sponsorship is important in a democracy. India cannot dictate whom journalists may interview because another government finds the speaker objectionable. At the same time, realities cannot be ignored. Hasina’s presence in India, Dhaka’s extradition requests and the bitter political legacy of the July-August 2024 uprising have made every public appearance sensitive. Bangladesh has accused Hasina of denying atrocities connected with the uprising and has described the interaction as an insult to its victims. Such charges must be addressed through credible legal and diplomatic channels, not competing rhetoric. Dhaka’s inflammatory language may satisfy domestic audiences, but it risks narrowing the space for engagement. India, too, should recognise that even events without official backing can acquire diplomatic significance when they involve a former leader facing serious accusations at home. Both governments now need restraint. New Delhi should respond clearly to Bangladesh’s extradition communications under the 2013 treaty and explain the legal basis of its position. Silence or ambiguity will only deepen suspicion. Dhaka should avoid treating independent media activity as proof of Indian interference and must ensure that any proceedings against Hasina meet standards of fairness and due process. The relationship is too important to be held hostage to one personality. Trade, border management, water sharing, connectivity and regional security require sustained cooperation. Bangladesh has reiterated its commitment to constructive ties based on equality, respect and non-interference. India should reciprocate with transparency and diplomatic sensitivity. The immediate controversy must become an occasion for candid dialogue, not another reason for estrangement.

| GUEST VIEW |

Stronger Push for India’s Handloom Sector

India’s Swadeshi Movement began on August 7, 1905, in protest against the British decision to partition Bengal. It encouraged Indians to boycott foreign cloth and support indigenous textile production. This date later inspired National Handloom Day, first observed on August 7, 2015. India’s handloom sector, the largest in the world, remains a source of livelihood in rural and semi-rural regions. Women constitute nearly 70 per cent of its workforce. In its twelfth year, National Handloom Day is being celebrated through 28 Weavers’ Service Centres and 16 National Institute of Fashion Technology campuses across the country. The handloom industry makes an invaluable contribution to India’s socioeconomic development while preserving its cultural heritage. The occasion

Dr Ganapathi Bhat recognises countless artisans and weavers whose skill and dedication often remain unseen. Creating public awareness about their craftsmanship is essential to ensuring the sector’s survival and growth. The government must provide stronger support to native handlooms. The call to be “vocal for local” must translate into action. More technical training programmes, easier access to credit, modern design support and improved working conditions are needed. Digital marketing and e-commerce should also be promoted to connect artisans directly with wider markets. A sustained push can protect traditional skills, raise incomes and ensure that India’s handloom legacy thrives for generations.



Dr Ganapathi Bhat

Comment

‘Vande Mataram’ to Get Statutory Protection

In a historic move to safeguard national symbols, the Govt. of India has decided to grant “Vande Mataram” the same legal sanctity as “Jana Gana Mana”. Once the President gives consent, insulting the national song will invite up to 3 years imprisonment. This is not just about law. It is about reaffirming our collective identity, honouring our freedom struggle, and instilling pride in the next generation.

A nation is known not only by its borders or its economy. It is known by the symbols it chooses to revere. The Tricolour, the National Anthem, the National Song. These are not mere words set to music or cloth dyed in three colours. They are the distilled essence of centuries of struggle, sacrifice, and shared aspiration.

It is in this context that the Government of India’s decision to bring “Vande Mataram” under statutory protection must be seen. With the President’s assent, the national song will now enjoy the same legal shield as the national anthem. Any deliberate insult to it will be punishable with imprisonment of up to three years. The message is clear: disrespect to the soul of the nation will no longer be tolerated.

1. “Vande Mataram”, an Anthem of a Freedom Struggle: Composed by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1876 and immortalised in his novel ‘Anandamath’, “Vande Mataram” was far more than poetry. It was a battle cry.

From the gallows of Cellular Jail to the streets of Lahore, from the walls of Sabarmati to the pamphlets of revolutionaries, the two words echoed: Vande & Mataram – I bow to thee, Mother.

In 1950, the Constituent Assembly accorded “Jana Gana Mana” the status of National Anthem and “Vande Mataram” the status of National Song. But while the anthem was brought under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, the song remained protected largely by convention, morality, and public sentiment. That asymmetry is now being corrected.

To give “Vande Mataram” legal teeth is to recognise its unique place in our history. It was the

song that unified a fragmented resistance. It was the prayer that Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians sang together before facing lathis and bullets.

2. What the New Law Proposes: The proposed legislation, awaiting Presidential assent, seeks to place “Vande Mataram” on par with “Jana Gana Mana” under the law.

Key Provisions: 1. Punitive Clause: Any person who intentionally insults “Vande Mataram”, distorts its lyrics, disrupts its singing, or brings it into ridicule in public, shall be liable for imprisonment up to 3 years, or fine, or both.

2. Protocol Parity: At all government functions, schools, and official events where “Vande Mataram” is rendered, the same code of conduct will apply as for the national anthem. Standing to attention, maintaining decorum will become a civic duty.

3. Educational Mandate: Curricula across schools and universities will be encouraged to include the history, meaning, and context of “Vande Mataram”, so that students understand not just the words, but the weight behind them.

This is not symbolism for symbolism’s sake. It is a legal affirmation that certain lines cannot be crossed when it comes to national dignity.

3. Why was This Necessary Now?

In the age of social media, we have witnessed a disturbing trend. National symbols are being memified, distorted, and used as props for outrage. While freedom of expression is the bedrock of our democracy, freedom cannot mean licence to denigrate what holds the nation together.

Until now, action against such acts was difficult because “Vande Mataram” did not have the same explicit legal cover as the anthem. This created a vacuum that was often exploited.

By extending statutory protection, the state is drawing a line. It is saying: debate policy, question government, criticise institutions. That is democracy. But do not mock the very ideas that gave us democracy.



Prof. (Dr) Manoj Dayal
Vice Chancellor,
Kushabhau Thakre
University of Journalism
and Mass Communication

Further, this step strengthens the principle of “One Nation, One Respect”. When every citizen knows that the anthem and the song command equal reverence under law, it reinforces discipline, unity, and a shared sense of belonging.

4. Role of Media & Journalism : As Vice Chancellor of Kushabhau Thakre University of Journalism and Mass Communication, Raipur, I believe no law can succeed without public consciousness. And no one shapes public consciousness more than media and journalism.

First, of Awareness. It is the job of journalists to explain this law in plain language. What constitutes “insult”? What are the safeguards against misuse? How will schools implement the new protocol? Citizens need clarity, not confusion.

Second, of Sensitivity. Newsrooms, TV channels, and digital platforms must accord “Vande Mataram” the same editorial dignity we give “Jana Gana Mana”. The tone, the visuals, the context matter. When we broadcast the song on Independence Day or Republic Day, it should not be background music. It should be a moment of pause.

Third, of Debate. A healthy democracy thrives on discussion. The media must host conversations on how to balance legal protection with artistic freedom. Criticism is not insult. Satire is not sedition. The law must be applied with wisdom, and the press must be the watchdog that ensures it is.

At KTUJM Raipur, we are training the next generation of reporters to understand this distinction. Journalism is not just about what happened. It is about why it matters to the idea of India.

5. A Message to Youth of Chhattisgarh:

To the students in Raipur, Durg, Bilaspur and every district: you are global citizens. You code, you create, you connect across continents. But a tree without roots does not grow tall.

“Vande Mataram” connects you to those roots. It reminds you that the land you walk on is not just territory. It is Matrabhumi. The same soil that nurtured Gond warriors, Satnami saints, and freedom fighters from the region.

When you sing “Vande Mata-

ram” in your college fest or NCC parade, don’t just mouth the words. Feel the history. Feel the farmers who sang it during the 1942 Quit India movement. Feel the tribal leaders who saw in “Mother” not a deity, but the land itself.

Law cannot teach respect through fear. But law can create a culture where respect becomes the norm. That is what this legislation aims to do.

6. Legal Precedent & National Integration:

India has always understood the power of symbols. The Emblems and Names Act, the Flag Code, the anthem law - all exist to protect the markers of nationhood.

Bringing “Vande Mataram” into this fold completes a circle that began in 1950. It also sends a powerful signal of national integration. In a country as diverse as ours, shared symbols are the glue. They allow a student in Jagdalpur and a student in Jammu to feel they are part of the same story.

The three-year penalty is not about vengeance. It is about deterrence. It is about saying that some things are non-negotiable in the public sphere.

CONCLUSION: From Song to Conduct

The decision to grant statutory protection to “Vande Mataram” is timely and necessary. It is more than a legal amendment. It is a statement of national character.

Once the President signs off, this will become law. But laws are only as strong as the society that upholds them.

As an institution of journalism and mass communication, KTUJM Raipur pledges to play its part. We will teach our students to report with responsibility, to comment with context, and to uphold the dignity of national symbols while fiercely protecting the right to question and critique.

The real tribute to “Vande Mataram” will not be in how strictly we punish offenders. It will be in how sincerely we live its meaning. “I bow to thee, Mother.” That bow must be in our hearts before it is in our posture. Let us welcome this historic decision. And let us resolve that “Vande Mataram” will no longer be just a song we sing on special occasions. It will be a value we practice every day.

We Want Villages’ Gifts, Not Villages

India cherishes village produce and culture yet neglects rural communities, exposing a contradiction that demands balanced development, dignity, opportunity, and renewed respect for our villages. By Dr Priyanka Saurabh

Modern India lives with a contradiction: we want everything that villages produce, but often reject the villages themselves. We praise pure milk, desi ghee, organic grain, fresh vegetables, folk music and culture. Yet when asked to live in a village, many people associate rural life with backwardness and seek distance from it. This attitude reveals a flaw in our understanding of development.

India has long been described as a nation of villages. Agriculture sustains millions of families and safeguards the country’s food security. Urban consumers pay high prices for village wheat, millet, pulses, honey, jaggery and mustard oil, while the farmers producing them frequently

struggle for fair prices, quality healthcare and good education. Their children often migrate because opportunity remains concentrated in cities.

Migration is economic as well as cultural. Educated young people are taught to view an urban career as success and returning home as failure. Consequently, villages lose their youth, enterprise and creativity, leaving many elderly people, women and children behind. This movement would slow if rural communities offered reliable schools, hospitals, internet access, transport, industries and dignified employment.

Villages undoubtedly face problems, including poor infrastructure, unemployment, caste discrimination, conservatism and inadequate sanitat-



ion. These realities must not be romanticised. However, abandoning villages cannot solve them. Development should bring modern facilities to rural areas without destroying their distinct character, community bonds or relationship with nature.

That relationship has become especially valuable amid the global environmental crisis. Clean air, open land, trees and water sources are woven into rural life. Villages also function as social safety nets. During the COVID-19 pandemic, when urban livelihoods

collapsed, they welcomed millions of returning workers and provided food, shelter and belonging.

Governments, businesses and communities must therefore strengthen rural economies together. Agriculture-based industries, animal husbandry, fisheries, beekeeping, handicrafts, cottage enterprises and rural tourism can create local jobs. Skill training, affordable credit, digital technology and e-commerce can connect producers directly with consumers and improve rural incomes.

Education and media must also change how villages are perceived. Farming should be presented as a skilled, essential profession, and farmers recognised as food providers and environmental stewards.

Villages should be portrayed neither as hopelessly backward nor as romantic escapes, but as living communities containing both challenges and possibilities.

Cities and villages are not rivals; they are complementary foundations of national progress. India cannot achieve inclusive development while drawing resources from villages and denying them investment and respect. Real progress will arrive when rural youth can build dignified lives at home, women can access education and healthcare nearby, and technology can advance alongside traditional wisdom. We must love not only what villages give us, but villages themselves. If villages survive, agriculture, culture, community and civilisation will survive with them.

YOURLETTERS

Supreme Court Acts on Uninsured Vehicles

With 36 per cent of Indian vehicles—about 16.54 crore—uninsured, road accident victims face serious barriers to compensation. After 1.8 lakh traffic deaths in 2025, the Supreme Court has rightly called for urgent action, including automatic detection and e-challans nationwide. Dismissing National Insurance Company’s appeal, it ruled that a comprehensive policy covered an owner travelling as an occupant. The Court also warned tribunals against hyper-technical interpretations. Authorities must enforce mandatory third-party insurance and protect victims from needless hardship and prolonged delays.

Yashpal Ralhan, Jalandhar

Keep UPI Payments Free for Everyone

Introducing a Merchant Discount Rate on UPI transactions could weaken India’s progress in digital inclusion. Even if fees target high-value payments, additional costs may discourage small merchants already paying for services such as sound-boxes. UPI succeeded because it offers simple, seamless and affordable public infrastructure. The government should retain statutory exemptions and finance operating expenses through budgetary support instead of burdening merchants. Charging for digital payments may revive cash dependence and reverse years of financial formalisation, transparency and economic participation.

Dr Vijaykumar H K, Raichur

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.



“Don’t know what they are afraid of.”

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra
Congress MP

Train slowed near Chilika to offer President Murmu a view

Senior loco pilot, Jayant Kumar Sahoo operated the Presidential Special Train for Prez Murmu.

Press Trust Of India

BERHAMPUR: In a remarkable journey celebrating both leadership and natural beauty, senior loco pilot Jayant Kumar Sahoo successfully operated the Presidential Special Train carrying President Droupadi Murmu between Bhubaneswar and Berhampur. The East Coast Railway selected Sahoo, a fifty-one-year-old resident of Jatni with a decade of experience piloting mail and express trains, to lead the high-profile operation. The return journey spanned approximately three hundred and forty kilometers across Tuesday and Wednesday. Sahoo expressed immense pride and excitement regarding the assignment, marking the first time in his career he was entrusted with driving the President and accompanying dignitaries.

To ensure the journey was both secure and memorable, Sahoo operated the locomotive strictly according to protocol and under guidelines set by senior railway officers. While the train maintained an average speed of around one hundred and thirty kilo-



meters per hour, Sahoo purposefully slowed the train down to between eighty and ninety kilometers per hour while passing through the Chilika lagoon area. This deliberate adjustment, planned in advance by East Coast Railway officials, allowed President Murmu to enjoy the breathtaking scenery of Asia's largest brackish water lake for about thirty minutes. The picturesque region is globally

renowned for its vibrant ecosystem, including migratory birds and rare Irrawaddy dolphins. To further commemorate the event, the railway authorities presented the President with a framed photograph featuring a Vande Bharat Express train crossing Chilika Lake.

Throughout the trip, Sahoo worked alongside an alert and dedicated crew, including assistant loco pilot Barun Kumar,

FASTFACTS

● During the journey, he slowed the train at Chilika for her to enjoy the view of the lagoon.

as well as train managers and engineers Rebati Singh and Reshma Toppo. Although strict security protocols prevented the railway personnel from interacting directly with the President, the crew members shared a profound sense of achievement and joy in executing the operation flawlessly. Following its arrival in Berhampur on Tuesday, the train was stabled at Jagannathpur station before embarking on its return trip on Wednesday morning. Departing Berhampur at ten-twenty in the morning, the train arrived safely back in Bhubaneswar at twelve-twenty-five in the afternoon, successfully completing the journey five minutes ahead of schedule. The precise coordination, professional execution, and scenic detour highlighted a memorable travel experience for the President while bringing deep pride to the East Coast Railway team involved in the journey.

MCD moves towards smart parking with server-linked fee system

NEW DELHI: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with a multinational bank next week to launch a technology-driven, cashless parking fee collection system.

Aimed at eliminating recurring complaints of overcharging, the system links point-of-sale (POS) machines directly to the MCD central server. The pilot project will launch across five parking sites, with MCD providing authorized POS machines to contractors rather than allowing personal devices.

Under this system, receipts will be generated automatically based on the official rate of twenty rupees per hour, reducing scope for excess demands. Furthermore, MCD plans to implement a “No Parking Slip, No Payment” policy, ensuring motorists pay solely against digitally generated server receipts.

If successful, the initiative will expand across all four hundred and eight MCD-managed parking sites in Delhi, covering over eighty-four thousand vehicle spaces, to boost municipal revenue and bring greater operational transparency.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

HISTORIC TELESURGERY Indian Robotic system enables India-Colombia telesurgery

NEW DELHI: Indian surgical robotics achieved a major milestone after surgeons in Colombia remotely performed a robotic sleeve gastrectomy on a patient in Indore using the SSI Mantra, a surgical robotic system developed and manufactured in India. The historic procedure connected Hospital Internacional de Colombia with Mohak Bariatrics and Robotics in Indore through a fibre-optic network spanning nearly 22,000 kilometres. The surgery demonstrated the potential of robotic telesurgery to overcome geographical barriers and expand access to specialized medical expertise. The remote surgical team in Colombia was led by Dr Sudhir Srivastava, Founder, Chairman and CEO of SS Innovations International, along with Dr Victor Raul Castillo Mantilla and Dr Jonathan Caceres Prada. In Indore, the patient-side team was led by bariatric surgeon Dr Mohit Bhandari, assisted by Dr Abhishek Tiwari. The procedure was completed with a reported network latency of



gery could transform healthcare by allowing expertise from leading medical centres to reach patients regardless of geography. The development could have significant implications for patients in rural areas and Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, enabling access to specialist surgical expertise without requiring travel to major metropolitan centres. It could also facilitate remote surgical training and expert guidance. The milestone reinforces India's potential to emerge as a global hub for indigenous surgical robotics and telesurgery, combining advanced technology, high-speed connectivity and medical expertise.

TRIBUTES

Former UGC official S.L. Goel passes away, tributes pour in

CHANDIGARH: SL Goel, a distinguished figure in public administration and former member of the University Grants Commission (UGC), has passed away at the age of ninety due to old-age-related ailments. A UGC Emeritus Professor at Panjab University, Goel made significant contributions to academia and governance throughout his career. He provided research guidance to over two dozen senior civil servants and faculty members, leaving a lasting impact through his roles in top policy-making bodies at the UGC, Panjab University, and various research institutions.

IYC raises voice against Meta, seeks apology for user account removals

NEW DELHI: The Indian Youth Congress (IYC) staged a protest outside a luxury hotel in central Delhi on Thursday, targeting senior Meta executives staying at the venue. Holding placards and chanting slogans, the demonstrators accused the tech giant of suppressing critical student content while selectively prioritizing political leaders. The protest followed Meta's swift official apology to the Indian government after temporarily restricting a Facebook post by Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding examination paper leaks.

Addressing the gathering on Motilal Nehru Marg, IYC leaders questioned the platform's transparency and fairness. They argued that while Meta apologized to the Prime Minister within hours, thousands of ordinary Indian citizens face arbitrary account suspensions, content takedowns, and account blocks without explanation or accountability. Protesters demanded that Meta extend equal respect to all users, provide clear operational transparency, and issue an apology to citizens affected by platform enforcement actions.

The political controversy erupted after Meta's Chief Global Affairs Officer, Joel Kaplan, was summoned by government officials, ultimately apologizing to Union Minister for Electronics and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw for the automated error that flagged the Prime Minister's July 23 post.

Religious institutions provide food & assistance during J'khand exam

Press Trust Of India

Religious institutions from temples to gurudwaras have stepped in to offer food and assistance to students protesting.

RANCHI: The ongoing protest in Ranchi against alleged examination irregularities in Jharkhand continues to gain momentum, sustained by widespread community support despite heavy rains. For nearly



two weeks, thousands of students demanding comprehensive reforms in the Jharkhand Public Service Commission (JPSC) and the Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission (JSSC) have been camping under temporary tarpaulin sheds at the Jaipal Singh Stadium.

Six demonstrators have also entered an indefinite hunger strike to push for their demands. Amid these challenging conditions, local religious and civic groups have stepped in to ensure the protesters remain fed. Temples, mosques, gurudwaras, and local

FAST FACTS

● Fact File: The student protest in Jharkhand has now completed two weeks.

families are supplying hot, home-cooked meals, drinking water, and essential supplies daily.

भारत सरकार
कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय
त्वरित कॉर्पोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी-पेस),
आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंजिल,
प्लॉट P-6, 7, 8, से.-5, आई. एम्.टी. मनेसर, गुडगाँव,
हरियाणा - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for Processing Accelerated
Corporate Exit (C-PACE)
IICA Building, 7th Floor,
Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar,
Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

**FORM No. STK --6
PUBLIC NOTICE**

[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public: ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2026-27/909 Date: 28/07/2026 Reference:

In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (8) companies in the Chhattisgarh state under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S.No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AC4361189	U62013CT2025PTC018039	SAMAKALAN LABS PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AC4289813	U46900CT2024PTC016340	MRINAV MART PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AC4042028	U85212CT2024PTC016164	GKPS EDUCATION SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AC4214868	U52100CT2021PTC011810	GROWVERO FARMS PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AC4655759	U15400CT2021PTC011212	PARETTA INDUSTRIES PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AC4369956	U74999CT2019PTC009822	BGEE VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AC4617942	U23100CT2013PTC000869	REVA PETROLEUM PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AC4591210	U90001CT2002PTC015450	E-TECH PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED

2. Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but if they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.

3. Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.

4. Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

**Irkan Tirkey
Deputy Registrar
CBC 07123/11/0409/2627**
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda

ROSARB, Yash Big Bazar, 2nd Floor,
Rajkishor Nagar Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh-495006
email:rosarb.bilaspur@bankofbaroda.com

**E-AUCTION
SALE NOTICE**

**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
“APPENDIX- IV-A [SEE PROVISIO TO RULE 8(6) & 9(1)]**

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) & 9(1) 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, 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 BELOW MENTIONED ACCOUNT(S). THE DETAILS OF BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(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. Anita Parche W/o Late Dayashankar Parche, Ward No.30, Karbala Road, Sudarshan Nagar, Bilaspur, CG - 495001	Equitable Mortgage of House bearing Survey Number Part of 198/6 located at Plot No. 385, Built up area are 450 Sq. Ft., Carpet area 450 Sq. Ft. situated at Mouja- Lingiyadih, Rajkishore Nagar Awasiya Yojana, PH. No.20, Municipality, City- Bilaspur, District- Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh-495006. Boundaries of the property: East- Road, West- Open Plot 30*50, North- House of Khan Plot No.384, South- House of Monu Gupta Plot No.386	₹ 28,49,644.92 + Interest + Other Charges	20.00 Lakhs 2.00 Lakhs 0.10 Lakhs	Symbolic	02/09/2026 10.00 am to 06.00 pm
02	Mr. Rohit Kumar Mrs. Reet Bai, A-236, Qtr. No. A/182, Vasant Vihar Colony, Lingiyadih, SECL, Bilaspur, CG-495006, Lingiyadih, SECL, Bilaspur, CG-495006	Equitable Mortgage of diverted Residential Land & Building situated at Mouza- Mopka, bearing near Mutation Khasha No. 2025/16 (earlier part of Khasha No. 2025/10 and part of Khasha No. 2025/3) area 1034 Sq. ft. PH No. 19/29, R.N.M. Bilaspur, Block- Belha, Tehsil & District-Bilaspur in name of Mr. Rohit Kumar s/o Late Jhabbu Lal. Boundaries of the property: East- Others Land, West- Nistari Rasta, North- Property of Prem Singh, South- Property of Basant Das.	₹ 31,50,096.65 + Interest + Other Charges	15.20 Lakhs 1.52 Lakhs 0.10 Lakhs	Symbolic	02/09/2026 10.00 am to 06.00 pm
03	Mr. Anil Pratap Singh S/o Shri Dharamraj Singh, 321/21 Parshram Ward, Mouza- Hathni, Dist.- Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara, Chhattisgarh-493118 in the name of Mr. Anil Pratap Singh S/o Mr. Dharam Raj Singh. Boundaries of the property: East- Road, West- Plot of Kaushal, North- Plot of Dewangan, South- House of Harichand Dewangan.	Equitable Mortgage of Land and Building situated at Kh. No. 321/21, PH. No. 11, area 1200 Sq. Ft. Mouza- Hathni, Parshuram Ward, Vikash Khand, Tehsil- Bhatapara, Dist.- Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara, Chhattisgarh-493118 in the name of Mr. Anil Pratap Singh S/o Mr. Dharam Raj Singh. Boundaries of the property: East- Other's Land, West- Plot of Kaushal, North- Plot of Dewangan, South- House of Harichand Dewangan.	₹ 45,61,492.16 + Interest + Other Charges	26.80 Lakhs 2.68 Lakhs 0.10 Lakhs	Symbolic	02/09/2026 10.00 am to 06.00 pm
04	Mr. Waqar Ahmed, Near Masjid, Ahmed Villa, Ganesh Nagar, Chuchuhliya Para, Bilaspur (CG) - 495004	Equitable Mortgage of Residential Land & Building situated at Khasha No. 46/2, area- 1500 Sq. Ft. PC. No. 27, Lagra R.I.C. Tehsil & Dist.- Bilaspur, C.G. in name of Mr. Waqar Ahmeds/o Mr. Nisar Ahmed. Boundaries of the property: East- Other's House, West- Other's open plot, North- Open land of Mr. Kishore Kewat, South- Nistari Road.	₹ 44,74,950.00 + Interest + Other Charges	16.00 Lakhs 1.60 Lakhs 0.10 Lakhs	Symbolic	02/09/2026 10.00 am to 06.00 pm
05	Ms. Sonam Kashyap, Flat - F-1, 3rd Floor, Block-4, Shriram Tower, Vyapar Vihar, Kota, Bilaspur (CG) - 495001	Equitable Mortgage of Residential Land & Building situated at Khasha No. 46/3, area - 1056 Sq.ft, PC. No. 27, Lagra R.I.C. Tehsil & Dist.- Bilaspur, C.G. in name of Ms. Sonam Kashyap D/o Ganesh Ram Kashyap. Boundaries of the property: East- Other's open plot, West- Other's open plot, North- Other's open plot, South- Colony Road.	₹ 36,95,018.98 + Interest + Other Charges	20.25 Lakhs 2.03 Lakhs 0.10 Lakhs	Symbolic	02/09/2026 10.00 am to 06.00 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 Mob.: 98744-55720

Date: 06.08.2026, Place: Bilaspur (C.G.) **Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda**

“I wasn’t surprised when I got the call for Batwara 1947. I was getting calls for films but I didn’t want to do them. But when I heard that Raj ji was directing, I wanted to listen to the script.”

Preity Zinta



&Glitters

CLOSE UP

For Karisma dance was the greatest teacher

Dance became Karisma Kapoor’s greatest edge and inspiration beyond the silver screen.

Central Chronicle News

Actor recalls Saroj Khan, Madhuri Dixit and memorable career-defining dance experiences.

Karisma Kapoor says dance has been one of the biggest influences on her acting career, helping her become more expressive both on screen and in songs. The actor, who has returned as a judge on India’s Best Dancer Season 5, said expressions are at the heart of every memorable performance. “As a dancer, you have to be very expressive. Dancing is not just a robotic thing... So, it helped me in my career, especially for expressions and in songs and in acting,” Karisma said. The actor said that while her energetic dance numbers made her a household name, films like Fiza, Zubeidaa, Shakti and Biwi No. 1 highlighted her versatility. “They’re all pieces of my heart,” she said, adding that these films proved she could succeed in both commercial entertainers and performance-driven roles. Karisma also recalled developing a passion for dance at a young age through training in Bharatanatyam, Kathak and later jazz. She credited legendary choreographer Saroj Khan for shaping her Bolly-



Karisma judging India's Best Dancer Season 5



wood dance style, remembering how Khan trained her and introduced her to new choreography during her early years. Reflecting on the iconic “Dance of Envy” sequence from Dil to Pagal Hai, Karisma admitted it was among the toughest performances of her career. “I would idolise Madhuri Dixit... It was a mixture of emotions because I had to give her glaring looks and

perform my best,” she said.

Now judging India’s Best Dancer Season 5, Karisma said she looks for four qualities in contestants: “entertainment, emotion, expressions and energy.” She added that performances should touch the audience’s heart, saying she judges with emotion rather than technical perfection alone, inspiring aspiring dancers everywhere.

| SMALL SCREEN |

‘Khatron Ke Khiladi’ revealed my fearless side – Avika Gor

Central Chronicle News

HIGHLIGHT

● Avika Gor says reality show revealed her fearless side beyond television.

● Actor praises Rubina Dilaik while reflecting on memorable reality show journey.

that I’m chasing,” Avika said. “But this is a show where people get to see a side of me which is courageous and daring, which was a surprise for myself. I got to know what I was capable of.” The 29-year-old



described the adventure reality series as a personal dream rather than a strategic career move.

“It is a show I can’t say no to. It has been a wish that I always had,” she said, adding that she was proud to have finally taken part in it. Hosted by filmmaker Rohit Shetty, Khatron Ke Khiladi 15 challenges celebrity contestants to perform high-risk stunts while overcoming their fears. Avika called the experience transformative, saying it pushed her beyond her comfort zone and helped her build lasting friendships. She also praised fellow contestant Rubina Dilaik, calling her one of the strongest par-

Avika Gor participated in Khatron Ke Khiladi 15.

ticipants on the show. “There was a time where I had to ask for help, and I chose Rubina. She is one of the best,” Avika said.

Apart from reality television, the actor said she remains committed to choosing meaningful roles across Hindi, Telugu and Kannada projects. Stressing that performance remains her priority, Avika said she hopes to continue surprising audiences with characters that are entertaining, challenging and memorable.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Web Series

Netflix confirms Musafir Cafe season two

Netflix has officially renewed the romantic drama Musafir Cafe for a second season following the show’s successful debut. Starring Vikrant Massey, Vedika Pinto and Mahima Makwana, the series became a fan favourite with its heartfelt story and discussion-worthy ending. Season two will continue the journey of Chander, Sudha and Preeti, answering lingering questions about their relationships and future. Netflix India said the overwhelming audience response reaffirmed its commitment to expanding the romance genre. Created by Sharanya Rajgopal and directed by Ruchir Arun, Musafir Cafe is based on Divya Prakash Dubey’s novel and is produced by Terribly Tiny Tales and Homemade Stories.

Hot Pair

Kajol and Ajay Devgn’s playful banter wins hearts



Kajol and Ajay Devgn once again proved why they’re one of Bollywood’s most-loved couples with their adorable birthday exchange. Wishing Kajol on her birthday, Ajay shared a funny montage of her infectious laughter, joking that his “best jokes” have always had the same audience. Kajol’s witty reply, “Guess the audience and the joker are stuck together now,” delighted fans and showcased their playful bond. Married since 1999, the couple continues to charm audiences with their humour, mutual affection and effortless chemistry, reminding everyone that laughter remains one of the sweetest ingredients in a lasting relationship.



Music

Sonu Nigam’s music journey comes full circle

Sonu Nigam recently reflected on the ups and downs of his music career, recalling a phase when major music labels stopped working with him after he raised concerns about singers’ copyright and royalty rights. Despite the challenges, the singer said he never lost faith and continued performing for his fans. Looking back, Sonu shared that the industry has changed over the years, with music labels now recognising artists’ rights and maintaining a cordial relationship with him. His journey is a reminder that patience, perseverance and standing by your beliefs can eventually lead to positive change.

Trending on Insta

@anupamkher

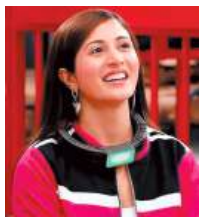
Anupam Kher showers praise on Boman Irani

Anupam Kher celebrated a special milestone on Khosla Ka Ghosla 2 as co-star Boman Irani completed filming his portions. Sharing a wrap-up video, Kher praised Irani’s talent, humility, generosity and friendship, calling him truly one of cinema’s finest actors.



Alan Ritchson lands Netflix thriller

Alan Ritchson is set to star in and produce Netflix’s upcoming MotoGP-themed heist thriller. The film follows a former MotoGP prodigy recruited by Interpol to stop motorcycle thieves, only to discover the gang’s leader may be his long-lost younger brother.



Shreya Kalra wins Lock Upp 2

Social media influencer Shreya Kalra won Lock Upp 2: Sach Ya Sazaa, defeating television actor Shivangi Joshi, who finished as first runner-up. Yogesh Rawat secured third place after an intense six-week journey filled with challenges and drama.



The Traitors pays Mallika highest

Mallika Sherawat confirmed she is the highest-paid contestant on The Traitors 2, saying she knows her worth and won’t settle for less. Calling herself self-made, she encouraged everyone to value their work and never undervalue themselves.



Lenin makes OTT debut

Akhil Akkineni’s romantic action-drama Lenin begins streaming on ZEE5 from August 7 after its theatrical run.

Directed by Murali Kishore, the film co-stars Bhagyashree Bose and will be available in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada.



Viola Davis signs Ascent series

Viola Davis will headline Ascent, Paramount+’s upcoming thriller series set in the high-stakes world of corporate crisis management. She plays an elite fixer forced to protect her estranged daughter while navigating dangerous billion-dollar corporate conflicts.

I am thankful to the faculty and staff of Anjaneya University for timely assistance in all studies and projects.

Akmal Nawaz
Ex-Student- Anjaneya University Raipur



Scholar

CAMPUS CALLING

The Real Personality Behind the Virtual Self

Dr. Arindam Patra
Asst Prof. (Sr. Grade) and
Shrikant Chaini, Asst.
Prof. OPJU, Raigarh



Campus Calling

THE FIRST LECTURE



“Personality is the progressive evolution of the physical, vital, mental, psychic, and spiritual dimensions of the individual.”

Sri Aurobindo

compassion and inner harmony; Rajas represents ambition, passion, activity and attachment to results; while Tamas signifies inertia, ignorance and complacency. Every individual possesses all three Gunas in varying proportions, and it is their dynamic interplay that shapes one's character, choices and behaviour.

However, personality is not formed by the Trigunas alone. Indian thought emphasises the enduring influence of Sanskaras, the subtle impressions created through heredity, family values, cultural traditions, education and lived experiences. Modern psychology offers a complementary understanding. Behavioural genetics acknowledges

hereditary influences on temperament, while developmental psychologists affirm that family environment, early childhood experiences and social learning profoundly shape identity. Thus, authentic personality is an evolving synthesis of inherited dispositions, moral education and conscious self-development. The virtual personality, by contrast, is largely determined by external

validation. It is constructed through carefully curated photographs, edited videos, algorithm-driven recommendations, follower counts and the relentless pursuit of visibility. While digital platforms have democratised communication, fostered creativity and enabled global collaboration, they have also encouraged comparison, performative behaviour and the cultivation of an idealised self. This growing dependence on virtual validation is especially visible among today's youth. According to recent psychological studies, excessive social media engagement is associated with heightened levels of anxiety, depressive symptoms, sleep disturbances and diminished self-esteem, particularly when online approval becomes the primary measure of personal worth. The widely acclaimed documentary The Social Dilemma illustrates how sophisticated algorithms are intentionally designed to maximise user engagement by exploit-

ing human attention and emotional vulnerability. Consequently, many young individuals find themselves trapped in cycles of comparison, fear of missing out (FOMO), and digital dependency.

As Swami Vivekananda reminded us, “We are what our thoughts have made us; so take care about what you think.” The digital world is an extraordinary servant but a dangerous master. Let technology amplify our abilities, not define our identity. When our virtual presence becomes a reflection of a personality enriched by Sattva, guided by noble Sanskaras, and tempered by wisdom, we create not merely an impressive online image but a life of enduring purpose and character. In the end, the strongest personality is not the one that trends, it is the one that transforms lives.

Our greatest profile is not the one displayed on a screen, but the one engraved in the hearts of those whose lives we enrich.

Students, faculty, and staff pledge to build a Drug-Free and healthy India



RAIPUR: An awareness and pledge-taking program under the ‘Drug-Free Youth for Developed India’ (‘Nasha Mukta Yuva for Viksit Bharat’) campaign was organized at Hidayatullah National Law University (HNLU), Nava Raipur, on Sunday, August 2, 2026. The event was coordinated by the university's Legal Aid and Social Services Committee (LSSC).

This initiative is part of the Government of India's ‘Drug-Free Youth for Developed India’ campaign, which aims to inspire youth to adopt a drug-free lifestyle and to build a healthy, aware, and empowered young generation capable of forming a strong foundation for a developed India.

A large number of students, faculty members, and staff participated in the event, which was held at 11:00 AM in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue on the university campus. Everyone took a pledge to adopt a drug-free life, spread awareness in society about the harmful effects of substance abuse, and propagate the resolve of ‘Drug-Free Youth, Developed India’ among the masses.

In his message on this occasion, HNLU Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) V.C. Vivekanandan stated that the role of youth is paramount in building a healthy and responsible society.

He said that, “building a developed India is possible only through healthy, aware, and empowered youth. The fight against substance abuse cannot be limited to legal or administrative action alone; it must take the form of public awareness, individual responsibility, and a collective social movement. Universities bear a special responsibility to groom youth who can become catalysts for a healthy lifestyle and positive change.”

COLLEGE GOSSIP: HNLU having both indoors and outdoor Sports facility

Central Chronicle News

Both boys and girls have a state of the art Gymnasium in the central hostels with indoor badminton courts and table tennis facility. Outdoor sports facilities inside the campus include a Football ground with a proposed synthetic running track around it, a Cricket ground, Lawn tennis court, two Basketball courts and one Volley ball court respectively.

Transport

The University has three buses of 40 seater capacity which shuttles in the evening from campus to city centre at periodic intervals. The transport fees of the university entitles the students for a ride to shop and meet their food and entertainment needs in the city.

Apart from the University transport the city transport corporation buses ply every 20 minutes from the main road in front of the campus gate to the major points of the capital region and Raipur city. The airport viz Swami Vivekananda Airport is just 15 minute drive from the campus and the Raipur railway station is 35 km. from the campus.

Medical and Health Facilities

The University has a visiting doctor every day in the evening with a functional dispensary and emergency medicine available with the wardens. The University has two separate ambulances parked one each at the boys and the girls hostel. There is a proposal underway to recruit a full time nurse on campus.

| ASST. PROFESSOR'S VIEWS |

Is Our Digital Future Safe in the Age of Quantum Computing?

By | Asst. Prof. Nisha Rathore- Asst. Prof., Amity University, Raipur

As the digital world continues to evolve, so do the challenges of protecting sensitive information. Today, encryption safeguards everything from online banking and healthcare records to government communications and personal data. However, the rapid advancement of quantum computing has introduced a new cybersecurity challenge. While quantum computers promise breakthroughs in science and technology, they also possess the potential to break many of the cryptographic algorithms that currently secure our digital infrastructure. This emerging reality has led to the development of Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC)—a new gen-

eration of cryptographic techniques designed to remain secure even against quantum-powered attacks.

Unlike classical computers, quantum computers use quantum bits (qubits) that can perform certain calculations exponentially faster. Algorithms such as Shor's Algorithm could eventually compromise widely used encryption methods like RSA and Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC), threatening the confidentiality of sensitive data. Although large-scale quantum computers are still under development, cybersecurity experts emphasize that organizations must begin preparing now because encrypted data intercepted today could be



decrypted in the future once quantum technology matures.

Post-Quantum Cryptography addresses this challenge by developing encryption algorithms that can run on existing computer systems while resisting attacks from both classical and quantum computers. International efforts, including the standardization initiatives by the National Institute of Standards and Tech-

FACTFILE

● “The strongest cybersecurity is not built for today's threats—it is designed to withstand tomorrow's technologies.”

nology (NIST), are accelerating the adoption of quantum-resistant cryptographic standards for governments, industries, and critical infrastructure.

For students and future computer scientists, understanding Post-Quantum Cryptography is becoming increasingly important. The next generation of cybersecurity professionals will play a vital role in designing secure communication systems, protecting digital identities, securing finan-

cial transactions, and safeguarding emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, and smart cities. As organizations gradually migrate to quantum-safe encryption, new opportunities for research, innovation, and career growth will continue to emerge.

The transition to the quantum era is not merely a technological upgrade—it is a strategic necessity. Preparing today for quantum-resistant security will ensure that our digital systems remain trustworthy in the face of tomorrow's computational power. By embracing Post-Quantum Cryptography, we are taking a proactive step toward building a safer, more resilient, and future-ready cyber ecosystem.

ZeroPeriod

THE WORLD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

ADMISSION

Admission process begins for Class 11 Commerce stream at EMRS

SUKMA: In a significant move by the Sukma District Administration to provide quality residential education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students, the admission process for vacant seats in the Class 11 Commerce stream at Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS), Sukma, for the 2026-27 academic session has commenced.

A total of 03 seats are available: 02 reserved for girls and 01 for a boy. Admission will be conducted through a completely transparent process based on a merit list prepared from marks obtained in the Class 10 board examinations. The Eklavya School management has urged eligible students to apply within the stipulated timeframe.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Admission begins for ET&T branch at Kh'garh Polytechnic

KHAIRAGARH: Government Polytechnic, Khairagarh, has opened admissions for the Electronics and Telecommunication (ET&T) branch for students aspiring to build a career in the field of technical education. Interested candidates can register online until August 8 under the institute-level admission process. Students in the ET&T branch receive practical training in modern laboratories under the guidance of experienced faculty members. The curriculum is designed to align with industry requirements, fostering the development of students' technical knowledge and skills.

Event of the week

School Induction Ceremony held at Vidya Niketan Public School



FINGESHWAR: A school induction ceremony and the oath-taking ceremony for newly elected student council office-bearers were held in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and dignity at Vidya Niketan Public School, Fingeshwar, marking the start of the new academic session. The chief guest for the event was Vandana Agarwal, Principal of Thakur Dalganj Singh Higher Secondary School, while the program was presided over by Shanti Kosre, Councilor of Ward No. 9. Parent members Sonali Thakur, Tikendra Kumar Yadu, and Diamond Sahu were also specially present on the occasion.

The program commenced with the worship of Goddess Saraswati and the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the guests. Teachers

extended a warm welcome to the guests by applying 'tilak'. Subsequently, students captivated everyone with an engaging welcome dance. Under the government's free textbook distribution scheme, the chief guest and other dignitaries distributed free textbooks to newly admitted students and offered them sweets, extending best wishes for their new academic journey.

The children showed great excitement and happiness at having the chief guest in their midst. Following this, the newly elected student council office-bearers were administered the oath of office and secrecy; they were invested with badges symbolizing their roles and encouraged to discharge their responsibilities effectively.

SHORTAKE: St. John's English Medium School

Grand Investiture Ceremony held at St. John's English Medium School

CHHURA: A grand Investiture Ceremony was organized at St. John's English Medium School for the formation of the Student Council. The event aimed to foster leadership qualities and a sense of responsibility among students. The ceremony was inaugurated by Chief Guest George Jacob, Director of the institution, in the presence of Managing Director Ashish George Jacob, Principal Bindu George Jacob, and Vice Principal Lovit Ratnakar. Newly appointed student leaders were ceremonially adorned with badges and scarves and took the oath of office, pledging to uphold discipline and fulfill their duties with dedication. Addressing the gathering, George Jacob emphasized that true leadership is rooted in service, responsibility, and integrity. The program concluded with congratulations and best wishes for the newly elected council members from Vice Principal Lovit Ratnakar.



SchoolBuzz

Students from GEMHSS selected for District-level Karate competition

ARANG: Students from Gandhi English Medium Higher Secondary School (GEMHSS), Arang, have brought laurels to the school through their outstanding performance in karate at the block-level school sports competition. The students participated impressively in matches held across the Under-14 and Under-17 age categories for both boys and girls. Mahatva Nath Yogi, Chirag Chandani, Arya Shree, and Kritika Sahu (Under-17 category), along with Shlok Puri Goswami and Lavanya Pal (Under-14 category), were selected for the district-level competition.



30 saplings planted in honor of Mothers at Joshilmati High School

DONGARGAON: Approximately 30 saplings were planted on the premises of Government High School, Joshilmati, under the 'One Tree in Mother's Name' (Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam) initiative for environmental protection. Lecturer Chain Kumar Sonwani stated that various types of fruit-bearing and shade-providing trees—such as Neem, Karanj, Jamun, and Gulmohar—were planted.

Ground-breaking ceremony for Girls' toilet construction held

ARANG: A formal ground-breaking ceremony—marked by the ritual breaking of a coconut—was held today at the Government High School in Rasni for the construction of a girls' toilet under the VB-GRAM-G scheme, in the presence of the Sarpanch and villagers. Speakers at the event noted that the government is making continuous efforts to promote the safety, hygiene, and quality education of girls; the construction of girls' toilets in schools is being undertaken with this very objective.



Indian batters aim to ace spin test in warm-up before Test series

India's batters will use a crucial three-day Colombo warm-up to sharpen their play against spin before the two-Test series against Sri Lanka begins in Galle.

Press Trust Of India

The match offers vital local experience, though forecast rain could disrupt India's preparations for Galle.

COLOMBO: Indian batters will be keen to fine-tune their skills against spin during a three-day warm-up match against a local Sri Lanka XI at the Nondescripts Cricket Club here on Friday as they gear up for a two-match Test series against the Islanders next week.

Quality spin proved to be India's Achilles Heel against New Zealand and South Africa at home recently, and the challenge will not be any different against Sri Lanka.

The Islanders have a capable unit of tweakers, particularly in home conditions, and thus this warm-up match assumes massive importance for Indian batters ahead of the first Test at Galle on August 15.

Some frontline batters like skipper Shubman Gill, KL Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal had started preparations against spin individually at their home facilities before boarding the flight to Colombo, but that cannot really supplant an outing on a Sri Lankan pitch.

The three-day match will give them valuable first-hand idea about local conditions, and it is



important because many of them are playing the red-ball format for the first time on these shores.

India's last Test series in Sri Lanka was in 2017, and the team composition has undergone

vast changes in the last decade.

In fact, only Rahul, Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja in this squad have appeared in Test matches in Sri Lanka.

In the absence of an

injured Jasprit Bumrah, pacer Mohammed Siraj will be India's bowling lead with support coming from Prasidh Krishna, Gurnoor Brar, Manav Suthar and Saransh Jain.

This largely inex-

perienced bowling lineup, except Siraj and Kuldeep, will be eager to bowl on a Lankan pitch once again.

Both Brar and Jain had very good outings for India A against Sri Lanka A last month at Galle, and they will be raring to have another round of practice under their belt.

Head Coach Gautam Gambhir emphasised on this point.

"We know what is in front of us. We can do volume, we can push our limits, we can tick all the boxes and come 15th morning whether we are batting first or bowling first we will be absolutely ready with every answer to every question thrown at us.

"So make sure to tick all the boxes from now on," Gambhir exhorted his wards in a video posted by BCCI.

However, intermittent rain is predicted to lash the city from Friday and that may jeopardise India's designs.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka also announced a strong SLC XI that contained some frontrunners to make it to the Test squad.

Led by Sonal Dinusha, who has played three Tests for SL, the squad features pacers Vishwa Fernando, Lahiru Kumara and spinners Isitha Wijesundara and Ramesh Mendis.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

JUNIOR ASIA CUP

Khaidem Chanu to lead India women's hockey team in Junior Asia Cup



NEW DELHI: Mid-fielder Khaidem Shileima Chanu will lead an 18-member Indian junior women's team in the Junior Asia Cup, scheduled to be held in Moqi, China, from August 30 to September 13. As part of its preparations for the continental tournament, an extended squad recently returned from an exposure tour of the United Kingdom. The match schedule and pool compositions for the Asia Cup will be announced closer to the start of the tournament. "I am proud of the

commitment and determination these young players have shown in earning their place in the squad for the Junior Asia Cup," said coach Tim White, who took charge of the team earlier this year. "Over the past few months, they have worked tirelessly to improve every aspect of their game, and I have seen them grow both as individuals and as a team," added White. White urged the players to consider the tournament as a launch-pad to realise their bigger dreams. **PTI**

J&K OPEN GOLF

Khalin Joshi stays in command with six-shot lead at J&K Open



SRINAGAR: Golfer Khalin Joshi fired a superb six-under 65 to end the third round with a comfortable six-shot lead at the Rs one crore J&K Open here on Thursday. The 33-year-old Bengaluru player, who began the day seven shots clear at the Royal Springs Golf Course, followed his first two rounds of 63 and 66 with another composed display to reach 19-under 194. Delhi's Rashid Khan (68-68-64), also a former Asian Tour winner, fired the day's best score of seven-under 64 to move into sole second place at 13-under 200, six shots behind Joshi. Joshi's second successive bogey-free round featured six birdies and extended his run without a dropped shot to 37 holes. The former Asian Tour winner has made just one bogey all week, which came on the par-four 17th during the opening round. **PTI**

INDIA TOUR EXPANDED

CSA include 3 T20Is to India women's tour of South Africa



JOHANNESBURG: Cricket South Africa has revised the Indian women's team's tour later this year, adding three T20Is to the existing one-off Test and three-match ODI series. The Test will be played from December 9-12, followed by the ODIs from December 16-22. India will remain for an additional week to contest T20Is between December 26 and 30 in Benoni and

Potchefstroom. CSA believes the added matches will offer both teams valuable preparation for the inaugural Women's Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka next February. CSA chief executive Pholetsi Moseki welcomed the revised programme, saying it would provide the Proteas Women with high-quality festive-season competition and test squad depth. **PTI**

DURAND CUP

Bodoland FC bounce back with 3-0 win over FCin Group F



GUWAHATI: Bodoland FC bounced back from their opening match defeat to NorthEast United with a commanding 3-0 win over FCin in a Group F fixture of the Durand Cup at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium here on Thursday. Robinson Rendon (57'), Rituraj Mohan (78'), and Aron Thapa (82') scored for Bodoland FC. At the coin toss, FCi

captain Ikhlaz Fayaz presented his Bodoland counterpart, Halicharan Narzary, with a sapling – a nod to the water-conservation and climate-awareness campaign that has shaped FCi's Durand Cup debut. Rendon put Bodoland ahead, heading home from Narzary's cross after twice missing similar chances earlier in the evening. **PTI**

Sneha sets the course ablaze with 10-under 61

HOSUR: Sneha Singh, who has been searching for form for a long time, played one of the finest rounds of her professional career as she closed her second round with seven consecutive birdies in the 11th Leg of the Women's Pro Golf Tournament here on Thursday. Sneha carded a 10-under 61 and, after an opening round of 2-over 73, now has an aggregate score of 8-under 134 to lead the field. The 2023 Order of Merit winner, Sneha, has not won a single event this season. She opened with a birdie and added another on the third hole before dropping her only shot of the day. She birdied the seventh as well and made the turn in 2-under 35. The 22-year-old was on fire on the back nine. She birdied the 10th and parred the 11th, but that was the last par she made for the day.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES |

Nadeem blames cold weather for CWG flop show, urges support

Press Trust Of India

LAHORE: Pakistan's Olympic gold medalist javelin thrower Arshad Nadeem has said it hurt him to read heartless comments on social media after his disappointing performance at the recently-concluded Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Nadeem, who scripted history by winning the gold medal at the Paris 2024 Olympics with an



Olympic record throw of 92.97 metres, said his poor showing in Glasgow was largely due to the extremely cold weather, which left his body stiff

and cramped, preventing him from generating the momentum and run-up required for his throws. At the recently concluded 2026 Com-

monwealth Games in Glasgow, Nadeem finished ninth in the men's javelin final with a best

I offer no excuses, but critics should remember this son of soil brought medals home.

Arshad Nadeem
Pakistan's javelin thrower

throw of 77.41 metres, failing to defend the gold medal from Birmingham 2022 with a then Games record throw of 90.18 metres.

HIGHLIGHT

● India begins its World Test Championship campaign against Sri Lanka in Galle.

● Gambhir welcomed newcomers Saransh Jain and Auqib Nabi after strong domestic seasons.

at us, and every answer we are ready to give. So make sure we tick all the boxes from now on," he added.

The first match of the series will be played in Galle from August 15 while the second game will be held here from August 23. It would be India's first ICC World Test Championship assignment since the disastrous 0-2 home defeat to South Africa in December last year.



“Africa remains one of India’s foremost foreign policy priorities for strategic partnerships”

Dr. S Jaishankar
External Affairs Minister

Japan Hiroshima Anniversary



Visitors pray in front of the cenotaph dedicated to the victims of the atomic bombing ahead of a ceremony to mark the anniversary of the bombing at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park in Hiroshima, Japan. PTI/AP.

Heat wave in Europe puts Italian cities on red alert

Italy placed all of its major cities under the highest heat alert Thursday as a blistering heat wave gripped Europe, setting a national temperature record in Austria.

Press Trust Of India

ROME: Italy placed all of its major cities under the highest heat alert Thursday as a blistering heat wave gripped Europe, setting a national temperature record in Austria, fueling wildfires in France and disrupting energy and transport systems across the continent.

The extreme weather has pushed temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) in several countries, prompting health warnings for millions of people. Across Europe, authorities are grappling with the consequences of extreme heat:

health alerts for millions in Italy, record temperatures in Austria, drought-related disruptions to energy and shipping in Central Europe, and wildfires stretching from France to the Balkans. Scientists and officials warn that such events are becoming more frequent and intense as the climate warms. From the Mediterranean to Central Europe, prolonged heat, drought and wildfire conditions are increasingly becoming defining features of summer. The current heat wave has exposed vulnerabilities in public health systems, power generation, transportation networks and

tourism infrastructure, forcing governments and businesses to adapt to more frequent periods of extreme weather. Italy’s Health Ministry placed all 27 cities monitored under its national heat surveillance system on red alert Thursday – the first time this year the entire network has been under the highest warning level simultaneously.

The alerts stretch from Trieste in the northeast to Palermo in Sicily and signal a health risk for the entire population, not only vulnerable groups such as older adults and people with chronic illnesses. Authorities urged

FASTFACTS

● The heat-wave has pushed temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius in European countries, prompting health warnings.

● The prolonged wildfires in France have disrupted energy and transport systems across the continent.

residents and tourists to avoid direct sunlight during the hottest hours of the day, remain indoors where possible and drink plenty of water as temperatures in some areas approached 40 degrees

Celsius. The heat has also forced adjustments at major tourist attractions. The ministries of tourism and culture extended evening opening hours at landmarks, including Rome’s Colosseum and Pantheon. Cooling mist fans have been installed at the Colosseum’s entrances, and additional medical stations have been made available. The most intense temperatures were recorded in Austria, where the mercury reached 41.2 degrees Celsius on Wednesday in the village of Bad Deutsch-Altenburg near the Slovak border, according to GeoSphere Austria.

| FISHERMEN |

Lanka Navy rescues Indian fishermen after accident

Press Trust Of India

Eleven Indian fishermen were rescued by Sri Lanka Navy after their fishing vessel met with an accident in island nation’s waters.

COLOMBO: Eleven Indian fishermen were rescued by the Sri Lanka Navy on Thursday after their fishing vessel met with an accident in the island nation’s waters, according to an official statement.

The accident occurred on a coastal reef off Delft Island, also



known as Neduntheevu, located in the Palk Strait off the northern coast of mainland Sri Lanka. The trawler had reportedly crossed the International Maritime Boundary Line into Sri Lankan waters late Wednesday and was

allegedly engaged in bottom trawling before it ran aground, according to the Sri Lanka Navy. Sri Lanka Navy’s spokesman Commander Chaminda Walakuluge claimed the Indian vessel was engaged in illegal fishing

FASTFACTS

● The tensions, which have claimed several lives this week, coincide with ongoing regional elections in PoK

activities in the island’s waters and met with an accident. In a statement, the navy confirmed that all 11 fishermen were brought ashore at Delft Island following a rescue operation. It said the subsequent activities concerning the rescued fishermen are being jointly handled with officials from the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

Senate votes to hold Dr Fauci

WASHINGTON : A Senate committee on Thursday voted to hold Dr Anthony Fauci in contempt of Congress and refer him to the Justice Department for potential prosecution over his refusal to answer questions at a hearing last week focused on his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs held the vote one week after Fauci invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination more than 100 times when he appeared before the panel. Republican Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, the committee chairman, has said that constitutional protection did not apply since Fauci last year received a pardon from Democratic President Joe Biden.

| ELECTION |

B’ desh to hold presidential poll on Aug 20: EC

Press Trust Of India

DHAKA: Bangladesh’s presidential election will be held on August 20, the Election Commission announced on Thursday, two weeks after President Mohammed Shahabuddin resigned on health grounds before completing his five-year term. Shahabuddin, 76, was a longtime ally of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina. “Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin has finalised the dates in consultation with (acting parliamentary) Speaker Kayser Kamal,” the Elec-



tion Commission’s senior secretary Akhtar Ahmed told reporters. In line with the Constitution, the parliament members elect the president, but the EC conducts the procedure to elect the head of state. Announcing the elec-

tion schedule, Election Commission Secretariat Senior Secretary Akhtar Ahmed said that voting will be held on August 20 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Jatiya Sangsad (National Parliament) session hall. Nomination

“The CEC has finalised dates for Presidential poll after meeting with Acting Parliamentary Speaker.”
Akhtar Ahmed
senior secretary, EC

papers will be accepted at the office of the Chief Election Commissioner on August 13. The scrutiny of nomination papers will

be held on August 16. The last date for withdrawal of candidature is August 18. The lawmakers would cast votes to elect the new president inside Parliament on August 20. However, no voting will be held in case of a consensus candidate. According to the state-run BSS news agency, Ahmed told journalists that the announcement for the presidential election schedule was made after discussions with Parliament Speaker Hafiz Uddin Ahmed, who is serving as Acting President for 90 days in accordance with the Constitution.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

AI-GIGAFACTORIES

Iran and Oman reach understanding on coordinates of route through Hormuz



TEHRAN: Iran and Oman have reached a preliminary understanding on the geographical coordinates for a proposed shipping route through the Strait of Hormuz, marking progress in discussions over one of the world’s most strategically important maritime passages. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said on Wednesday that both countries had completed an important stage of negotiations and were preparing a joint announcement. He, however, cautioned that the process could still be affected if outside parties attempted to interfere before the agreement was formally concluded.

According to Baghaei, the negotiations between Tehran and Muscat have been conducted in a professional manner and are moving forward

steadily. He said the two sides have agreed on the geographical parameters of the shipping route under discussion, while the draft of a joint statement outlining the main points of understanding is currently in its final stages of review and preparation. The statement is expected to clarify the framework agreed upon by both countries once it is officially released.

Despite this progress, Baghaei stressed that an agreement between Iran and Oman alone would not automatically guarantee security in the Strait of Hormuz. The waterway remains one of the most sensitive maritime routes in the world, carrying a significant share of global oil and gas exports. Ensuring safe navigation, he said, would require broader regional stability and cooperation.

VERDICT

China’s ex defence official imprisoned in corruption case

BEIJING: Former deputy head of China’s Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence Zhang Jianhua was sentenced to 10 years in prison for corruption, becoming the latest senior defence official to be punished in President Xi Jinping’s sweeping anti-graft campaign. The Intermediate People’s Court of Dazhou on Wednesday sentenced Zhang for accepting bribes worth over 43 million yuan (USD 6.3 million). The court also ordered the confiscation and recovery of all illicit gains and related proceeds, which will be turned over to the state treasury, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported. Zhang was one of the high-profile officials of China North Industries Group Corporation, a state-owned defence giant responsible for the research, development and production of heavy equipment such as tanks, armoured vehicles, artillery and missiles. The court held that Zhang was guilty of accepting bribes and using his influence to obtain illicit benefits, with the amounts involved in both offences classified as “especially large” under Chinese law.

CAMBRIDGE

Plagiarism: Youngest Black professor at Cambridge resigns

LONDON: A British sociologist who became famous as the youngest Black professor ever appointed at the University of Cambridge has resigned after the university said it opened an investigation into “new information” about his academic qualifications. Professor Jason Arday, who was 37 when he became a Cambridge professor in 2023, announced his decision late Wednesday following weeks of allegations about plagiarism in his academic work and questions surrounding claims he previously made about his athletic and fundraising accomplishments. “While criticism is an inevitable part of academic life, what I have experienced has gone far beyond scholarly disagreement,” Arday said in a statement released by the Good Law Project, a campaigning legal organisation.



AIRPORT-DISRUPTION

What to know as Germany investigates explosive drone at key cargo airport



BERLIN: For the second time in just over two years, Germany’s Leipzig/Halle Airport might have narrowly avoided a potential disaster. A drone with explosives was found late Tuesday and later defused. The country’s top security official said the incident was a “new threat quality” and indicated it was “professionally” prepared. Separately, “an object” collided with a plane Tuesday night, police said. The plane was intact but suffered minor damage.

In 2024, an incendiary device ignited at a logistics centre at the airport and set fire to a freight container, part of a plot that Western security officials suspect Russian intelligence was

behind. The flight the package was supposed to be on was delayed. Leipzig/Halle is a major international freight hub. The planes that regularly use it include Ukrainian Antonov transport aircraft. Prominent German terrorism expert Peter Neumann noted on X that Leipzig Airport is one of Europe’s most important hubs for providing support to Ukraine. It is home to NATO’s SALIS program for strategic airlift. Ukrainian Antonov Airlines has its operational base here.” The drone with “an unknown explosive device” was found by an airport employee near the south runway, police said, adding it was being examined after having its detonator removed.