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Central Chronicle

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SC declines stay on UPI MDR

SC agreed to examine the challenge to the imposition of MDR

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday refused to grant an interim stay on the imposition of merchant discount rate (MDR) on specified UPI person-to-merchant transactions above Rs 2,000 coming into effect from October 15.

The top court agreed to examine the challenge to the imposition of MDR and asked the Centre, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to respond within four weeks on the plea. The apex court was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by advocate

Anjan Datta challenging the Centre's decision to impose MDR on specified Unified Payments Interface (UPI) person-to-merchant transactions above Rs 2,000. The plea has challenged the Centre's September 14 notification and the MDR framework announced on September 15. Ending nearly six years of fully free UPI payments, the government has introduced a 0.4 per cent fee on transfers worth over Rs 2,000 made to merchants through the UPI platform from October 15 while explicitly ring-fencing everyday person-to-person transactions and small payments from any charge. A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana issued

SC seeks Centre, RBI responses
Justice Surya Kant
CJI

notice to the Centre, the RBI and the NPCI seeking their responses on the plea.

Additional Solicitor General N Venkataraman, appearing for the Centre, told the bench that 96 per cent of people using the gateway were exempt.

"The Government of India is not taking even a single rupee out of it," the law officer said.

The bench asked the Centre to file its counter affidavit explaining the basis for the move to impose a fee on transfers worth over Rs 2,000 made to merchants through the UPI platform.

Venkataraman said the charges for essential services are capped at Rs 5.

"It is neither a tax nor a fee," he said.

"We need all these facts inn a short affidavit. It will help us understand better. It is less a legal issue and more a technical issue," the bench observed.

During the hearing, the top court said it would like to see the legal source of implementing the charge.

"Is it a tax or a fee? If not a fee, then what is the executive basis for making this expropriation?"

Six cattle die at temporary shelter

BILASPUR: Six cattle died at a temporary shelter in a village in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district over the last two days, with officials suspecting that lack of grazing, mud accumulation after heavy rainfall, and dirty water at the shelter caused illness.

Villagers, however, claimed that around 30 animals died at the facility. Joint Director of Veterinary Services (Bilaspur), Dr Gopal Sharan Singh Tanwar, said a team of veterinary doctors visited the temporary cattle shelter in Jhalmala village in Sipat area after receiving information about the deaths and assessed the situation. The team found that three cattle died on Saturday and three more on Sunday, taking the total number of deaths to six, he said. Prima facie, the deaths were caused by the cattle not being allowed out for grazing due to continuous rainfall, while accumulation of mud and dirty water at the shelter led to exposure to cold and illness, he said.

Around 300 cattle were present at the shelter when the veterinary team inspected the site, the official said.

He said the shelter was set up with the consent and cooperation of the village sarpanch and locals to protect crops from stray cattle.

"Excessive rainfall caused waterlogging and accumulation of mud at the shelter, affecting the condition of the land," Tanwar said.

NEWSLINE

NASHIK

140 fall ill

Around 140 persons fell ill in Malegaon taluka of Nashik district on Monday after eating 'bhel' (a spicy snack made of puffed rice), an official said.

They had eaten from a shop in the weekly market in Nandgaon Budruk village, he added.

"They complained of giddiness, stomach ache, loose motions and vomiting. Those affected were taken to Malegaon general hospital. The victims are from Chinchawad, Gunjalwadi, Dongargaon and Nandgaon Budruk villages. The 140 persons include small children and women," the official said. The condition of those hospitalised is stable, he said. An inquiry will be conducted into the incident and action will be taken against those response, Maharashtra school education minister Dada Bhuse said after visiting the hospital.

NEW DELHI

Status report

The Supreme Court on Monday passed a slew of directions while taking cognisance of news reports of crimes against minor girls and women across Delhi-NCR while directing the Delhi Police Commissioner to constitute dedicated police teams to conduct an immediate survey and inspection of vulnerable pockets. The top court directed the Delhi Police commissioner to constitute dedicated police teams for each police district, headed by an officer not below the rank of deputy superintendent of police within a period of four weeks. "The audit shall be based upon National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, local intelligence, past and present complaints received, previous incidents and other objective indicators to identify locations prone to such crimes.

NEW DELHI

Subhas Bose's 'ashes'

The Supreme Court on Monday granted four weeks to the Centre to file its response on a plea by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's daughter seeking directions for return of his "ashes" from Tokyo's Renkoji temple. The top court, on August 11, had issued notice to the Centre on the plea filed by Anita B Pfaff, daughter of Netaji Bose. On Monday, a bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana was urged by Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, that four weeks be granted to the Centre to file its response.

'Link unpaid traffic fines to power bills'

Press Trust Of India

Massive outstanding balance of Rs 20,000 crore to recover towards unpaid traffic e-challans.

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday noted that states and Union territories have a massive outstanding balance of Rs 20,000 crore to recover towards unpaid traffic e-challans and suggested linking such challans to electricity bills to recover

the amount.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and K V Viswanathan was informed that despite issuing a vast number of traffic challans, recovery of fines is minimal. The top court said it is not just sufficient to keep issuing e-challans and that recovery of fines is important.

"If people are not paying traffic challans, add it to their electricity dues bill. They will have to pay electricity bills else power line will be disconnected. Work it out. In this country, you have to find a way out," the bench remarked.

| RESPECTFUL INVITATION |

Prez Droupadi Murmu invited for Bastar Dussehra

Central Chronicle News

Delegation led by Union Minister of State Tokhan Sahu meets the President to invite her to witness the world-famous Bastar Dussehra

NEW DELHI: Preparations for the world-famous and long-duration Bastar Dussehra are currently in full swing in Bastar. In this context, Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Tokhan Sahu, met President Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi today and respectfully invited her to attend the Bastar Dussehra festival.

Tourism and Culture Minister Rajesh Agrawal, Bastar MP Mahesh Kashyap, and Secretary of the Tourism and Culture Department S. Bharathidasan were present on this occasion. The delegation apprised the President of the unique traditions, tribal culture, and cultural significance of Bastar Dussehra and extended an invitation for her to participate in the event.

Responding positively to the invitation, President Smt. Droupadi Murmu stated that she would "certainly make an effort."

Tokhan Sahu remarked that Bastar Dussehra is a vibrant celebration of Chhattisgarh's rich tribal culture, folk faith, and centuries-old traditions. Its unique customs and extended duration give it a distinctive identity across the country and the world.

Sunset Stroll

People stroll along Kartavya Path during sunset, in New Delhi.

| TECHNICAL SETBACK |

HAL stealth jet bid fails on technical grounds

Press Trust Of India

This was, the first time HAL was kept out of an indigenous fighter-jet project.

NEW DELHI: State-run aircraft manufacturer Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) did not qualify to build prototypes of the indigenous Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), a stealth fighter, on technical grounds, according to India's Defence Secretary. This was, consequently, the first time HAL was kept out of an indigenous fighter-jet project. In an interview , Defence Secretary RK Singh said, HAL "didn't qualify on some fairly routine technical grounds which they somehow failed to meet." He did not specify what those technical grounds were. At the same time, the Defence Ministry had made a decision to open up the manufacturing of the futuristic platform to the private sector. "We wanted to create a second fighter jet production line in the country rather than putting all our eggs in one basket, as has always been the case in this country. We've been lucky to find three credible technically qualified bidders - one TASL (Tata Advanced Systems Limited) on its own, the other two are credible private sector companies with public sector partnerships."

| SURVEY REPORT |

74% employers may retain festive hires

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: After the festive season rush subsides, 74 per cent of employers interviewed said they will retain at least 10 per cent of their 2026 festive hires, with most of these jobs in frontline operations, a report said on Monday.

Over 74 per cent of employers expect to retain at least 10 per cent of their 2026 festive hires beyond the peak period, through extensions, renewals or conversion into long-term roles, global job site Indeed's 'Festive Season Outlook 2026' report revealed. Much of this demand sits across frontline operations, from delivery and warehousing to production, transport and fulfilment, it added. The Indeed 'Festive Season Outlook 2026' report is based on a survey among 1,277 employers and 2,569 employees and jobseekers across India. Respondents represented a mix of industries, organisation sizes, age groups, career stages and locations. The report revealed that over 53 per cent of employers expect ongoing festive hiring to increase over 2025, but the bigger shift is how early they are preparing.

NUMBER

10

- Employers expect retention of 10% festive hires.

"The interesting shift is that the festive season is becoming a window into how companies want to build their workforce more broadly. Businesses still need the flexibility to respond to a sharp rise in demand, but they're also recognising that short-term hiring doesn't have to mean short-term thinking.

Delhi tightens vehicle curbs, parking charges

Press Trust Of India

Delhi bars Non-BS-VI vehicles from November

NEW DELHI: Delhi Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa on Monday announced a slew of measures to curb winter pollution, including restrictions on the entry of non-Delhi-registered vehicles below BS-VI, stricter enforcement of the "No PUC, No Fuel" rule and curbs on construction and demolition activities.

Vehicles registered outside Delhi that are below BS-VI will be prohibited from entering the national capital from November 1, while electric vehicles will be exempt from additional parking charges.

BS (I-VI) refers to emission standards of vehicles, with BS-VI vehicles being compliant with the most stringent standards.

Sirsa said the government will publicise the restriction in advance. CNG vehicles will not fall under the separate BS-IV restriction, he said. The Delhi government did not specify when the restriction will end.

Parking charges at authorised parking sites will be doubled from November 1 to February 28 to discourage private vehicle use, while electric vehicles will be exempt from the additional parking charges.

Raipur

Public funds are being misused through the GeM portal.

Sushil Anand Shukla

PCC Communication Head

Grand Ganesh tableau draws massive crowd in Raipur

Thousands throng Raipur streets for grand Ganesh tableau.

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Thousands of devotees thronged the streets of Raipur as a grand Ganesh tableau procession was taken out with religious fervour on Sunday night. The colourful tableaux, decorated on different themes, drew large crowds along the traditional immersion route. Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai also joined the historic procession at Jaistambh Chowk and welcomed the tableaux.

The procession began from Sharda Chowk and passed through Jaistambh Chowk, Malviya Road, Sadar Bazaar, Kankali Talab Road, Purani Basti, Lakhe Nagar, Sundar Nagar and Raipura before reaching Mahadev Ghat. One of the tableaux featured Lord Ganesha dressed in traditional Chhattisgarhi attire.

Sai said the Ganesh immersion tableau represents a historic tradition of Raipur and prayed for the prosperity and well-being of Chhattisgarh.

HIGHLIGHT

- CM Sai joins historic immersion procession.

Elaborate security and traffic arrangements were made for the event. Around 2,000 police personnel were deployed under a three-tier security plan, with drones, watchtowers and ACCU teams monitoring the route. The procession area was divided into six security zones and 30 sectors.

Traffic diversions and designated parking areas were arranged at several locations. Heavy vehicles were barred from entering the city between midnight and 5 am. Liquor shops in Birgaon, Urla, Silatara and Dunda were also sealed as a precautionary measure to prevent disturbances during the procession.

'Youth must turn ideas into ventures'

Central Chronicle News

Youth should transform innovative ideas into successful ventures.

RAIPUR: Governor Ramen Deka on Monday urged the youth to move beyond seeking jobs and develop the courage to turn innovative ideas into ventures. He was addressing the inaugural session of the three-day Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Conclave-2026 at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University (IGAU). The Governor also inaugurated the Subhash Chandra Bose Biotechnology Incubation Centre established at the university. He said innovation is essential in every field, particularly agriculture, where Chhattisgarh has immense potential. New technologies and experiments are needed to increase production, reduce losses and improve farmers' access to markets.

Deka said agriculture, forest produce, food processing, millets, organic farming, animal husbandry and tribal products offer significant opportunities for young entrepreneurs. He stressed that agriculture and biotechnology can play an important role in the state's economic development.

He said startups should focus on innovations that lower farmers' costs, improve productivity and quality, reduce crop losses and help them secure better prices. He also highlighted the importance of reviving kitchen gardens and traditional baris to strengthen household economies. The Governor advised aspiring entrepreneurs to conduct market surveys before launching ventures and understand product demand and market potential. A clear business plan, management skills, financial knowledge, training and practical skills are essential for sustainable startups, he said.

He also visited stalls showcasing innovations by young entrepreneurs.

HIGHLIGHT

- Innovation drive, entrepreneurship and youth empowerment.

Cong protests across state, demands CEC's removal

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Congress workers staged protests across Chhattisgarh on Monday, demanding action against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. The protest was part of the party's nationwide programme announced for September 28. In Raipur, a foot march was taken out from the Rajiv Gandhi statue to the Collectorate, led by state in-charge Sukhdev Bhagat, PCC chief Deepak Baij and Leader of Opposition Charandas Mahant. MLAs, former ministers and party workers participated in the march.

Police put up barricades at Gandhi Chowk to stop the protesters, leading to a scuffle between workers and police. Congress workers also burnt effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and CEC Gyanesh Kumar.

Congress leaders demanded Kumar's removal and an FIR, alleging irregularities related to SIR and voter lists.

| CII MSME CONCLAVE 2.0 |

EoDB takes centre stage at CII MSME Conclave

Central Chronicle News

CII MSME Conclave puts ease of doing business centre-stage.

RAIPUR: The CII Chhattisgarh State Council's MSME Conclave 2.0 began in Raipur with over 250 participants, including policymakers, industry leaders and entrepreneurs. Themed "Empowering MSMEs through Innovation and Sustainable Industrial Development," the conclave focused on ease of doing business, finance, technology and sustainable growth. Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma said Chhattisgarh's growth would be built on its small factories and workshops, with law and order, roads and quick approvals providing the required foundation. Industry Minister Lakhan Lal Dewangan said MSMEs were at the heart of the state's Industrial Development Policy and entrepreneurs in Bastar and Sarguja should receive services at the same speed as those in Raipur. CSIDC Chairman Rajeev Agrawal said ready land and plug-and-play infrastructure would reduce the time from idea to production.

CII State Council Chairman Bajrang Goel said MSMEs form the backbone of the state's industrial value chain and CII would continue bridging industry and government. MSME Panel Convener Aditya Mundra identified technology, finance and compliance reforms as key growth levers.

FACTFILE

- Faster approvals to drive MSME growth.

| WORLD TOURISM DAY |

Ch'garh Tourism Marketplace opens Global Business Opportunities

Central Chronicle News

Chhattisgarh tourism gets global push through business partnerships.

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh took a step towards expanding its tourism footprint in national and international markets with the Central India Connect Chhattisgarh Marketplace-2026, organised on World Tourism Day at Mayfair Lake View Resort, Nava Raipur. The event, organised jointly by the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board and Chhattisgarh Travel Trade Association, brought together tour operators, travel agents, hoteliers, homestay operators and tourism stakeholders from across India and abroad. Tourism and Culture Minister Rajesh Agarwal said Chhattisgarh was rapidly moving towards establishing a distinct identity on the global tourism map. He said tourism should not be viewed merely as travel, but as a sector connecting nature, culture, heritage and the local economy. The minister highlighted opportunities in Bastar's tribal culture, Surguja's natural beauty, Chitrakoot and Tirathgarh waterfalls, Sirpur, Rajim, Bhoramdev and Barnawapara.

He said tourism development should generate employment for youth, empower women and tribal communities and create markets for local artisans.

HIGHLIGHT

- B2B platform connects tourism with global markets.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

NATIONAL AGM CONCLUDES

Two-day AIMJF National AGM concludes successfully in Raipur

RAIPUR: The two-day Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the All India Memon Jamaat Federation (AIMJF) concluded successfully in Raipur, bringing together around 1,200 delegates representing nearly 500 Memon Jamaats from across India and representatives from 12 overseas countries. The AGM was organised by All Raipur Memon Jamaat under the leadership of former Mayor Aijaz Dhebar. Raipur Memon Jamaat President Akhtar Bhai Dhebar, along with Hanif Bhai Ganj, Junaid Bhai Thara, Tauheed Jada, Ayyub Bhai Parakh and Arif Rawani, played key roles in the organisation. They said the event reflected the unity and collective participation of the community.

Members of Ladies Memon Jamaat Raipur, Young Memon Committee, Memon Femina and Mohalla Committee also extended support. Their representatives highlighted the importance of active participation of women, youth and local committees in community activities. AIMJF President Iqbal Memon Officer and Youth Wing President Imran Footwala, along with central office-bearers, attended the convention after arriving from Mumbai. Iqbal Memon Officer emphasised strengthening coordination among Memon Jamaats, while Imran Footwala highlighted the role of youth in community development. Event Media In-charge Dr Yousuf Memon, Director and Cancer Surgeon, Sanjeevani Group of Hospitals, said the convention provided a platform for discussing social welfare and community development. He added that a delegation led by Iqbal Memon Officer also met the Chhattisgarh Chief Minister and apprised him of the Federation's welfare initiatives. Discussions covered social harmony, community integration and cooperation.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Saurav Sahu wins Men's Doubles title at Lucknow tournament

RAIPUR: Chhattisgarh badminton player Saurav Sahu produced a strong performance to clinch the Men's Doubles title at the All-India Ranking Badminton Tournament held in Lucknow. Partnering Arsh Mohammad, Saurav defeated Karnataka's Sumith A.R. and Arya T. in straight games, 15-7, 15-12, in the final. The tournament also witnessed competitive finals in other categories. In Women's Singles, Jia Rawat defeated Rijul Saini 15-12, 12-15, 15-11. Ginpaul Sonna won the Men's Singles title after beating Ravi 15-13, 15-9. In Women's Doubles, Aditi Bhatt and Shravani Walekar defeated Nayana S. Oasis and Varshini Vishwanath Sri 15-10, 15-8 to claim the title.

Saurav is currently training at the National Excellence Badminton Centre in Guwahati under the guidance of Chhattisgarh chief coach Sanyam Shukla. He has also received basic and advanced training in Lucknow under coach Sanjay Mishra. His title-winning performance has brought recognition to Chhattisgarh at the national level and highlighted the growing talent from the state's badminton fraternity. His family members, coaches, fellow players and sports enthusiasts across Chhattisgarh congratulated him on the achievement and wished him success in upcoming tournaments. Saurav's latest triumph is expected to strengthen his confidence as he continues his training and competitive journey. The victory also provides an encouraging boost to his preparations for future national-level badminton events.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY VISION

IIIT-NR launches Digital Humanities Minor, hosts AI Workshop

RAIPUR: IIIT-NR has launched a B.Tech. Minor in Digital Humanities, combining artificial intelligence and technology with disciplines such as literature, history, language, culture and human behaviour. The programme, introduced in line with the multidisciplinary vision of NEP 2020, has been opted for by 60 students.

The institute has also established a Centre for Digital Humanities to promote education and research in the emerging field. Vice Chancellor and Director Prof. (Dr.) Om Prakash Vyas said future challenges cannot be addressed through a single discipline and would require collaboration among technology, science, humanities and social sciences. He stressed the importance of human sensitivity, ethics, trust and credibility alongside technical expertise. A one-day workshop on "AI for Cultural Heritage" was also organised under the AI Centre of Excellence established at IIIT-NR under the IndiaAI Mission. The workshop explored AI applications in digitising, preserving and interpreting India's cultural and literary heritage, with focus on Chhattisgarh.

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CAIT expands Mungeli unit, forms new executive committee

RAIPUR: The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has expanded its organisational network in Mungeli with the constitution of a new executive committee for the 2026-2028 term. A meeting with local traders was held under the leadership of Chhattisgarh State Chairman Vikram Singh DeO and State President Parmanand Jain. CAIT National Vice Chairman and National Traders' Welfare Board member Amar Parwani, along with State Chairman Jitendra Doshi, State Vice Chairmen Surinder Singh and Jivat Bajaj, State General Secretary Avneet Singh, State Treasurer Vijay Patel and other office-bearers, participated in the meeting. Discussions focused on issues faced by traders, protection of business interests, organisational expansion and strengthening the local trading community. Arvind Kesharwani was appointed President of the Mungeli unit, while Dhananjay Soni was named General Secretary and Rajesh Jain Treasurer. Rajkumar Artani and Tuljaram Ledwani were appointed State Vice-Presidents.

Raipur News

CM visits flood-hit areas of Bastar, meets affected families

Government stands firmly with every flood-affected family in this time of crisis: CM Sai

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai visited the flood-affected areas of Bastar district on Monday and reviewed the situation on the ground. CM Sai reached Dongaghat in the Jagdalpur Municipal Corporation area, met flood-affected families, listened to their problems, and enquired about their situation. He assured the affected people that the State Government stands firmly with them in this time of crisis and that it will provide every possible assistance to each affected family.

Providing major relief to flood-affected families, CM Sai announced financial assistance of Rs 10,000 to each affected family from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, in addition to the assistance available under government provisions. He directed officials to quickly complete the survey and assessment of flood damage and ensure government assistance reaches eligible families as soon as possible.

CM Sai met flood-affected families in Dongaghat. He enquired about the circumstances they faced during the floods, the damage caused to houses and household belongings, and the relief currently being provided. The Chief Minister said all necessary assistance will be provided, keeping affected families' needs in view.

The Chief Minister clearly directed officials to ensure relief operations proceed without delay. Food, safe drinking water, medicines and other essential supplies should reach affected people on time. Relief arrangements should ensure particular attention to the needs of children, older people, women, and people in need.

CM reviews Indravati River water level and flood-affected areas

CM Sai reached the Indravati Bridge and reviewed the river's water level and the surrounding flood-affected areas. He sought information from departmental officials on rainfall and the district's flood situation, including affected villages and urban areas, relief and rescue operations, and arrangements for affected families.

The Chief Minister said officials should continuously monitor changes in water levels and weather conditions. Officials should maintain special vigilance in low-lying and sensitive areas, and activate relief and rescue teams immediately when required. He said people's safety is paramount and arrangements to assist in any emergency must remain fully prepared.

Special focus on Health and sanitation after floodwaters recede

CM Sai directed officials to pay special attention to health and sanitation-related challenges in affected areas after floodwaters recede.Officials must ensure safe drinking water.

FASTFACTS

- **Chief Minister announces Rs 10,000 assistance from CM Relief Fund for each affected family, in addition to government assistance**
- **Chief Minister directs sensitive survey of damage to houses, crops and livestock to ensure early assistance**

Government stands with every flood-affected family: CM

CM Sai said that in this difficult time of natural disaster, the State Government stands firmly with flood-affected families. Ensuring the safety and relief of affected people and restoring normalcy as soon as possible is the government's highest priority. He said there would be no shortage of necessary resources, and the government would extend every possible support to affected families.

As per the Chief Minister's directions, relief and rescue operations are being carried out in flood-affected areas. Food, drinking water, healthcare facilities, and other essential assistance are being provided based on affected families' needs.

Mega job fair in Raipur on Oct 7-8

RAIPUR: The Chhattisgarh government will host a two-day state-level mega job fair on October 7 and 8, 2026, at the Sardar Balbir Singh Juneja Indoor Stadium in Budhapara, Raipur, aimed at offering employment opportunities to the state's educated and skilled youth.Organised by the Department of Skill Development, Technical Education, and Employment, the event will connect local and national companies with job seekers across various sectors.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai will attend as the chief guest on October 8 to distribute appointment letters to selected candidates.So far, 36 employers and placement agencies have registered 8,720 vacant positions on the state's e-Employment portal (erojgar.cg.gov.in), spanning industries such as manufacturing, engineering, banking, healthcare, customer service, and logistics.

Roles are available for candidates with qualifications ranging from 10th and 12th pass to ITI, diplomas, engineering, and postgraduate degrees.

Major recruiters participating include Quess Corp, Randstad India, Airtel Payment Bank, Vardhman Textiles, and Genus Power Infrastructure.

EOW to file final charge sheet in Coal Scam Oct 3

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) has reached the final stage of its investigation into Chhattisgarh's high-profile coal scam. The investigative agency is now preparing to submit the final charge sheet in the case. According to reports, the final charge sheet will be filed in the special court on October 3. The EOW has accelerated the process of finalizing the charge sheet, which is expected to name approximately 35 accused individuals. Meanwhile, the questioning of accused persons who have been granted anticipatory bail is also ongoing.

The EOW has also questioned Congress MLA Devendra Yadav regarding the coal scam. He was summoned to the EOW office, where officials questioned him for about two hours on various aspects of the case. Information is being gathered from the accused and other relevant individuals as part of the EOW investigation. The agency aims to clarify all facts and transaction trails linked to the case.

ED also investigating the matter: Apart from the EOW, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is also investigating the high-profile Chhattisgarh coal scam. Both agencies are examining different aspects of the case. Judicial proceedings are expected to advance once the EOW files the final charge sheet in the special court. The charge sheet will detail the facts and documents that emerged during the investigation, as well as the roles played by the accused.

Allegation of illegal levy collection in coal transportation:

According to investigative agencies, an illegal levy of Rs 25 per tonne was allegedly collected from coal traders and transporters between July 2020 and June 2022. Investigations reveal that the Mining Department's permit system was altered to facilitate this; the online coal permit system was switched to an offline process, allowing a syndicate to seize control of the system. Agencies allege that this mechanism was used to extort money from those involved in coal transportation and to establish an organized network.

Investigations by the EOW and ED indicate that more than Rs 540 crore was amassed through this alleged illegal extortion racket. Agencies are probing the financial transactions, the roles of the accused, and the alleged network involved in the case. With the final charge sheet now set to be filed, the legal proceedings are expected to accelerate. All eyes are on the documents and facts that the investigative agency will present in court.

NEWSLINE

APPOINTMENT

Ashish Kumar Tikriha appointed Director PR

RAIPUR: The General Administrative Department has issued orders giving additional charge to Ashish Kumar Tikriha (IAS-2021), working as Managing Director Chhattisgarh State Warehousing Corporation (CSWC) and had appointed him as the Director Public Relations (PR) along with existing charges.

ACCIDENT AVERTED

Moving bus's windshield shatters

RAIPUR: The windshield of a Mahendra Travels bus–en route from Jagdalpur to Raipur–suddenly shattered mid-way. The bus was speeding at the time of the incident. Despite the windshield breaking, the driver displayed presence of mind and managed to control the vehicle, thereby preventing a major disaster. According to reports, the Mahendra Travels bus was carrying passengers from Jagdalpur to Raipur when the windshield suddenly broke on National Highway-30 near Naya Raipur. The sudden incident caused a brief period of panic among the passengers on board.

MEETING

MIC meeting rescheduled to Sept 30

RAIPUR: Following heavy rainfall in the city, the local administration has postponed the annual Shri Ganesh Visarjan procession by a day. In line with this change, Mayor Meenal Choubey ordered the rescheduling of the Raipur Municipal Corporation's Mayor-in-Council (MIC) meeting to Wednesday, September 30, 2026, at 1:00 PM.

The meeting will take place in Committee Room No. 405 on the third floor of the Municipal Corporation Headquarters (Mahatma Gandhi Sadan). According to the municipal secretariat, a significant number of officials and employees from both the corporation headquarters and various zonal offices have been deployed on administrative duty to ensure the smooth execution of the immersion procession.

NIT launches Hindi fortnight with annual fest 'Aavahan 2026'

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Rajbhasha Committee of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur on Monday inaugurated its annual Hindi festival, 'Aavahan 2026', marking the beginning of a series of literary, cultural, creative and outdoor activities aimed at promoting the use and appreciation of Hindi among students.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Dr. Narendra D. Londhe, Registrar, NIT Raipur; Dr. Manoj Chopkar, Dean (Student Welfare); and Dr. Dharm Pal, Associate Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering. The programme was conducted under the guidance of the faculty incharges of the Rajbhasha Committee Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Dr. Sharada Nandan Raw and Dr. Vikas Kumar Vidyarthi.

The programme began with Saraswati Vandana, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Sharada Nandan Raw emphasised the relevance of Hindi in various spheres of everyday life and said that the language serves not only as a medium of communication but also as an important symbol of national unity. Dr. Narendra D. Londhe highlighted the significance of Hindi Pakhwada and said that the observance reflects the rich cultural heritage and traditions of India.

Habitual offender Dilkash Ali externed for 3 months

RAIPUR: The police have taken major action against Dilkash Ali, an accused repeatedly involved in criminal activities in the capital, Raipur.

The Raipur Police Commissioner has issued an order to extern the accused from the district for three months under the Chhattisgarh State Security Act, 1990. Under this order, the accused has been barred from entering the revenue boundaries of six districts, including Raipur.

The police state that this action aims to maintain law and order in the city and strengthen the sense of security among citizens.

According to the police, the externed accused has been identified as Dilkash Ali, son of Humayun Ali (26), a resident of Tarun Nagar (behind Jeevan Plaza), under the jurisdiction of the Civil Lines police station, Raipur.

| CM VISITS SINGAPORE |

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai to visit Singapore for SING forum

Central Chronicle News

CM Sai will lead a delegation to Singapore from October 3 to 6, 2026, representing Chhattisgarh at the inaugural SING Forum following an MEA nomination.

FASTFACT

- **The visit aims to pitch Chhattisgarh's investment opportunities to international investors, targeting MSMEs, start-ups, and employment-driven industries.**

RAIPUR: Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai will take part in an India-Singapore business forum and showcase the state's achievements, investment potential and opportunities for economic cooperation during a four-day visit to the Southeast Asian country starting from October 3, officials said on Monday.

He will lead a high-level delegation from Chhattisgarh at the Singapore-India Network for Growth (SING) Forum 2026 during his October 3 to 6 visit to the city-state.

Sai is visiting Singapore following his nomination by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and to represent Chhattisgarh at the inaugural edition of the SING Forum, organised by the Singapore Business Federation, an official statement said. The MEA has selected two states -- Chhattisgarh and Haryana -- to participate in the SING Forum, it said.

The forum will bring together senior government representatives, industry leaders and investors from Singapore and India, with the objective of strengthening economic ties between the two countries and promoting new trade and investment opportunities, it said.

At the forum, Sai will highlight investment opportunities in Chhattisgarh, particularly in MSMEs, start-ups and employment-oriented sectors, the release said.

The participation of the state delegation will provide an opportunity to showcase Chhattisgarh's industrial potential before international investors and entrepreneurs and explore possibilities for long-term economic cooperation, it said. During his Singapore visit, the delegation led by Sai will hold meetings with representatives of Skill Centre, Mandai Wildlife Reserve and Gardens by the Bay, where discussions will be held on cooperation in skill development, wildlife conservation, horticulture and green development, it said.

"This visit is an important opportunity to connect Chhattisgarh with global partners and open new avenues of development for the state," Sai said in the release.

| CH'GARH HOCKEY LEAGUE |

223 players take the field on Day 1 of selection trials

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: The player selection trials for the inaugural season of the Chhattisgarh Hockey League (CHL) commenced today at Pitch-1 of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Hockey Stadium in Raipur. Out of the 373 players registered for the trials, 223 turned up and participated on the first day. Dy CM Arun Sao met and interacted with them on the field. He remarked that hockey has deep roots in Chhattisgarh, and the enthusiasm displayed by the players during these trials is a testament to that. "I witnessed their passion on the field firsthand today.

The objective of the Chhattisgarh Hockey League is to provide a major platform for such young players, where they can share the field with national and international-level athletes. Our goal is to ensure that every sporting talent from Chhattisgarh gets the opportunity to advance to state, national, and international levels." He extended his best wishes to the participating players.The Department of Sports and Youth Welfare has organized these selection trials to select players for the six teams competing in the Chhattisgarh Hockey League. The entire trial process is being conducted in accordance with the rules and criteria laid down by the Chhattisgarh Hockey Association.

The trials were conducted under the supervision of a panel comprising sports officials, experts, representatives from the hockey association, and senior players. The panel includes Dinu Prasad Patel (Sports Officer, Department of Sports and Youth Welfare), Rashmi Sandhya Ekka (Senior Hockey Coach, Raipur), Rakesh Toppo (Senior Hockey Coach, Bilaspur), Mrinal Choubey (International Player, representing Chhattisgarh Hockey Association), Anurag Srivastava (Rajnandgaon), and Amitabh Manikpuri (Senior Hockey Player).

CM Sai announces an incentive of Rs 51 lakh for Sanju Devi

Central Chronicle News

RAIPUR: Sanju Devi, a daughter of Chhattisgarh and a member of the Indian women's kabaddi team that won the gold medal at the 2026 Asian Games, paid a courtesy visit to Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai at his residence today. Chief Minister Shri Sai congratulated and felicitated Ms. Sanju Devi for this historic achievement. On this occasion, the Chief Minister announced an incentive of Rs 51 lakh for her. Chief Minister Shri Sai stated that Ms. Sanju Devi has brought glory to Chhattisgarh and the entire nation on the international stage through her outstanding sporting performance, hard work, and determination. Her achievement serves as an inspiration for the state's daughters and young athletes. He remarked that the talent in Chhattisgarh possesses immense potential. The state government strives to ensure that talented athletes receive superior training, resources, and encouragement, enabling them to bring laurels to the state and the country in national and international competitions.

Bilaspur

"Sanitation campaign has been geared up after the spell of incessant rain stopped in the town and adjoining areas."

Sanjay Agrawal
Collector, Bilaspur

Unity and values essential for stronger society:Tokhan

Union Minister of State for Housing Tokhan Sahu urged families to strengthen unity, values and social participation through collective efforts.

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: Union Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs Tokhan Sahu attended the first annual conference and general meeting of the Chhattisgarh Pradesh Sahu Sangh in Bilaspur. The conference marked the completion of one year of the organisation's present term and brought together office-bearers, life members and social representatives from different parts of the state.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review the organisation's activities and achievements during the past year and discuss plans and priorities for the coming period. Representatives presented details of various social initiatives undertaken during the year and discussed measures to expand the organisation's activities at the grassroots level.

Addressing the gathering, Sahu said unity, dialogue and family values were essential for building a stronger and more responsible society. He stressed that social organisations should work continuously for the welfare of the community while ensuring that every family participates actively in constructive social activities.

FASTFACTS

- MoS Tokhan Sahu attended the first annual conference and general meeting of Chhattisgarh Sahu Sangh.
- He stressed family values, youth guidance, education and dialogue for lasting social progress.

Sahu particularly emphasised the importance of guiding the younger generation. He said children should be introduced to family values from an early age and should learn to respect senior citizens. Young people, he said, require proper guidance and opportunities to participate in social activities so that they can contribute positively to society.

Participants also discussed ways to increase awareness about education, discipline and social responsibility. Sahu said education should remain a major priority along with moral values and meaningful social participation. He maintained that organisational discipline and collective responsibility were necessary for ensuring sustained progress.

During the general meeting, the organisation's income and expenditure details were presented before the members. The financial report was also placed for discussion. Representatives reviewed the organisation's financial activities and discussed matters related to transparency and proper management of resources.

Family-Values Workshops to be held

The conference also discussed a proposal to take 'Family-Values Workshops' to villages and individual households. The proposed initiative would focus on strengthening relationships within families, encouraging respect for elders, developing responsible behaviour among children and creating greater social harmony.

Division-level job fair on Sept 30

BILASPUR: A division-level job fair will be organised on September 30 at the Government Industrial Training Institute, Koni, Bilaspur, to provide employment opportunities to youth in the private sector. Around 1,765 vacancies will be available through 18 private employers representing sectors such as services, finance, insurance, healthcare, manufacturing and security. Candidates with qualifications including Class 10, Class 12, graduation, postgraduation, ITI, polytechnic, BE and BTech will be eligible to participate.

Eligible applicants must bring two passport-size photographs, Aadhaar card and original as well as photocopies of all educational certificates and mark sheets. Registration on the e-Rozgar portal or Chhattisgarh Rozgar App is mandatory. Candidates must also carry their employment registration certificate.The job fair will provide applicants an opportunity to interact directly with participating employers and explore available positions according to their qualifications and skills. Further information can be obtained from the e-Rozgar portal, Chhattisgarh Rozgar App or the District Employment and Self-Employment Guidance Centre, Koni, Bilaspur.

High Court acquits man in abortion case

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: The Chhattisgarh High Court has set aside the conviction of Avadhesh Jaiswal alias Babua in a case involving allegations of forced abortion and acquitted him by extending the benefit of doubt. Justice Ravindra Kumar Agrawal observed that merely establishing that a woman was pregnant and subsequently underwent an abortion was not sufficient to sustain a conviction under the relevant provisions of law.

The court held that the prosecution was required to establish that the abortion had been caused by an act of the accused and that it had been carried out without the woman's consent. After examining the evidence, the court found that these essential elements had not been proved to the required standard.

According to the prosecution, the woman had alleged that the accused sexually exploited her for nearly a year on the promise of marriage. She claimed that after becoming pregnant, she asked him to marry her, but he refused, allegedly citing her caste.

FASTFACTS

- The court held that pregnancy and abortion alone could not establish the accused's criminal liability.

The woman further alleged that on May 25, 2013, the accused gave her abortion pills. She stated that she suffered an abortion the following day when she was approximately three months pregnant and subsequently approached the police.

Her medical examination indicated a pregnancy of around 10 to 12 weeks and showed signs consistent with an abortion. However, the High Court observed that these medical findings did not establish that the abortion was caused by the accused or that it had occurred without her consent.

NEWSLINE

APPOINTMENT

MLA appoints his representative

BILASPUR: Beltara MLA Sushant Shukla has appointed Shailesh Gorakh as his representative for special meetings of the Bilaspur Municipal Corporation and other corporation-related matters.

The appointment was made to ensure representation of the Beltara Assembly constituency in matters concerning areas that fall within the municipal corporation limits. The Bilaspur Municipal Corporation's notice regarding the special meeting also mentions Gorakh as the MLA's authorised representative.

Gorakh will represent the MLA in discussions concerning public-interest issues, development works and civic problems affecting residents of the constituency. He will also raise issues related to basic civic facilities and development requirements before the appropriate forums on behalf of the MLA.

The appointment will enable local issues and development-related concerns raised by residents to be formally presented during corporation meetings and discussions. Gorakh will also communicate important public concerns to the MLA.

Literacy exam scheduled till 5 pm, centre closed at 3 pm

Central Chronicle News

A locked examination centre raised questions about arrangements during Sunday's district-wide literacy assessment.

BILASPUR: The literacy mega examination conducted on Sunday under the Ullas Nav Bharat Literacy Programme has raised questions about the implementation of the officially announced examination schedule. The department claimed that 13,080 learners across Bilaspur district participated in the examination, including senior citizens and inmates lodged in jails.

According to the department, learners were provided an opportunity to appear for the examination between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. However, when a Navbharat team visited Uslapur, located on the outskirts of Bilaspur city, at around 3 p.m. to assess the arrangements, the designated examination centre was found locked. The team subsequently inspected nearby primary, middle and higher secondary schools. These institutions were also found closed, with no visible examination-related activity at the time of the visit. The department reportedly explained that candidates had already appeared for the examination and had left the centres. However, the closure of the designated centre before the officially stated 5 p.m. deadline raised questions regarding the availability of examination facilities during the announced hours.

FASTFACTS

- The centre was reportedly closed before the officially announced examination deadline of 5 pm.

The issue also raised concerns about monitoring arrangements and the maintenance of attendance records. While the department claimed that more than 13,000 learners participated in the district-wide examination, the ground inspection created questions about whether centres remained operational for the entire scheduled period.

| EXAMINATION |

Clerical Exam questions leave candidates puzzled

Central Chronicle News

Candidates found several mental ability and computer questions challenging during Sunday's preliminary examination.

BILASPUR: The preliminary written examination for Assistant Grade-3 and Stenographer Grade-3 posts under the Principal District and Sessions Court, Bilaspur, was conducted on Sunday from 11 a.m. to noon. The examination consisted of 50 objective-type questions covering general mental ability, general knowledge, current affairs and computer-related topics.

Candidates who appeared for the examination said questions related to Chhattisgarh and India in the general knowledge section were comparatively straightforward. However, some questions related to mental ability and computers were considered difficult and left several candidates puzzled. The question paper gave considerable importance to Chhattisgarh-related knowledge. Candidates were asked about the name of Raipur's international cricket stadium, the year in which Kopra Reservoir in Bilaspur district received Ramsar Site status and the cities in Chhattisgarh through which the Great Eastern Road passes. Questions also sought information about the person known as the "Bhishma Pitamah" of Nacha, the cave located near Tirathgarh Waterfall and the date observed as Chhattisgarhi Official Language Day.

Candidates said the paper maintained a balanced combination of different subjects. While the general knowledge section focused considerably on local and state-level information, the mental ability and computer sections required greater application and careful thinking. The examination tested candidates on both factual knowledge and practical understanding. Several candidates said their performance would depend particularly on how they handled the more difficult questions from the mental ability and computer sections.

FASTFACTS

- The paper placed significant emphasis on Chhattisgarh-related knowledge and tested candidates' overall preparation.

DEATH

31 cattle reportedly died in Gaothan

BILASPUR: The deaths of a large number of cattle at a temporary gaothan in Jhalmala village under Sipat tehsil have caused concern in the area.

According to local residents, 23 cattle died on Saturday and around eight more died on Sunday, taking the reported toll to 31 in two days. However, the village sarpanch has disputed the figure. According to the sarpanch, six cattle died on Saturday and eight on Sunday, taking the total to 14.

The sarpanch attributed the deaths primarily to continuous rainfall and rejected allegations of inadequate fodder and water. The temporary gaothan was established in Jhalmala to protect crops from stray cattle.

THEFT

Four held for stealing mobile phones

BILASPUR: Chakrabhatta police have arrested four people in connection with the theft of mobile phones and the subsequent withdrawal of Rs 2.84 lakh from bank accounts through UPI. The accused allegedly stole the phones on the pretext of helping a youth and his friend and later accessed their financial accounts. According to police, the accused first stole the mobile phones and managed to unlock their screens. They obtained details from Aadhaar cards and used the information to reset PhonePe.

| RESERVATION DEMANDED |

OBC groups seek 27% quota & separate Census column

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: A major demonstration by OBC organisations will be held in Kodagaon on October 3, demanding 27% reservation for the Other Backward Classes (OBC) and a separate OBC column in the nationwide census proposed for 2027. Leaders and representatives of various OBC social organisations from across Chhattisgarh are expected to participate in the demonstration, with representatives from all districts likely to attend. Ahead of the demonstration, Sarva Yadav Mahasabha president Ramesh Yadu held a meeting in Bilaspur to discuss preparations. Representatives of the Yadav community and various other OBC organisations were invited to participate in the October 3 demonstration. Ramesh Yadu said the OBC community should be provided 27% reservation. He said the bill related to 27% OBC reservation has been pending before the Governor for several years and no action has been taken on it so far. A separate meeting of the Sarva Yadav Mahasabha was also held, during which office-bearers and workers of the Yadav community appealed for maximum participation to make the demonstration successful. State vice-president of Sarva Yadav Samaj Chhattisgarh D.C. Yadav, Vishnu Yadav, district president Ramchandra Yadav, city president Durgesh Yadu, Jageshwar Yadav, Mahila Cell president Geeta Yadav, Santosh Yadav, Manjeet Yadav, Deepak Yadav, Surendra Yadav, Sarita Yadav, Krishna Kumar Yadav, were among those present.

> **"A demonstration by OBC groups will be held in Kodagaon on Oct. 3"**
>
> **Ramesh Yadu,**
> president Sarva Yadav Mahasabha

JDA members meet Health Minister over demands

Central Chronicle News

BILASPUR: A delegation of the Chhattisgarh Junior Doctors Association (JDA) met the Health Minister on Monday and discussed various demands concerning doctors and resident doctors across the state.

Representatives of JDA units from all government medical colleges, along with representatives from district hospitals, primary health centres and community health centres, participated in the meeting. The delegation placed the concerns and demands of doctors and resident doctors before the government in detail.

One of the major demands raised by the JDA was the removal of salary discrepancies affecting MBBS and post-PG bond doctors. The association sought a fair pay structure based on the duties and responsibilities assigned to them. The JDA also demanded abolition of the existing two-year bond period.

N-E-W-S

"Delhi Govt has launched the 'Delhi Udyog Mitra' portal under the ease of doing business initiative."

Rekha Gupta
CM, Delhi

'Prepare Rabi season strategy based on water availability'

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan called on states to adopt a scientific and region-specific approach for the upcoming rabi season.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Monday called on states to adopt a scientific and region-specific approach for the upcoming rabi season, saying changing weather patterns and uneven rainfall during the kharif crop cycle have highlighted the need for better planning of water resources and crop choices.

Addressing a two-day national conference on Rabi Campaign 2026 in New Delhi, Chouhan said climate variability had created contrasting conditions across the country, with some regions receiving abundant rainfall while others faced drought-like situations and concerns over water availability. He urged state governments to assess reservoir levels, irrigation resources and soil moisture conditions before finalising sowing strategies.

Given the constraints on water resources, advance planning for both pre-sowing and subsequent irrigation would be critical to ensure a successful winter crop season, he said.

The minister stressed that crop selection should be guided by local water availability, cautioning against the cultivation of water-intensive varieties in areas likely to face shortages.

Farmers should be advised on suitable crops and varieties to minimise production risks, he added.

Moreover, the minister also called for focused efforts to expand cultivation of pulses and oilseeds, particularly in rice-fallow areas where residual soil moisture can be effectively utilised.

States have been asked to prepare district-level plans to promote crops such as gram, lentil and mustard using region-appropriate practices.

HIGHLIGHT

- He said, changing weather patterns and uneven rainfall during the kharif crop cycle have highlighted the need for better planning.

Karnataka CM seeking drought relief from Centre

Central Chronicle News

BENGALURU: Karnataka Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar left for New Delhi on Monday to discuss drought relief and other issues with the Central government. He said discussions would cover assistance for drought-affected areas and the Kasturirangan report. Shivakumar is also scheduled to meet several Union ministers during his Delhi visit. He said an all-party delegation had been planned to take up the state's demands before the Centre. The Chief Minister criticised the BJP's decision not to join the delegation and said the interests of farmers would remain the priority of his government. Karnataka has sought Central assistance following drought conditions affecting several parts of the state. Shivakumar also has meetings related to education and electoral issues during his Delhi programme. The state govt is seeking an assessment of drought-hit areas and appropriate assistance from the Union government.

FASTFACTS

- He said discussions would cover assistance for drought-affected areas and the Kasturirangan report

NEWSLINE

MUMBAI

DRI busts gold smuggling racket

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has busted a pan-India gold smuggling network and arrested 11 people while seizing 6.61 kilograms of foreign-origin gold valued at about Rs 10.36 crore. The operation followed intelligence regarding the movement of smuggled gold through the Indo-Bangladesh border in West Bengal and Assam.

Investigators said the alleged syndicate used courier consignments to transport gold from Guwahati and Kolkata to recipients in Mumbai, Delhi and Ahmedabad. The operation involved searches and interceptions in several cities. Seven alleged recipients were apprehended, while three alleged shippers were arrested in Kolkata.

UJJAIN

Mosque dispute triggers clashes

Tension escalated in Ujjain on Monday as protests broke out over the proposed partial demolition of the Shahi Masjid in connection with a road-widening project. Members of the Muslim community, including women, gathered near the religious structure and opposed the administrative action.

Sporadic stone-pelting was reported during the confrontation between protesters and police. Security personnel deployed tear gas to control the situation and prevent the gathering from spreading.

SRINAGAR

Statehood resolution passed in J-K

The Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on Monday passed a resolution demanding the urgent restoration of full statehood to the Union Territory. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah moved the resolution during the ongoing Assembly session. The resolution was passed amid strong protests by BJP legislators, who opposed the move and subsequently walked out of the House.

The debate witnessed heated exchanges between treasury and opposition members. BJP legislators objected to references concerning the status of Jammu and Kashmir before August 5, 2019, and questioned the manner in which the resolution was introduced. The resolution seeks restoration of the state's earlier status after Jammu and Kashmir was reorganised as a Union Territory in 2019.

Omar Abdullah argued that the Centre should fulfil its stated commitment regarding restoration of statehood.

| DROUGHT |

Centre to send teams to Karnataka & M'rashtra for drought assessment

Press Trust Of India

The Central government has decided to send teams to Karnataka and Maharashtra to assess drought conditions in the two states.

NEW DELHI: The Central government has decided to send teams to Karnataka and Maharashtra to assess drought conditions in the two states. Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced the decision on Monday after the National Conference on Agriculture for the Rabi Campaign 2026 in New Delhi. Karnataka has reported drought conditions in several areas and requested Central assistance. The assessment teams will examine the ground situation, agricultural losses and requirements of affected regions. Chouhan said the Centre would work with state governments to address difficulties faced by farmers.

Drug racket kingpin arrested

BENGALURU: Karnataka Police have arrested an alleged kingpin of a counterfeit drug racket at Bengaluru airport, in a major development in an investigation into the circulation of spurious medicines. The accused was taken into custody after investigators traced his alleged links with a network involved in manufacturing and distributing counterfeit pharmaceutical products. Police are examining the source of the medicines, their distribution channels and the financial transactions connected with the racket.

| GANG RAPE |

Supreme Court takes suo-motu notice of alleged gang rape case

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday took suo motu cognisance of the alleged gang rape of a minor in a moving bus in the Delhi-NCR region. A bench comprising Justice J. B. Pardiwala and Justice K. Vinod Chandran took up the matter after concerns were raised about the alleged sexual assault and the protection of minors. The court expressed concern over the circumstances surrounding the reported incident and the response of law enforcement authorities. The proceedings will examine the available information concerning the incident and the steps taken by authorities following the allegations. The Supreme Court's intervention brings the matter under judicial scrutiny and seeks information from the concerned authorities regarding the investigation and protection measures. The case has also raised wider concerns about the safety of women and children travelling in public transport. Police and investigating agencies are responsible for establishing the facts surrounding the allegation and determining responsibility based on evidence.

| GOLD RING SCHEME |

Tamil Nadu CM Vijay launches Gold Ring Scheme for newborns babies

Press Trust Of India

CHENANI: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay on Monday launched the Thaai Maaman Thanga Mothiram scheme at Government Rajaji Hospital in Madurai. Under the scheme, eligible babies born in government hospitals and primary health centres will receive a one-gram, 22-carat gold ring. Vijay personally presented rings to newborn babies during the launch. The scheme is intended to extend welfare support to families using government healthcare facilities. The state government has allocated funds for the initial implementation and procured gold rings for eligible beneficiaries. Officials said children born after June 22, 2026, would be covered under the programme. The Chief Minister also visited the maternity facilities during his Madurai programme.

Convocation Ceremony at IIT Jammu.

The Indian Institute of Technology Jammu celebrated its 7th Convocation Ceremony.

| EMBEZZLEMENT |

Embezzlement case registered against secretariat staff over fund diversion charges

MUMBAI: Law enforcement authorities in Mumbai officially registered a criminal case against nine staff members associated with a Secretariat cooperative society following allegations of large-scale financial irregularities and illegal fund diversion. A preliminary investigation conducted by the economic offenses wing revealed that financial irregularities spanning over five years had resulted in significant monetary losses to the employee welfare fund. The formal police complaint alleges that the accused individuals manipulated internal ledger accounts, forged transaction receipts, and systematically diverted institutional funds into private accounts without authorization.

Judicial Court grants police remand for suspects in hit-and-run incident

GURUGRAM: A local judicial court in Gurugram granted police investigators custody of two primary suspects arrested in connection with a fatal hit-and-run incident that took place on a high-speed transit corridor. The incident, which resulted in the loss of life and severe injuries to bystanders, led to widespread public concern regarding reckless driving and hit-and-run offenses on urban highways. During the remand period, police teams plan to conduct a detailed reconstruction of the crime scene to accurately determine vehicle speeds, braking distances, and collision angles. Law enforcement officials stated that the suspects fled the spot immediately after the crash without rendering emergency aid or contacting medical services.

| WORLD HEART DAY SPECIAL |

Gift of Life: A Legacy of Healing and Hope

On World Heart Day, the service of Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospitals stands as an inspiring example of compassion, selfless service and hope. The hospitals have served more than 4 lakh patients from across India and several developing countries through their consultation departments. More than 44,500 completely free child heart surgeries have also been performed, giving thousands of children a new lease of life. Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital, Naya Raipur, has completed 13 years of service to the nation.

Known as a "Temple of Healing", its daily routine begins with prayer and culminates in the Gift of Life (GoL) ceremony. Children who successfully undergo surgery and complete their post-operative recovery participate in the ceremony with their parents before discharge. They receive a certificate and a token gift, along with counselling on follow-up care and precautions at home.

For families, Gift of Life is much more than a discharge ceremony. It symbolises a new life for the child, peace for the parents and renewed hope for the family. Over the years, the initiative has forged a strong emotional bond between the hospital and thousands of families. This bond was evident at the hospital's 10th anniversary in 2022, when around 3,500 former patients and their parents attended the celebration. In 2025, nearly 4,500 patients participated in the "Dil Ki Baat" programme with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Sowbhagyam. Both occasions became memorable milestones, with the hospital receiving Guinness World Records recognition. The hospital has witnessed numerous touching stories. Families have travelled long distances with children suffering from congenital heart defects, while some economically disadvantaged parents have even mortgaged their mangalsutras to meet travel expenses. Many parents join morning prayers, and some volunteer to donate blood for other patients.A parent from Pakistan expressed gratitude that while his son was born in Pakistan, he received a "second life" in India. Jazidah from Uganda travelled alone with her daughter Rasima for treatment and later expressed gratitude to the hospital and Rotary Club.

Handle every application with sensitivity and ensure that eligible beneficiaries receive the benefits of government schemes.

Kunal Dudawat
Collector-Korba

Bilaspur Region

Public reps, officials, students take part in Walkathon

'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan 2026: Service is My Contribution' – Message of a Drug-Free Society Resonates Through Jashpur Walkathon

Central Chronicle News

JASHPUR: Under the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan 2026' (Service Pledge Campaign) and driven by the spirit of 'Service is My Contribution,' a walkathon was organized in Jashpur town on Sunday.

Public representatives, officials, students, and citizens marched together to convey the message of building a drug-free and healthy society. Through this walkathon, which saw massive public participation, citizens were inspired to shun substance abuse, adopt a healthy lifestyle, and actively engage in social causes.

The walkathon was attended by Jashpur MLA Smt. Raimuni Bhagat, Municipal Council President Arvind Bhagat, Janpad Panchayat President Ganga Ram Bhagat, Collector Rohit Vyas, Senior Superintendent of Police Dr. Lal Umed Singh, along with other public representatives, officials, students, and a large number of citizens.

Walkathon from Jai Stambh Chowk to Ranjita Stadium Starting from Jai Stambh Chowk, the walkathon proceeded via the bus stand and concluded at Ranjita Stadium. During the march, participants spread awareness regarding service, social responsibility, healthy living, and the importance of a drug-free society. The enthusiastic participation of students and citizens transformed the campaign into a true people's movement. Pledge taken to stay away from drugs and raise awareness among others

At Ranjita Stadium, MLA Raimuni Bhagat administered the drug-free pledge to the gathered crowd.

HIGHLIGHT

- **MLA Raimuni Bhagat administered the pledge for a drug-free life and called for building a healthy and empowered society.**

Ganesha's idols bid farewell

Central Chronicle News

LORMI: On Thursday, marking the conclusion of the Ganpati festival, the town of Lormi witnessed a magnificent confluence of faith, devotion, and grandeur. Various local Ganesh Utsav committees organized grand immersion processions featuring traditional drums (dhol-dhumal), DJs, and captivating tableaux. A large number of devotees participated in the event, bidding an emotional farewell to Ganpati Bappa. During the immersion procession, the presentation by the Naulakha Chowk Shri Ganesh Utsav Committee, Lormi, was a major highlight. The committee showcased entertaining 'Panda' and 'Gorilla' themed tableaux, alongside impressive performances by special artists invited from the Durg district. The artists' spectacular performances and the elaborate decorations of the tableaux captivated the crowd, creating an atmosphere of great enthusiasm throughout the procession.

RECRUITMENT

Applications accepted until Oct 8

MUNGELI: Applications have been invited for the recruitment of a part-time special educator at the district's PM SHRI B.R. Sao School. Similarly, part-time yoga instructors, sports teachers/instructors, and music instructors will be recruited for the eight PM SHRI schools operating in the district. Appointments for these positions will be valid until March 31, 2027. Interested candidates must submit their applications via post or speed post by 5:00 PM on October 8, 2026, to the Office of the District Mission Coordinator (Samagra Shiksha), Room No. 210, at the District Collectorate.

'MANN KI BAAT'

Minister listens to PM Modi's message

NAVAGARH: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Protection, Mr. Dayaldas Baghel, listened attentively to the 138th episode of PM Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' alongside villagers today. The event took place at the Mavli Mata Temple premises in Temri village, located within the Navagarh Assembly constituency. On this occasion, the villagers listened closely to Prime Minister Modi's thoughts and messages. Minister Baghel remarked that through 'Mann Ki Baat,' the PM shares information with the nation regarding positive initiatives across various sectors, public participation, and issues concerning public welfare.

| RESCUE OPERATIONS |

Villagers from Surajgarh shifted to relief camps

Central Chronicle News

GPM: In view of the rising water levels of the Mahanadi River, the administration is on high alert in the river's riparian areas within the Pusaur development block.

Under government directives and the guidance of Collector Mayank Chaturvedi, continuous monitoring of the affected areas is being conducted, and villagers are being relocated to safer locations based on the prevailing situation. Villagers affected by the floods in Surajgarh and Parsapali–located along the banks of the Mahanadi in the Pusaur development block–are being shifted to relief camps. Approximately 450 affected individuals from Surajgarh village are being moved to the Padigaon relief camp. The administration is ensuring that essential arrangements, including food and drinking water, are in place at the camp. Similarly, in response to the flood situation in Parsapali, a relief camp has been set up at the school building in Chhichhor Umariya for the affected residents, who are also being relocated there.

Cleanliness drive conducted

MUNGELI: Under the instructions of Collector Amrit Vikas Topno and as part of the 'Mission Vatsalya' scheme, a special cleanliness drive is being conducted until October 2, 2026, at the Child Welfare Committee, District Child Protection Unit, Children's Home (for boys), and Child Helpline 1098, centered on the theme "Participation in Cleanliness: Clean India, Developed India." The objective of the campaign is to create a clean, safe, and healthy environment within child protection institutions and their surrounding areas.

| MEGA HEALTH CAMP |

Blood donation camp organized

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: Under the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' and 'Angan Milan Seva' initiative, and following the directives of District Collector Amrit Vikas Topno, a blood donation camp and a free mega health camp featuring specialist doctors were organized on September 25, 2026, at Village Madku (Block Pathariya).

The event was held under the joint auspices of the Red Cross Society (Mungeli District Branch) and the Department of Health and Family Welfare. Dignitaries who inspected the camps included Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Union Minister of State Tokhan Sahu, Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao, District Incharge Minister Lakhanlal Dewangan, Minister Dayaldas Baghel, Bilaspur MLA and former Minister Amar Agrawal, Mungeli MLA and former Minister Punnulal Mohle, Beltara MLA Sushant Shukla, Bilha MLA Dharamlal Kaushik, former Governor and senior former MP Ramesh Bais, Bhupendra Savanni, Rajnish Singh, former MLA Shivratan Sharma, and former Chairperson of the Women's Commission Harshita Pandey.

| PM'S 'MAAN KI BAAT' |

Citizen is part of nation-building: Dharamjit

Central Chronicle News

TAKHATPUR: A collective listening session for the 138th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio program, 'Mann Ki Baat', was held at the residence of Radhika Rakesh Kaushik, Sarpanch of the 'Sansad Adarsh Gram' (Model Village) Chhatauna.

Under the leadership of MLA Dharamjit Singh, villagers and public representatives listened attentively to the Prime Minister's address. In his speech, the Prime Minister emphasized the importance of every citizen's participation in the national census, linking it to a national responsibility. He also engaged with the nation on vital topics such as cleanliness, de-addiction, the identification of sports talent, environmental conservation, and nutrition.

Mentioning the 'Har Ghar Munga-Ghar-Ghar Munga' (Moringa in every home) campaign being run in Chhattisgarh, the Prime Minister highlighted the nutritional value of 'Munga' (Moringa).

| WORLD TOURISM DAY|

Massive cleanliness drive conducted at key tourist spots

Central Chronicle News

GPM: On the occasion of World Tourism Day and the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Service Pledge Campaign), a massive cleanliness drive was conducted on Sunday with the aim of keeping the major tourist spots of Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district clean, beautiful, and eco-friendly.

Under the guidance of Collector Vijay Dayaram K., various tourism committees in the district organized special cleanliness activities at tourist sites within their respective areas.

Through this campaign, messages regarding cleanliness, environmental conservation, and plastic-free tourism were conveyed. During the campaign, cleaning operations were carried out within the premises of the tourist spots and in the surrounding areas.

GRAM SABHAS

Gram Sabhas to be held in all Gram Panchayats

SURAJPUR: Exercising the powers conferred under the Chhattisgarh Panchayat Raj Act, 1993, Collector Rena Jameel has ordered the convening of Gram Sabhas in every Gram Panchayat and its dependent villages across the district on October 2, 2026. The responsibility of ensuring 100% member attendance and the necessary quorum for the Gram Sabha has been entrusted to the Sarpanch, Panch, and Secretary.

4,198 newly literate take part in mega-examination

SURGUJA: There is no age limit for reading, writing, and learning. The enthusiasm and participation of newly literate individuals in the state-wide mega-examination campaign held in Surguja district on Sunday brought this message to life.

Under the Ullas Navbharat Literacy Programme, 4,198 newly literate learners participated in the mega-examination across 247 centers in the district. A notable feature was that at many centers, mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law, spouses, sisters-in-law, and senior citizens took the exam together, while 96 newly literate inmates from the Ambikapur Central Jail also participated.

A target of 4,306 examinees had been set for the mega-examination, which was organized under the guidance of Collector Shri Ajit Vasant and the leadership of Zila Panchayat CEO Ms. Roma Srivastava.

Against this target, 4,198 learners took the exam by 5 PM. The examination was conducted by the District Literacy Mission Authority from 10 AM to 5 PM, in accordance with the directives of the State Literacy Mission Authority, Raipur.

SECL Chirimiri area conducts special cleanliness drive

CHIRIMIRI/MCB: On the occasion of World Tourism Day, the SECL Chirimiri Area conducted a special cleanliness drive at the premises of the famous Jagannath Temple–a prominent religious and tourist site in Chirimiri–as part of the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' (Cleanliness is Service) initiative and 'Special Campaign 6.0'.

The objective of the drive was to keep religious and tourist sites clean and well-maintained while fostering a sense of responsibility and public awareness regarding cleanliness among devotees, tourists, and local citizens.

| 'SEVA SANKALP ABHIYAN' |

'Angan Milan' fosters a sense of togetherness

Central Chronicle News

MUNGELI: Under the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Service Pledge Campaign), the Department of Women and Child Development organized an 'Angan Milan' (community gathering), a community feast, and a felicitation ceremony for Anganwadi workers and helpers at the Vivekananda Ward Anganwadi center.

The event aimed to establish a personal rapport with women and children through Anganwadi centers while strengthening the spirit of service and collaboration between society and the administration.

Ward Councilor Smt. Archana Dewangan attended as the chief guest, while Anant Dewangan participated as the special guest and speaker. A large number of local women and children, including Smt. Anjana Jaiswal, were present on the occasion.

During the program, the contributions of the Anganwadi workers and helpers serving at the center were recognized and honored. Ward Councilor Smt. Archana Dewangan honored the helper, while Anant Dewangan honored the Anganwadi worker.

240 people receive Ayurvedic treatment

SURAJPUR: A health camp was organized by the AYUSH Department at the PM SHRI Eklavya Model Residential School under the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Service Pledge Campaign).

Held under the guidance of Collector Smt. Rena Jamil and the leadership of the District AYUSH Officer, the camp provided Ayurvedic treatment to 240 patients. This camp, organized within the school premises, offered people the convenience of accessing AYUSH health services at a single location. The AYUSH Department team provided consultation and treatment based on the specific health issues of the patients attending the camp.

SSA

Students raised awareness about Rabies

MUNGELI: Various awareness and service activities focused on health and livestock welfare are being organized across the district under the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyan' (Service Pledge Campaign). As part of this initiative, the Animal Husbandry Department organized free veterinary camps in rural areas using mobile veterinary units, providing livestock owners with treatment, medicines, and animal health services right in their villages. At the free veterinary camp held in Limha village (Mungeli block), services such as animal treatment, medicine distribution were provided.

Fun&Focus

IT'S QUIZ TIME

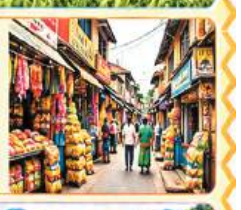
1. Which joint in Hyderabad has earned a spot on Taste Atlas' list of 150 Most Legendary Dessert Places in the World?

2. Shaheedi Park is India's first outdoor museum inaugurated in August in New Delhi. It celebrates India's history and freedom fighters. What is special about objects in the museum?

3. In which medium of transport is the breather hole an essential item?

4. The longest recorded Test match in cricket was between South Africa and England. This test that took place in Durban in 1939 lasted 12 days. Why was this Timeless Test finally abandoned on the 12th day?

5. S. M. Street is a heritage street in Kozhikode city famous for textiles, halwas, banana chips and many more. It is also mentioned in the Malayalam novel "The Story of a Street" by S. K. Pottekkatt. What is the full name of the street?



6. The Motagua River that flows partly along the Guatemala-Honduras border, has a magnanimous record in the world. What is that?

7. In India, Teacher's Day is celebrated on September 5th. When is World Teacher's day, as declared by UNESCO?

Answers-
(1) Karachi Bakery's Fruit Biscuits were declared as an iconic dessert. (2) Everything is made of metal scrap (3) Aircraft. The breather hole is located in the middle pane of the cabin window, between an outer pane and an inner pane it makes sure the outer pane bears the air pressure, so in the rare event one of the panes gives out, it's the outer pane that goes (4) The ship that was taking the England team home was leaving on that day (5) Sweet Meat Street (6) It drains the highest percentage of plastic pollutants into the oceans in the world (7) 5th October

RamaQuiz

TELL ME WHY?

Why do elephants flap their ears?

Elephants flap their ears primarily to cool their bodies and release excess heat. Flapping creates a gentle wind that speeds up this cooling process, which can lower their body temperature by up to 9°C (16°F).

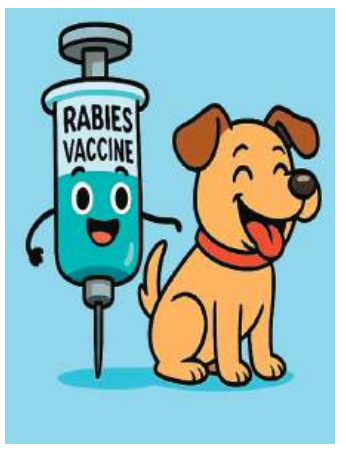
Rapid flapping also signals excitement or joy when greeting herd mates.

SCIENCE WATCH

Why to fear a rabid (mad) dog?

The month September also celebrates Rabies Day and rabies is spread when a human is bitten by a dog/cat/bat infected by Rabies Virus. One should fear a rabid dog, because the disease is fatal and there is no cure.

Is there a cure for Rabies?



No there is no cure for rabies, but a preventive vaccination. But you have to act very fast, once you are bitten by a rabid animal. Listen carefully to the doctors instructions.

How to prevent Rabies?

Never pet a stray or wild animal, especially if it is acting weird or foaming at the mouth. Stay away from street dogs and do not feed them. Report to your parents if you, see a rabid animal.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

Difference between Beside And Besides

Beside

A preposition indicating the location of something Beside means, 'next to' or at the side of or close to something

Besides

Besides can be both preposition and adverb depending on the context used.
Besides as preposition means, 'in addition to' or 'apart from'. When used as an adverb, it means, 'moreover', 'furthermore', 'another thing', 'as well'.

Beside Examples:

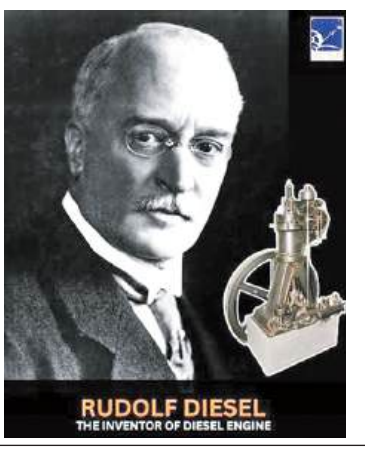
- Your shoes are beside the closet
- The kutcha house beside the highway fell down due to storm.

Besides Examples:

- Besides Ram, who else has not completed their project?
- He wishes to learn more. Besides, he is a competitive person.

SEPTEMBER 29-THE DAY IN HISTORY

1. September 29 holds major significance in Indian history, mainly the 2016, Indian Army targeted surgical strikes across the Line of Control in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, retaliating against the Uri terror attack
2. On September 29, 1959, Arati Saha successfully swam across the English Channel, becoming the first Asian woman to achieve this feat.
3. Same day in 2010, the Aadhaar unique identification card scheme was officially launched, in Tembhli village, Maharashtra.
4. On this very day in 1858, Rudolf Diesel, the brilliant engineer and inventor of the high-efficiency Diesel Engine, was born (and he later mysteriously disappeared on this exact date in 1913).



Daily Horoscope

Aries

Do not waste your time in criticizing others as it may affect your health. Someone with big plans and ideas will catch your attention- Verify the credibility and authenticity of the person before making any investments. Domestic life will be peaceful and adorable.

Cosmic tip: Drive and calculate your run.

Taurus

Today you are under magic spell of hope. Increase in income from past investment is foreseen. Social activity in the evening will turn out to be much better than you expected. A surprise message will give you sweet dream. You will feel that your creativity has been lost.

Cosmic tip: Sometimes a 'No' is too good.

Gemini

Don't exert yourself beyond a point and remember to take proper rest. Explore new investment opportunities that come your way today- but commit yourself only after you have studied the viability of these projects. A good day to revive old contacts and relations.

Cosmic tip: Prefer what really chains you.

Cancer

A friend may test your open mindedness and tolerance power. You should be careful not to surrender your values and be rational in every decision. You will make good money if you invest in conservative investment.

Cosmic tip: Let your mind steer.

Leo

A beneficial day and you may be able to find relief from a prolong illness. An old friend of yours can advise you on how to earn more profits in business today. If you follow his/her advice, you're definitely in luck. Friends and relatives will demand more attention.

Cosmic tip: Work en route for goals.

Virgo

You will remain very active and agile today. Your health will fully support you today. Do not invest in joint ventures and dubious financial schemes. Friends and spouse brings comfort and happiness to you otherwise a dull and hectic day.

Cosmic tip: Take note to the solution.

Libra

Health of your spouse may cause reason for stress and anxiety. You will possess a considerable amount of money today, and with it there will be peace of mind. Your unnecessary finding faults in others could be criticised by relatives. You must realize that it is only wastage of time.

Cosmic tip: Water your grass.

Scorpio

Keep your poise as you are likely to confront some difficulties otherwise-it may put you in some serious trouble. Especially control your anger which is nothing but a short madness. Those associated with foreign trade are expected to get the desired results.

Cosmic tip: Spotlight the negatives.

Sagittarius

Smile as it is best antidote for all your problems. 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. Guests crowd your house for a pleasant and wonderful evening.

Cosmic tip: Get your ideas going.

Capricorn

A very good day from health point of view. Your cheerful state of mind will give you the desired tonic and keep you confident. Money position will improve later in the day. Likely to get some good news which will not only enthrall you but your family also. Today, you can go to a picnic.

Cosmic tip: You were looking in wrong direction.

Aquarius

You need to sit back and relax today- and get involved in hobbies and things that you enjoy doing the most. You can acquire money from an unknown source today, which will resolve many of your financial troubles. Friends will come to your aid if needed.

Cosmic tip: Karma follows ardently.

Pisces

Self medication could cause drug dependency. Take a physician advice before taking any drug-otherwise chances of drug dependency are high. Investment is recommended but seek proper advice. Social activity with your family would keep everybody in a relaxed and pleasant mood. Someone from your past is likely to contact you and make it a memorable day.

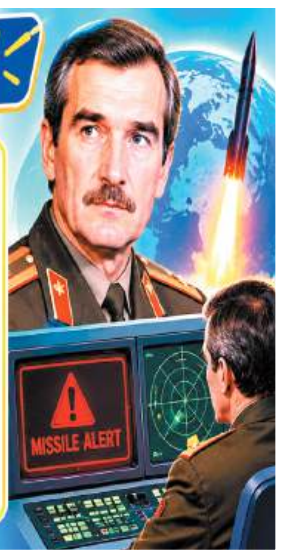
Cosmic tip: If you may make room for harmony

ONE WORD SUBSTITUTION

1. Spoken or done without preparation → Extempore
2. Release someone from a duty or obligation → Exonerate
3. Fond of company → Gregarious
4. Making marks that cannot be removed → Indelible
5. Incapable of making mistakes or being wrong → Infallible

FACT OF THE DAY

In 1983, Soviet officer Stanislav Petrov correctly identified a computer-reported nuclear missile alert as a false alarm, single-handedly preventing a potential nuclear escalation.



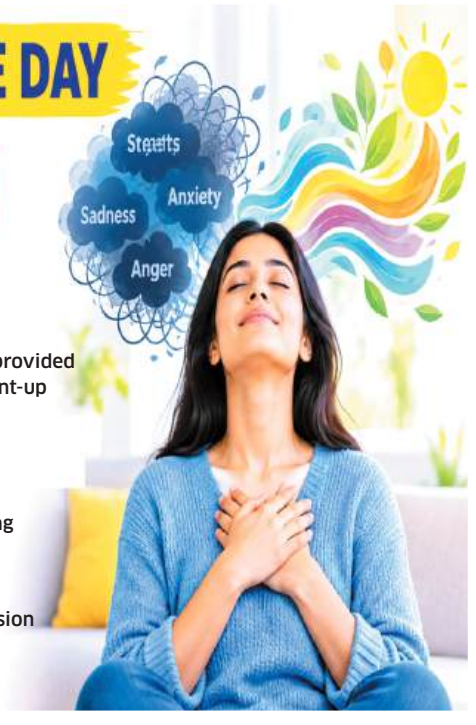
HOW IT IS ABBREVIATED

ABBREVIATIONS	Full Words
1) MODEM	
2) OMR	
3) OS	
4) PAN	
5) PCB	

Answers-
1-Modulator Demodulator, 2- Optical Mark Reader, 3- Operating System, 4- Personal Area Network, 5- Printer Circuit Board.

WORD OF THE DAY

Catharsis



Meaning - Purging of emotions

Example - The therapy session provided a catharsis for her pent-up emotions.

Synonyms - Purification, Cleansing

Antonyms - Suppression, Repression

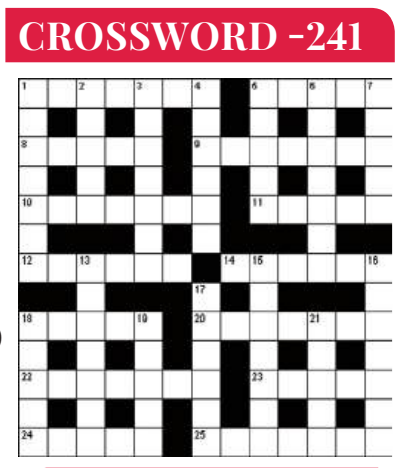
CROSSWORD -241

Across

1 Upset, agitate (7)
5 Shade of pink (5)
8 Wept (5)
9 Spoilsport (7)
10 Booming bird (7)
11 Expertise (5)
12 Most recent (6)
14 Capital of Greece (6)
18 Makes an effort (5)
20 Recommended (7)
22 Assassinated US president (7)
23 Automaton (5)
24 Carefree lively outing (5)
25 Come down (7)

Down

1 Measure of noise intensity (7)
2 Period of work (5)
3 Disrobe (7)
4 Two-piece swimsuit (6)
5 Accommodation for prisoners (5)
6 Exult, make merry (7)
7 Steadfast in allegiance (5)
13 Paint solvent (7)
15 Inns (7)
16 Calmed with drugs (7)
17 Prohibited (6)
18 Cash registers (5)
19 Unit of fourteen pounds (5)
21 Cavalry sword (5)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION- 240

SUDOKU- 241

9							3	
8	5			1	7			
			8	3			5	
				8			7	4
3		2				1		6
6	7			2				
	2			4	3			
			5	6			1	8
	6							7

SUDOKU SOLUTION- 240

1	7	9	5	8	2	4	6	3
8	6	4	3	9	1	2	5	7
3	5	2	6	4	7	8	1	9
6	4	3	2	1	5	9	7	8
2	8	7	9	6	3	5	4	1
9	1	5	4	7	8	6	3	2
7	2	6	1	5	9	3	8	4
5	9	8	7	3	4	1	2	6
4	3	1	8	2	6	7	9	5

DAILY WORD SEARCH

- Ball
- Jungle Gym
- Seesaw
- Bench
- Ladders
- Slide
- Carousel
- Laughter
- Smiles
- Children
- Monkey Bars
- Spring Horse
- Enjoyment
- Nannies
- Sun Hat
- Frisbee
- Pail
- Swing
- Grass
- Parents
- Hopscotch
- Sand Box

U	X	O	B	D	N	A	S	R	Y	E	N	J	P
M	Y	G	E	L	G	N	U	J	R	A	U	A	S
H	N	N	S	O	S	E	N	E	G	H	I	S	M
C	E	S	A	T	D	O	T	A	O	L	R	H	I
N	R	U	P	I	N	H	S	P	N	A	E	L	L
E	D	C	L	R	G	E	S	T	B	N	J	S	E
B	L	S	A	U	I	C	M	Y	N	E	I	E	S
D	I	A	A	R	O	N	E	Y	E	E	A	E	F
T	H	L	S	T	O	K	G	B	O	S	R	S	S
A	C	N	C	W	N	U	S	H	S	J	Y	A	G
H	L	H	A	O	I	I	S	A	O	E	N	W	P
N	L	S	M	S	R	N	R	E	P	R	N	E	P
U	A	O	R	F	L	G	G	G	L	M	S	A	A
S	B	L	A	D	D	E	R	S	G	G	N	E	R

Business

Cost discipline must become part of the airline's culture.

Tewolde Gebremariam
Air India's CEO-designate

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) H.H. Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and other delegates during the 14th Meeting of the India-UAE High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments, in Mumbai.

Exports up 15 percent till Sep 21 this fiscal: Goyal

India merchandise exports rise 15 per cent till September 21 despite global uncertainty; government targets USD 1 trillion exports this fiscal

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: India's merchandise exports have risen 15 per cent till September 21 during this fiscal year despite global economic uncertainties triggered by the ongoing wars, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday. Addressing the media after the 14th India-UAE High Level Task Force on Investment meeting here, the minister also said the UAE -- India's seventh largest source of FDI -- has expressed an intent to invest another USD 25 billion in the near future, with the ultimate objective of taking its investments in India to USD 100 billion in the years to come.

"We have increased our merchandise exports by upward of 15 per cent in the first six months (up to September 21) this year, which is a pretty important and significant achievement given the fact that we are living in a world where two wars are going on and the Strait or Hormuz, which is our principal sea route, is facing so much stress," Goyal said. During April-August this fiscal year, exports jumped 17.85 per cent year-on-year to USD 215.91 billion, and imports climbed 18.21 per cent to USD 363 billion. Th e official data for April-September 2026-27 will be released by the commerce ministry by the mid of next month. The minister added that the free tarde agreements finalised by India will help boost the country's exports. These agreements, he said "will support our automobile industry whose exports are increasing every year in double digit. In fact, Maruti recently announced that they have already exported one lakh cars to Japan". "So rather than cars coming from Japan to India, which was always our fear or which was always the reason we protected the auto sector for so many decades now, India is becoming a net exporter of automobiles," he said.

NUMBER

6.6

- India's merchandise exports rise 15% despite global economic uncertainties this fiscal.

Mivi enters India's smartphone market with Mivi One 5G

Press Trust Of India

Starting at a special BBD price of Rs 11999

Mumbai: Mivi, India's homegrown consumer technology brand, today entered the smartphone category with the launch of the Mivi One 5G. Designed for consumers seeking dependable performance, long battery life and a smooth everyday experience, Mivi One combines a Snapdragon 4 Gen 2 mobile platform with a 50MP dual-camera system, a 6000mAh battery and a clean Android experience.

Positioned as "Pretty Powerful," Mivi One brings together expressive design and reliable performance in one device. It is designed for young, value-conscious consumers who want a capable smartphone for streaming, photography, social media, gaming, multitasking, and everyday usage. Mivi One 5G will be available on Flipkart across India, with the first sale scheduled for 8th October 2026 at Midnight. The smartphone will be priced at Rs 14999 for the 4 GB + 128 GB variant, Rs 15999 for the 6 GB + 128 GB variant, and INR 16999 for the 8 GB + 128 GB variant. But, Mivi One 5G will be available at a special price during Big Billion Day sale starting from 11999 for 4+128, 12999 for 6+128 and 13999 for 8+128. The Net Effective Price is including price drop and bank offers available on the platform. It will be offered in five colour options: Blue, Pink, Green, Burgundy and Navy Blue.

| TATA SONS RESTRUCTURING PLAN |

Tata Trusts propose Tata Sons rejig to keep it private

Press Trust Of India

Tata Trusts propose restructuring to retain Tata Sons privately.

MUMBAI: Tata Trusts, which hold a 66 per cent stake in Tata Sons, have proposed merging two operating companies with the group's holding company to help it retain its status as an unlisted private entity. Under the proposal, Tata Electronics Systems Solutions Pvt Ltd (TESS) and Tata Consulting Engineers (TCE) would be merged with Tata Sons. The Trusts have asked the Tata Sons board to consider the plan and seek a prior no-objection certificate from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The proposed restructuring is intended to ensure that the reorganised Tata Sons does not meet regulatory criteria for either a non-banking financial company (NBFC) or a core investment company (CIC). Tata Sons is currently classified as a CIC, a category of NBFCs that primarily hold investments in group companies.

According to the Trusts, as of March 31, 2026, the combined entity would have operating revenue of Rs 1,05,043 crore, accounting for 64.3 per cent of total income. Its net assets would stand at Rs 2,00,158 crore, including Rs 1,77,120 crore in investments in group companies. The Trusts said these figures would change the composition of Tata Sons sufficiently to ensure it does not meet the principal business criteria for an NBFC or applicable conditions for a CIC. Following the restructuring, Tata Sons would surrender its CIC registration, subject to regulatory approvals. The proposal would also restore an earlier Tata Sons model under which operating businesses were housed within the holding company. Tata Consultancy Services, for instance, remained a Tata Sons division until its demerger in 2004.

The move comes amid differences between Tata Trusts and the Tata Sons board over the company's future structure and listing. The Trusts have previously resolved to retain Tata Sons as an unlisted private company.

FACTFILE

- Trusts seek private status for Tata Sons

| IIP GROWTH |

Industrial production rises 8 pc in August: Govt data

Press Trust Of India

India's industrial output rises eight per cent in August.

New Delhi: India's industrial output increased by 8 per cent in August from 7.4 per cent in the preceding month, mainly due to a good show by the manufacturing sector, according to the latest government data released on Monday. This is the fifth monthly Index of Industrial Production (IIP) data under the new series.

"In August 2026, Index of Industrial Production recorded an 8.0 per cent year-on-year growth, supported by 9.0 per cent growth in Manufacturing sector and strong growth of 12.3 per cent in Electricity & Gas Supply sector," the National Statistics Office said in a release.

The data showed that the mining and quarrying sector contracted by 5.6 per cent in August against 15.8 per cent growth a year ago. The IIP growth in August 2025 was 4.7 per cent. The revised estimate of IIP for July stood at 7.4 per cent, which has been revised upward from the earlier released provisional estimate of 6.7 per cent. The IIP growth during April to August this fiscal stood at 6.7 per cent compared to 4.2 per cent a year ago. Within the manufacturing sector, 18 out of 23 industry groups have recorded a positive growth in August 2026 over the same month last year.

FACTFILE

- Manufacturing growth drives overall industrial output.

*Biz*Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

HOW THE MARKETS BEHAVE TODAY?

Sensex, Nifty tumble over 5 pc in past month, investors lose over Rs 17 lakh cr

NEW DELHI: Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty have dropped more than 5 per cent over the past month, wiping out Rs 17.17 lakh crore in investor wealth as surging crude oil prices, geopolitical uncertainties, and elevated bond yields dampened market sentiment. Indications of further monetary tightening by the US Federal Reserve also weighed on sentiment during this time. The 30-share BSE Sensex tumbled 4,161.87 points or 5.40 per cent since August 27 last month. The 50-share NSE Nifty also plunged 1,310.6 points or 5.44 per cent. Investors' wealth eroded by Rs 17,17,487.02 crore to Rs 4,74,36,620.19 crore (USD 4.94 trillion) during this period. On Monday, the BSE benchmark tanked 1,124.02 points, or 1.52 per cent, to settle at 72,771.72, its lowest close since March 30, 2026. The Nifty dropped 360.25 points, or 1.56 per cent, to end at a near six-month low of 22,780.25. Investors' wealth declined by Rs 7.52 lakh crore on Monday alone.

"Bears remained firmly in control as the market breached a key psychological support level, reflecting growing investor caution amid deteriorating global macro conditions. The US rejection of the ceasefire proposal has heightened concerns that tensions in West Asia could persist for longer than anticipated, reducing the likelihood of a near-term diplomatic resolution and increasing the risk of prolonged supply-side disruptions and higher commodity prices," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said.

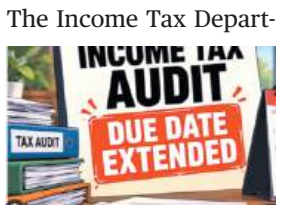
AHEAD OF FESTIVE SEASON

Samsung raises price of Galaxy S26 series by up to 17 pc

NEW DELHI: Korean electronics major Samsung has increased the price of its flagship Galaxy S26 series by up to 17 per cent, industry sources tracking the mobile phone segment said. Samsung's basic model in the Galaxy S26 series with 256 GB storage will cost around 17 per cent higher at Rs 1,02,999 compared to the launch price of Rs 87,999. The Galaxy S26 models were launched in January this year at an 8-15 per cent higher price compared to its predecessor, the Galaxy S25 series. The Galaxy S26 Ultra was launched at a starting price of Rs 1,39,999, while the Galaxy S26+ was at Rs 1,19,999 and the most affordable S26 base variant at Rs 87,999. With the latest price hike, all the Samsung Galaxy S26 devices will now cost more than one lakh, while the top model S26 Ultra with 1 TB storage will be available at Rs 2,14,999. The company has increased the price of Samsung S26 with 512 GB storage by 13.9 per cent to Rs 1,22,999, S26+ with 256 GB by 12.5 per cent to Rs 1,34,999 and S26+ with 512 GB by 10.7 per cent to Rs 1,54,999.

ITR FILING BY 3 WEEKS

I-T deptt extends deadline for corporates tax audit report



NEW DELHI: The Income Tax Department on Monday extended by 21 days the due date for ITR filing and submission of audit report by corporates for assessment year 2026-27. Accordingly, corporates will now have to file income tax return for AY'27 by November 21, instead of October 31. Similarly, the due date for tax audit report submission has been extended from September 30 to October 21.

In a statement, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said the due dates for both the compliances have been extended.

Tax practitioners have been demanding an extension of the corporate statutory audit report and ITR filing deadline from September 30 citing compressed audit window following the August 31 deadline for filing ITR in non-audit cases.

FLIPKART BIG BILLION DAYS

Motorola offers festive deals across Smartphone portfolio

MUMBAI: Motorola has announced special festive prices across its smartphone portfolio as part of Flipkart's Big Billion Days Sale 2026, offering consumers a range of devices featuring advanced cameras, displays, processors and large-capacity batteries across different price segments.

The motorola edge 70 fusion is positioned as an all-rounder smartphone under Rs 30,000 and is available at Rs 29,999 for the 8GB+128GB variant, Rs 32,999 for the 12GB+256GB variant and Rs 34,999 for the 12GB+512GB variant. It features an AI-enhanced 50MP Sony LYTIA 710 main camera with OIS, a 13MP ultrawide and macro camera, and a 32MP selfie camera. Its 1.5K 120Hz quad-curved display offers up to 4,500 nits peak brightness. The device is powered by the Snapdragon 7s Gen 4 processor and packs a 7,000mAh battery with 68W TurboPower charging. The motorola edge 70 pro is available at Rs 36,999 for the 8GB+256GB variant and Rs 39,999 for the 12GB+256GB variant. Powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 8500 Extreme processor, it offers triple 50MP cameras, including a Sony LYTIA 710 main camera with OIS. The smartphone also features a 6.8-inch 1.5K 144Hz quad-curved display, up to 12GB LPDDR5X RAM and 256GB UFS 4.1 storage. The motorola edge 70 pro+ is priced at Rs 44,999 for the 12GB+256GB variant. It features a quad 50MP camera setup with a 3.5X periscope camera and 50X AI Super Zoom. The device comes with the Dimensity 8500 Extreme processor, a 6.8-inch 1.5K 144Hz display and a 6,500mAh silicon-carbon battery. It supports 90W wired and 15W wireless charging. The moto g37 power starts at Rs 16,999 for the 4GB+64GB variant, while the 4GB+128GB and 8GB+128GB variants are priced at Rs 18,999 and Rs 24,999, respectively. It features a 7,000mAh battery claimed to deliver up to three days of usage, a Dimensity 6400 processor, 120Hz display and 50MP camera.

Motorola said the festive sale provides consumers with an opportunity to upgrade to smartphones offering enhanced performance, imaging, display technology and battery capabilities.

Nation News

LPU violence snowballs into political row

Opposition parties target AAP over Punjab police lapses.

Press Trust Of India

CHANDIGARH: The violence in Phagwara's Lovely Professional University following allegations of a woman student being raped on campus snowballed into a full-scale political controversy on Monday with opposition parties lashing out at Punjab's ruling AAP over law and order and blaming the police for laxity. The BJP also alleged that the violence was linked to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's rally scheduled in Jalandhar on September 30, and accused the Bhagwant Mann government of sending miscreants to the university. Shah will address the rally to mark the culmination of the BJP's 'Nasha Mukt Punjab Yatra'.

LPU students allegedly went on a rampage on the campus late Saturday, vandalising property and blocking a stretch of the New Delhi-Amritsar highway outside their campus over claims that a plumber had raped a female student on the university premises.

Another wave of violence erupted on Sunday evening after the protesting students allegedly pelted police personnel with stones and attacked their vehicles, leaving several cops injured on Sunday, officials said. The situation remained peaceful on the LPU campus on Monday. BJP leader and former Union minister Ravneet Singh Bittu alleged that the AAP was "rattled" by the support for the BJP's anti-drug yatras and blamed the Mann government for "allowing riots" in Jalandhar to disturb Shah's scheduled rally. He said the government in Punjab is set to change in a few months and officials will be held accountable. Punjab is scheduled to go to polls early next year. Bittu claimed that police adopted a "lax" approach, allowing miscreants to indulge in arson and vandalism and leaving police personnel and students injured.

LPU students carrying their luggage prepare to leave for their hometowns outside the university campus.

LPU violence exposes Punjab's law-order failure

HIGHLIGHT

- Akali Dal condemns police lathicharge on LPU students.
- What happened at LPU was a 'serious law and order failure'.

"The violence (at LPU) is a testament to the failed law and order situation in Punjab," Warring said. Senior Akali leader and Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal condemned the alleged lathicharge on LPU students by police. "Unprecedented scenes were witnessed at Lovely Professional University in Phagwara last night. I strongly condemn what the police claim to be a 'mild' lathicharge! Because what can be clearly seen in these visuals are youth, especially girls, being brutally hit, dragged, abused, pushed on ground by 'Men In Khakhi' who report directly to the home/chief minister," she said in a post on X. LPU hosts children from around the world, and treating them this way has not only marred the reputation of the university but has badly exposed the law and order situation in Punjab, she added.

Fulfillment centre

BENGALURU: Amazon announced the launch of its first-ever fulfillment centre (FC) and sort centre (SC) in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, ahead of the festive season. The new fulfillment centre offers 67,000 cubic feet of storage capacity while the new sort centre spans over 16,000 square feet. The launch of these facilities will help customers in Raipur and nearby areas get their Amazon packages faster and more reliably and create hundreds of local jobs. These facilities will be operated and managed by strategic partners who are leaders in the logistics industry. Amazon's operations network across the state now consists of one FC, one sort centre and 30 last-mile delivery stations.

The Raipur launch is part of Amazon's broader expansion of its operations network across India, with the addition of 20 new fulfillment centres, 6 new sort centres and 150 new last-mile delivery stations. The expansion grows Amazon's total storage capacity by 50% to 64 million cubic feet - equivalent to more than 720 Olympic-sized swimming pools and expand total sortation area by 25% from 2.4 million to 3 million square feet. In a major push beyond metros, all six sort centres and seven new fulfillment centres are launching in non-metro cities, including first-ever Amazon FCs in Raipur, Ranchi and Varanasi.

Delhi Congress holds protest

Press Trust Of India

Delhi Congress march halted by barricades.

NEW DELHI: The Congress protested on Monday and demanded Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's resignation over the summary revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, alleging that the exercise has caused difficulties for voters in JJ clusters and unauthorised colonies.

Delhi Congress workers gathered at the party office on Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg and tried to march to Nirvachan Sadan, but police stopped them by erecting barricades. The party alleged that residents, particularly those in JJ clusters and unauthorised colonies, struggled to produce documents the poll authorities sought within the stipulated period.

"In the SIR process, there should have been complete transparency, non-discrimination and equal rights. Instead, the Election Commission has divided the country, particularly Delhi, into two classes," a Congress worker said.

The party also alleged that discrepancies in details such as parents' ages, spellings and addresses could result from errors in computer-generated data and should not cause hardship for voters. All India Mahila Congress president Alka Lamba alleged that the BJP-led government's hold on power had been protected through "vote theft" and accused Kumar of facilitating it. "It has become public knowledge in the country that the BJP central government retained power solely due to vote theft, something Kumar has been doing and continues to do," Lamba told PTI Videos.

She also criticised BJP leaders who demanded that Kumar be awarded the Bharat Ratna. "People are laughing because some BJP leaders are demanding that Kumar should receive the Bharat Ratna. This is a mockery of the Bharat Ratna and an insult to those who have been awarded the Bharat Ratna so far," Lamba said. "This nationwide movement led by the Indian National Congress will not stop or slow down until Kumar resigns, is removed from his post and his decisions are overturned," she said.

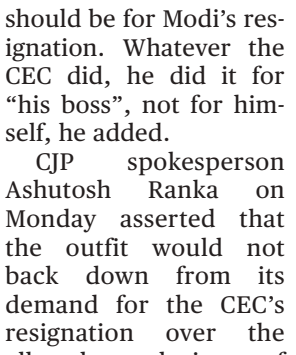
FASTFACTS

- Residents struggle with poll documents.
- Lamba alleges vote theft, blames Kumar.

NEWSLINE

NEW DELHI

'Demand PM's resignation'



Aam Aadmi Party national convenor Arvind Kejriwal on Monday said the Cockroach Janta Party's movement should now be for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's resignation.

Kejriwal at Pratidin Time Conclave said, "First, you demanded the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan. Now you are demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar. I say, go ahead and directly demand the boss's resignation. Everything is happening at his behest." Now the movement should be for Modi's resignation. Whatever the CEC did, he did it for "his boss", not for himself, he added.

CJP spokesperson Ashutosh Ranka on Monday asserted that the outfit would not back down from its demand for the CEC's resignation over the alleged exclusion of 13 crore names from electoral rolls and challenged him to clear the allegations against him before the press and the public.

On September 24, the CJP demanded Kumar's resignation for allegedly "undermining" voter rights and warned of a nationwide agitation, including "Jantar Mantar 2.0", if he did not step down within 48 hours.

| AASTHA KUNJ PARK RAPE CASE |

Delhi University women students hold protest march

Press Trust Of India

Students held a protest march near Faculty of Arts.

NEW DELHI: Women students from different Delhi University colleges on Monday held a protest march near Faculty of Arts following the alleged rape of a 17-year-old girl at Aastha Kunj park in southeast Delhi. The march, being organised independently by students, began from the Faculty of Arts at 3 pm, with Miranda House students gathering at Gate Number 7 of their college before joining the protest, organisers said.

The march being held under the slogan "Hum Auratein Azaad Hain" (We, the women, are free), is open to women and queer students only, according to the organisers. The protest comes days after women students from several DU colleges marched against violence against women following the alleged rape of a 17-year-old girl at Aastha Kunj park in southeast Delhi. This is the third such protest to be organised independently by students, with the first being held by students of Lady Shri Ram College and the second near Gargi College. During the protests, students have continued to raise concerns over women's safety and opposed measures restricting women's mobility in the name of protection.

They demanded better street lighting, improved public transport access and measures to enable women to use public spaces without fear. The students also questioned the emphasis on surveillance and restrictions as responses to sexual violence, saying such measures should not replace broader efforts to improve safety and accountability.

FASTFACTS

- DU students protest violence against women.
- Students organise third independent protest.

'No one will be spared'

Press Trust Of India

Violence of any kind had no place in educational institution.

KOLKATA: West Bengal Higher Education Minister Jagannath Chattopadhyay on Monday said no one involved in the violence at the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI) would be spared, and an insult to Swami Vivekananda or Bharat Mata would not be tolerated. Speaking to reporters after an event, Chattopadhyay said violence of any kind had no place in educational institutions.

A clash broke out on Sunday between a section of SRFTI students and members of the Akhil Bharatiya Grahak Panchayat (ABGP), a consumer organisation associated with the RSS, during a programme at the institute's campus. Several people were injured in the incident, officials said. "Any kind of violence in an educational institution is condemnable.

It is not desirable. But if, as I saw in the visuals, Swami Vivekananda's picture or Bharat Mata's picture was kicked during the altercation between the two sides, then we must understand that we are passing through a terrible situation," he said. "We will change this culture in educational institutions. No Bengali student can kick a picture of Vivekananda. This culture will not be tolerated," the minister said.

The police are investigating the incident, and no one will be spared, he added.

Students alleged that ABGP members attacked them after they protested the organisation's programme, while the group claimed that its event was disrupted and its members were assaulted.

Community intelligence

Press Trust Of India

BENGALURU: Truecaller announced the launch of Truecaller Scam Checker on the web and app, a new destination designed to help people quickly assess whether they may be dealing with a scam and stay informed about the latest fraud trends. The intent is to extend Truecaller's scam protection beyond caller identification and spam blocking.

The solution brings together multiple scam-detection capabilities into a single experience, allowing users to check suspicious web links, search phone numbers, discover relevant scam reports, and better understand potential fraud attempts before taking action. The company also plans to expand Truecaller Scam Checker with broader coverage of scam techniques, screenshot uploads for richer analysis, user authentication, and additional capabilities in the near future.

"People often sense that something is wrong, but they need a quick way to check before responding," said Rishit Jhunjhunwala, CEO of Truecaller. "Scam Checker brings together our detection capabilities and what our community has reported so that people can investigate a suspicious link, number or story in one place."

CHANGE OF NAME

IT IS INFORMED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT I MOEIN KHAN S/O MOHAMMED BASHIR KHAN RESIDENT OF 150 (6) AMBEDKAR WARD MUNGELI DIST. MUNGELI (C.G.) 495334 HAVE CHANGED MY OLD NAME MOEIN KHAN S/O MOHAMMED BASHIR KHAN, SO IN FUTURE I SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY MY NEW NAME MOHAMMED MOEIN KHAN S/O MOHAMMED BASHIR KHAN IN ALL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

MOHAMMED MOEIN KHAN

150 (6) AMBEDKAR WARD MUNGELI DIST. MUNGELI (C.G.) 495334

आम सूचना

मौजा तोरवा, प.ह.न. 37, रा.नि.म. व तहसील बिलासपुर, अंतर्गत नगरपालिका निगम बिलासपुर जिला बिलासपुर छ.ग. क्षेत्रांतर्गत स्थित परिवर्तित भूमि ख.न. 1274/1 में से (नया ख.न. 1274/18) क्षेत्रफल 1030 वर्गफुट भूमि है जिसे श्री बेदराम उर्फ बेदप्रसाद पिता स्व. श्री गजाधर वर्ग. के द्वारा श्री मोहनलाल मोटवानी पिता टीकमदास निवासी संतोषी मंदिर के पास बिलासपुर छ.ग. के पक्ष में विक्रय पत्र दिनांक 01/12/2012, ग्रंथ क्रमांक 22088 पंजीयन क्रमांक 3000 पंजीयन कार्यालय बिलासपुर छ.ग. के माध्यम से विक्रय किया गया है। श्री मोहनलाल मोटवानी द्वारा उक्त भूमि को श्रीमति गोपी पाण्डेय के पक्ष में विक्रय किया गया है। वर्तमान में उक्त भूमि पर श्रीमति गोपी पाण्डेय का मालिकाना हक व कब्जा है। उक्त विक्रय पत्र श्रीमति गोपी पाण्डेय से कही गुम हो गया हैं जिसकी सूचना श्रीमति गोपी पाण्डेय द्वारा दिनांक 28/09/2026 को तोरवा थाना बिलासपुर में दिया गया हैं। श्रीमति गोपी पाण्डेय के द्वारा उक्त भूमि को बंधक कर जना स्माल बैंक शाखा व्यापार विहार बिलासपुर छ.ग. में ऋण लिये जाने हेतु आवेदन प्रस्तुत किया गया है। उक्त भूमि के संबंध में किसी व्यक्ति, संस्था, निगम, निकाय, वित्तिय संस्थान, बैंक, समिति को कोई आपत्ति हो तो अविलंब दस्तावेजों के साथ मेरे कार्यालय में एक सप्ताह के भीतर प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं। समयावधी पश्चात् आपत्ति अमान्य होगा।

सो सूचना जानें।

दिनांक 28/09/2026

भवदीय
M.L. YADAV
Advocate MIG-2/14, Narmada Nagar
BILASPUR (C.G.)
Contact:9300325314

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Neel Kumar Shriwas S/o Sarwan Shriwas, R/o Village Semartal, Tehsil & District Bilaspur (C.G.) have changed my minor son's name from AARAB SHIWAS to NAMAN SHRIWAS. In future he will be known as NAMAN SHRIWAS for all purposes.

Neel Kumar Shriwas (Father of Naman Shriwas).

CHANGE OF NAME

IT IS INFORMED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT I RAJKUMAR S/O KRISHNA KUMAR RESIDENCE OF NEAR MAHAMAYA MANDIR VILL-RANIGAON POST RANIGAON THANA RATANPUR, BILASPUR,C.G. 495442 HAVE CHANGED MY OLD NAME RAJKUMAR S/O KRISHNA KUMAR, SO IN FUTURE I SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY MY NEW NAME RAJKUMAR DEWANGAN S/O KRISHNA KUMAR IN ALL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

RAJKUMAR DEWANGAN

NEAR MAHAMAYA MANDIR VILL-RANIGAON POST RANIGAON THANA RATANPUR, BILASPUR, C.G. 495442

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

CIN: L65910KL1992PLC006623, Registered Office : W - 4/ 638A, Manappuram House, P.O. Valapad, Thrissur - 680 567, Kerala, India

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/10/2026 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any)will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

BUS STAND,BILASPUR, 0117040810028549, 0145, LINK ROAD, BILASPUR, 0131560820000213, MAHARANA PRATAP CHOWK, 0124630810024263, MANGALA CHOWK,BILASPUR, 0122000810030134, 0157, 0227, SADAR BAZAR,BILASPUR, 0129660810022206, 2214, SARKANDA,BILASPUR, 0121440810027381, VYAPAR VIHAR, 0115450810023750, 3762, 3767, 3772, 0277, KORBA, KOSABADI, 0125440710031793, 1804, NIHARIKA TALKIES, 0116970810025365, 0186, POWER HOUSE ROAD, 0114460810020002, 0005, T P NAGAR, 0126470810019180, 9225, 9247, 9261, TRANSPORT NAGAR,KORBA, 0114450810027293, 7304, 7363, SURGUJA, AMBEDKAR CHOWK AMBIKAPUR, 0131880810025668, 5779, BRAHMA ROAD, AMBIKAPUR, 0131900820000260,

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:- Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of NEFT/RTGS on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 9072607147.

Authorised Officer
For Manappuram Finance Ltd

SBI भारतीय स्टेट बैंक

आरएएसएमईसीसीसी, द्वितीय तल, मुख्य शाखा, टी.पी. नगर, कोरबा (छ.ग.)

वाहन विक्रय सूचना

बैंक द्वारा जहाँ है, जैसा है, जो भी है, के आधार पर निम्नलिखित जप्त शुदा वाहनों के विक्रय हेतु मुहरबंद निविदा आमंत्रित है।

कम्पनी का नाम व मॉडल	ऋणी का नाम व पता	वाहन का रजि. क्रमांक	आरक्षित मूल्य/रुपये में	अमानत राशि (आरक्षित मूल्य का 10%)
Model: LEYLAND NJ3525 T HR 8X4 TIPPER Mfg. Date: 2024 Chassis No.: MB1JJVLD3RPDC70895 Engine No. RDPZ507697	श्रीमती अमृता सिंह पति सोविंद सिंह, 763 संजय नगर वार्ड, नं. 08, कोरबा, जिला-कोरबा- 495677.	CG-12 BR-0622	₹ 25,20,000/-	₹ 2,52,000/-

1. इच्छुक व्यक्ति वाहन का निरीक्षण दिनांक 01/10/2026 से 04/10/2026 तक, स्थान- कोरबा चांपा रोड, बरपाली में देख सकते हैं तथा अधिक जानकारी हेतु श्री सूर्य प्रकाश महतो, मो. 8839667246 से सम्पर्क कर सकते हैं। 2. निविदा दिनांक 05/10/2026 दिन- सोमवार को दोपहर 03.00 बजे तक इस कार्यालय के विभाग (भारतीय स्टेट बैंक, आरएएसएमईसीसीसी, द्वितीय तल, मुख्य शाखा, टी.पी. नगर, कोरबा में जमा की जा सकती है, उसी दिन शाम 04.00 बजे तक निविदाएं खोली जाएगी। अधिकतम राशि की निविदा स्वीकार योग्य होगी। सफल/स्वीकार निविदा कर्ता को निविदा मूल्य की 10% राशि उसी दिन 05/10/2026 एवं शेष सम्पूर्ण निविदा राशि 10/10/2026 तक भुगतान करनी होगी। उसके बाद वाहन की सुपुर्दगी दी जायेगी। निर्धारित समय सीमा में आवश्यक राशि का भुगतान नहीं करने पर निविदाकर्ता द्वारा पूर्व में जमा राशि जब्त कर ली जायेगी। 3. बैंक को यह अधिकार है कि बिना कोई कारण बताए किसी भी निविदा को स्वीकार/अस्वीकार कर सकता है या/तथा निविदा की कार्यवाही/दिनांक निरस्त/परिवर्तित कर सकता है। 4. निविदा संबंधी विस्तृत नियम एवं शर्तों तथा वाहन के बारे में जानकारी एवं निविदा फार्म हेतु हमारे कार्यालय के उपरोक्त विभाग में सम्पर्क करें। 5. उपरोक्त ऋणियों को तदनुसार सूचना।

(नोटः नियमानुसार YARD चार्ज अतिरिक्त देय होगा।) एवं DD, AGM SBI RASMECC कोरबा के नाम पर देय होगा।

दिनांक : 28.09.2026 स्थान : कोरबा (छ.ग.) प्राधिकृत अधिकारी, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक

Central Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 14 No. 181

Comment

QUOTE FROM THE QUOTABLE

"Faith is of no avail in absence of strength; faith and strength are both essential to accomplish great work."

[Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel]

| OUR VIEW |

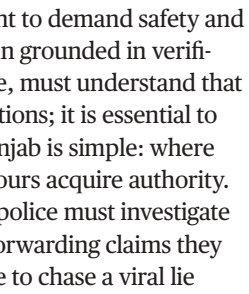
When silence and rumours set campuses ablaze

The turmoil at two Punjab universities offers a disturbing lesson in how quickly fear can overpower facts in the social-media age. At Chitkara University near Rajpura and Lovely Professional University in Phagwara, rumours circulating through WhatsApp, Instagram and other platforms helped trigger protests that escalated into vandalism, clashes and disruption. At Chitkara, claims of deaths and missing students spread after students noticed an ambulance and heard alarming stories about a girls' hostel. The university said the ambulance had actually brought a student back from hospital around 2.50 am. Authorities also said no student death had been reported and no names or identifying details of supposedly missing students were provided. Medical authorities said no post-mortem involving a university student had been conducted. Yet rumours travelled faster than clarification, eventually acquiring even supernatural dimensions. The episode demonstrates the extraordinary power of unverified digital content to turn anxiety into collective conviction. At LPU, the consequences were more serious. Students protested over allegations that a female student had been sexually assaulted inside a hostel. The university denied the allegation, while police registered an FIR and constituted a Special Investigation Team. The allegation remains under investigation, with police saying CCTV footage, forensic evidence and phone records will be examined. The protests escalated into property damage, arson and a prolonged blockade of NH-44. This is precisely why neither instant disbelief nor instant acceptance is responsible. Allegations concerning sexual violence must be investigated seriously, but social-media claims cannot substitute for evidence. Equally, institutions cannot expect trust merely by issuing denials. There is a deeper problem. LPU had witnessed the death of 21-year-old student Laxmi Chandra earlier in September, with police investigating the circumstances. Such tragedies naturally create anxiety and questions among students. Universities therefore need transparent communication, accessible grievance systems and credible counselling mechanisms. Silence creates an information vacuum, and social media eagerly fills it. Students have every right to demand safety and accountability. But protest must remain grounded in verifiable facts. Administrations, meanwhile, must understand that transparency is not merely public relations; it is essential to maintaining trust. The lesson from Punjab is simple: where credible information arrives late, rumours acquire authority. Institutions must communicate early, police must investigate impartially, and students must resist forwarding claims they cannot verify. Truth should never have to chase a viral lie through a burning campus.

| GUEST VIEW |

PM KUSUM needs farmer-centric solar reforms urgently

PM KUSUM has the potential to transform India's rural energy economy, but its present design needs a sharper focus on farmers rather than large utility-scale developers. India's solar capacity is expanding rapidly, yet the economic gains are not reaching cultivators in equal measure. A strategic overhaul should place agri-photovoltaics at the centre of the scheme. Unlike land-exclusive ground-mounted projects, agri-photovoltaic systems allow farmers to continue cultivation beneath or alongside solar panels. This protects productive farmland while creating an additional and dependable source of income, effectively turning sunlight into a "third crop". To encourage wider adoption, the government should consider capital subsidies similar to those available under PM Surya Ghar. Farmer cooperatives and producer organisations should also receive Priority Sector Lending support so that access to affordable credit does not become a barrier. At the same time, a viable feed-in tariff of around Rs 4.5 per kWh could make decentralised solar generation financially attractive. India can draw lessons from the cooperative success of Operation Flood. A farmer-owned solar cooperative model could reduce the subsidy burden on power distribution companies, strengthen rural micro-enterprises and create local employment. Most importantly, it would make farmers direct stakeholders and equity participants in India's clean energy transition. It can also improve energy security across villages nationwide.



Dr. Vijaykumar H K

Groundwater crisis: A serious challenge facing Indian agriculture

Behind the glitter of India's agricultural achievements lies a grim reality–rapid groundwater depletion. More than 78 percent of the country's irrigation needs depend on groundwater, and the agricultural sector accounts for nearly 90 percent of groundwater withdrawals. In agricultural states like Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan, groundwater withdrawals far exceed annual recharge; in Punjab, the rate has reached 152 percent. This situation not only threatens long-term agricultural sustainability but also has serious consequences, including rural inequality, rising energy demand, and ecosystem degradation.

The roots of this crisis lie in structural policies and incentives. Since the Green Revolution, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and guaranteed government procurement have pushed farmers toward monopolizing wheat and rice cultivation, especially in Punjab and Haryana. Water-intensive crops like rice, which are not suited to the local climate, have been cultivated extensively as markets and policies reward them. Furthermore, free or heavily subsidized electricity for agriculture has reduced pumping costs to negligible, making the marginal cost of extracting additional groundwater zero for farmers and encouraging indiscriminate extraction. The rapid expansion of tubewells and private borewells, weak regulation, and a lack of community-level management have exacerbated this situation.

Irrigation methods also contribute to the problem. Traditional flood irrigation is still widespread, with high water wastage and low efficiency. Schemes to promote micro-irrigation (drip and sprinkler) exist, but high initial costs and maintenance concerns for small farmers limit adoption. The uncertainty of climate change and the vagaries of monsoons have made farmers increasingly dependent on groundwater.

The consequences of this crisis extend far beyond the farm. Falling water levels force farmers to install deeper borewells and more powerful pumps, increasing irrigation costs and disproportionately affecting small and marginal farmers. Extracting water from deeper levels requires more energy, further tightening the water-energy relationship. Ecologically, over-extraction poses the risk of land subsidence, salinity intrusion into coastal areas, and long-term degradation of water quality. At the social level, water scarcity fuels conflict between agriculture, industry, and domestic use, and between states with shared river basins. Economically, rising irrigation costs reduce farm profitability.

This challenge cannot be addressed solely through technological improvements, but rather by realigning incentives, institutions, and practices to ecological limits. First, crop diversification must be transformed from a slogan into a strategy. Paddy cultivation in Punjab and Haryana cannot continue in the same way as in Bengal or Assam; less water-intensive crops like maize, pulses, oilseeds, and horticulture must be promoted with similar market guarantees, processing infrastructure, and price support. Without economic viability, diversification will remain only on paper. Second, rapid expansion of irrigation efficiency is essential. The 'Per Drop More Crop' component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) has promoted drip and sprinkler systems with up to 55 percent subsidy for small farmers, but coverage remains limited. Expanding micro-irrigation, adopting water-saving practices like direct-seeded rice and alternate wetting and drying in paddy, and investing in laser land leveling can reduce farm-level water use by 30–50 percent.

Third, groundwater governance must be strengthened. Community management through panchayats and water-user associations, along with participatory aquifer mapping and local water budgeting, can ensure accountability on extraction. Regulatory measures, such as permitting new borewells in over-exploited blocks and linking electricity connections to sustainable extraction criteria, should complement voluntary efforts. Fourth, subsidy reform is essential. Moving from flat-rate or free electricity to metered volumetric pricing, as well as targeted direct benefit transfers to protect small farmers, can be equitable while preventing wastage. Agricultural support schemes should include water-use criteria to reward farmers who adopt water-efficient crops and technologies. Finally, expanding recharge and conjunctive use is essential. Rainwater harvesting, check dams, recharge shafts, and watershed management can enhance natural recharge, while developing canal command areas and promoting conjunctive use of surface and groundwater can reduce excessive dependence on aquifers.

India stands at a crossroads: either continue exploiting groundwater for short-term yields, or adapt agriculture to ecological reality. The current path will deepen rural distress, increase inequality, and undermine food security. Diversified crops, efficient irrigation, improved incentives, and community-led governance–this alternative path leads to sustainable agricultural prosperity. Groundwater is not just a resource, but a generational asset; how it is managed today will determine whether India's farmlands remain fertile or become a relic of the past.

Dr. Satyavan Saurabh
PhD (Political Science), is a poet and social thinker.

Rabies prevention demands awareness and action

Rabies remains one of the deadliest yet most preventable viral diseases, making timely treatment, animal vaccination and sustained public awareness essential for saving lives.

Dr. KK Vepakomma
Professor & Principal (Retd.), Newspaper Columnist

A dog bite may happen within moments, but the danger that follows can be severe if the risk of rabies is ignored. Rabies is a viral infection that affects the brain and central nervous system. Once clinical symptoms appear, the disease is almost always fatal. The tragedy is that rabies deaths are largely preventable when people recognise the danger early and seek proper medical care without delay.

Dogs are responsible for nearly 99 per cent of human rabies cases worldwide. This makes vaccination of dogs one of the strongest tools for controlling the disease. Regular and widespread vaccination of both pet and stray dogs can dramatically reduce transmission and protect entire communities. Responsible pet ownership, including timely vaccination and proper supervision of animals, is equally important.

When a person is bitten, scratched or exposed to the saliva of an animal suspected of carrying rabies, immediate action is critical. The wound should be washed thoroughly with soap and running water for at least 15 minutes. This simple measure can significantly reduce the risk of infection. The injured person should then seek medical attention as quickly as possible.

Doctors may advise a course of anti-rabies vaccination depending on the nature of exposure. In serious cases, particularly when the bite is deep or the skin has been broken extensively, rabies immunoglobulin or approved monoclonal antibodies may also be required. The prescribed vaccination schedule must be completed fully. Stopping treatment midway can leave the person inadequately protected.

Rabies vaccination has saved millions of lives over the years, but prevention should not begin only after an animal bite. Public education is equally necessary. Children are especially vulnerable because they may play with unfamiliar animals or fail to report minor scratches. Schools and families should teach them never to tease or approach unknown animals and to immediately inform an adult after any bite, scratch or suspicious contact.

Rural communities need particular attention because access to medical facilities and vaccines may sometimes be limited. Primary health centres must be equipped with sufficient anti-rabies vaccines and trained personnel. Awareness campaigns should also dispel myths and discourage people from relying on home remedies instead of proven medical treatment.

World Rabies Day, observed on September 28, carried the theme "Stronger Together," highlighting the need for coordinated action. Its message should not be confined to a single day. Governments, doctors, veterinarians, educators, local bodies and communities must work together throughout the year.

Vaccinating animals, washing wounds immediately, seeking timely medical care, completing the vaccine course and spreading accurate information can prevent needless deaths. Rabies is deadly, but with awareness, cooperation and prompt action, it is entirely preventable.

YOURLETTERS

Questions rise over voter revision

Draft electoral rolls published after the Special Intensive Revision reportedly show a substantial decline in voter numbers across 17 States and Union Territories compared with the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Allegations of irregularities during the revision process have also raised serious concerns. The Election Commission, government and judiciary should ensure full transparency and clarify the reasons behind such large-scale changes. Any genuine errors must be corrected promptly to protect eligible voters and maintain public confidence in the electoral process.

Sujit De, Kolkata

Angh carries Nagaland to Oscars

Nagaland's Konyak-language film Angh has brought national attention through its remarkable international journey. The debut film of Theja Rio, set in a Nagaland village, won the Platform Prize at the Toronto International Film Festival and has entered the International Feature Film category for the 2027 Academy Awards. Such recognition highlights India's extraordinary cultural diversity and the power of regional cinema. More films rooted in local traditions and languages should reach global audiences and showcase India's rich cultural heritage.

K. Chatterjee, Kolkata

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.

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Nation

Surgical strikes reflected Modi, Parrikar's steely resolve

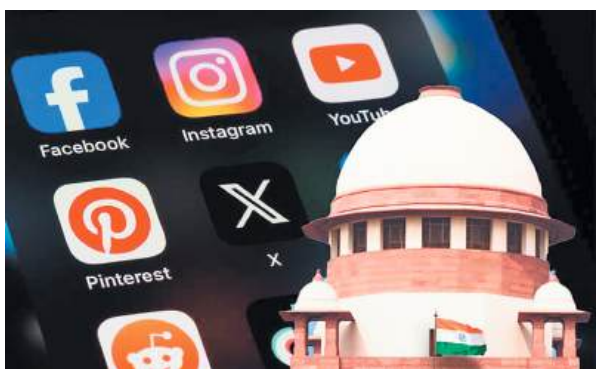
Lt Gen Nimbhorkar
Former officer of Indian Army

| SC ASKS CENTRE |

'Review statutory safeguards for minors'

The plea seeks safeguards for minors accessing social media, and to ensure no such platform enters into a contract with a child below 18 years.

Press Trust Of India



NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre to examine whether a statutory framework can be put in place for social media intermediaries to ensure that they and other digital platforms comply with Indian laws governing minors, including the legal bar on children below 18 independently entering into contracts.

On September 10, a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana had taken note of submissions made by senior advocate H S Phoolka, appearing for petitioner NGO 'Just Rights for Children Alliance', and sought responses on the plea from the Union ministries of electronics and information technology, as well as law and justice.

"We need some safeguards in India," the bench had said.

The plea seeks safeguards for minors accessing social media, and to ensure no such platform enters into a contract with a child below 18 years of age.

"Something can be done, something should be done and will be done. We have to come back..." Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, told the bench on Monday.

Phoolka submitted that contracts entered into by minors are void under existing Indian law, and argued that platforms should be subject to enforceable obligations rather than merely voluntary guidelines.

Justice Bagchi said the requirement should not remain confined to a guideline and asked the solicitor general to exam-

HIGHLIGHT

- We need some safeguards in India: Court.
- Court seek statutory backing for requirement.

Seva Sankalp Yatra

NEW DELHI: The Seva Sankalp Yatra, undertaken to mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25 years in public life, entered its 12th day on Monday. BJP's youth wing, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), national president Hemang Joshi said the journey is reinforcing the spirit of "seva" among the youth.

"These are not merely stories we hear along the road; they are experiences that stay with every seva yatri. The smiles, struggles and aspirations of the people give us renewed energy to continue serving society," Joshi said.

He said the yatra reminds participants that "a long journey becomes meaningful when every kilometre carries the spirit of seva"."After travelling through villages, meeting beneficiaries and participating in service activities, listening to their stories brings a deep sense of peace and satisfaction," Joshi said.

Briefs

BEYOND WELLNESS

Feeling healthy should not be considered the same as knowing that fertility is unaffected

MUMBAI: Fertility depends on several reproductive factors that are not always reflected in a person's general health. According to Dr Namita Chandra Verma, Fertility Specialist, Birla Fertility & IVF, Raipur, a woman may have regular periods, maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly and have no known medical condition, yet still have concerns related to ovarian reserve, ovulation, the fallopian tubes, uterus or egg quality.

Similarly, a man may feel completely healthy and have no sexual health concerns, while sperm count, movement or shape may still affect the chances of conception. This is why feeling healthy should not be considered the same as knowing that fertility is unaffected.

Lifestyle certainly matters. A balanced diet, regular physical activity, adequate sleep, avoiding smoking and maintaining a healthy weight can support reproductive health. But these factors cannot reveal every underlying concern. Age, for instance, remains an important influence on female fertility even when someone feels fit and well. Conditions such as endometriosis or tubal problems may also exist without obvious symptoms. What should couples consider? If you are planning a pregnancy, it is useful to look beyond overall wellness. Consider whether your menstrual cycles are regular, whether you have a history of PMOS, endometriosis, pelvic infections or surgery, and whether there have been previous concerns about ovarian reserve.

Male fertility should be considered at the same time. A semen analysis can provide information about sperm parameters that cannot be assessed through appearance, fitness levels or symptoms alone.

PROTEST

Congress holds protests against CEC, demands resignation

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Congress on Monday held protests across the Valley against the Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and demanded his immediate resignation.

The protest was part of the party's nationwide protest programme against Kumar.

The Congress held protests at district headquarters, with the party's Rajya Sabha MP Pawan Khera leading a demonstration at the Pradesh Congress Committee headquarters here. Khera led the protest by Congress activists against Kumar.

However, police did not allow the protesters to move out of the party office complex. Speaking to reporters, Khera said the party has held protests in every district of the country because "elections are being stolen".

ELECTORAL TRUST

Democracy cannot run on doubts,says J&K Cong Working President

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee Working President and former Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand on Monday called for greater transparency in the electoral process, saying democracy cannot run on doubts and the Election Commission must address every legitimate concern.

Addressing a public meeting in Khour Assembly constituency, Chand said free and fair elections are the foundation of democracy, and every genuine concern raised by political parties, candidates, or citizens should be addressed transparently and in accordance with law. "Democracy cannot run on doubts. The Election Commission must come clean and answer every legitimate question. Public confidence in the electoral process must be protected," he said.

Congress protest

FEROZEPUR: Congress workers staged a protest here on Monday demanding the resignation and arrest of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, accusing him of "subverting and sabotaging" democracy in the country. The protesters also burnt effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the CEC.

Leading the protest, Punjab Congress chief Amarinder Singh Raja Warring alleged that Kumar had "subverted and sabotaged" the electoral process and claimed that 13.8 crore voters had been "single-handedly disenfranchised" through deletion from electoral rolls. Citing Bihar, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Haryana, he said the electoral outcomes in these states were contrary to ground realities and the public perception.

Stone-pelting

UJJAIN: Tensions flared in Madhya Pradesh's Ujjain city on Monday as police lobbed tear gas shells to disperse a crowd that hurled stones while protesting the proposed demolition of a portion of a mosque for a road-widening project, officials said.

The protest took place ahead of a hearing in Madhya Pradesh High Court on a petition on the proposed demolition of a portion of the Shahi Masjid for a project to widen a key 900-metre stretch to ease movement of pilgrims during the upcoming Simhastha Kumbh 2028. The road from Kanthal crossing to Gopal Mandir is being widened to 15 metres, and the project involves removal or modification of structures falling within the proposed alignment.

Superintendent of Police Pradeep Sharma told reporters that some people attempted to create disturbance, following which police tried to persuade them to cooperate and subsequently used mild force to disperse them.

ECoR tightens cleanliness monitoring measures

Press Trust Of India

ECoR building cleaner, healthier and sustainable railway environments.

BHUBANESWAR: East Coast Railway has further strengthened its cleanliness initiatives through intensified monitoring and enforcement across its railway premises, reinforcing its commitment towards creating cleaner, healthier and more sustainable railway environments.

As part of the continued cleanliness drive and in line with the objectives of Swachhata Hi Seva 2026, ECoR recorded 3,028 cases and collected Rs 5.89 lakh in fines during August 2026 for activities affecting cleanliness at railway premises. The figures are higher than those recorded in July 2026, when 2,302 cases were booked and Rs 4.41 lakh was collected. The increase reflects enhanced vigilance and more intensive enforcement by ECoR to promote responsible behaviour among passengers and other stakeholders. Regular monitoring is being undertaken to discourage littering and other activities that adversely affect the cleanliness of railway stations and premises. According to the monthly report, the Commercial Department recorded 636 cases and collected Rs 1.27 lakh, while the Railway Protection Force (RPF) recorded 2,392 cases and collected Rs 4.625 lakh across Khurda Road, Rayagada and Sambalpur Divisions during August 2026.

FACTFILE

- ECoR recorded 3,028 cases and collected Rs 5.89 lakh in fines.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ENGINEERING WORK

E-Tender Notice No. WRSR-26-27-Bogie-RT2, Date: 24.09.2026. Name of Work: Works Contract for "(a) Bogie feeding (movement), (b) Wheel set feeding (movement) and (c) Cleaning of bearing and their components" in the premises of Wagon Repair Shop/Raipur. **Approximate Tender Value:** ₹ 2,43,41,568.00 (₹ Two crores Forty-Three lakh Forty-One Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Eight Only) which including GST @18%. **Quantity and Contractual Period:** As per annexure enclosed for a period of 36 (Thirty-Six) months. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 4,86,800.00 (₹ Four Lakh Eighty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Only) including GST @ 18%. **Cost of Tender Forms (₹):** Nil.

Tender Closing Date and Time: 16.10.2026 15:00 Hours. Bidding Start Date: 02.10.2026.

Eligibility Criteria: Can be seen on website. Manual tender shall not be accepted. The details of the tender are available on website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Dy. CME/WRS/Raipur.
PR/R/WRS/PCN/218
South East Central Railway @secrail

कार्यालय, कार्यपालन अभियंता, ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा, संभाग – गरियाबंद जिला–गरियाबंद (छ.ग.)

E-mail - eeresdvgariyaband@gmail.com

ई– निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना क्र. 06/2026-27 (प्रथम आमंत्रण)

क्रमांक/597/ई–निविदा/ग्रा.यां.से./2026–27 गरियाबंद, दिनांक 24/09/2026

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अतंर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित ई–निविदा वर्ष 2026–27 हेतु दिनांक 09.10.2026 तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

स.क्र.	सिस्टम टेण्डर नंबर	कार्य का नाम	ठेके की अनुमानित राशि (लाख रू.में)
1	2	3	4
1	200165	100 सीटर बालक छात्रावास भवन निर्माण शासकीय हायर सेकेण्डरी विद्यालय, खड़मा, वि.ख – छुरा जिला–गरियाबंद (विद्युतीकरण कार्य सहित)	264.032
2	200167	100 सीटर बालक छात्रावास भवन निर्माण शासकीय स्कूल, मोगराडीह, वि.ख–मैनपुर, जिला–गरियाबंद (विद्युतीकरण कार्य सहित)	264.032

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यो की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा, निविदा विज्ञप्ति, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाईट **http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in** में दिनांक 25.09.2026 से डाउनलोड की / देखी जा सकती है निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य 3000 रूपये ऑनलाईन भुगतान एवं अमानत की राशि एफ.डी.आर प्रत्येक कार्य के लिए पृथक–पृथक प्रस्तुत किया जाना है। मैन्युअल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में पहुँचने की अंतिम तिथि 13.10.2026 को शायं 5.00 बजे तक है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा संभाग गरियाबंद

G-262703556/2

CHHATTISGARH STATE POWER TRANSMISSION CO LTD
(A Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking) GSTIN-22AADCC5773E1ZX
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Website- www.cspc.co.in e-mail:- ce .eht@cspc.co.in Ph. No. 0771-2574221, 2574224 Fax No. 0771-2574222

No. 02-05/Line/O.S./Tender-60/1324 Raipur, Date: 25.09.2026

E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Form	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Tentative Cost (Rs.)	Date of opening
Tender-60 (Rfx-8100054431)	Deployment of 40 nos. Security Guards (Civilian) through outsource for watch and ward at various EHT-Const./Maint. Stores under SE EHT-C&M, Circle, Raipur & Bhilai for a period of 01 year	Rs.5000/- (Incl.GST)	Rs. 90,383/-	Rs. 90.38 Lakhs	23/10/2026

For all other details of NIT and terms & conditions, please visit our website www.cspc.co.in/csptcl_tendernotices/CSPTCL_Tender.htm.

SAVE ELECTRICITY S-49194/3

EXEVUTIVE DIRECTOR (Line)
CSPTCL, RAIPUR

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Regional Office - Bilaspur, 1st floor, TR Complex, Opposite SBI, RAJKISHORE NAGAR, LINGIYADIH, BILASPUR - 495006 (C.G.), PH:07752-310229/310231
E-mail: recovery.bilaspur@bankofbaroda.bank.in

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF PROPERTIES "APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1)]"

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

DATE AND TIME OF E-AUCTION 11-11-2026 FROM 2.00PM TO 06.00PM

Sr. No.	Name & Address of Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Mortgagor(s)	Give short description of the movable / immovable property with known encumbrances, if any	Total Dues	(i) Reserve Price (ii) EMD and (iii) Bid Amount	Status of Possession (Constructive/ Physical)
01	Mrs. Priyanka Dulani W/o Late Shri Harish Kumar Dulani Address: House No. - 246, Ward No. 06, Near New Sabji Market, Manendragarh, MCB, Chhattisgarh – 497442 Branch:MANENDRAGARH	Equitable Mortgage of Residential Flat No. - 209, Second Floor, Welcome Heights, Part of Kh No.- 438/99 and 441/4 situated at Vill.- Pandri Tarai, Shankar Nagar, Ward No. 31, PH No. 109, Raipur in name of Mrs. Priyanka Dulani W/o Late Shri Harish Kumar Dulani. Boundaries: North: Astha Apartment & Seller's Property, South: Road & Pathak Land East : Samshanghat Wall, West: Road & Other's Land.	Rs. 13,81,161.49 + interest + other charges	Rs. 17,10,000.00 Rs. 1,71,000.00 Rs. 10,000.00	Physical Possession
02	Mr. Birbal Nishad Add.: 34/452, Gujarati Samaj Bilaspur, Tikarapara, Bilaspur - 495001 C.G. Branch: Janjgir	Residential landed property of land area 1250.00 Sq. Ft., having Kh.No. - 732/10, P.H. No.- 63, R.N.M.- Raipur - 8 Sankarnagar, Ward No.- 32 (Maharshi Valmiki Ward), Situated at "Bhawna Nagar" Mauza- Sankar Nagar, Tehsil & District - Raipur, State - Chhattisgarh, Owner: Birbal Nishad Boundaries of the property : North : Land Of Muslim Bhai, South : Land of Tiwari, East : Road, West : Road.	Rs. 39,98,680.15 + interest + other charges	Rs. 39,42,000.00 Rs. 3,94,200.00 Rs. 10,000.00	Physical Possession
03	MR. RAMESH CHAND PANDEY Address: EWS 11, 305 Sec.- 29, Naya Raipur, Raipur, C.G. - 492002 Branch: Janjgir	Residential landed property of land area - 590.72 Sq.Ft. having Plot No.-F-04,Kh. No.- 1922/1, P.H. No.- 02, R.N.M. Champa, Situated at 'DB Tanishqa" Mauza- Seoni, Tehsil- Champa, District : Janjgir - Champa, State - Chhattisgarh. Boundaries of the property : As Per Sale Deed- North : Plot No.-3, South : Plot No.- 5, East : Sellers Plot, West : Road.	Rs. 17,56,762.00 + interest + other charges	Rs. 12,78,000.00 Rs. 1,27,800.00 Rs. 10,000.00	Physical Possession
04	Mr. Dharmendra Singade S/o Mr. Bhau Das Singade House No.- 249, TIFRA Panchasil Colony Tifra Bilaspur, C.G. - 495223 Mrs. Nisha Singhade R/o R B Green Vihar, Yadunandan Nagar, Tifra Bilaspur, C.G. 495223, | BRANCH: TILAKNAGAR	EM of Residential land belonging to Mr. Dharmendra Singade admeasuring 1365 sqft at Khasra No. - 304/7 situated at Village Ghuru, PC No. - 61 RIC Sakri, Tehsil - Takhatpur, Dist.- Bilaspur, C.G. Boundary of the Property: North : Land of Dhiraj Suryavansi , South : Land of seller, East: Nistari Road, West: Land of Gulab Singh.	Rs. 17,95,272.00 + interest + other charges	Rs. 20,88,000.00 Rs. 2,08,800.00 Rs. 10,000.00	Physical Possession
05	Mr. Mahesh Kumar Jangde (S/o Mr. Raghunandan Prasad Jangde),Add.: Hanshika Vihar, Uslapur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh – 495001 Mrs. Maheswari Jangde (W/o Mr.Mahesh Kumar Jangde), Address: Hanshika Vihar, Uslapur, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh – 495001 | BRANCH: AGRASSEN CHOWK	Equitable Mortgage of diverted residential double story building situated at Kh. No.- 205/86, Hansika Vihar, Mauja - Uslapur, P.H. No. - 26/45, R.M.N. Sakri, Tah. Sakri, Distt. - Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh, belong to Mrs. Maheshwari Jangde W/o Mr. Mahesh Kumar Jangde, Area: Admeasuring 2400 sq. ft. Boundary Description as per Sale Deed: East: Land of Sharma , West : Nistari Road, South : Land of Bhogal, North: Land of Bhogal.	Rs. 69,37,388.00 + interest + other charges	Rs. 81,10,000.00 Rs. 8,11,000.00 Rs. 10,000.00	Symbolic Possession

Property Inspection Date & Time 04.11.2026, 1.00 P.M. to 4.00 P.M. For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer/visit to the online auction portal https://baanknet.com Also, prospective bidders may contact the Authorised officer on Mobile Number :- 07752-310231.

Date: 29.09.2026, Place: Bilaspur (C.G.) **Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda**

"Don't allow people to box you, you can convert it to bigger milestones. And I was at a point where people were trying to box me as that girl that only does a song in a movie. But I worked hard to finance my own independent music career so that I can also become an international singer."

Nora Fatehi

&Glitters

OTT Watch

Parvathy credits Hrithik for Storm

Parvathy Thiruvothu discusses playing chaotic Subbu in OTT series Storm, crediting producer Hrithik Roshan's acting experience for helping her understand the character. The Mumbai-set series follows five women caught in a deadly housing scam.

Karan Wahi says no to Bigg Boss

Karan Wahi has denied reports of entering Bigg Boss 20 as a wildcard contestant. The actor clarified that his UNO post sparked unnecessary speculation, adding that he is not joining Salman Khan's reality show this year.

Roadies Rebirth to stream twice a week

Roadies Rebirth will stream on Netflix and JioHotstar from October 16. The new season, featuring Rannvijay Singha as host, will release every Friday and Saturday at 7 PM across both platforms.

Samay mocks Pati Patni Aur Woh

Samay Raina recently joked about Ayushmann Khurrana's Pati Patni Aur Woh Do on India's Got Latent. He quipped that the two people who watched the film with him also wanted a refund, leaving everyone laughing.

Vir Das scores third Emmy nomination

Vir Das has earned his third International Emmy nomination for his Netflix comedy special Fool Volume. Nominated in the Comedy category, the special will compete alongside Division Palermo Season 2, Man vs Baby and Old Dog, New Tricks.

CLOSE UP

Amitabh Bachchan was always an inspiration–Rajkumar

The actor reveals standing outside Mannat while chasing his acting dreams.

Central Chronicle News

Rajkummar Rao recalls his Big B & SRK admiration.

Rajkummar Rao recently opened up about his early days in Mumbai and the stars who inspired him. The actor recalled how he once stood outside Shah Rukh Khan's bungalow, Mannat, hoping to catch a glimpse of his idol. Rao shared the anecdote while appearing on Kaun Banega Crorepati 18 with his Prahaar: The Untold Story of Ujjwal Nikam co-star Wamiqa Gabbi and Special Public Prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam. Hosted by Amitabh Bachchan, the episode saw them discuss their journeys and Delhi connections. Recalling his early inspiration, Rao said he had decided at a young age that he wanted to become an actor. He also mentioned that there was a poster of Amitabh Bachchan in his mother's room, adding that the veteran had always been a major inspiration for his career. Rao then spoke about Shah Rukh Khan's journey from Delhi to becoming one of Bollywood's biggest stars. He said he was deeply inspired by Shah Rukh's beginnings in theatre and television before making it big in films.

Rajkummar is preparing for the release of Prahaar.

"When I first came to Mumbai for a show, though I didn't get selected, I used to stand outside his bungalow, right in front of Mannat," Rao recalled.

Bachchan also shared his experience of working with Shah Rukh, praising his determination and ability to boost the confidence of people around him. Meanwhile, Rao is preparing for the release of Prahaar: The Untold Story of Ujjwal Nikam, directed by Avinash Arun.

The courtroom drama focuses on Nikam's notable legal battles, including the prosecution of Ajmal Kasab following the 26/11 Mumbai attacks.

CineBriefs

BEST OF THE REST

Bollywood

Sitaare Zameen Par to release in Japan

Aamir Khan is set to return to Japanese cinemas with Sitaare Zameen Par, nearly nine years after Dangal released in Japan. The film is scheduled to hit Japanese theatres in spring 2027, with distributor Geek Pictures making the announcement. Directed by RS Prasanna, the film follows Gulshan Arora, played by Aamir, a hot-headed basketball coach who is tasked with training adults with intellectual disabilities. What begins as a punishment becomes a journey of acceptance, growth and inclusion. The film also stars Genelia Deshmukh and several newcomers. Sitaare Zameen Par is a spiritual sequel to Taare Zameen Par.

Web Series

The Royals season 2 gets new director

The Royals Season 2 has reportedly undergone a directorial change just days after filming began in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. According to a Variety India report, director Jasmeet K Reen has allegedly exited the Ishaan Khatter and Nora Fatehi-starrer after three days of shooting, reportedly following creative differences with producer Rangita Nandy. Mitakshara Kumar has stepped in to take over the directorial duties. The reported change has not affected the shooting schedule, with production continuing as planned. Kumar has previously assisted Sanjay Leela Bhansali on films including Bajirao Mastaani, Padmaavat and Gangubai Kathiawadi, besides directing episodes of Heeramandi.

The bollywood hot pair

Anil reveals Sunita's one marriage condition

Anil Kapoor recently opened up about his long-lasting marriage with Sunita Kapoor, revealing the one condition she had before they tied the knot. While hosting India Ke Top 1 Percent, Anil recalled that Sunita had made it clear she would marry him only if she never had to enter the kitchen. He said the condition motivated him to work harder and become successful enough to ensure she would not have to take on the responsibility. Anil and Sunita married in 1984 after dating for nearly 11 years. The couple, who first met through a prank call, have now spent over five decades together.

Fashion

Kareena channels Jeetendra in all-white look

Kareena Kapoor Khan recently channelled veteran actor Jeetendra's iconic all-white style for the new season of her talk show What Women Want. The actor shared pictures from her latest shoot, dressed in a crisp, slightly sheer white shirt paired with tailored trousers. Black detailing on the collar, a sleek belt and gold accessories added contrast to the monochrome look. Kareena completed the outfit with nude pointed-toe heels, a slicked-back bun and minimal, dewy makeup.

| HOLLYWOOD |

Melissa Barrera opens to possibility to 'Scream' return

Central Chronicle News

Melissa Barrera has opened up about the possibility of returning to the Scream franchise, saying she would consider reprising her role as Sam Carpenter if the series were to move to a different rights holder. Barrera, who starred in Scream and Scream VI, discussed her future with the franchise during an interview with JustWatch. The actor made it clear that she does not want to work with Spyglass Media Group, which currently holds the rights to the series.

Melissa could return as Sam.

HIGHLIGHT

- Melissa Barrera remains open to 'Scream' return, but only under different franchise leadership.

Barrera was fired from Scream 7 in November 2023 following social media posts concerning the Israel-Hamas conflict. Spyglass said her posts crossed into antisemitism and hate speech. Barrera has disputed that characterization and said the company never apologised to her. "I love the franchise. I had an amazing time making those movies," Barrera said, while explaining that the controversy and difficulties she faced afterward were connected to how the company's leadership publicly characterized her. The actor also said that even an apology would not be enough for her to return to work with the current leadership. However, she suggested that she could be interested if the franchise eventually moved to another company.

Trending on Insta

@kartikaaryan

Kartik celebrates National Award win with team

Kartik Aaryan celebrated his National Award win with the Captain India team during the film's London shoot. He was honoured Best Actor for Chandu Champion at the 72nd National Film Awards.

@aslisona

Sonakshi Sinha wears Saree after her wedding

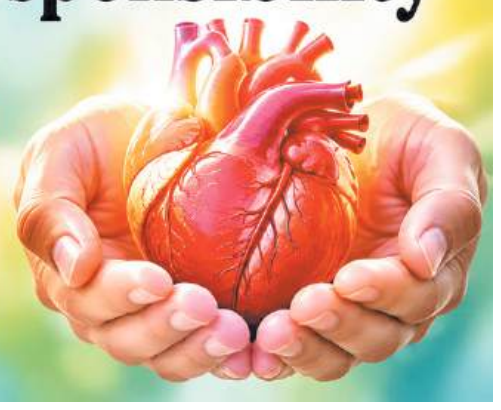
Sonakshi Sinha recently shared her joy over wearing a saree after a long gap, revealing that her last saree appearance was on her wedding day. The red saree was gifted by Huma Qureshi.

World Heart Day

A healthy heart is a prime responsibility

Aarti Singh

Salute to the human heart, which beats about 2.5 billion times over the average lifetime pushing millions of gallons of blood to every part of the body. But what if it, denies working steadily? The answer is a slow disconnected heart. Read below excerpts by heart experts and their advice towards heart health.



Young hearts are at risk

Dr Akshat Jain
Consultant Interventional Cardiologist,
ITSA Hospital, Raipur

Heart problems are creeping younger, making cardiac health an earlier concern.For years, heart attacks were considered a problem of ageing. Today, that assumption is becoming harder to hold. Dr Akshat Jain, Consultant Interventional Cardiologist at ITSA Hospital, has over 11 years of experience in cardiac care, with expertise in angioplasty, high-risk coronary interventions, pacemakers, valvuloplasty and heart failure management. His experience in emergency and preventive cardiology offers a closer look at why younger hearts are increasingly vulnerable. According to Dr Jain, the shift is closely linked to modern lifestyles. Dr Jain also pointed out that the sudden collapses reported while dancing or during intense gym workouts are not automatically heart attacks. In some cases, intense exertion can trigger an event in someone with an undetected heart condition, existing blockage or an underlying genetic disorder such as Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy. This makes understanding individual risk more important than simply blaming exercise.

Emotional distress can affect heart health

Dr Chirag Agarwal
DM Cardiologist, Aarogy Hospital,
Shankar Nagar, Raipur

A broken heart is not always just an expression. In some cases, intense emotional or physical stress can temporarily affect the heart itself. Known as Broken Heart Syndrome or Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy, the condition can suddenly weaken the heart muscle and reduce its ability to pump blood effectively.

What makes it particularly concerning is how closely it can mimic a heart attack. The condition is often linked to a sudden surge of stress hormones such as adrenaline.

Severe grief, fear, shock, illness or intense physical stress can act as triggers.

Although heart function often improves with treatment, complications can occur during the acute phase.

Dr Chirag Agarwal, DM Cardiologist, Aarogy Hospital, Shankar Nagar, Raipur, stresses the importance of maintaining both physical and emotional well-being: "You need a healthy mind and a healthy body to function well. Quit smoking, control your diabetes, and adopt a healthy lifestyle."

'Golden hour' is very crucial

Dr. Nikhil Motiramani
Cardiologist, Raipur

He art problems do not always arrive with dramatic warning signs. Sometimes, they begin with symptoms that can easily be mistaken for acidity, tiredness or everyday discomfort. Dr. Nikhil Motiramani, a cardiologist with extensive experience in cardiac care, stresses the importance of recognising these signals and seeking timely medical attention. If a heart attack is suspected, every minute matters. During the critical "Golden Hour", prompt treatment can help limit heart muscle damage. Dr. Motiramani advises chewing 300 mg of aspirin after emergency services are activated, provided there is no aspirin allergy or medical contraindication. However, aspirin should never delay emergency care. Reaching a medical facility quickly for a professional 12-lead ECG is essential. Dr. Motiramani's message for World Heart Day is simple: "Don't miss a beat." Paying attention to unusual changes in the body, getting appropriate health checks and acting quickly when warning signs appear can help protect both heart health and quality of life.

Timely action can save heart muscle

Dr. Sunil Gouniyal
Interventional Cardiologist,
Narayana Health, Raipur

Heart health depends on everyday habits, regular screening and timely action during emergencies. On World Heart Day, Dr. Sunil Gouniyal, Interventional Cardiologist, Narayana Health, Raipur, highlights the importance of prevention and awareness.

Regular exercise, adequate sleep, limiting prolonged sitting and maintaining a balanced diet rich in vegetables, fruits and protein can help protect heart health. Avoiding tobacco, managing stress, staying hydrated and maintaining a healthy weight and waist circumference are equally important.

Diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, inactivity and chronic stress are major cardiac risk factors. Persistent chest pressure, pain spreading to the arm or jaw, breathlessness, dizziness or fainting require immediate medical attention. Stop activity, rest and seek emergency care without delay. If appropriate and not contraindicated, chewing about 300 mg aspirin may be advised.

Healthy Commute, Healthy Heart

Citizens Can Adopt These Small Changes This World Heart Day

Dr Sourav Chaturvedi
Interventional
Cardiologist
VY Hospital Raipur

This year World Heart Day with theme of "Eevery beats matter protect your heart"

- Very important key notes

1. Prevent the Risk
2. Prepared for emergency
3. Dont delay the respond

Ahead of World Heart Day (September 29, 2026), MMI Narayana Hospital, Raipur, has shared some suggestions for city residents to help keep their hearts safe. The city is also moving towards cleaner air.

Pollution and the Heart: What is the Connection?

PM 2.5–ultra-fine particles present in the air–enter the bloodstream through the lungs via inhalation and cause inflammation in the body. Prolonged exposure leads to plaque buildup in the arteries and increases the risk of heart attacks. This information is not intended to cause alarm, but rather to encourage awareness and proactive preventive measures.

A City Moving in the Right Direction

In recent times, Raipur has made significant progress through better control of industrial emissions and measures to curb vehicular pollution. The city's Air Quality Index (AQI) generally hovers between 71 and 125, indicating a moderate level. It occasionally rises above this range, requiring extra caution. This is good news not only for lung health but for heart health as well. By combining this improvement with small precautionary measures, we can adopt a simple and straightforward formula for the years ahead.

This World Heart Day, MMI Narayana Hospital, Raipur, applauds the city's progress and encourages the adoption of simple, everyday habits that keep the heart healthy, fit, and ready for the day ahead.

Dr. Kinjal Bakshi

Dr. Snehil Goswami

Dr. Waseem Khan

Dr. Hari Kumar P.K.

Dr. Sumant Shekhar Padhi

Daily habits for a healthy heart

A few simple changes can have a significant impact on your health:

* Check your city's AQI before heading out. When the weather is favorable, try to go for a walk or work out outdoors.
* If your schedule allows, travel during off-peak hours to avoid crowds; this can make your commute much more comfortable.
* Keep car windows closed and the AC on 'recirculate' mode during heavy traffic.
* Two-wheeler riders and pedestrians can wear N95 or similar masks when the AQI levels warrant it; it is not necessary on days with good air quality.
* Take a short five-to-ten-minute walk or do some stretching after sitting in a car for an extended period. This helps mitigate the effects of prolonged sitting.

Sports

Standing on the podium with a medal around your neck gives representing India at the Asian Games a truly special feeling.

Ravi Bishnoi
Indian leg-spinner

Rain sends top-ranked India into Asian Games cricket semi-final

India advanced to the Asian Games men's cricket semi-final without playing as rain washed out their quarter-final against Afghanistan in Nagoya on Monday.

Press Trust Of India

Higher ICC ranking sends defending champions India through after rain-hit quarter-final washout.

NAGOYA: India's men's cricket team secured a place in the Asian Games semi-final without taking the field after persistent rain forced the abandonment of their quarter-final against Afghanistan here on Monday.

The defending champions progressed because of their superior ICC T20I ranking. India are currently ranked No.1 in the world, while Afghanistan occupy 10th place. Tournament regulations allowed the higher-ranked side to move ahead when the knockout match could not be played.

India will now face the winner of Tuesday's quarter-final between Nepal and Sri Lanka. If that match is also washed out, Sri Lanka will advance because of their higher international ranking and meet India in the last four.

Nagoya has witnessed frequent rainfall over the past few days, severely affecting the cricket schedule. Conditions on Monday left little possibility of even a shortened contest, forcing officials to call off the match.

India leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi said the team was disappointed at missing an opportunity to compete but hoped conditions would improve for the remaining matches.

"Hopefully, in the upcoming games, we will get the opportunity to play some good cricket and show our game to the people in Japan," Bishnoi said after the cancellation.

Weather also disrupted the first quarter-final between Pakistan and Hong Kong. That match was abandoned as well, allowing Pakistan to progress because of their better ICC ranking.

India are being captained by Shreyas Iyer at the Games, while VVS Laxman is handling coaching responsibilities. Regular head coach Gautam Gambhir is currently with India's ODI squad for the home series against the West Indies.

The Asian Games squad includes several prominent players, led by pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, along with promising 15-year-old batter Vaibhav Sooryavanshi.

Bishnoi said the multi-sport environment had given the players a different experience compared with bilateral series and World Cups. He added that the squad hoped to watch some other sporting events during its free time.

"The Asian Games are definitely a different experience. You get to see different sports and experience them as well," he said.

India will now focus on preparations for the semi-final as they continue their bid to successfully defend the Asian Games cricket gold medal.

Ankita-Rutuja pair bow out; rain pushes Nagal's match to Tuesday

NAGOYA: India's women's doubles campaign in tennis at the Asian Games came to an early end after Ankita Raina and Rutuja Bhosale suffered a hard-fought first-round defeat against Kazakhstan's Yulia Putintseva and Anna Danilina here on Monday. The Indian pair lost 7-5 3-6 5-10 to the Kazakh duo in a contest that went down to the deciding match tie-break. In men's singles, India's Sumit Nagal was locked at 3-2 in the opening set against South Korea's Hong Seongchan when rain brought the match to a halt. The match will resume on Tuesday. Nagal had lost both his singles to Korean players at the recent Davis Cup tie in Seoul.

| SINDHU STAYS DETERMINED |

One painful result cannot define a journey that means so much: Sindhu

Press Trust Of India

Sindhu vows to return stronger after heartbreaking Asian Games quarterfinal defeat.

NAGOYA: PV Sindhu is "hurting" after an agonising Asian Games exit but the pain has only reinforced her desire to achieve more, with the two-time Olympic medallist promising to work on the shortcomings and insisting that "one painful result cannot define a journey that means so much".

Sindhu's campaign ended in a quarterfinal defeat against Chen Yufei of China after she came within three points of closing out the match on Sunday. Sindhu lost to Chen 21-11, 18-21, 10-21.

"I needed a little time to put this into words. My Asian Games campaign is over, and I'm hurting. Three points from closing out that quarterfinal. I keep coming back to those three points," Sindhu wrote on X..

The 31-year-old acknowledged that long, demanding rallies at crucial moments once again proved decisive, much like they did during her recent campaign in China.

"I had my chance. Letting it slip hurts," she said.

But rather than allowing the disappointment to define her campaign, Sindhu has already turned her attention towards addressing the issues that surfaced under pressure.

"My team and I are already working on closing out those moments. We will fix it," she said.

From making her debut at the 2014 edition to returning for her fourth Games 12 years later, the Indian star said there was also reason to take pride in the journey she has made while representing the country. "There's room for pride, too. From my first Asian Games in 2014 to my fourth now, twelve years of giving everything for India. I want to let myself feel that. One painful result cannot define a journey that means so much," she wrote.

HIGHLIGHT

- Sindhu says one painful loss cannot define her remarkable sporting journey.
- Gruelling schedule and missed chances intensified disappointment after quarterfinal exit Sunday.

| INDIA-WINDIES CRICKET SERIES |

Prasidh Krishna: Maturing fast into main act from sidekick

Press Trust Of India

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Prasidh Krishna's 10-0-60-2 spell naturally failed to attract a deeper analysis after Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill and Kuldeep Yadav ripped the West Indies with magical acts, fashioning India's eight-wicket stroll in the first ODI.

But Prasidh's effort against the Caribbeans here on Sunday gave enough indications of a bowler who is willing to bend his back for the team even in oppressive conditions.

"Hard lengths is something that I've been doing all my life. I was slightly on the shorter side and we have been working for quite some time now. When you come in, knowing what exactly has to be done, there is clarity within the team, there is clarity inside me as to what I do when I come in," Prasidh said in the post-match press conference.

Hard lengths is something that I've been doing all my life. I was slightly on the shorter side and we have been working for quite some time now.

Prasidh Krishna
India fast Bowler

True to his strength, the pacer produced two accurate back of the length deliveries to get rid of Keacy Carty and Roston Chase to impede the tourists further amidst Kuldeep's strikes.

"There is enough communication going on. So, all of those things accumulate and help me bowl well," he added.

Briefs

BEST OF THE REST

ZVEREV SEALS TRIUMPH

Zverev seals Laver Cup triumph after landmark Grand Slam year

LONDON: Alexander Zverev capped a remarkable season by clinching the decisive points that secured the Laver Cup for Team Europe on Sunday. The German defeated Learner Tien 7-6 (3), 6-3, giving Europe an unassailable 13-5 lead over Team World. Zverev, who won the French Open and U.S. Open earlier this year, has now featured in all six of Europe's Laver Cup victories. He also holds the record for most singles wins in the competition with eight. Earlier, Flavio Cobolli and Jakub Mensik strengthened Europe's position by beating Alex de Minaur and Taylor Fritz 7-5, 6-3 in doubles. Zverev said team victories remain special in an individual sport like tennis and praised Europe's strong team chemistry. **PTI**

FITZPATRICK CLAIMS CROWN

Fitzpatrick cruises to French Open crown for fourth season title

PARIS: England's Matt Fitzpatrick claimed his fourth title of the year after completing a commanding three-stroke victory at the French Open on Sunday. Fitzpatrick carded a final-round one-under 70 to finish the tournament at 20-under. Spain's Ángel Hidalgo produced a 67 to finish second, three shots behind the champion. The Englishman admitted he did not have his best game early in the round but stayed patient before producing decisive shots and putts down the stretch. The victory continued an impressive season for Fitzpatrick, who has also won the Valspar Championship, RBC Heritage and Zurich Classic alongside younger brother Alex. Frenchman Tom Vaillant finished joint-third after shooting 70. Hidalgo's runner-up finish also secured him a place at next year's British Open at St Andrews. **PTI**

GILL BACKS DEPTH

India would continue with eighth batting option in ODIs, says Shubman Gill

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: India captain Shubman Gill said the team would continue using an eighth batting option in ODIs while experimenting with combinations ahead. Gill said the lower-order position remains important because India have previously failed to maximise strong starts after reaching promising positions around 250 for five. He added that a batter capable of contributing 25 to 30 runs at No.8 could prove crucial. Gill also praised Virat Kohli for batting with freedom after his record-extending 55th ODI century and lauded Kuldeep Yadav for turning the match with four wickets. Kuldeep's 4/40 helped India restrict West Indies after a strong opening stand, while Gill admitted he was disappointed not to finish the chase himself. **PTI**

PROTEAS SEAL SERIES

Miller Bavuma centuries seal South Africa series win over Australia

JOHANNESBURG: David Miller and Temba Bavuma struck centuries as South Africa defeated Australia by 32 runs in the second ODI to seal the series. Miller hammered 142 off 93 balls, while Bavuma made 103 as South Africa posted 365 for nine. Jack Edwards took five wickets for Australia. Mitchell Marsh and Travis Head gave Australia a strong start with 84 each, adding 130 for the opening wicket. However, the visitors again struggled against spin in the middle overs. Keshav Maharaj claimed two wickets as Australia were dismissed for 333 in the final over. The victory gave South Africa an unbeatable lead, extending Australia's wait for a bilateral ODI series win against them since 2014. **PTI**

CENTRAL CHRONICLE | Bilaspur, Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Sreeshankar, Gulveer, Yashvir claim silvers

India enjoyed its biggest athletics medal haul of the Games, collecting six medals as Murali Sreeshankar, Gulveer Singh and Yashvir Singh won silvers, while Vithya Ramraj shattered P.T. Usha's long-standing national record.

Press Trust Of India

India bags six medals in athletics surge

NAGOYA: Gulveer Singh won his second silver of the ongoing Asian Games, while long jumper Murali Sreeshankar and javelin thrower Yashvir Singh also finished second in their respective events, capping India's six-medal haul on the penultimate day of the athletics competition on Monday.

Vithya Ramraj clinched a bronze in the 400m hurdles, adding to her medal of same colour from the last edition, and shattering the legendary PT Usha's 42-year-old national record in the process.

Rohit Yadav won his first major medal with a bronze in India's 2-3 finish in the men's javelin thrown event. Parul Chaudhary, however, could not defend her gold in the women's 5000m event, settling for a bronze at the Mizuho Park Athletic Stadium, which was soaked with rain for the third day on the trot.

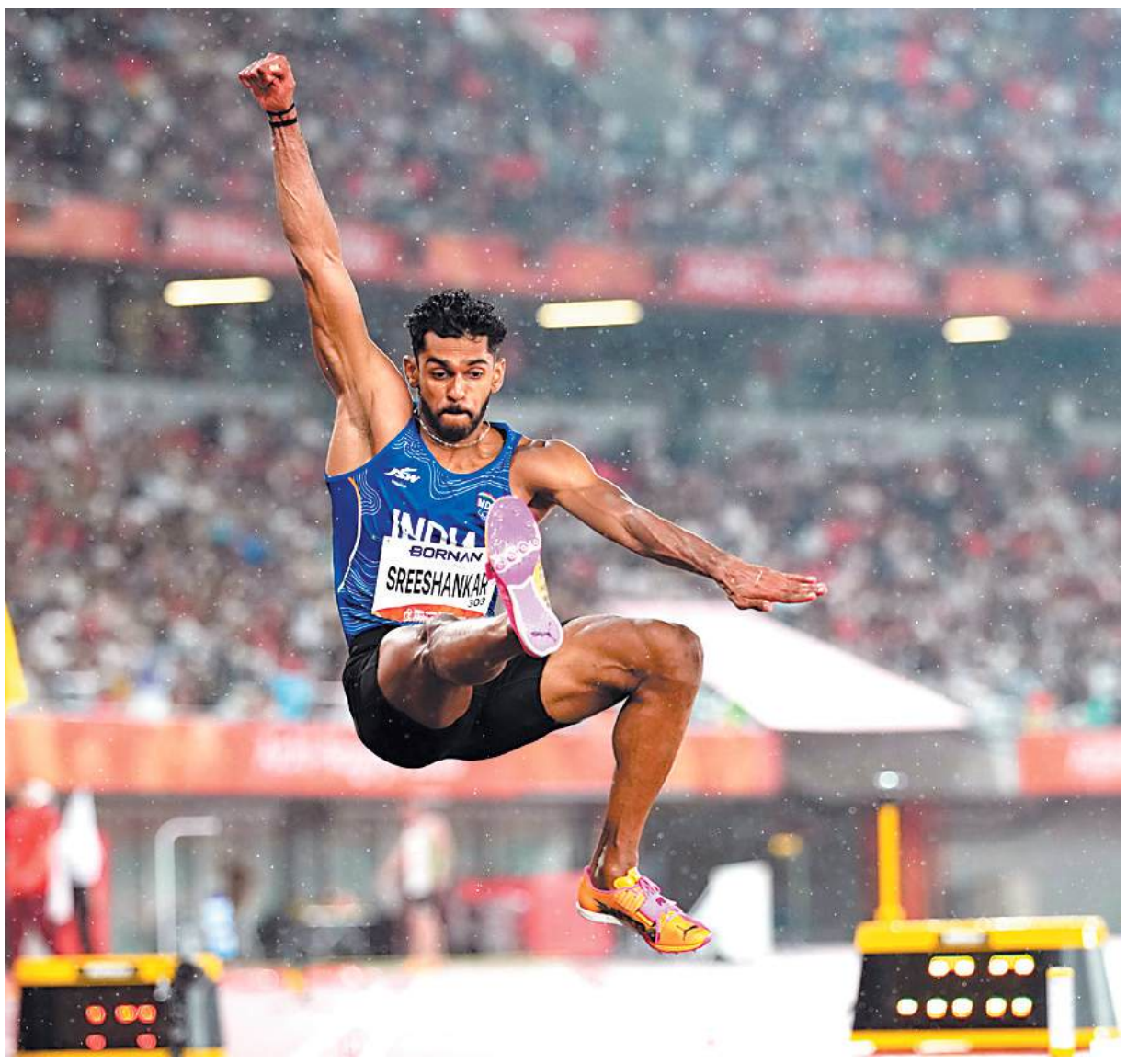
It was a record medal haul day for India, but the wait for gold continues with just a day left in the competition.

Misfortune struck Sreeshankar, who had also won a silver in the last edition, as he hurt his ankle in his fourth jump and did not take the last two attempts. His second round jump of 8.07m was, however, enough for him to win silver.

Shi Yuhao of China won the gold with a jump of 8.17m while Uzbekistan's Anvar Anvarov claimed the bronze with an effort of 8.06m.

Gulveer, meanwhile, kept on adding medals in his cabinet with a silver in the men's 1500m with a personal best effort of 3:36.72. He had already won a silver in the 10,000m in the ongoing edition.

Kazuto Iizawa (3:36.35) of Japan won gold while compatriot Nagiya Mori won the bronze with an effort of 3:37.92.



India's Murali Sreeshankar competes in the men's long jump final

India's Gulveer Singh celebrates after winning silver medal

"This is a very important medal in my career. I have no problem in running as many events and want to win medals in them. I could not maintain my final kick speed till the end as I am normally a long distance runner, running mainly 5000m and 1000m," the 28-year-old from Uttar Pradesh said.

India won two medals in the men's javelin event through Yasvir (85.72m) and Rohit (84.35m), strengthening the country's deep reserve in the event, though the gold expectedly went to Rumesh Pathirage (88.55m) of Sri Lanka, who has been almost unbeaten this season.

"It was difficult in the weather conditions (wet run up and incessant drizzling). I could not get proper grip, it was a little slippery. There is fear of getting injured," Yashvir, who produced his personal best, said later.

"But I was able to bring out my personal best, so I am happy," said Yashvir who was brought in as replacement for superstar Neeraj Chopra who pulled out due to injury.

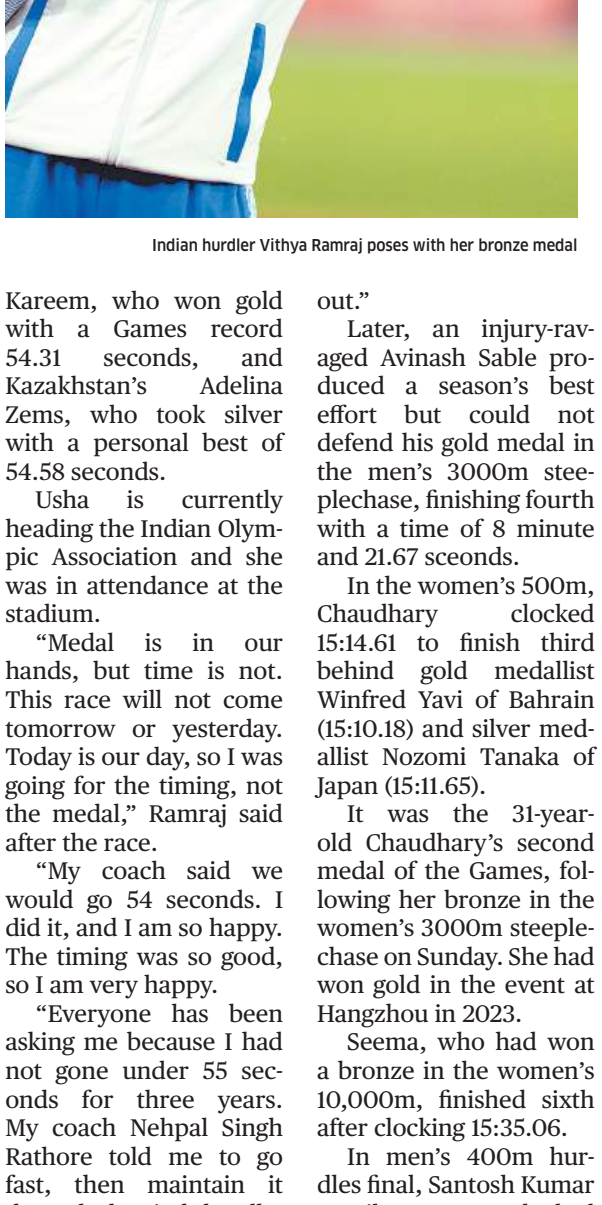
The Indian athletics contingent have so far won 19 medals at the ongoing Games.

Yashvir led at the end of the second round with his first attempt of 83.56m but Rohit overtook him in the third round with 84.35m. At that point, Pathirage was third with Rohit and Yashvir first and second respectively.

The Sri Lankan Diamond League champion, who had recorded three 90m-plus throws this season, then sent his spear to 88.33m in his fourth attempt to take the lead and increased it to 88.55m in his final try, which sealed the issue.

Reigning Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem of Pakistan produced a season-best effort of 80.29m to finish fourth.

In the women's 400m hurdles, Vithya clocked 54.75 seconds to break a more than four-decade-old earlier national record of 55.42 second which has been in the name of the legendary Kareem, who won gold with a Games record 54.31 seconds, and Kazakhstan's Adelina Zems, who took silver with a personal best of 54.58 seconds.



Indian hurdler Vithya Ramraj poses with her bronze medal

Usha is currently heading the Indian Olympic Association and she was in attendance at the stadium.

"Medal is in our hands, but time is not. This race will not come tomorrow or yesterday. Today is our day, so I was going for the timing, not the medal," Ramraj said after the race.

"My coach said we would go 54 seconds. I did it, and I am so happy. The timing was so good, so I am very happy.

"Everyone has been asking me because I had not gone under 55 seconds for three years. My coach Nehpal Singh Rathore told me to go fast, then maintain it through the sixth hurdle. From the sixth hurdle to the finish line, it was all out."

Later, an injury-ravaged Avinash Sable produced a season's best effort but could not defend his gold medal in the men's 3000m steeplechase, finishing fourth with a time of 8 minute and 21.67 sceonds.

In the women's 500m, Chaudhary clocked 15:14.61 to finish third behind gold medallist Winfred Yavi of Bahrain (15:10.18) and silver medallist Nozomi Tanaka of Japan (15:11.65).

It was the 31-year-old Chaudhary's second medal of the Games, following her bronze in the women's 3000m steeplechase on Sunday. She had won gold in the event at Hangzhou in 2023.

Seema, who had won a bronze in the women's 10,000m, finished sixth after clocking 15:35.06.

In men's 400m hurdles final, Santosh Kumar Tamilarasan clocked 49.95s to finish seventh in the eight-man field.

India's Esha Singh poses with her silver medal won in the women's 25m pistol event

proper grip, it was a little slippery. There is fear of getting injured," Yashvir, who produced his personal best, said later.

"But I was able to bring out my personal best, so I am happy," said Yashvir who was brought in as replacement for

Usha -- set during the 1984 Olympics -- and win a second medal at the ongoing Asian Games. She was a part of the silver-winning 4x400m mixed relay team.

The 28-year-old from Coimbatore finished behind UAE's Mariam

| ASIAD HOCKEY |

India blank Bangladesh 10-0 in final group fixture, face Pakistan in semifinals

Press Trust Of India

KAKAMIGAHARA: Defending champions India produced another commanding performance to thrash Bangladesh 10-0 in their final Pool A match of the Asian Games here on Monday, with captain Harmanpreet Singh leading the rout with a hat-trick.

The emphatic victory ensured India finished on top of Pool A after winning all five matches against Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Japan, South Korea and Bangladesh. India ended the league stage with an impressive goal difference of +45 and will face arch-rivals Pakistan in a high-profile semifinal on October 1. Malaysia will meet South Korea in the other semifinal.

Heavy rain made conditions challenging, but India adapted better and maintained control throughout the contest. The match began 30 minutes late after the preceding Pakistan-Oman encounter was interrupted by heavy rain.

India struck in the third minute when Sanjay joined the attack and found Abhishek inside the circle. The forward shifted the ball before producing a powerful reverse hit past the Bangladesh goalkeeper.

Bangladesh earned a penalty corner in the 12th minute, but Indian goalkeeper Suraj Karkera comfortably blocked Amirul Islam's drag-flick.

India doubled their advantage in the 22nd minute. Jugraj Singh's penalty-corner attempt struck a defender's foot on the goal-line, resulting in a penalty stroke. Jugraj calmly converted it.

Harmanpreet made it 3-0 in the 27th minute, firing a powerful drag-flick into the net after Mandeep Singh helped India earn another penalty corner.

India stepped up the pressure after half-time. Dilpreet Singh and Sukhjeet Singh combined superbly in the 32nd minute, with Sukhjeet finishing into an open goal.

Harmanpreet struck again from a penalty corner in the 40th minute before Shilanand Lakra scored twice in quick succession in the 44th and 45th minutes. Harmanpreet completed his hat-trick in the 45th minute as India's relentless attack overwhelmed Bangladesh.

With the outcome already settled, India continued hunting for goals in the final quarter. Sanjay struck in the 59th minute before Mandeep Singh completed the 10-0 rout in the final minute.

The dominant league campaign has given India considerable momentum ahead of the knockout stage. After negotiating difficult rain-soaked conditions against Bangladesh, the defending champions now have a two-day break to recover and prepare for the much-awaited semifinal showdown against Pakistan.

RCB release Grace Harris ahead of WPL auction

NEW DEHI: Defending champions RCB on Monday decided to release destructive Australian batter Grace Harris ahead of the 2027 WPL auction in Kochi on October 28. BCCI's player retention deadline ended on Monday with five teams retaining 63 players including 23 overseas recruits. Australian star all-rounder Elysse Perry, who was not part of RCB's triumphant campaign in 2026, has made herself available for the next edition beginning on January 14. RCB released four players in total including Harris, D Hemalatha, Gautami Naik and Linsey Smith. "A total of 27 slots, including 7 overseas slots remain available ahead of the auction," said the BCCI in a release. UP Warriorz will go into the auction with a maximum purse of INR 3.65 crore, having released the most number of players - 9.

| ASIAD |

Lovlina Borgohain, Priya Ghanghas move to semifinals

Press Trust Of India

NISHIO (JAPAN): Lovlina Borgohain's medal collection continued to swell as the seasoned Indian boxer assured herself of a second consecutive Asian Games podium finish by moving to the semifinals while Priya Ghanghas too advanced to the last four stage here on Monday.

Lovlina notched a commanding 5-0 win over South Korea's Seong Suyeon in the women's middleweight (75kg).

Asian Championship gold medallist and reigning Commonwealth Games champion Priya then came from behind to also register a unanimous decision victory in the 60kg quarterfinal.

Competing in her first bout of the tournament, Lovlina defeated South Korea's Seong Suyeon 5-0 in the quarterfinals, assuring herself of at least a bronze medal.

The Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist had won silver at the previous edition in Hangzhou in 2023.

With the Commonwealth Games silver she won last month, the Assam boxer has now won medals at all the big-ticket events, including the World Championships, Asian Games, Asian Championships and World Cup.

"I'm very happy because this was my first match, and I did well. I have fought her twice before."

Lovlina had won her Olympic medal in Japan

"It feels very special to me. Japan is very special to me because my life changed because of Japan. I won a bronze medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

"And now I'm back here at the Asian Games. I'm very happy, and I feel as if Japan is my second home.

"Last time at the Asian Games (Hangzhou 2022) I won a silver medal, so I will try to change the colour this time."

Lovlina started on the offensive with her 1-2 combination. She employed her jab and cross effectively to unsettle Seong, who struggled to connect despite having a slight height advantage.

In the second round, Lovlina continued to land clean combinations of crosses and hooks, but was slightly vulnerable in defence as Seong threw a barrage of punches.

The closely contested round round saw the Korean enjoy better range with her height advantage, but Lovlina was more agile and quicker with her movement. Her punches were also cleaner and more effective.

World

UK holds five terror suspects near US airbase

Five British men in their 20s were arrested on suspicion of preparing a terror act after suspected explosives.

Press Trust Of India

FAIRFORD, ENGLAND (AP): Police were holding five men on Monday and examining suspected explosives found near a U.S.-operated air force base in England, as counterterror detectives investigated whether the arrests foiled an attempted attack linked to Iran.

The men were detained early Sunday after three vans were spotted near RAF Fairford, a U.K.-owned base that has been used by American bombers during decades of conflicts in the Middle East. Investigators have not concluded whether the incident is a state-backed attack. They are investigating a possible link to Iran, Russia or non-state-backed militant groups. RAF Fairford has also been the focus of protests by anti-war campaigners.

Iran denied involvement. It's London embassy said it "categorically rejects and strongly condemns the recent unfounded and malicious speculations" about the incident. The five suspects, who have not been named, were initially held over suspected explosives offenses, and later also arrested on suspicion of preparing an act of terrorism. Police said the men are all British nationals from London and in their 20s. They can be held in custody for up to 14 days before they must be charged or released. Residents were evacuated from 85 homes in the village of Whelford near the base on Sunday and army bomb-disposal experts used a robot to examine three white vans.

The villagers had not been able to go home as of Monday morning, and the vans had not yet been moved. President Donald Trump said the suspects had been detained following cooperation between the U.S. and Britain, and had been "under view" for some time. Police, however, said the arrests were triggered by a late-night call about "suspicious vehicles" near the base.

EU applies for observer status in a Saudi

BRUSSELS: The European Union is applying for "observer status" in a new multinational maritime defence coalition led by Saudi Arabia and formed to protect the kingdom's energy exports.

The bloc's top diplomat Kaja Kallas made the announcement on Monday, ahead of a meeting in Brussels of defence and foreign affairs ministers.

2 more bodies recovered after Nepal Avalanche; 8 still missing

Press Trust Of India

KATHMANDU: Two more bodies were recovered on Monday from the site of an avalanche at Himlung Himal peak in Nepal, taking the death toll to four, while eight people remained missing, according to Nepalese officials. The avalanche struck the base camp of the 7,126-metre Himlung Himal peak in the Nar Phu area of Nepal's Manang district on Sunday, burying tents where supporting staff and mountain guides were taking shelter, leaving 22 missing - all of them Nepalese. Rescuers have so far established contact with 10 people, officials said. The four bodies recovered so far have been identified as Chhebi Bhote, Pasang Bhote, Birendra Gurung and Ghan Shyam Rai.

FASTFACTS

- A 14-member expert rescue team was airlifted to the base camp on Monday to clear snow and search for survivors.