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SC adjourns hearing on Election Commissioners' appointment



New Delhi, (HS) : The Supreme Court on Wednesday adjourned the hearing of a batch of petitions challenging validity of the law relating to the appointment of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners, which dropped Chief Justice of India from selection panel for Election Commissioners. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh indicated that it may hear the matter next week, subject to the cases listed before it. Advocate Prashant Bhusan, appearing for the NGO Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), told the bench that the matter be heard today and tomorrow, and the hearing can be concluded. Justice Kant said there is a three-judge bench part heard matter tomorrow. "We wish we can work 24 hours. After reading 50 files per night... how much energy left to hear this regular matter," said Justice Kant.

Let's see what we can do in this case next week, said the bench, indicating that it may hear the case next week. In 2024, the apex court had declined to put on hold the two Election Commissioners' appointment under the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners Act, 2023. The pleas were filed in the apex court seeking a stay on the Act by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and Jaya Thakur (General Secretary of the Madhya Pradesh Mahila Congress Committee), Sanjay Narayanrao Meshram, Dharmendra Singh Kushwaha, and advocate Gopal Singh. The pleas challenged the Election Commissioners' law that has dropped the Chief Justice of India from the selection panel for appointing CEC and other Election Commissioners (ECs). The petitions stated that the provisions of the enactment are violative of the principle of free and fair elections since it does not provide an "independent mechanism" for appointment of the members of the Election Commission of India (ECI). The petitions said

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PM chairs first Cabinet Committee on Security meet since pausing of Operation Sindoor

New Delhi, (HS) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday chaired the third meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) in two weeks, and the first since Operation Sindoor was paused.

The meeting, attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, and others, did not lead to an official briefing given its sensitive nature. However, sources indicated that PM Modi reviewed the security situation following the pause and assessed the country's preparedness to counter any potential aggression from Pakistan. Sources also indicated that PM Modi stressed the need to implement stringent security measures nationwide, particularly in states sharing an international border with Pakistan. The first CCS meeting on this issue was convened by the Prime Minister on 23 April - just a day after the Pahalgam terror attack - and another meeting was held prior to the launch of Operation Sindoor, lasting for several hours and



involving CCS members and the chiefs of the armed forces. "The PM keeps a very keen intelligence on security issues and whenever he chairs a meeting particularly on security, he is learnt to raise many minutely observed and analysed points of concerns," a senior government source said. The source also added that PM

Modi may have issued clear directives to maintain 'uchtam astar satarakta' (high-level alertness) in the wake of Operation Sindoor.

In a recent address to the nation, PM Modi declared that any form of terror-related misadventure would be taken seriously and responded to with

strong retaliation. He further warned Pakistan that its support for terrorism would eventually lead to its downfall. The day after this address, during a visit to Air Force Station Adampur in Punjab, he reiterated the point. PM Modi had also earlier said that India would not succumb to nuclear blackmail. It is understood that at the latest CCS meeting, the Prime Minister reviewed all aspects of operational preparedness in line with his public statements and examined the potential implications of suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, which Pakistan has vocally demanded be maintained.

Following the CCS meeting, PM Modi also chaired a Union Cabinet meeting that cleared several development initiatives, including a semiconductor unit in Uttar Pradesh. When asked about the Cabinet's decisions during a media briefing, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw commented, "Operation Sindoor was an example of India's pride, the role of armed forces and the decisive leadership, besides the new doctrine.

Justice Bushan R Gavai sworn in as new Chief Justice of India



New Delhi, (HS) : Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai was sworn in as the 52nd Chief Justice of India on Wednesday. President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to Justice Gavai, who succeeded CJI Sanjiv Khanna. Justice Gavai is the first Buddhist CJI and only the second from the Dalit community, after former CJI KG Balakrishnan, who held office in 2007, to occupy the highest judicial office in the country. Justice Gavai has also made it clear that he will not take any post-retirement assignments.

When asked if he would join politics like his father, Justice Gavai said, "No political ambitions. I have decided not

to take any post-retirement assignments or posts. Any other assignment is also below the CJI post, the Governor is also below the CJI post." Justice Gavai is the son of RS Gavai, a noted politician, who was the Governor of Bihar and Kerala. He belongs to a family deeply engaged in promoting the ideals of BR Ambedkar. His father was a prominent Ambedkarite and a former Member of Parliament. Born in a Maharashtra village, Justice Gavai has said he still loves to visit his village thrice a year, especially on his late father's birth and death anniversary, and during the annual fair at his village. Born on November 24, 1960, at

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IMD Denies Reports of Cyclone Formation Over Bay of Bengal



Bhubaneswar, (DMC) : At a time when the possible formation of a cyclone over the Bay of Bengal between May 23 and 28 is doing the rounds in the media, the India Meteorological Department has categorically denied such claims. The India Meteorological Department (IMD), however, clarified that no official warning has been issued regarding any cyclone formation as of now. According to the IMD sources, there is currently no cyclonic system over the Bay of Bengal. The IMD closely monitors weather patterns and disturbances in the region, and as of now, no significant system has been detected that would indicate cyclogenesis or the formation of a cyclonic storm. Meanwhile, weather scientist Umashankar

Das took to social media to address the cyclone speculation, poking fun at the media frenzy with a satirical post: "Is there a cyclone on TV? Yes... not on sea.... just on TV." His tongue-in-cheek remark seemed to hint that the cyclone threat might be more of a media narrative than an actual concern. It is learnt that the IMD's advanced forecasting systems and satellite imagery have not picked up any notable signs of a developing cyclone over the Bay of Bengal.

A cyclonic circulation over eastern Bihar and parts of West Bengal has led to the formation of strong thunderstorms. The impact of these systems is evident in Odisha, where lightning and gusty winds reaching speeds

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Odisha Cabinet Approves 11.25% Reservation for SEBC Students in Higher Education

Bhubaneswar, (DMC) : In a landmark decision aimed at enhancing inclusivity in higher education, the Odisha State Cabinet has approved an 11.25% reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) students in state public universities, government colleges, and aided higher secondary institutions.

Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi announced the decision post the cabinet meet at Lok Seva Bhawan on Wednesday. The new policy, set to take effect from the 2025-26 academic year, ensures that reservation percentages remain standardised across all institutions. This move aligns with the principles of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, focusing on equitable access and increasing the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) among marginalised communities. The revised framework introduces uniform reservation quotas: Scheduled Tribes (22.5%), Scheduled Castes (16.25%), SEBC (11.25%), Persons with Disabilities (5%), and Ex-Servicemen (1%).

With this policy, Odisha aims to bridge socio-economic disparities, fostering greater participation of SEBC students in higher education.



Cabinet Greenlights Construction of Khairibandhan Barrage in Mayurbhanj

Bhubaneswar, (DMC) : The Odisha Cabinet has approved the construction of the Khairibandhan Barrage over the Khairibandhan River in Anlabeni village, Jashipur block, Mayurbhanj district.

Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi announced the decision, highlighting the government's commitment to supporting agriculture and rural communities. The 977.77 crore tender for the project has been approved, with a completion target of 30 months. The barrage will provide Kharif irrigation facilities for 6,950

hectares of farmland across 47 villages in Jashipur, Raruan, and Sukruli blocks through an underground pipeline water distribution system (UGPWL). Additionally, more than 35,000 people will benefit from improved drinking water availability, along with support for livestock farming and fisheries. Apart from boosting local agriculture, the project is expected to contribute to the increase in groundwater levels and stable food production, positively impacting the economic and social development of the region. The decision reflects

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CHSE Odisha 12th Result 2025 OUT soon

Bhubaneswar, (DMC) : The Council of Higher Secondary Education, CHSE, Odisha, will soon release the results for class 12th. Over 2 lakh students have been eagerly waiting for the results. Candidates who appeared for the +2 (Class 12th) exams in Science, Commerce, and Arts streams can check their results online through the official websites: chseodisha.nic.in and orissaresults.nic.in. The wait for class 12th board students will be over as the Odisha board is going to release the results anytime soon. This result declaration will be a major academic milestone for students from all three streams- Science, Commerce, and Arts - as it plays a crucial role in shaping their higher education and career paths. The board has completed the evaluation process and is now preparing to make the results available online. Students, parents and teachers are eagerly waiting for the official announcements. Once released, the Class 12 results can be accessed digitally via the official websites: chseodisha.nic.in and orissaresults.nic.in, offering students a hassle-free way to check and download their mark sheets.

After Biggest Op Against Maoists, Tricolour at 'Red Terror' Hill: Amit

New Delhi, (HS) : The killing of 31 Maoists at Karregutta Hill on the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border this week - the result of 'India's largest anti-Maoist operation', which sources said also recovered 450 IEDs and 40 weapons - has been hailed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah as an "historic" achievement. Source said a large quantity of ammunition, detonators, and explosive devices, besides 12,000kg of other materials, such as medicine and electric equipment was also seized. And, in addition, four factories producing weapons, motors,



and cutters were found. On Wednesday, Mr Shah said, "The hill, once ruled by red terror, now proudly waves the

tricolour", and underlined the government's resolve to "eradicate Maoism" by March 2026. Karregutta Hill, he

declared, was once the 'unified headquarters' of major Maoist groups, and where battle strategies were drawn up, weapons developed, and fighters trained. "This largest operation was completed by our security forces in just 21 days... and I am immensely delighted there was not a single casualty among forces in this operation."

The Central Reserve Police Force and from Chhattisgarh Police's Special Task Force and District Reserve Guard took part in this operation, and were congratulated by Mr Shah, for having "faced the

Maoists with courage and valour... The nation is proud of you." CRPF chief General GP Singh said the 31 killed had a combined Rs 1.72 crore bounty, and their deaths and the re-capture of Karregutta is 'the beginning of the end' for Maoism. Twenty-eight of the bodies have been identified so far, he told reporters. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, on Tuesday, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led NDA government has brought political stability to the country, and the people have witnessed the implementation of policies.

Sino-American Trade

The United States and the People's Republic of China have paused the ongoing trade war between the two countries. The announcement came after two days of high-level negotiations in Geneva. The two economies have been locked in a tariff war since February 1, when US President Donald Trump imposed a 10 per cent tariff on China, as well as 25 per cent each on Mexico and Canada, citing the sale of fentanyl in the US. Reportedly, in the US, in 2021, deaths due to overdose of opioids surpassed 1,00,000, with 67 per cent of those deaths involving fentanyl. But Trump wanted to slap tariffs for other reasons as well, such as the US's large trade deficit vis-à-vis the rest of the world and the loss of manufacturing industry inside the US. For its part, China started retaliating with counter-tariffs of its own. This process escalated quickly after Trump's announcement of reciprocal tariffs on April 2. By April 10, the situation had worsened to a point where the US had imposed 145 per cent tariffs on China and China had retaliated with 125 per cent tariffs on the US. Effectively, these tariffs meant a trade embargo with terrible economic consequences not just for the two countries involved but also for global supply chains. Both the US and China were staring at a deep economic slowdown, leading to widespread job losses and erosion in business confidence. The US, in particular, was already on its way, according to many experts and investors, to a recession. The US GDP contracted by 0.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2025, without even the worst effects of high tariffs coming into play. For China, too, the costs of a stand-off were prohibitive given its economy's over-reliance on exports. The pause announced on Monday pulls the two economies back from that brink. There was evidence that negotiators on both sides realised the high global economic costs of a trade war between the two with the joint statement starting with the following words: "Recognising the importance of their bilateral economic and trade relationship to both countries and the global economy..." "While this is a welcome pause, it is important to note that this is not yet a trade deal.

What the US and China have managed over the weekend is to undo the escalation that happened since April 2. Both countries cut their respective tariffs by 115 per cent. That means both countries now have 10 per cent tariffs on imports; the US has an additional 20 per cent, which was connected to the fentanyl issue and predated the "Liberation Day" tariffs on April 2. This means US consumers will continue to face a steep 30 per cent tariff while the two countries negotiate an actual deal. A lot of economic damage has been avoided, but this situation is still precariously balanced with significant costs to consumers and producers on a daily basis.

15th May

Family Day



Founded by the United Nations (UN) in 1994, the International Day of Families is observed every May 15 to honor the importance of families. Families-both traditional and non-traditional-are the foundation of society. Our most formative years are spent with our families and those people are likely the most important people in our lives, so they should be celebrated. Let's spend time today finding ways to protect the family unit in society by starting at home with our own!

According to the United Nations, the theme for the 2021 observance of the International Day of Families is "Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all." Just like in "The Godfather," the importance of family is emphasized on International Day of Families on May 15. The family unit began with the first humans. While families today may look different than they did thousands of years ago, they are as equally important now as they were then. The United Nations believed families important enough to recognize them through a day of observance and, in 1994, chose May 15 as International Day of Families.

As parents, we want to give our children the best start in life we can. The foundation created in a family has been shown in numerous studies to dramatically impact a child's success. The more stable the family environment for a child, the more likely they will be healthier - both mentally and physically. Communities all over the world face obstacles that jeopardize the stability of the family. The UN began to recognize this in the 1980s as the Secretary General promoted awareness among decision-makers and the public. The UN went on to establish this day of observance and, each year, select a different family-focused theme to address worldwide challenges around education, poverty, health, and work/family balance, just to name a few. This year on World Family Day, learn about some of the social, economic, and demographic factors impacting families around the world and see how you can start by strengthening your own.

PM Narendra Modi's Speech after Ceasefire

Narendra Modi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, addressed the nation via videoconference on Monday. Here is what he said on Operation Sindoor, India's fight against terrorism and related issues.

In his address, he remarked that the nation has witnessed both India's strength and restraint in recent days. He extended his salute to the country's formidable armed forces, intelligence agencies, and scientists on behalf of every Indian citizen. The Prime Minister highlighted the unwavering courage displayed by India's brave soldiers in achieving the objectives of Operation Sindoor, acknowledging their valor, resilience, and indomitable spirit. He dedicated this unparalleled bravery to every mother, sister, and daughter of the nation. Condemning strongly the barbaric terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22, stating that it shocked both the nation and the world, Shri Modi described the act as a gruesome display of terror, where innocent civilians enjoying their holidays were brutally killed after being questioned about their faith-right in front of their families and children. He stressed that this was not just an act of cruelty but also a vile attempt to fracture the nation's harmony.

Expressing his deep personal anguish over the attack, he highlighted how the entire nation-every citizen, every community, every section of society, and every political party-stood united in demanding strong action against terrorism. He asserted that the government had given the armed forces full freedom to eliminate the terrorists. He warned all terrorist organizations, declaring that they now fully understand the consequences of attempting to harm the dignity of the nation's women. "Operation Sindoor is not just a name but a reflection of the emotions of millions of Indians", emphasised the Prime Minister, describing it as an unwavering pledge to justice, one that the world witnessed being fulfilled on

May 6-7. The Prime Minister highlighted that the Indian armed forces executed precise strikes on terrorist hideouts and training centers in Pakistan, delivering a decisive blow. He remarked that the terrorists never imagined India would make such a bold move, but when the nation stands united with Nation First as its guiding principle, firm decisions are taken and impactful results are delivered. He stated that India's missile and drone strikes on terrorist hubs in Pakistan shattered not only their infrastructure but also their morale. The Prime Minister pointed out that locations like Bahawalpur and Muridke had long operated as centers of global terrorism, linking them to major attacks worldwide, including the 9/11 attacks in the US, the London Tube bombings, and decades of terrorist incidents in India. He declared that since terrorists had dared to destroy the dignity of Indian women, India had eliminated the headquarters of terror. The operation resulted in the elimination of over 100 dangerous terrorists, including key figures who had openly plotted against India for decades, he added, affirming that those who orchestrated threats against India had been swiftly neutralized.

Shri Modi stated that India's precise and forceful strikes had left Pakistan in deep frustration, pushing it into desperation. In its agitation, Pakistan resorted to a reckless act instead of joining the global fight against terrorism-it launched attacks on Indian schools, colleges, gurudwaras, temples, and civilian homes, also targeting military bases, he added. He highlighted how this aggression exposed Pakistan's vulnerabilities, as its drones and missiles crumbled like straw before India's advanced air defense systems, which neutralized them in the sky. He remarked that while Pakistan had prepared to strike India's borders, India delivered a decisive blow to Pakistan's core. Indian drones and missiles executed highly accurate strikes, severely damaging



Pakistani airbases that it had long boasted about. Within the first three days of India's response, Pakistan suffered destruction far beyond its expectations. Following India's aggressive countermeasures, Pakistan began seeking ways to de-escalate, appealing to the global community for relief from rising tensions. He revealed that, after suffering severe losses, Pakistan's military reached out to India's DGMO on the afternoon of May 10. By then, India had already dismantled large-scale terrorist infrastructure, eliminated key militants, and reduced Pakistan's terror hubs to ruins. Shri Modi noted that Pakistan, in its appeal, assured that it would cease all terrorist activities and military aggression against India. In light of this statement, India reviewed the situation and decided to temporarily suspend its counter-operations against Pakistan's terrorist and military installations. He reiterated that this suspension is not a conclusion-India will continue to assess Pakistan's every move in the coming days, ensuring that its future actions align with its commitments. The Prime Minister emphasized that India's armed forces-the Army, Air Force, Navy, Border Security Force (BSF), and paramilitary units-remain on high alert, ensuring national security at all times. "Operation Sindoor is now India's established policy in the fight against terrorism, marking a decisive shift in India's strategic approach", he declared, stating

that the operation has set a new standard, a new normal in counter-terrorism measures.

The Prime Minister outlined three key pillars of India's security doctrine: firstly, the Decisive Retaliation, when any terrorist attack on India will be met with a strong and resolute response. India will retaliate on its terms, targeting terror hubs at their roots. The second is No Tolerance for Nuclear Blackmail; India will not be intimidated by nuclear threats. Any terrorist haven operating under this pretext will face precise and decisive strikes. The third pillar being No Distinction Between Terror Sponsors and Terrorists; India will no longer see terrorist leaders and the governments sheltering them as separate entities. He pointed out that during Operation Sindoor, the world once again witnessed Pakistan's disturbing reality-senior Pakistani military officials openly attending funerals of eliminated terrorists, proving Pakistan's deep involvement in state-sponsored terrorism. The Prime Minister reaffirmed that India will continue taking decisive steps to safeguard its citizens against any threat. Asserting that India has consistently defeated Pakistan on the battlefield, and Operation Sindoor has added a new dimension to the nation's military prowess, Shri Modi highlighted India's remarkable capability in both desert and mountainous warfare while also establishing superiority in New Age Warfare. He emphasized that

during the operation, the effectiveness of Made in India defense equipment was decisively proven. He remarked that the world is now witnessing the arrival of Made in India defense systems as a formidable force in 21st-century warfare. Underscoring that unity is India's greatest strength in the fight against all forms of terrorism, the Prime Minister reaffirmed that while this era is not one of war, it cannot be one of terrorism either. "Zero Tolerance against terrorism is the guarantee of a better and safer world", he declared. Shri Modi asserted that Pakistan's military and government have continuously nurtured terrorism, warning that such actions will eventually lead to Pakistan's own downfall. He declared that if Pakistan seeks survival, it must dismantle its terror infrastructure-there is no other path to peace. He reaffirmed India's firm stance, stating that terror and talks cannot coexist, terror and trade cannot run parallel, and blood and water cannot flow together. Addressing the global community, he reiterated India's long-standing policy that any discussions with Pakistan will focus solely on terrorism and any negotiations with Pakistan will center on Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK).

On the occasion of Buddha Purnima, the Prime Minister reflected on Lord Buddha's teachings, emphasizing that the path to peace must be guided by strength. He underscored that humanity must progress towards peace and prosperity, ensuring that every Indian can live with dignity and realize the dream of a Viksit Bharat. The Prime Minister asserted that for India to uphold peace, it must be strong, and when necessary, that strength must be exercised. He stated that recent events have demonstrated India's resolve in safeguarding its principles. Concluding his address, he once again saluted the valor of the Indian armed forces and expressed his deep respect for the courage and unity of the people of India.

Courtesy: PIB

Human values are absent in today's world

Dr. Arundhati Devi

Everyone is being attracted to the programme of Education in Human Values. The reason is the realisation that the world is in a sorry mess because of the absence of these values. Principal Narendra referred to the monstrous lethal weapons in the armouries of nations and the danger of nuclear war and "Star war", and said that in this critical situation the promotion of human values was supremely important. But, in truth, it is not these bombs and missiles that are the menace hovering over us. It is our bad qualities that are the more serious problem. The reason is: If the bombs are used, they will make an end of mankind and nothing will remain. But the bad qualities in man are devastating the lives of people all the time. This calamity is worse than the other. If we want to eliminate bad qualities like hatred, envy, pride and ostentation, we have to employ Sathya, Dharma, Santhi, Prema and Ahimsa as the cleansing instruments. Together with worldly education, you have to cultivate the human values and undertake spiritual discipline. Oil imparts life to a lamp to keep it burning. Love animates the entire life. Love is like oil. But can you make a lamp burn by having a container, a wick and oil? You need some one to light the wick. Similarly, there must be some one to make a garland, even if you have flowers, thread and a needle. You cannot make a jewel out of gold and gems without a goldsmith. Likewise to teach the human values, which are like precious gems, you need competent and dedicated teachers who practise these values.

Holding fast to Truth, you



must make Righteousness, Peace, Love and Non-Violence, the guideposts for your life. As teachers you should try to impart the finest education to the children at minimum cost and make them lead pure and noble lives. You should also not be bound by considerations of hours of work. When necessary, you should be prepared to stay on for hours to remove the doubts of students and help them to complete their assignments. This is your duty. You should not limit yourself to imparting the five human values alone. You must also create the environment which will be conducive to the practice of the basic values. When you have dedication and devotion, you will be able to face all the challenges in the discharge of your duties. If teachers play their role properly, the nation can be transformed. For all the malpractices among students the parents and teachers are to blame. The parents are allowing the children to go astray at home through misplaced affection. In olden days, the children had such great regard and love for the

parents that they were loth to go away from them. Today it is the reverse. The reason is the failure of the parents to enforce discipline together with lavishing love on the children. Teachers should establish contacts with parents so that the latter also practise the human values and reform their children. The authorities of the EHV Trust should arrange for meetings between teachers and parents for this purpose. All the three elements - the EHV Trust, the teachers and parents should work in cooperation in the interests of the children and see that human values are promoted not only among students but in the entire community.

The real criterion of moral conduct is harmony between one's profession and one's practice. Morality consists in acting up to the rules of right conduct prescribed by society at a particular time and place for an individual or group. If there is no connection between what one professes in words and his actions, morality cannot exist.

Director & Secretary,
International Indecency
Prevention Movement, Cuttack

Stay cool, we live in a troubled world

Dr. Jyotirnanjan Champatiray

When we encounter problems in life, we must not allow them to overwhelm us. Behind each problem, there is a means to surmount it, too. Understanding this, we must continue striving. We must regard the obstacles as consequences of actions done in a past life. Or, we could empower the mind to accept whatever happens as God's will. Only then can we move ahead. If not, we won't find even one trouble-free moment in life. Often, the most trivial matter can make us dejected. We must gather enough strength to overcome it and move ahead. While taking the path to success, we must face the obstacles we encounter with a smile and forge ahead. We must never give in to despair. If we do so, we won't succeed.

A man started his own business and incurred a huge loss. In order to offset the loss, he borrowed money and continued his business. Even then, he failed. Deep in debt, the man decided to end his life, and walked to the beach. Having decided to jump into the sea after dark, he sat down on a boulder. He then noticed some children playing. They were building temples and castles using wet sand. They fashioned various forms according to their fancy. After they had finished building their temples, castles and other edifices, they would stand back to admire their own handiwork. From time to time, their creations would be washed away by waves. Seeing this, the children would clap gleefully and laugh joyfully. When the waves retreated, the children would once again run forward to create new sculptures. The very next

moment, waves would wipe clean all their work. Seeing this, the children would squeal in joy and flee the waves. And then, they would return and begin their work yet again. In a second or two, the waves would wash away what had taken them considerable time to make. The children would enjoy watching the undoing of all their efforts with the same attitude with which they had admired their creations earlier. The man watched all this with great wonder. He saw how much the children appreciated each sculpture they erected, and at the same time, how they did not lose heart when the sculptures were washed away. Actually, every loss inspired the children to create their next sculpture. The man, who had earlier decided to end his life, thought, "After facing just one setback, I was ready to end my life. What a pity I don't have as much expansiveness of mind as these children! Instead of wallowing in defeat, they remain joyous always. This is a lesson one ought to learn and share with others."

Reflecting thus, the man gave up his plan to kill himself, and resolved to continue striving harder. The point here is not that one should rejoice in loss, but that one should not despair even when faced with defeat. The waves of life will wash away our efforts and their results. Nevertheless, we must not despair or retreat. Instead, we must try even harder to move ahead. It is enough if we have this attitude. We will then be able to move ahead without giving in to despair. Our lives will then be beneficial to others as well.

HOD & Professor, Deptt. of
Paediatric, Fakirmohan Medical
College & Hospital, Balasore

Jindal Stainless Launches Industry-FirstSupply Chain Digitalisation Project

Bhubaneswar, (DMC): Jindal Stainless, India's largest stainless steel manufacturer, today announced the launch of Project Pragati-a pioneering digital transformation initiative aimed at automating the production process from casting to finishing at its Hisar manufacturing unit. As the first-of-its-kind in the steel and stainless steel industry, Pragati integrates advanced planning and execution technologies through Dassault Systèmes' Delmiaapplications, with Cappgemini as the implementation partner, to significantly boost productivity and elevate customer experience.

With Pragati's implementation, customer lead times are expected to reduce by 10-15%, which will significantly improve delivery performance. This project will help maintain appropriate inventory levels based on past off-take trends, thereby increasing customer satisfaction. Pragati will also optimise inventory costs by 8-10% through real-time tracking and intelligent allocation. Furthermore, this digital solution will enhance capacity utilisation by approximately 5%, driven by improved visibility into equipment loading and route optimisation. Speaking at the



launch, Managing Director, Jindal Stainless, Mr Abhyuday Jindal said, "The introduction of Pragati at our Hisar unit represents a pivotal milestone in our journey to enhance our value chain through digital innovation.

This initiative will unfold in multiple phases. In phase two, we aim to implement it at our Jajpur facility with Level 2 integration, allowing for real-time collection of process parameters directly from our manufacturing systems and machines. The third and final phase, slated for the upcoming years, will enable us to achieve complete supply chain automation, extending from raw material procurement to last-mile delivery, backed by sophisticated

transport tracking systems. I am thrilled that through Pragati, we are reimagining stainless steel manufacturing in India, setting new industry standards, and bringing our nation closer to realising its Atmanirbhar and Viksit Bharat 2047 vision."Pragati operates on Delmia Quintiq's Characteristics-Based Planning (CBP), which seamlessly integrates with SAP to create a unified, intelligent planning and execution environment. When a customer orders a finished product, Pragati automatically identifies the optimal fulfilment method in real-time, either by intelligently allocating it from existing inventory or by strategically scheduling production at any phase of the manufacturing process, from casting to finishing, while considering the quickest and most efficient path to meet the demand.

This solution eliminates manual interventions through automated decision-making. Its real-timemobile dashboards powered by Delmia Apriso offer visibility into key performance indicators like production volumes, OTIF (On-Time In-Full), yield, equipment utilisation, and dispatch trends, ensuring robust operational control for manufacturing units."Project

Pragati is a defining example of how virtual twin and digital manufacturing technologies can reshape traditional industries at scale. We are delighted to support Jindal Stainless in its journey to digitally transform its operations by automating the production process from casting to customer. By integrating applications powered by our 3DEXPERIENCE platform, Jindal Stainless is building a responsive, intelligent, and sustainable manufacturing ecosystem. This collaboration not only strengthens supply chain agility and operational excellence but also contributes to India's ambition for a digitally empowered, self-reliant industrial future," said IndiaManaging Director, Dassault Systèmes, Deepak NG.

In May 2023, Jindal Stainless partnered with Dassault Systèmes to digitise its production and supply chain systems. Jindal Stainless' digital transformation will remain central to its growth journey, driving efficiency, enhancing quality, and improving agility across operations. It will enable the company to meet rising customer demand, support its expansion projects, and build a future-ready, sustainable business.

Odisha's first inclusive disability ramp show

Bhubaneswar, (DMC): In a groundbreaking event, Odisha will host its first-ever Inclusive Ramp Show, set to take place on May 28th, 2025. The show, named Adhyaya: An Inclusive Fashion Show & Disability Fest, aims to celebrate diversity, promote inclusivity, and showcase the remarkable strength of individuals with disabilities. The event promises to be a significant milestone in the region's fashion industry, setting the stage for a new era of representation and empowerment for all.

Adhyaya, which translates to "Chapter" in Sanskrit, will feature models from diverse backgrounds, including those with physical disabilities, proudly walking the ramp. This unique event will not only highlight the latest fashion trends but also serve as a platform for raising awareness about the importance of inclusion in all spheres of life, including



fashion.The show's vision is to break traditional beauty standards and promote the idea that fashion is for everyone, regardless of ability or background. Each model's walk on the ramp will tell a powerful story of resilience, strength, and confidence, showing the world that diversity is not only beautiful but essential. Organizers hope that Adhyaya will inspire other fashion events across the country to embrace inclusivity, leading to a

more accessible and accepting industry for individuals with disabilities. By strengthening the voices of those often marginalized in mainstream fashion, the event will serve as a celebration of both fashion and human potential. The Adhyaya fashion show will also be part of a broader disability fest, offering a range of activities and discussions aimed at promoting awareness, understanding, and empowerment.

Odisha Govt appoints Asit Mohapatra as ORERA chairperson

Bhubaneswar, (DMC): Asit Kumar Mohapatra was appointed as the new Chairperson of Odisha Real Estate Regulatory Authority (ORERA) on Wednesday. His appointment accompanies the induction of two new members in ORERA, Rajendra Mishra and Shyam Sundar Dash, who will join the authority in overseeing the regulation of the State's real estate sector. This leadership change is seen as a significant move to enhance the accountability and transparency within Odisha's property market. With these new appointments, ORERA is expected to strengthen its regulatory framework, thereby addressing the concerns of both developers and homebuyers alike in this rapidly growing market."In exercise of the powers conferred under Sub-section 1 of Section 20 of the Real Estate (Regulation & Development) Act, 2016 and Rule 18 (7) of the Odisha Real



Estate (Regulation & Development) Rules, 2017, the Government is pleased to appoint Asit Kumar Mohapatra as the Chairperson in Odisha Real Estate Regulatory Authority (ORERA) with effect from the date he assumes the office," the H&UD department notification mentioned." The State Government appoints Rajendra Mishra and Shyam Sundar Dash as Members in ORERA with effect from the date they assume the office," another official communiqué stated.Worth mentioning, the Odisha government had previously

named senior IAS officer and the H&UD department Principal Secretary, Usha Padhee, as the interim head of the ORERA. This appointment came shortly after the regulatory authority became non-functional following the retirement of its last serving member. ORERA had been left without leadership since February this year when its former chairperson, Siddhanta Das, had stepped down. Gopal Chandra Patnaik, who was serving as acting chairperson, retired last Saturday; and Pradeep Biswal, the administrative member, had also retired on May 2.

Infrastructure is being strengthened for construction of EV stations & solar power generation in Odisha: Dy CM Singhdeo

Bhubaneswar, (DMC): Odisha's infrastructure is being strengthened for the construction of EV stations and solar power generation, informed Deputy Chief Minister K V Singhdeo on Wednesday."

Under the leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has become a leading country in the field of renewable energy. Odisha's contribution in this is increasing significantly. To move forward with the goal of a Viksit Odisha, we have to increase the use of green energy, renewable energy. Under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana, along with installing solar panels on the rooftop through subsidies. Likewise, the infrastructure is being



strengthened for the construction of EV stations for charging electric vehicles throughout Odisha. For this, the Odisha EV Policy will be brought soon," said the Deputy Chief Minister.In this context, a company named

Sarvotech met Deputy Chief Minister Shri Singhdeo today in the conference hall of Lok Seva Bhavan. He made a presentation on solar power generation and construction of EV stations in the state. Odisha's power

infrastructure is very strong. Three DISCOMs of Odisha have secured a place among the top 10 power distribution companies of the country, while another in the top 15.

Apart from this, the state of Uttar Pradesh has also shown interest in adopting Odisha's electricity management model. The representatives were already taken a field visit.Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Saswat Kumar Mishra, Managing Director, Gridco, Trilochana Panda, Managing Director, Sarvotech Company, Raman Bhatia, Nitin Pereira, Senior Officers of Energy Department, Gridco, Tata Power attended the meeting.

60-Year-Old Elderly Survives Fatal Aortic Aneurysm at Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, (DMC): 60-year-old Mr. Charan Mishra [name changed] lived a simple life, enjoying his post-retirement years with his family at the comfort of home in Balasore. One fateful day, while sitting leisurely, he felt a sudden pain in the back, accompanied by abdominal pain and fever, which soon became severe, requiring medical attention. As initial care hinted at something related to heart vessel problems, and given the concerning signs, he was referred to Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar on 26 January, 2025 for superior care. There, under the care of Dr. DibyaRanjanBehera, Consultant - Interventional Cardiology, Mr. Charan was found to have Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm



(AAA), a potentially fatal condition where the main blood vessel supplying the body (the abdominal aorta) becomes thinner and dangerously enlarged like a balloon on the verge of bursting. This expansion occurs mostly due to atherosclerosis or infections. Surprisingly, the patient had no known comorbidities, which could've been a risk factor leading to this issue. Such aneurysms can rupture unexpectedly, causing catastrophic internal bleeding, which often leads to sudden death if not treated in time. Realizing the urgency of the situation, the

medical team decided to perform a minimally invasive procedure called Endovascular Aortic Repair (EVAR). In this technique, a covered stent graft is placed across the aneurysm to exclude the ballooned sac from the main blood flow, significantly reducing the risk of rupture.Dr. DibyaRanjanBehera said, "This case underscores the importance of early diagnosis and the availability of advanced, life-saving interventions like EVAR in our region. We are happy to report that the patient was stable following the uneventful procedure. Special thanks are extended to Dr. BiswajeetMohapatra, Dr. SubhashreeSamantray, Dr. Rajeshree, Dr. VivekChowdhry, and the dedicated CATH Lab and

CCU teams for their continued support and commitment to excellence in patient care."Dr. SaktimayaMohapatra, Hospital Director, Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar, stated, "This case really showcases how our amazing team of cardiologists and caregivers is capable of managing even the most complex cardiac conditions with clinical precision in the elderly. We take great pride in providing superior, timely care that saves lives, building a healthier community." The patient was discharged on 8 February 2025 and is on the road to recovery. Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar continues to lead in advanced medical interventions, committed to giving critically ill patients a new lease of life through expert, coordinated care.

Khordha Assembly Constituency Development Committee Meeting Held

Khordha, (DMC): Khordha Assembly Constituency Development Committee Meeting was held in the Conference Hall of Zilla Parishad Khordha. MLA, Khordha, Prasanta Kumar Jagdev chaired the meeting as chief guest. Collector, Chanchala Rana, Zilla Parishad Chief Development & Executive Officer, Jyoti Shankar Sahu, Additional SP, Khordha, Amrit Pal Singh were the prominent participants.

MLA, Mr. Jagdev, reviewed the progress of the 42 departmental development schemes & various projects being implemented by the government with the departmental officers & advised the officers to commit to the overall rapid development of Khordha Assembly Constituency. He advised the officers that Khordha Assembly

Constituency to make the facilities & services of various government schemes available to the people from the grassroots level & to involve them in the stream of rapid development & create an example for the entire state and country.He suggested the officials to cooperation in advancing the profile of various development schemes in the CSR fund through infrastructure development for rapid industrialization.

In this regard, a draft was prepared & the grant money lying in all sections was spent by the end of March 2026 & the utilisation certificate was submitted to the government. In Tangi & Khordha blocks & Municipal Councils, beneficiaries above 80 years of age should be included in the National Social Security Scheme, the places of deceased



beneficiaries should be filled immediately, extensive tree plantation should be done, priority should be given to fish farmers in the Chief Minister's Agricultural Enterprise Scheme & more ponds should be dug, irrigation should be done, holding tax of Idco should be collected by the Municipal Council, construction of baundry walls of Women's College & Pranatanth Autonomous College, Khordha,

construction of auditorium & stadium in Khordha, progress of ration card, raising of dams under small irrigation, construction of Anganwadi centers, construction of NH roads, health center & residential houses, construction of Tangi Sub-Registrar's office and residential houses, progress of Lift Irrigation Project in Tangi & Khordha blocks 159 & 104 respectively, installation of electricity transformer at Nirakarpur,

pipeline water supply, solution of water problem of Sialia TRW schools, Laxpati Didi Yojana, Gramin Griha Yojana were reviewed. MLA, Mr.Jagdev advised the Addi. Superintendent of police to report on the requirements of new police outposts & police stations & said that there is a need to construct outposts in Siko & Begunia.

He directed each departmental officer to present complete information about the progress of their respective schemes in the next meeting. Collector, Mr. Rana said in his speech that all the officers should discuss the project proposals with the MLAs & local representatives & recommend them for approval. All the departmental & district level officers were attended the meeting.

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Date : 14-05-2025

Utkal Alumina Empowers Displaced family Women Towards Self-Reliance



Rayagada, (DMC): Utkal Alumina, a subsidiary of Hindalco Industries under the Aditya Birla Group, today inaugurated a phenyl production training center at Nuapada, near Tikiri, in the Rayagada district. The inauguration was conducted in the presence of the company's BH Saurabh Khedekar, Cluster Head of Human Resources Dr. Krishna Padhi, and Unit Head Rabi Narayan Mishra. As part of its commitment to community development, Utkal Alumina has set up this phenyl production unit to empower 74 women

members from displaced families residing in the R&R-I colony, by equipping them with skills for financial self-reliance. In the first phase, all women from these families are being provided necessary support facilities and practical training in phenyl production. Additionally, arrangements are being made to help market and sell the produced phenyl in local markets, ensuring a sustainable income stream for the women. To facilitate this initiative, raw materials and trainer Santosh Kumar Nanda have been appointed for the

training purpose. There has been a noticeable enthusiasm among the women of the R&R colony for this training program. With active participation, the aim is to produce over 100 liters of phenyl daily. Local residents have welcomed and appreciated this effort by the company to promote self-reliance amongst women.

The event was attended by Bhaskar Banerjee (Head of Finance), Bijay Kumura (Head of Human Resources), Lopamudra Mishra (Head of CSR), Kiran Nayak (Head of IR), and Pitambar Behera (General Manager, Corporate Affairs & Public Relations). The program was conducted under the guidance of Belakar Nayak, SH of the R&R Department, with the support of other departmental staff.

Eviction of illegal encroachment starts in Khariar Road

Nuapada / Khariar Road, (DMC): The Khariar Road NAC (Notified Area Council) in Nuapada District has initiated the eviction of individuals illegally encroachment on government land. As per the directive issued by the Revenue Department, tahsildars have been instructed to identify encroachment on government land within their jurisdiction and immediately commence eviction proceedings. In this sequence, recently eviction of illegal encroachment on government land were done by the NAC Khariar Road in the town. As per the information by the Executive



Officer NAC Khariar Road Kamlasan Ratha, in Ward No-04 Bazar Para 94 decemal of land and in Ward No-13 Khopetara 70 decemal of land have been evicted. Very soon fence will be made on these land said Executive Officer.

Rayagada Forest Fire: 1000 Hectares of Forest Land Affected in First 5 Months

Rayagada, (DMC) : The scorching heat has led to a surge in forest fires in Rayagada, with over 1000 hectares of forest land affected in the first five months of the year. The fires have ravaged several protected forests, destroying valuable trees and threatening the lives of wildlife. According to satellite data, 2063 forest fire incidents have been reported in the district, with the fires affecting a significant area of forest land. The situation is alarming, and locals are worried about the impact on the

environment and wildlife. The forest department has been criticized for not taking adequate measures to prevent and control the fires. Despite repeated incidents of forest fires, the department seems to be taking the situation lightly, and locals are concerned about the long-term consequences. Forest fires have become a recurring problem in Rayagada, with the situation worsening every year. The fires not only destroy valuable trees but also affect the local ecosystem and wildlife. The

department's lack of proactive measures has exacerbated the situation, and locals are demanding action to prevent and control forest fires. The Rayagada DFO, Sachin Anna Saheb Ohal, has stated that the forest department is taking measures to create awareness and control forest fires. Firefighting teams have been deployed to douse the flames, and efforts are being made to prevent further incidents. The situation demands immediate attention and action to prevent further damage to the forest and its inhabitants.

Four arrested in house theft incident

Keonjhar, (DMC): Keonjhar police arrested four persons allegedly involved in a major theft incident on Tuesday and forwarded to court. They were sent to jail after bail rejected by the court. Sources said that the theft incident took place at 12 midnight on May 11 in Naranpur village under Town police station of Keonjhar district, when the house owner was absent.

After the incident the owner of the house, Narayan Sahu, received an information from his mason that some people had entered the house in two parts, inside and outside, to rob it. Narayan lodged a complaint regarding the theft in the town police station on 12 May. On receiving the information, the



Town Police team took immediate action and registered a case and started an investigation. The investigating officer from the police immediately went to the spot and called the forensic team and inspected the spot with a well-organized team. Two welding machines, an auto vehicle (registered no. OD 09 AA 7824) used in the

theft and other household equipment have been seized from the spot. During the investigation the team arrested four accused - Prashant Behera, Mithun Behera, Chinmay Behera and Shubham Behera on May 13 at 7.30 am. It was found that one of the thieves gang Mithun Behera had previously stolen water pumps, bike parts, etc.

Inter-state Marijuana Transportation Racket Foiled: 615 kgs Seized & 2 Arrested

Paralakhemundi, (DMC): On an unprecedented move by Adava police of Gajapati district on patrolling cordoned one truck registered Punjab number. At morning at Jodamba of Birikote panchayat that truck stranded for long time. After getting information led by IIC Subhrant Panda of Adava police station & his staff raided that truck. They seized 615 kgs of contraband ganja, which was about to transport to Punjab. Meanwhile driver whisked away to nearest forest but caught by police. His name is Dilbagh Singh & other Ranjan Nayak of Parmaguda village. In presence of Magistrate those ganja bags weighed. That would have costed 60 lakhs. Both forwarded to Court, said IIC.



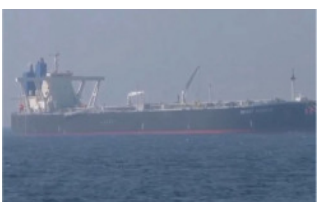
Centurion Public School's Outstanding Performance in 10th & 12th Board Results

Paralakhemundi, (DMC): Students from Centurion Public School in Paralakhemundi, Gajapati district, have once again excelled in the 10th and 12th board exams. Many students secured first division, distinctions, and excellent scores. In the 10th Grade 11 students scored more than 90% marks, the highest being 98% marks scored by both Partha Sarathi Sahu and Tatsat Panigrahi. In the 12th Grade two students, Tanuja Samant and Subhalagna Padhi scored more than 90% marks. Professor D.N. Rao, Vice-Chancellor of Centurion University, congratulated the students on their remarkable success. Mrs Sunita Panigrahee, Principal of Centurion Public School, expressed pride in the



students' performance, highlighting discipline and values. Mr Sambit Patra, Regional Director, praised the teamwork, timely guidance, and students' determination. The school encourages students to dream big and work hard, inviting them to join the Centurion family and set new milestones in education.

Pakistani Crew at Oil Tanker Vessel triggers High Alert at Paradip Port



Paradip Immigration Department, multiple agencies - including the Marine Police, CISF, Customs, and Port Authorities - swung into action, launching round-the-clock surveillance to prevent any possible breach of national security. Pakistani Crew Under Strict Watch Authorities have prohibited the disembarkation of Pakistani crew members and instructed that the ship remain at

anchor until unloading is complete. Offloading is being conducted via local boats due to the vessel's volatile cargo. The alert was further intensified following the recent arrest of a Pakistani diplomat in India on charges of espionage.

Officials emphasized that all crew movements are being closely monitored to prevent infiltration or surveillance attempts. The situation underscores the tight maritime vigilance in place as diplomatic strains mount in the subcontinent. Orders have also been issued that no crew will be allowed to leave the ship during evacuation of the crude oil, the sources said.

Devarshi Narada Jayanti is celebrated by The Media



Puri, (DMC): Like every year, the Forum of Journalists, Columnists and Writers of state-level duty celebrated 'Devarshi Narada Jayanti' at the conference room of the local youth hostel. Journalist Laxmi Narayan Patnaik, state president of The Media, presided over the function. Justice Manas Ranjan Mishra, who was the chief guest at the event, said, "Devarshi Narad was the world's first journalist and Devarshi Narad was an angel and scholar. In Indian culture, Devarshi Narada is the creator of bhakti sutras. Shri Mishra expressed his opinion that Narada was the first to have darshan of Lord Jagannath in the form of Brahma. Santosh Kumar Sethi, Deputy Director, Department of Information and Public Relations, Odisha, Rajesh Kumar Mishra, Historian Madan Mohan Mohapatra, Lawyer Binoy Nrusingh Mohapatra and educationist Bijayalaxmi Dash were the guests of honour.

At the outset, the forum's Chairman journalist Saroj Kumar Mishra explained the orientation of the seminar. In this seminar, Dr. Abhimanyu Bhuyan, Dr. Kartik Kumar Das, Pandit Sadashiv Mishra, Advocate Bipin Bihari Dalai, Lecturer Bharati Bhushan Das, Ashok Kumar Mishra, Columnist Harishankar Mishra, Dr. Sasmita Mishra, Dayanidhi Tripathi, Bichitra Ranjan Mohapatra, senior journalists Biswajit Patnaik and Suresh Kumar Patnaik spoke on the occasion. Journalists Satya Narayan Routray, Bikram Keshari Acharya, Ajit Kumar Mohanty, social worker Krishna Chandra Sainayak, advocate Ratikanta Pratihari and social worker Ruchimitra Jagdev Mohapatra were honoured with The Devarshi Narad Saraswat Samman on the occasion. On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Devarshi Narad, an entertaining poem asher was organized by eminent poet Bipin Bihari Dalai and Sarbani Das. Journalists Nrusingha Charan Mohanty, Benudhar Patra and Chandramani Das conducted the function. Journalist Subodha Kumar Subudhi gave vote of thanks.

Rice (Paddy) Purchase Initiated in the Presence of Local MLAs

Bargarh, (DMC): In a significant stride for local agriculture, the government has officially launched the rice (paddy) purchasing process across all market yards in the district, following the recent deliberations of the district-level rice (paddy) collection committee.

The inauguration ceremony took place at the bustling local cattle market, where Honourable Bargarh MLA, Shri Ashwini Kumar Sarangi, graced the event with his presence. With great enthusiasm, he initiated the rice (paddy) collection for the Bargarh Regulated Market Committee, marking the start of a vital season for local farmers. Further elevating the significance of the day, Honourable Bhatli MLA, Shri Irashish Acharya, participated in the inauguration of the Rabi rice (paddy) collection at the vibrant market yards of Attabira and Godbhaga. His attendance underscored the



collaborative spirit of the Attabira Regulated Market Committee in supporting local agricultural endeavours. Simultaneously, at the Keutipali and Arda market yards, under the auspices of the Padampur Regulated Market Committee, Honourable Bijepur MLA, Shri Sanat Kumar Gadatia, also commenced the Rabi rice (paddy) collection process. His involvement highlighted a unified effort to bolster the region's agricultural framework. The events drew the attention of prominent officials, including the

District Collector, Shri Aditya Goyal, I.A.S., Additional District Magistrate, Smt. Madhuchhanda Sahu, Sub-Collector Shri Prasanna Kumar Pandey, and dedicated staff from the Bargarh, Attabira, and Padampur Regulated Market Committees, all of whom were present to support the launch. This collaborative effort not only promises to enhance local farmers' livelihoods but also marks a pivotal moment in the commitment of local leaders to nourish and sustain the agricultural backbone of the community.

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Justice Bushan...

Amravati, he joined the Bar on March 16, 1985, and started his practice at the Bombay High Court and before the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court. He was appointed as the government pleader and Public Prosecutor for the Nagpur Bench on January 17, 2000. He was elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court on November 14, 2003, and became a permanent Judge of the Bombay High Court in November 2005.

Cabinet Greenlights...

the Odisha government's focus on enhancing water resources and empowering tribal communities in the state's drought-prone areas. Also, the Odisha government has amended the Physical Fitness Recruitment Exam Rules, 2022 to streamline recruitment for various posts requiring physical efficiency tests. The amendment includes the integration of Traffic Sub-Inspector and Excise Sub-Inspector positions into the Combined Recruitment Examination framework. Additionally, the Senior Store Inspector post under Fire Services, Home Guards, and Civil Defense has been incorporated into the revised regulations. This change allows the Odisha Staff Selection Commission (OSSC) to conduct unified recruitment exams for these positions.

IMD Denies...

of 30-50 km/h have been reported. Additionally, the temperature in several coastal districts has dropped significantly. Over the last 24 hours, districts like Kandhamal, Mayurbhanj, Gajapati, Balasore, Rayagada, and Sambalpur recorded substantial rainfall, with Kandhamal witnessing the highest at 60mm. While these storms bring temporary relief from intense heat, IMD warns of the risks associated with strong winds and lightning strikes. IMD has issued yellow warnings for multiple districts, including Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapada, Cuttack, Puri, and Khurda, citing risks of lightning and intense downpours. Thunderstorm activity has also been forecast for inland regions such as Koraput, Nabarangpur, and Dhenkanal. Residents are advised to take precautionary measures, avoid open spaces during thunderstorms, and secure loose objects susceptible to strong winds. Meanwhile, certain western districts like Sambalpur, Sundargarh, and Bolangir continue to endure temperatures exceeding 40°C despite the prevailing stormy conditions elsewhere. The Nor'Westers are expected to persist, bringing more rainfall and thunderstorms over the next few days. Authorities are urging citizens to remain vigilant, especially in flood-prone areas.

SC adjourns...

the Act excludes the Chief Justice of India from the process of appointment of the members of ECI and it's in violation of the March 2, 2023 verdict of the top court which had ordered that the appointment of members of the ECI be done on the advice of a committee comprising the Prime Minister, the CJI and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha till a law is made by the Parliament.

The market yard has opened, but some farmers are encountering challenges with the token distribution



Bargarh, (DMC): Today, various grain markets in the Bargarh district were inaugurated by elected officials and the district administration to facilitate the sale of Rabi season paddy. During this event, a representative from the Jai Kisan movement brought forward concerns regarding the token-related issues to the District Collector. This season, farmers have faced considerable difficulties due to adverse conditions such as diseases, insect infestations, and the impact of Kalbaisakhi, leading to increased expenses. As they prepare to sell their paddy, it has been noted that some farmers are receiving tokens for only a fraction of their expected yield. For instance, Basudev Sahu from Sulusulia village has received a token for 3 quintals and 12 kg, Kartik Nayak from Narangpur village for 11 quintals and 70 kg, and Surshen Barik from Sohela block for 44 quintals and 70 kg. In response, the Deputy Registrar of Bargarh has mentioned that these discrepancies were identified in the satellite survey. He encouraged concerned farmers to reach out to their Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society so that the Revenue Inspector can conduct a ground survey and address their concerns appropriately, forwarding the findings to Bhubaneswar for further action. The Jai Kisan movement has expressed that these losses experienced by farmers may stem from inaccuracies in the satellite data. Many farmers had anticipated supporting their families through loans taken out for cultivation and the eventual sale of their paddy. However, external factors and certain governmental policies have impacted their outcomes. During the meeting, Additional District Magistrate, Smt. Madhuchhanda Sahu engaged in discussions regarding these issues, and a written complaint was filed. The event was attended by prominent figures from the farming community, including District General Secretary of the Jai Kisan Movement Har Banian, Surendra Meher, Surshen Barik, Tapovan Nayak, Vijay Pradhan, Kishore Sahu, among others.

Subhraj Deprived of Treatment yet to Get Ayushman Card

Paralakhemundi, (DMC): Subhraj Macho (34) of Ashrayagada of Gumma block of Gajapati district is suffering from unknown disease. He is surviving with 2 kids, wife & old mother. To earn he repairs umbrellas & shoes by moving with strain. This only his hard earnings to support his family. But due to such sufferings he is unable to work. So while referred to MKCG Medical College Hospital at Brahmapur identified as cancer. Family depended on BSKY card, but that was not helpful. Hospital authorities sent him back. He is yet to get Ayushman card. Even at James Hospital at Srikakulam of Andhrapradesh he went, but failed on his progress. His wife



Tikimani & old mother Kebati requested administration's support for his treatment. While interacted Dr. Partha Panda incharge Medical Officer of Gumma CHC said that with a team of doctors his treatment will be done & further financial assistance will be provided.

CDS Anil Chauhan, 3 Services Chiefs Brief President Murmu About Operation Sindoor



New Delhi, (HS) : Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan along with the chiefs of the three services on Wednesday briefed President Droupadi Murmu about Operation Sindoor. India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7 to destroy terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir in retaliation to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, which claimed 26 lives. "General Anil Chauhan, Chief of Defence Staff, along with General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff, Air Chief Marshal A. P. Singh, Chief of the Air Staff, and Admiral Dinesh K. Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff, called on President Droupadi Murmu and briefed her about Operation Sindoor," the Rashtrapati Bhavan said in a post on X. The President commended the valour and dedication of the armed forces that made India's response to terrorism a sterling success, it said.

India slams China's preposterous renaming attempts of places in Arunachal Pradesh



New Delhi, (HS) : India has categorically rejected China's vain and preposterous attempts to rename places in the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh and emphasised that such manoeuvres would not change the reality that Arunachal Pradesh was, is, and will always remain an integral and inalienable part of India. Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Randhir Jaiswal, made the remarks on Wednesday while responding to the media queries on the renaming of places in Arunachal Pradesh by China.

Jaiswal said, "We have noticed that China has persisted with its vain and preposterous attempts to name places in the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh. Consistent with our principled position, we reject such attempts categorically." He added that such "creative naming" will not alter the undeniable reality that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India. "Creative naming will not alter the undeniable reality that Arunachal Pradesh was, is, and will always remain an integral and inalienable part of India", he said. In the past, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had said, "If today I change the name of your house, will it become mine? Arunachal Pradesh was, is, and will always be a state of India. Changing names does not have an effect."

"I think we rightly called it senseless. By doing it repeatedly, it is still senseless. So I want to be very clear. Arunachal Pradesh was, is, and will always be India," he had said. The EAM had also emphasised, "I hope I am saying it so clearly that not only in the country but beyond the country also, people get that message very, very clearly," Jaishankar emphasised. India has time and again firmly rebuffed the baseless arguments by China to rename Indian territories. Arunachal Pradesh was, is, and will always remain an integral and inalienable part of India.

Government approves HCL-Foxconn semiconductor joint venture in Uttar Pradesh

New Delhi, (HS) : The government on Wednesday approved an application for a joint venture between HCL and Foxconn to set up a Semiconductor Assembly and Test (OSAT) facility in Uttar Pradesh.

The minister for Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw said that with this approval, India now has six semiconductor units at advanced stages of construction. "With this sixth unit, Bharat moves forward in its journey to develop the strategically vital semiconductor industry," said Vaishnaw. The new plant, to be established near Jewar Airport in the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) region, will manufacture display driver chips for a wide range of devices including mobile phones, laptops,



automobiles, and PCs. It is designed for a capacity of 20,000 wafers per month, with an output of up to 36 million chips monthly. The unit is expected to attract an investment of Rs. 3,700 crore. Vaishnaw emphasized HCL's legacy in

hardware development and manufacturing, and Foxconn's global leadership in electronics production. Together, the companies aim to strengthen India's semiconductor manufacturing ecosystem. The minister also highlighted the growing presence of global semiconductor partners in India. He said that the leading equipment manufacturers such as Applied Materials and Lam Research have established operations in the country. Additionally, gas and chemical suppliers like Merck, Linde, Air Liquide, and Inox are preparing to support the industry's expansion. India launched a Rs. 76,000 crore incentive scheme in December 2021 to build a robust semiconductor ecosystem. As part of this mission, Tata Electronics, in

collaboration with PSMC, is setting up a Rs. 91,000 crore 28 nm semiconductor fabrication facility in Dholera, Gujarat, which will focus on producing power management chips. Tata Semiconductor Assembly and Test is also investing in an ATMP unit in Morigaon, Assam, to develop advanced packaging technologies with a production capacity of 48 million units per day. Meanwhile, CG Power, in partnership with Renesas and Stars Microelectronics, is building a Rs. 7,600 crore ATMP unit in Sanand, Gujarat, targeting automotive and industrial applications with a daily capacity of 15 million units. Additionally, Kaynes Semicon has received approval for an OSAT facility in Sanand, Gujarat, with an investment of Rs. 3,300 crore and a capacity of 60 lakh chips per day, catering to various sectors.

'India Appears to Have Had Clear Edge in Targeting Pak': NYT Report

New Delhi, (HS) : India gained a clear advantage in targeting Pakistan's military facilities during a recent four-day confrontation, according to satellite images. The high-tech warfare involved precision strikes on key bases, the New York Times reported. India appears to have had a "clear edge" in targeting Pakistan's military facilities and airfields during the recent four-day confrontation, the New York Times reported, citing satellite images. High-resolution satellite imagery, from before and after the strikes, shows "clear damage" to Pakistan's facilities by Indian attacks, according to the report.

"The four-day military clash between India and Pakistan was the most expansive fighting in half a century between the two nuclear-armed countries. As both sides used drones and missiles to test each other's air defences and hit military facilities, they claimed to inflict severe damage," the report said. It added that satellite imagery indicates that while the attacks were widespread, the damage was far more contained than claimed - "and appeared mostly inflicted by India on Pakistani facilities." In the new age of high-tech warfare, the report said that strikes by both sides, verified



by the imagery, appeared to be precisely targeted. "Where India appears to have had a clear edge is in its targeting of Pakistan's military facilities and airfields, as the latter stretch of fighting shifted from symbolic strikes and shows of force to attacks on each other's defence capabilities," the report said. At Bholari air base, located less than 100 miles from the Pakistani port city of Karachi, India's defence officials said they had struck an aircraft hangar with a precision attack. "The visuals showed clear damage to what looks like a hangar," the NYT report said. Further, the Nur Khan air base, within a roughly 15-mile range

of both the Pakistani Army's headquarters and the office of the country's prime minister and a short distance from the unit that oversees and protects Pakistan's nuclear arsenal, was "perhaps the most sensitive military target that India struck." The Indian military said it had particularly targeted the runways and other facilities at some of Pakistan's key air bases and "satellite images showed the damage", the report said, noting that on May 10, Pakistan issued a notice for the Rahim Yar Khan air base saying that the runway was not operational. At Sargodha air base, in Punjab Province in Pakistan, the Indian

military said it had used precision weapons to strike two sections of the runway. "Satellite images of the sites Pakistan claimed to have hit are limited, and so far do not clearly show damage caused by Pakistani strikes even at bases where there was corroborating evidence of some military action." On the Pakistani officials' claim that their forces had "destroyed" India's Udhampur air base, the NYT report said "an image from May 12 does not appear to show damage." India carried out precision strikes under 'Operation Sindoor' on terror infrastructure early on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people. Following the Indian action, Pakistan attempted to attack Indian military bases on May 8, 9 and 10. The Indian armed forces launched a fierce counter-attack on several Pakistani military installations, including Rafiqui, Murid, Chaklala, Rahim Yar Khan, Sukkur and Chunian.

Radar sites at Pasrur and Sialkot aviation base were also targeted using precision munitions, causing massive damage. India and Pakistan reached an understanding on May 10 to end the conflict after four days of intense cross-border drone and missile strikes.

Acid attack survivor Kafi scores 95.6% in CBSE class 12



New Delhi, (HS) : Kafi, an acid attack survivor has proved that despite her disabilities she can achieve a feat as she has scored 95.6% in the recently announced result of CBSE class 12. She wants to become an IAS officer. Kafi says, "I belong to Hisar, Haryana. In the recent results of the CBSE Boards, I scored 95.6% in Class 12th. In Class 10th, I had scored 95.2% as well. I am an acid attack victim, and my target is to become an IAS officer. Being a visually challenged girl, there were a lot of challenges, but my parents and teachers helped me a lot to conquer them...My main source of study was audio and textbooks..." reported ANI in an X post on Wednesday. Reportedly, Kafi was merely three years old when she was attacked. Three men, who were their neighbours in Budhana, Hisar had thrown acid on her. As a result, she sustained critical burns on her face and arms. Besides, she lost her eyesight. Following the incident, her parents tried their best to save their daughter. They spent almost all of their hard-earned money on the treatment of the girl. They took her from hospital to hospital to provide better treatment. However, though her life was saved, she lost her vision and became visually impaired. On the other hand, the accused persons were arrested and following trial in the Court, they were sentenced to two years.

and killed them, and Modi-ji sent their sister to return the favour. We couldn't undress them, so we sent a daughter from their community... You widowed sisters of our community, so a sister of your community will strip you naked. Modi-ji proved that the daughters of your caste can be sent to Pakistan to take revenge," the minister had added. His comments were made before an audience that included Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development Savitri Thakur, MLA and former Cabinet minister Usha Thakur, and several local leaders of the BJP. The comments were condemned by the army veterans and the Opposition parties. Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge called for his sacking. The party found an unexpected ally. "Vijay Shah ji should be dismissed from the post of minister and FIR should be lodged against him immediately because he has brought shame to the entire nation," former Chief Minister of the state Uma Bharati posted on X, formerly Twitter. Vijay Shah initially said his comments were reported out of context, then offered to apologise. "Colonel Sofiya Qureshi is more important than my sister to me because she rose above caste and community and took revenge. I did not intend any offence. Still, if anyone felt bad, I apologise not once but ten times," he had said.

Pakistan releases BSF Jawan Purnam Kumar Shaw

New Delhi, (HS) : Today BSF Jawan Purnam Kumar Shaw, who had been in the custody of Pakistan Rangers since April 23, 2025 was handed over to India, informed the Border Security Force. The Pakistan government has repatriated India's Border Security Force Constable Purnam Kumar Shaw.

Railway Stations Across Country Illuminated in Honour of Brave Soldiers



New Delhi, (HS) : In honour of the indomitable courage and valour displayed by the Indian Army during Operation Sindoor, railway stations across the country lit up in a radiant tribute. Indian Railways organised this unique initiative to express its deep gratitude towards the brave soldiers of the Nation. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, Gujarat to Assam, stations across India witnessed a special wave of patriotic spirit. Bathed in the vibrant hues of the Tricolour, railway stations came alive with soul-stirring patriotic visuals, reigniting a profound sense of national pride in every onlooker's heart.

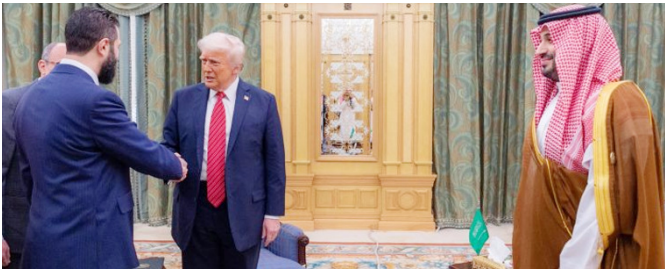
To take the story of Operation Sindoor's success to every citizen, Indian Railways organised Tiranga Yatras (flag marches) in various parts of the country. These marches further strengthened the public's sense of nationalism and respect for the Armed Forces. Complementing the Yatras, impactful street plays (nukkad natak) were staged at several railway stations, bringing the spirit and significance of Operation Sindoor closer to the people in a relatable and powerful manner.

This initiative by Indian Railways not only honoured the valiant warriors of our Armed Forces but also connected the general public with the glorious saga of Operation Sindoor. The event reflects the fact that every citizen of the country stands shoulder to shoulder with our brave soldiers. Launched in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, Operation Sindoor is a shining chapter in Indian military history, one that will continue to inspire generations to come.

Trump Meets Syria's Ahmed Al-Sharaa In Riyadh

Riyadh, (H.S): US President Donald Trump met Syria's interim leader Ahmed al-Sharaa in the presence of Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, in Riyadh on Wednesday."

HRH the Crown Prince holds a meeting with the US President and the Syrian President," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia posted on X along with photographs of the meeting between the three leaders. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and other top officials were also present during the meeting."A meeting brings together HRH the Crown Prince, the US President, and the Syrian President in Riyadh, with the Turkish President participating via phone," it said in another post.The meeting came after Trump on Tuesday evening



announced that the United States was lifting sanctions on Syria." After discussing the situation in Syria with the Crown Prince and also with President Erdogan of Turkey... among others in the Middle East, I will be ordering the cessation of sanctions against Syria, in order to give them a chance at greatness."

Trump said during his address in Riyadh where he outlined his vision for the future of the Middle East. Earlier this month, Ahmed al-Sharaa, a former Al Qaeda Commander, had called on French President Emmanuel Macron at

the Elysee Palace in Paris, as he continued Damascus' diplomatic outreach under his leadership. Sharaa headed the Islamist group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) which spearheaded the toppling of the government headed by former Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in December.

Trump arrived in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday as he began a four-day visit to the Middle East which would also take him to Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).As he reached Riyadh, Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown

Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia, welcomed Trump at the King Khalid International Airport. Trump was greeted with a 21-gun salute and trumpet fanfare upon his arrival. The Crown Prince and US President then engaged in cordial talks over Saudi coffee at the airport's VIP lounge.

Later, the Crown Prince received President Trump at the Royal Court in Al-Yamamah Palace in Riyadh."Before our eyes, a new generation of leaders is transcending the ancient conflicts and tired divisions of the past, and forging a future where the Middle East is defined by commerce, not chaos; where it exports technology, not terrorism; and where people of different nations, religions, and creeds are building cities together - not bombing each other out of existence," the US President said in his address in Riyadh on Tuesday evening.

Indian-America Student Dies in Bahamas After Falling From Balcony



The Royal Bahamas Police Force earlier confirmed the incident, stating that Jaisingh fell from an upper-level balcony while inside his hotel room with other roommates." On Sunday, the police launched an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of an adult male of the United States on Paradise Island.

According to initial reports, sometime around 10:00 p.m., the victim was inside his hotel room with other roommates when it is reported that he accidentally fell from an upper-level balcony. He was later found unresponsive on a lower floor," said the police in

a press releaseThe police stated that emergency medical services responded and transported the student to the hospital; however, he succumbed while enroute, and investigations are ongoing into this incident." We share our deepest condolences with Gaurav's family, friends and loved ones. While local authorities are investigating, it appears Gaurav accidentally fell from a balcony.

We will share more information when available while respecting his family's privacy," Bentley University said in a statement to the American television network, ABC News." This is an enormous tragedy for our community. Bentley is providing resources for those who are impacted and encourages anyone who needs support to reach out to the university's counselling centre," it added.

Turkish President Meets NATO Chief, Reiterates Support For Russia-Ukraine Ceasefire

Ankara, (H.S): Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan reiterated his support for a ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine during a meeting with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte in Ankara, according to the Turkish presidency. Erdogan on Tuesday said that Turkey is stepping up its diplomatic efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace,

noting that he has spoken with both Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, said a statement issued by the presidency. Erdogan emphasised that Turkey maintains its neutral stance in the conflict and urged that the opportunity for peace should not be missed, Xinhua news agency reported. On Turkey-NATO relations, Erdogan said that Turkey places great importance on NATO and



will once again assume command of the NATO Kosovo Force. He also called for greater cooperation among NATO allies in the fight against terrorism. Rutte, for his part, noted that his meeting with Erdogan comes as preparations are underway for next month's NATO summit." Turkey is a staunch and capable ally. We also discussed Ukraine, where there is a real window of opportunity for progress towards peace," he

wrote in a post on social media platform X. Earlier Erdogan emphasised that a comprehensive ceasefire is essential to create the proper environment for initiating talks and urged all parties to seize the current window of opportunity for a diplomatic dialogue aimed at ending the conflict. He expressed his willingness to host the Russian and Ukrainian delegations in Turkey on the occasion of peace negotiations.

Moscow, (H.S): The Kremlin has rejected the ruling of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Council, which placed the responsibility for the 2014 Malaysia Airlines crash on Russia.The UN body, ICAO, recently alleged that Russia was responsible for the July 17, 2014, downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 over eastern Ukraine that killed all 298 people on board."

Russia will not recognise the Council's ruling. It is illegitimate and violates the 1944 Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation and its own rule of procedure. Unlike the biased majority on the Council, Russia remains committed to UN Security Council resolution 2166 (2014) and the cause of identifying the real causes of the air crash," the country's foreign ministry said.The ministry denied any involvement of Russia in the Malaysia Airlines crash."Last year, on June 17,



2024, Russia halted its participation in this investigation because it was impossible to ensure the unbiasedness of the probe amid numerous procedural violations by the ICAO Council and Secretariat.

Moscow's principles position, however, remains unchanged - Russia has nothing to do with the MH17 crash and all allegations otherwise by Australia and the Netherlands are in opposition to the facts," it said."Prior to this, Russia presented to the Council

convincing factual and legal evidence of its noninvolvement in the crash and shared this data with all member countries of the Council. It was Kyiv that refused to close the airspace over the combat operations zone and used civilian passenger aircraft, such as MH17, as a shield for its bombers," the ministry asserted.

Earlier on Tuesday, addressing a press briefing, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Russia sees the findings of an investigation into the MH17 crash as biased and

does not accept them." I am not going to comment on this. Our position is well known. Russia was not among the parties that took part in investigating the accident. This is why we don't accept any of the prejudiced conclusions," the Russian presidential spokesman noted. Meanwhile, the Russian foreign ministry stressed that Moscow had several times suggested that the Council conduct a thorough and independent international investigation of the MH17 crash in line with UNSC resolution."

But being guided by political motives and in violation of the established procedure, the Council refused to conduct such an investigation and instead took for granted Australia's and the Netherlands' allegations and the findings of the joint investigative team, which includes Australia, the Netherlands, and Ukraine, or countries that are directly interested in demonising Russia," the ministry noted.

Kashish Chaudhary Becomes First Hindu Woman Assistant Commissioner of Balochistan

Quetta, (H.S): Pakistan's Kashish Chaudhary has created history by becoming the first Hindu woman appointed as an Assistant Commissioner of Balochistan.Her remarkable achievement after successfully passing the highly competitive Balochistan Public Service Commission (BPSC)

examination at a notably young age is celebrated as a powerful symbol of inclusion, diversity, and meritocracy in the province.She belongs to a remote town of Noshki in the district of Chagai in Balochistan. Recognising her accomplishment, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti met Kashish along with her father, Girdhari



Lal.During the meeting matters of women's representation, minority community empowerment, and the overall

development of Balochistan were discussed, local media reported. CM lauded her achievement and called her "a symbol of pride for

not just Balochistan, but the entire nation." "Kashish has proven that the daughters of Balochistan are second to none.

Her success sends a strong message that talent and perseverance can emerge from even the most remote corners of our province," he said.In her remarks, Chaudhary emphasised her desire to advocate for youth, women, and marginalised communities as she expressed her commitment in serving the people of Balochistan."

I'm grateful to the Government of Balochistan for placing its trust in a young woman from a minority background. My journey is just beginning, and I intend to be a strong voice for those who are often unheard. I aim to become the voice of youth, women, and minority communities," she stated." Where

you come from doesn't define how far you can go. It's your dedication and commitment that matter," she said, calling on young girls across remote areas of Pakistan to pursue their dreams without any fear or hesitation.

Despite the persistent problem of young Hindu girls being abducted and converted by Muslims, the Hindu community, with continuous struggle, tries to counter such menaces. Hindus make up the largest minority community in Pakistan. Official estimates indicate that 7.5 million Hindus are living in the country. However, the community claims that the number exceeds 9 million.

Atrocities in Balochistan, however, affect both Hindus and Muslims equally. Numerous Baloch activists have accused the Pakistan government of implementing a "hard-state" approach in Balochistan, characterised by widespread enforced disappearances, custodial torture, and extrajudicial killings.

Activists highlight that the ongoing campaign of fear and repression tries to silence dissent and punish families seeking justice.As the federal government continues with its brutality on the people in Balochistan, people from the province living across the world are currently fighting for their independence from Pakistan.

EAM Jaishankar Congratulates Anita Anand On Becoming Canadian Foreign Minister

Ottawa, (H.S): External Affairs Minister (EAM), S. Jaishankar extended best wishes to his Canadian counterpart, Anita Anand, on being sworn in as the Foreign Minister. "Congratulate Anita Anand on your appointment as Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs," he posted on X. Indian-origin Canadian politician Anita Ananda has been sworn in as the country's Foreign Minister after a major Cabinet reshuffle by Prime Minister Mark Carney, focussing on "mandate for change."

Taking to X, Anand posted, "I am honoured to be named Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs. I look forward to working with Prime Minister Mark Carney and our team to build a safer, fairer world and deliver for Canadians."One of Anand's missions will be to pilot the reset of the almost ruptured ties with India that Carney signalled, while managing the delicate relations with President Donald Trump's America. Announcing the new Cabinet of 28 ministers, Carney instructed them to "bring new ideas, a clear



focus and decisive actions to their work." He also appointed Maninder Sidhu as the international trade minister, and two others of Indian descent as secretaries of state, the equivalent of ministers of state.Anand, who was the transport minister and had earlier held the Defence portfolio, said in January that she was leaving politics and returning to academia.

However, Carney persuaded her to return to the Cabinet and take the foreign affairs portfolio after she was re-elected in last month's election.Carney, who inherited former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Cabinet, now has a chance to put his mark after having led the Liberal Party to victory, beating the odds in last

month's election.He cut the number of ministers from 39 in Trudeau's Cabinet to 28, and three politicians of Indian origin in the last Cabinet do not find a place now. Anand replaces Melanie Joly, who has been moved to the transport and internal trade ministry that she had held.

Joly ratcheted up the tensions with India, expelling six Indian diplomats last year, alleging that they were "persons of interest" in the assassination of Khalistan leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar.India has denied any involvement in the murky case where there were signs of gang warfare, and it expelled Canadian diplomats in retaliation.Carney, who has called relations with India "incredibly important," said of the ties with

India on the eve of the elections that "there is a path forward to address those with mutual respect and to build out."The relations spiralled under Trudeau, who depended on the New Democratic Party led by Jagmeet Singh, an alleged Khalistan sympathiser, to stay in power. The new Cabinet has fewer Canadians of Indian descent. Harjit Singh Sajjan, who was a former Defence minister and held the Emergency preparedness portfolio in the last Cabinet, did not seek re-election to the House of Commons and left.

Ruby Sahota, who was the minister of democratic institutions, has been downgraded to a secretary of state and put in charge of combating crime. Randeep Sarai is another of the ten secretaries of state and will deal with international development. From the last Cabinet, Arif Virani, who was the justice minister and attorney-general, and Kamal Khera, who held the diversity and inclusion of persons with disabilities portfolio, have been dropped by Carney.

Flash Floods Kill 17, Displace Over 84,000 People in Somalia

Mogadishu, (H.S): At least 17 people have been killed and more than 84,000 others displaced by flash floods following torrential rains across Somalia since mid-April, the United Nations relief agency said. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said an assessment conducted by disaster management officials has revealed extensive damage to infrastructure and an urgent need for assistance to affected people."

Partners have stepped up assistance in affected areas, including food, shelter items, hygiene kits, and cash assistance," OCHA said in its latest flash update released in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia.

It said heavy rains in the Banadir Region on May 9 caused devastating flash floods that killed nine people, affected at least 24,600 people, damaged key infrastructure in several districts, and swept away shelters in displacement sites.Light to heavy Gu (April to June) seasonal rains have triggered localised flooding in several parts of the country since mid-April. The UN agency said the Somali government has



formed a committee that includes federal ministers and regional officials to respond to the flooding crisis. Somalia, a country where nearly two-thirds of the population depends on agriculture for their livelihoods, has experienced extreme climate shocks in the past, including prolonged dry seasons causing drought and heavy rains leading to flooding, Xinhua news agency reported.

The floodwaters have damaged key infrastructure and paralysed public transport in some parts of the country, the UN agency said." On a positive note, the rains have

significantly improved water and pasture availability in many areas, supporting ongoing agricultural activities and pastoralism, thereby mitigating the effects of recent prolonged dry conditions," OCHA added.

Floodwaters also damaged key infrastructure, halting public transport and temporarily disrupting operations at the main Aden Abdule airport. The Horn of Africa is one of the regions most vulnerable to climate change, and extreme weather events are becoming increasingly frequent and intense.

6G Will Be 100 Times More Powerful Than 5G: Minister

New Delhi, (H.S): The government on Wednesday emphasised the groundbreaking potential of 6G technology, describing it as '100 times more powerful' than its predecessor 5G.Speaking to IANS on the sideline of 'Bharat 6G 2025 International Conference and Exhibition' here,

Dr Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Minister of State for Rural Development and Communications, outlined the immense capabilities of 6G, which will offer much faster speeds, lower latency and a complete transformation of connectivity.The minister acknowledged the challenges faced by 5G, such as high data usage and limited available spectrum, but assured that these hurdles are part of the inherent nature of evolving technology." 5G has been



hugely successful, and 6G will be a completely different network, 100 times more powerful, with latency reduced to sub-milliseconds," he told IANS.

The minister stressed that 6G will be a game-changer, with built-in AI that will revolutionise industries and everyday life.He further explained that while 5G applications, such as using Wi-Fi networks in every village,

have seen early adoption, 6G will be a monumental leap."Unlike the transition from 4G to 5G, which was significant, the leap to 6G will be completely transformative," Dr Pemmasani stated.

Although he acknowledged that 6G might first attract early adopters, he is confident that the technology will become mainstream over time, with a wide array of innovative applications emerging. The

'Bharat 6G 2025' conference is part of India's strategy to not only adopt but also lead the global development of 6G technology. The minister reaffirmed the government's vision, introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in March 2023, to make India a global leader in 6G by 2030.

This vision includes partnerships with countries like Japan, Singapore, and Finland, along with an emphasis on AI, terahertz communication, and intelligent networks.The minister emphasised that 6G will not only push technological boundaries but also drive social and economic progress across sectors like healthcare, education, and agriculture. He reaffirmed India's commitment to becoming a key player in shaping global 6G standards, fostering innovation, and driving digital transformation.

Indian Stock Market Ends Higher, Defence Sector Remains Resilient

Mumbai, (H.S): Indian stock markets ended Wednesday's session on a strong note, supported by gains in metal, real estate and technology shares. Among the key highlights was the continued strength in domestic defence stocks, which have been gaining momentum for three straight sessions. The sector remained resilient and showed consistent buying interest from investors.

Despite some volatility during the day, investor sentiment remained positive, helping benchmark indices close in the green. At the closing bell, the Sensex was up by 182 points or 0.22 per cent, settling at 81,330.56.Similarly, the Nifty rose by 88 points, or 0.36 per cent, to end the day at 24,666.In Nifty, key option levels show 25,000 and 25,500 as major call resistances, while 24,000 and 24,500 serve as put supports,

said experts.The put-call ratio (PCR) of 0.72 suggests a mildly bearish bias, according to Sundar Kewat from Ashika Institutional Equity.On the 30-share index, Tata Steel led the pack of gainers with a 3.88 per cent rise, followed by Eternal (2.18 per cent), Tech Mahindra (2.02 per cent), Maruti Suzuki India (1.66 per cent) and others.

On the downside, the biggest loser was Asian Paints, which declined by 1.78 per cent to close the intra-day session at Rs 2,283.65.Other notable losers included Tata Motors, down by 1.26 per cent and Kotak Mahindra Bank which fell by 1.11 per cent. Broader markets outperformed the headline indices, with the Nifty Midcap 100 index climbing 1.13 per cent and the Nifty Smallcap 100 index advancing 1.36 per cent - reflecting healthy investor interest in mid- and small-cap stocks. Adding to the

positive market mood was the latest data on India's retail inflation, which eased to its slowest pace in over six years in April.The decline was largely driven by lower food prices and has strengthened expectations of a potential rate cut by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Global cues also offered support, as softer-than-expected US consumer inflation data eased concerns over inflationary pressures and lifted hopes that the Federal Reserve may adopt a more accommodative stance going forward.With domestic and global factors aligning favourably, market experts believe that investor confidence is likely to stay strong in the near term."The retreat in crude oil prices and the overall softening of the greenback acted as tailwinds, specifically supporting the local currency during intra-day's trading," Dilip Parmar of HDFC Securities said.

China's FDI proposals face stricter scrutiny in India amid tensions with Pakistan

New Delhi, (H.S): The government plans to conduct more stringent reviews of some major investment proposals from Chinese companies to invest in India, which could delay the go-ahead for these ventures, according to an NDTV Profit report.The decision comes in the backdrop of China's support to Pakistan in the wake of the terrorist killings in Pahalgam and 'Operation Sindoor' that followed.

China has been extending diplomatic support to Pakistan, in coordination with Turkey and Bangladesh, apart from providing military hardware that has been used against India.The government is expected to intensify its scrutiny of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals and joint ventures backed by Chinese firms. Several new joint ventures may be proposed as a workaround to existing restrictions, but pending proposals and ongoing negotiations could also face delays, the NDTV Profit report said citing people familiar with the matter.Some Indian companies are in talks with Chinese firms for joint ventures in the electronics component manufacturing segment under the



government's Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme. These projects are likely to be delayed.Among the major Chinese companies, home appliances giant Haier is exploring a joint venture (JV) with the JSW Group, an Indian conglomerate, for a potential investment of Rs 1,000 crore.

The proposal is under the consideration of the government. At the UN Security Council committee #1267 on counter-terrorism, China blocked any mention of The Resistance Force, an arm of the Lashkar-e-Tayiba terror group, that initially took responsibility for the Pahalgam attacks on April 22.China's Foreign

Minister Wang Yi had sought an 'investigation' into the attacks as part of Pakistan's damage-control move to whitewash its role in cross-border terrorism.India had previously imposed curbs on FDI from China in April 2020 and subjected these proposals to a government scrutiny on a case-by-case basis before approval.

Companies such as Chinese telecom equipment manufacturers Huawei and ZTE were excluded from the 5G rollout in the Indian telecom sector on grounds of national security. India telcos were advised by the government to go only for "trusted source" equipment for the expansion of their networks.

New Delhi, (H.S): Union Minister for Electronics and IT, Ashwini Vaishnaw, on Tuesday inaugurated two new design facilities of Renesas Electronics India, located at Noida and Bengaluru, that would work on cutting-edge 3 nanometer chip design. Highlighting the uniqueness of the new facility, Vaishnaw informed that this places India firmly in the global league of semiconductor innovation."

Designing at 3nm is truly next-generation. We've done 7nm and 5nm earlier, but this marks a new frontier," he said.The minister also elaborated on India's holistic semiconductor strategy encompassing design, fabrication, ATMP (Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging), equipment, chemicals, and gas supply chains. He cited industry confidence witnessed at global platforms like Davos, and mentioned significant investments already being made by companies such as Applied



Materials and Lam Research. Highlighting the growing momentum in India's semiconductor ecosystem, the minister said that the inauguration of this major Semiconductor Design Centre in Uttar Pradesh is a critical step towards developing a pan-India ecosystem, that harnesses the rich talent available across the country."

Within just three years, India's semiconductor industry has moved from a nascent stage to an emerging global hub, and is now poised for long-term,

sustainable growth," said the minister.He also added that "With manufacturing of electronic products in smart phones, laptops, servers, medical equipment, defence equipment, automobiles and many other sectors, the demand for semiconductors is going to increase exponentially.

Therefore, this momentum for growth of semiconductor industry is timely."The minister also announced the launch of a new semiconductor learning kit, aimed at enhancing practical hardware skills among

engineering students.He also said that more than 270+ academic institutions that have already received advanced EDA (Electronic Design, Automation) software tools under the India Semiconductor Mission will also receive these hands-on hardware kits."This integration of software and hardware learning will create truly industry-ready engineers. We are not just building infrastructure but investing in long-term talent development," he said.

Hidetoshi Shibata, CEO and MD of Renesas Electronics, said India is a strategic cornerstone for them, with growing contributions in embedded systems, software, and system innovation.He emphasised Renesas' commitment to expanding end-to-end semiconductor capabilities in India, from architecture to testing, while supporting over 250 academic institutions and numerous startups through government-backed initiatives.

Average pay for contractual worker in India's telecom sector rises to 25,225 a month

New Delhi, (H.S): The average monthly salary for contractual employees in India's telecom sector went up from Rs 24,609 in FY22 to Rs 25,225 in FY25, reflecting steady efforts to offer competitive compensation, a report showed on Wednesday.

The Indian telecom industry experienced a moderation in contractual workforce expansion in 2025 while continuing to invest in young talent to support its operational needs, according to the latest data from TeamLease Services.The data also highlights that professionals in the 18 to 32-year age group continued to form a significant part of the contractual workforce.The data further reveals that year-on-year growth in contractual roles at the associate level



has moderated to 11.9 per cent in fiscal year 2024-25, indicating a more measured approach to workforce expansion. Attrition levels have remained relatively stable over time, recorded at 50.8 per cent in FY 2021-22 and 50.3 per cent in FY 2024-25."The data reflects a steady recalibration in the telecom sector's workforce strategy. While hiring volumes are becoming more measured, there continues to be a strong emphasis on engaging young, educated professionals who are well-suited for dynamic, customer-facing, and technical roles," said Kartik

Narayan, CEO-Staffing, TeamLease Services. Tenure analysis suggests that a majority of contractual associates are in the early stages of their careers, with over 60 per cent having less than two years of experience.

This, combined with the age and qualification distribution, reflects the sector's continued reliance on entry-level professionals, said the report. Meanwhile, increasing internet adoption and data consumption by rural subscribers are emerging as structural drivers for growth in average revenue per user (ARPU) of Indian telecom companies and to capitalise on the trend, telcos are strengthening rural connectivity, which should help expand their data subscriber base and returns, according to another report.

New Delhi, (H.S): Tata Power Company Limited (TPCL) reported net profit of ₹1,306.09 crore in the fourth quarter of financial year 2024-25, this marks a 24.91 per cent increase from its last year's Q4 results. The company's revenue from operations grew by 7.88 per cent to ₹17,095.88 crore, it had reported a revenue of ₹15,846.58 crore during last year's fourth quarter. The Board of Directors recommended a dividend of ₹2.25 per equity share, subject to shareholder approval at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. TPCL's renewable energy accounted for 89 per cent of capacity additions in India during financial year 2024-25. The company's total installed capacity in India currently stands at 475 Gigawatt (GW), out of total installed capacity 247 GW are thermal power sources. The



company added around 13.2 GW power capacity in Q4FY25, while about 33.4 GW were added in financial year 2024-25. The company reported a total income of ₹17,446.95 crore in the fourth quarter of FY25, it grew by 5.97 per cent from last years Q4 total income of ₹16,463.94 crore. Similarly, the company's expenses increased by 3.11 per cent to ₹16,179.77 crore, from last year's expenses of ₹15,691.24 crore during the fourth quarter. In FY25, the company reported

a Profit After Tax (PAT) of ₹5,197 crore and an EBITDA of ₹14,468 crore. It achieved its highest-ever revenue of ₹64,502 crore, marking a 5 per cent year-on-year (YoY) growth. Underlying EBITDA also rose by 10 per cent YoY to ₹15,261 crore. The Transmission & Distribution (T&D) business delivered a strong performance, with PAT increasing by 50 per cent to ₹616 crore in Q4 FY25 and registering a full-year PAT growth of 37 per cent over the previous year.The Odisha

discoms business recorded exceptional growth, with PAT rising by 207 per cent to ₹275 crore in Q4 FY25 and achieving a full-year PAT of ₹439 crore-an increase of 43 per cent compared to the previous year. The renewables segment also saw robust gains, with PAT increased by 62 per cent to ₹469 crore in Q4 FY25 and by 48 per cent to ₹1,256 crore for the full year. The company maintained its lead in the rooftop solar segment, crossing a significant milestone with ₹100 crore PAT in Q4 FY25 and ₹209 crore in FY25. The company's manufacturing segment emerged as a major growth contributor during the year. TP Solar reported a PAT of ₹422 crore for FY25 and generated revenue of ₹5,337 crore, with an annual production of 3,291 MW of solar modules and 846 MW of solar cells.

NTPC Talcher Thermal Launches Girl Empowerment Mission 2025 to Shape Brighter Futures for Girls in Odisha



Talcher, (DMC): NTPC Talcher Thermal proudly inaugurated its flagship Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, the 'Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM) 2025', reaffirming its commitment to inclusive development and the empowerment of young girls in rural communities.

The one-month-long residential initiative aims to transform the lives of 40 young girls from eight government schools across four Gram Panchayats by providing them

access to quality education, healthcare, life skills training, and structured mentorship.The inauguration ceremony was graced by Chief Guest Sh. Arindam Sinha, Regional Executive Director (Eastern Region-II), and Smt. Rupali Sinha, President, Vasudha Mahila Mandal, alongside Sh. Vijay Chand, Executive Director, NTPC Talcher Thermal, Smt. Vibha Agarwal,

President, Sagarika Ladies Club, and other distinguished dignitaries from NTPC and the

local administration.The event also featured cultural performances by students from nearby government schools, showcasing local talent and reinforcing the inclusive spirit of the program. Speaking at the occasion, Sh. Vijay Chand stated:"Talcher Thermal remains steadfast in its mission to empower and uplift girls from our neighboring communities.

Over the last few years, we have positively impacted the lives of around 250 girls, with an additional 40 set to benefit through

GEM 2025. We believe that through focused efforts like this, we can build a more equitable and inclusive society-one where every girl has the opportunity to grow, lead, and thrive." Addressing the gathering, Chief Guest Sh. Arindam Sinha said:" The Girl Empowerment Mission is not just a program-it is a powerful platform for change. By investing in the potential of these young girls, NTPC is fostering leadership, confidence, and hope that will ripple through families, communities, and generations."

The Girl Empowerment Mission continues to stand as a symbol of NTPC's vision to inspire confidence, creativity, and independence in young girls. By nurturing their minds, bodies, and dreams, NTPC Talcher Thermal is planting seeds of possibility and paving the way for a brighter, more empowered future.

India's Bioeconomy Aims To Reach \$300 Billion By 2030: Dr Jitendra Singh

New Delhi, (H.S): India's bioeconomy has seen an exponential rise under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government - from \$10 billion in 2014 to \$165.7 billion in 2024 - and aims to reach \$300 billion by 2030, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said on Wednesday.India is at the right time and in the right place, with a highly enabling political ecosystem to lead the next global biotechnology revolution, he said while addressing the

"International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology's (ICGEB) board meeting of governors hereDr Singh described India as the emerging global biotech destination and said that this is the most appropriate venue for such deliberations at a time when India has much to contribute to the world community.On the occasion, the minister dedicated India's first-of-its-kind public



funded DST-ICGEB 'Bio-foundry'. ICGEB has 69 member countries and plays a key role in biotechnology-led sustainable global development through research, training, and technology transfer.Dr Singh highlighted India's remarkable progress in the biotechnology sector.

He noted that India now ranks 12th globally in biotechnology and holds the third position in the Asia-Pacific region. The country has emerged as the largest vaccine producer in the world and is home to the third largest startup ecosystem globally. A testament to this growth is the exponential rise in biotech startups, which have

surged from just 50 in 2014 to over 10,000 in 2024.Recalling the success of Mission COVID Suraksha, Dr Singh noted the development of the world's first DNA-based vaccine. He proudly stated that India gifted these vaccines to the world under the Vaccine Maitri initiative, showcasing its commitment to global health equity.

Dr Singh also mentioned the development of India's 1st indigenous generation antibiotic for monotherapy in bacterial pneumonia Nafithromycin, backed in part by DBT-BIRAC. He also cited the creation of diagnostic kits for Dengue and HIV.Emphasising the national importance of biomanufacturing, he lauded the BioE3 Policy, approved by the Union Cabinet in August 2024, as a game-changing step to build a resilient ecosystem for bio-based products and promote high-performance biomanufacturing.



Celina supports ban on Pakistani actors: 'They benefit but silent about terrorism'

Actor Celina Jaitley feels Pakistani actors, including Fawad Khan and Mahira Khan, have a platform to demand change and condemn violence. Several Pakistani artists, including Fawad Khan, Mahira Khan and Hania Aamir, were called out for statements made by them following India's Operation Sindoor. Now, actor Celina Jaitley has come forward to slam them, wondering why they remain silent about terrorism in their country.

In a new interview, Celina Jaitley reacted to Pakistani actors getting slammed for their statements amid the ongoing tension between India and Pakistan. During an interview with News18 Showsha, Celina shared her thoughts on the tension between India and Pakistan. Celina said, "India must come first. Our national interest must always be our top priority. Pakistani artists are quick to benefit from our thriving entertainment industry but remain silent about the terrorism their government supports. They've the platforms to demand change and condemn violence, yet they choose silence. Until there is real accountability and sincere efforts to dismantle terror networks, we must stand firm and draw clear boundaries." Recently, the Government

of India ordered all the Indian OTT platforms to stop streaming all songs, movies, series, podcasts made in Pakistan. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's new notice read, "In the interest of national security, all OTT platforms, media streaming platforms and intermediaries operating in India are advised to discontinue the web-series, films, songs, podcasts and other streaming media content, whether made available on a subscription based model or otherwise, having its origins in Pakistan with immediate effect". Talking about

the same, Celina shared, "When those with the power to influence millions choose silence, that silence becomes deafening. Patriotism isn't about grandstanding; it's about standing tall for your country when it needs you most. History will always remember who stood up and who turned away. But as the daughter and granddaughter of decorated war veterans and the sister of a Special Forces officer, I can say this with conviction that patriotism runs through my very DNA... When our soldiers stand on the frontlines and families mourn unimaginable losses, it's only right for our industry to pause and reflect. This unity sends a message - that our nation and its people come before everything else. True patriotism shines brightest in times of shared grief and resilience".

Tensions between India and Pakistan escalated significantly following the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, which claimed lives of 26 people. The incident has sparked a diplomatic crisis. Last week, the Indian Armed Forces launched Operation Sindoor, a targeted strike mission to destroy terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and (Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir) PoK in response to the Pahalgam terror attack.

Javed thinks Virat's retirement announcement premature

Veteran lyricist Javed Akhtar took to social media to share his opinion about Virat Kohli's retirement from Test cricket. Indian cricketer Virat Kohli's retirement from Test cricket has left fans across the world heartbroken. At 36, he is still regarded as one of the game's finest batters. While his recent form in red-ball cricket may not have matched his earlier standards, the announcement still came as a surprise to many, especially considering Virat's deep emotional connection to the longest format of the game. With the Indian team now bracing for a future without Virat in the Test setup, renowned lyricist and screenwriter Javed Akhtar voiced his thoughts on the matter. "Obviously Virat knows better, but



as an admirer of this great player, I am disappointed by his rather premature retirement from Test cricket. I think there is still a lot of cricket in him. I sincerely request him to reconsider his decision," he posted on X (formerly Twitter).

Ajay to voice Jackie Chan, son Yug makes debut with Karate Kid



It's official: one of Bollywood's coolest dad-son duos just kicked their way into one of the most iconic martial arts franchises of all time. Proud mom and wife, Kajol recently took to social media to drop a major announcement - and no, it's not a throwback family photo. It's about husband Ajay Devgn and their son Yug Devgn lending their voices to the Hindi version of Karate Kid: Legends. Yes, that Karate Kid. And yes, this marks Yug's voice debut and Ajay's first-ever voiceover for an international film. Big stuff.

The film - featuring Jackie

Chan, Ben Wang, and the original karate kid himself Ralph Macchio - is a fresh chapter in the franchise. In the Hindi version, Ajay will voice the legendary Mr. Han (Jackie Chan's character), and Yug will voice Li Fong, the new karate kid portrayed by Ben Wang. Set in New York City, Karate Kid: Legends follows Li Fong, a kung fu prodigy navigating life in a new school while dealing with bullies, identity, and a dramatic face-off with a local karate champ. With Mr. Han (Jackie Chan) and Daniel LaRusso (Ralph Macchio) as his mentors, this is not just another

fight movie - it's a story of growth, grit, and finding your way. And now, in Hindi, it'll sound very Devgn. Sony Pictures India broke the news with an adorable photo of Ajay and Yug, captioned: "The master has a new voice. So does the student! Ajay Devgn and Yug Devgn are all set to bring Jackie Chan and Ben Wang's epic journey to life in #KarateKidLegends (Hindi).?? Kick into action with the Hindi trailer dropping soon."

Naturally, the internet had thoughts. One user wrote, "This is the best decision to debut his son." Another chimed in with, "Like father, like son, stepping into the shoes." And while a few comments just dropped fire emojis, the vibe is clear - fans are loving this father-son energy. From Bollywood action hero to sensei of the Hindi-dubbed dojo, Mr. Devgn is stepping into a new role and this time, with his real-life student right beside him. Karate Kid: Legends just got a desi upgrade; catch the movie on May 30.

Sitaare Zameen Par Trailer: 'Tingu' coach Aamir and his starry team win hearts

Bollywood's Mr Perfectionist Aamir Khan has a special gift. Apart from entertaining the audience, he often spreads meaningful messages through beautiful stories which touch the heart. Some films along the way are major hits, such as the 2007 masterpiece Taare Zameen Par with Darshel Safary. Meanwhile others could be box-office duds, like his last release Laal Singh Chaddha (2022). Well, after three long years, Aamir is ready to make his comeback with Sitaare Zameen Par, and the love received by the trailer so far promises several housefull shows.

Starring Aamir Khan in the lead as a basketball coach with 10 special debutants and Genelia Deshmukh by his side, Sitaare Zameen Par is a spiritual sequel to Taare Zameen Par. Automatically, fans expected a wave of nostalgia to hit them. But the three minutes twenty nine seconds long trailer brings us a fresh story with new characters. Aamir as a frustrated basketball coach is the exact opposite of his beloved character Ram Shankar Nikumbh. Last time, he opened up our eyes and made us realise that all kids are special. This time, we will grow with Aamir as he coaches a team of intellectually disabled youngsters, gaining a deeper understanding. Well, the trailer is wholesome, Aamir is phenomenal and the dialogues are



impactful. But we wish we got to see a little more of Genelia, who is like a breath of fresh air. Soon after the trailer was released, fans showered the comment section with love. Especially those netizens who have had enough of action masala films. For instance, one social media user shared, "I have been waiting for a feel good movie like this! Finally! Tired of all the action movies!!!" whereas another wrote, "This is gonna be a feel good movie after a long time. A great palette cleanser. Looking forward to it!" Another comment read, "Not an Aamir Khan fan, but can't deny that the trailer looks great. Hopefully, the movie does very well at the box office and brings out an awareness for the intellectually challenged," whereas a fan shared, "First day first show." But netizens did have one complaint. Fans are also excited about Genelia Deshmukh's role, as she seems to play Aamir's love interest in the film.

Directed by R.S. Prasanna, who is known for breaking barriers with films like 'Shubh Mangal Saavdhan', 'Sitaare Zameen Par' marks an exciting new chapter in his career. What makes this film even more special is the inclusion of ten debutant actors-Arushi Datta, Gopi Krishna Varma, Samvit Desai, Vedant Sharma, Ayush Bhansali, Ashish Pendse, Rishi Shahani, Rishabh Jain, Naman Mishra, and Simran Mangeshkar-who will be portraying the main roles. The film's music, composed by the legendary Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy, promises to be a treat, with lyrics penned by Amitabh Bhattacharya. "I Tingu Basketball Coach, 10 Toofani. SITAARE aur unki journey. Watch #SitaareZameenPar #SabkaApnaApnaNormal," the makers wrote on their Instagram while sharing the trailer. The film is set to release on June 20, 2025

Gambhir wants full control of Team India

New Delhi, (HS) : After the retirement of captain Rohit Sharma and star batter Virat Kohli from Test cricket, India head coach Gautam Gambhir has reportedly asked the BCCI for full control of the team's proceedings. According to a Dainik Jagran report, Gambhir came into the setup with the idea of ending the superstar culture of Indian cricket. His first move was to come up with the 10-point diktat, forcing all players to feature in domestic cricket whenever available and behave in a certain way when on tours. The second phase was to build a side for the future.

Gambhir reportedly was instrumental in phasing out Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli from Test cricket. The dynamic duo announced their retirement in quick succession, a week before India's squad selection for the England tour, after Gambhir and chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar informed them about the team management's plans to go ahead with a younger squad. This is the first instance of a head coach playing an active role in the phasing out of two of the biggest stars of an Indian cricket team. Historically, Indian teams have been run by their captains.



Coaches, no matter how big a name they are, have always stayed backstage, allowing the big players to take the lead. Take the recent examples of Ravi Shastri and Rahul Dravid. They were always associates of captains Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, rarely trying to challenge their authority. The report claimed that Gambhir's case was different. He had as much say in policy-making, squad selection, and other team-related matters as the captain, and now that Rohit, Kohli, and Ravichandran Ashwin have all retired, he is likely to be the one

calling the shots. "In order to stop a repeat of the home-series defeat against New Zealand and the debacle in Australia, Gambhir has requested the board for full autonomy," the report added.

The report further adds that he would have a captain in Shubman Gill, who is likely to listen to him as he is still young. He may be pitted as a future superstar but he still hasn't reached that stage where he can challenge Gambhir's calls. The only cricketer in the current Indian Test side who perhaps could have countered Gambhir's

tactics and that is pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah. Notably, Bumrah would have been an automatic choice to captain the Test side had his fitness not been a major concern. Bumrah was the designated vice-captain in Rohit Sharma's tenure and has even led India in three Tests in England and Australia. But because he is too precious as fast bowler and his workload needs to be managed, it was not possible to give him full-time captaincy. Therefore, Gambhir is likely to be the primo-supremo of the Indian Test side even if Gill is appointed the captain.

IPL 2025 Reboot: New Replacement Rules Shake Up Squads

New Delhi, (HS) : The Indian Premier League (IPL) will allow the franchises to sign temporary replacement players for the remainder of the 18th season. However, those players will remain ineligible for retention ahead of the next auction, according to ESPNcricinfo. IPL 2025 will resume on May 17 after the BCCI announced a week-long suspension last Friday due to cross-border tensions between India and Pakistan. On Monday, the Indian cricket board announced a new schedule. According to the new dates, the tournament will conclude on June 3 instead of May 25.

After the revised dates, several overseas players are flying back to India to participate in the remainder of the tournament. At the same time, some have opted



out, including Delhi Capitals opening batter Jake Fraser-McGurk and Chennai Super Kings all-rounder Jamie Overton. According to ESPNcricinfo, the IPL's regulations allow teams to sign replacements in the event of illness or injury, provided it occurs

during or before their 12th match of the season. However, the league took the call to change the rules, which have allowed franchises to sign temporary replacements for the rearranged season. The IPL informed the franchises about the 'reassessment' of the replacement

rules in a memo, which read as quoted by ESPNcricinfo, "Given the non-availability of certain foreign players due to national commitments or personal reasons or any injury or illness, Temporary Replacement Players will be allowed until the conclusion of this tournament." "This decision is subject to the condition that the Temporary Replacement players taken from this point forward will not be eligible for retention in the following year. Temporary Replacement players will have to register for the IPL Player Auction 2026," the IPL added.

The IPL also clarified that replacements before the league's suspension remain eligible for retention ahead of the next season of the cash-rich league.

Diego Mauricio bids farewell to Odisha FC

Bhubaneswar, (DMC) : Indian Super League (ISL) side Odisha FC (OFC) announced on Tuesday the departure of Brazilian forward Diego Mauricio. The striker spent four seasons with the club across two separate stints, leaving behind a legacy of commitment and memorable performances in the Odisha FC jersey, as per the official website of ISL. He featured in 86 ISL matches, scoring 44 goals and contributing 13 assists. Across all competitions, he scored more than 50 goals in Odisha FC colours. Mauricio first joined the Kalinga Warriors in the 2020-21 season and made an immediate impact, scoring 12 goals and providing two assists in his debut campaign in Indian football.

Neeraj Honored as Lieutenant Colonel in Territorial Army

New Delhi, (HS) : India's ace javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has been conferred the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Territorial Army, a recognition of his immense contributions to Indian sports.

The appointment, made official by the Ministry of Defence, came into effect on April 16, 2025. The Olympic champion, who previously held the rank of Subedar in the Indian Army, was awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) in 2022 for his exceptional achievements. Chopra, India's first-ever Olympic gold medalist in track and field, followed his Tokyo 2020 victory with a silver medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics, further cementing his legacy. Beyond his military recognition, Neeraj Chopra has continued to dominate the international athletics scene. The javelin star recently began his season with a gold medal in an invitational meet in South Africa, registering an 84.52m throw. His next major challenge lies in the Doha Diamond League on May 16, where he aims to improve his personal best of 89.94m and break the elusive 90-meter barrier.

Neeraj had also planned to host the NC Classic, a premier javelin event sanctioned by World Athletics, in Bengaluru on May 24. However, due



to cross-border tensions, the competition has been postponed indefinitely. With his military honour and ever-rising sporting achievements, Neeraj Chopra continues to be a beacon of inspiration for young athletes across India. His dedication and success reaffirm his status as one of the country's greatest sports icons.