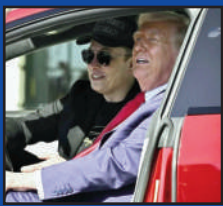




Israel deports Greta Thunberg after Gaza-bound ship was seized

P5



Amid Trump-Musk fallout, will Tesla's India story run out of charge before it begins?

P3

Blake Lively opens up on emotional turmoil caused by Justin Baldoni's lawsuit, reacts to dismissal: 'I've...

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India's defence sector transformed from import-driven to global exporter under Modi govt: Rajnath

New Delhi (Agency): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said during the 11 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "bold and visionary" leadership, India's defence sector has transformed remarkably from a largely import-driven model to becoming a "trusted global exporter".

In a post on X, he also underlined that the celebration of these years honours India's stride towards "strength, self-reliance and strategic global leadership". Sharing some data on defence exports, Singh underlined the government's thrust on 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make in India' initiatives.

India's defence exports have risen to Rs 23,622 crore in 2024-25 from Rs 1,940 crore in 2014-

15, the Union minister said.

He also highlighted India's first indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, first indigenous multi-role combat helicopter LCH Prachand and the country's missile capabilities.

"In the last 11 years, under the bold and visionary leadership of PM Shri @narendramodi, India's defence sector has transformed remarkably from a largely import-driven model to becoming a trusted global exporter," Singh said.

"Powered by Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make In India, this journey has led to record-high defence exports to 100+ countries, indigenous milestones like LCH Prachand, Tejas fighter jets, BrahMos missile production and the rise of defence corridors at-

tracting massive investments," he said. As "we celebrate #11YearsOfRakshaShakti, we honour India's stride towards strength, self-reliance and strategic global leadership", he said.

In another post, Singh shared a video titled 'Self-reliant defence: Strengthening Tomorrow's Bharat' depicting India's counter-terrorism stance, including Operation Sindoor, various military exercises, patrolling by troops, drop in insurgency cases in the northeast, and 'Nari Shakti' in the armed forces.

"In the #11YearsOfRakshaShakti, India's defence sector has undergone a historic transformation under PM Modi's inspiring leadership which has resulted into stronger borders, modern

armed forces, indigenous weapons, record defence exports and global trust. A proud stride towards self-reliance," Singh said.



This is the third term of the Modi government after the BJP-led NDA won the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

The swearing-in ceremony of PM Modi and the Union coun-

cil of ministers was held on June 9, 2024.

Later, the PIB shared a fact sheet on major milestones for the sector on the past 11 years.

"India's defence sector has witnessed an extraordinary transformation over the last eleven years. What was once limited in scale and ambition has grown into a confident, self-reliant ecosystem," it said.

This shift has been shaped by "firm political resolve and strategic thinking". Strategic policies have sparked new energy across the board, from production and procurement to exports and innovation, the PIB said in the fact

sheet. India's defence journey over the past eleven years has been defined by "bold decisions, strategic foresight, and unwavering resolve," it said.

"The Ministry of Defence signed 193 contracts worth Rs 2,09,050 crore in 2024-25 -- the highest ever in a single year. Of these, 177 contracts were awarded to the domestic industry, amounting to Rs 1,68,922 crore," reads the fact sheet.

The Ministry of Defence signed a "wet lease agreement with Metrea Management for one KC-135 Flight Refuelling Aircraft" during this period.

"This is the first time the Indian Air Force has opted for a wet-leased FRA, which will be used for air-to-air refuelling training of pilots from both the Air

Force and Navy. Delivery is expected within six months," it added.

The fact sheet also talked about growing 'Nari Shakti' too in the armed forces

Women have "taken centre stage" in India's defence forces over the last eleven years. The number of women officers across the services today, has "grown to over 11,000, reflecting a clear shift in policy and mindset", according to the fact sheet.

The current government has opened new doors for women in uniform. Permanent Commission has been granted to 507 women officers, allowing them to pursue long-term careers and take on leadership roles. This move has reshaped opportunities for women across ranks and

branches, it said.

The National Defence Academy (NDA) has undergone a historic transformation by inducting female cadets, starting with the first batch of 17 in August 2022 as part of the 148th NDA course. Since then, 126 female cadets have joined across four batches, up to the 153rd course, reads the fact sheet.

"On May 30, a landmark moment was marked when these 17 female cadets were among the 336 cadets who graduated from the 148th Course " Spring Term 2025. This shift reflects the broader integration of women across defence domains, from combat support to piloting fighter jets, underscoring the belief that strength and service transcend gender," it added.

Op Sindoor: PM Modi praises all-party delegations for championing India's stand on terrorism

Modi said he was proud of the manner in which the delegations presented India's views in various countries on the need to eradicate the menace of terrorism

New Delhi (Agency): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met members of the all-party delegations who visited various countries to brief them about India's stand on terrorism in the wake of Operation Sindoor. Modi commended the delegations for their dedication in advancing India's voice on global platforms.

The prime minister said he was proud of the manner in which the delegations presented India's views in various countries on the need to eradicate the menace of terrorism. "Met members of the various delegations who represented

India in different countries and elaborated on India's commitment to peace and the need to eradicate the menace of terrorism. We are all proud of the manner in which they put forward India's voice," Modi said in a post on X.

The delegations comprised parliamentarians and former diplomats, who travelled to 33 nations over the past few weeks. "We apprised the Prime Minister of the overwhelming support extended by these friendly nations for India's resolute fight against terrorism and our unwavering commitment to global peace," Shiv Sena's Shrikant



Shinde said. Four delegations were led by MPs of the ruling alliance, including two from the BJP, one from JD(U) and one from Shiv Sena, while three were

led by opposition MPs, one each of the Congress, DMK and NCP(SP).

BJP's Ravi Shankar Prasad and Baijyant Panda, Congress'

Shashi Tharoor, JD(U)'s Sanjay Jha, Shiv Sena's Shrikant Shinde, DMK's Kanimozhi, and NCP(SP)'s Supriya Sule led their delegations to different parts of the world. Under Operation Sindoor, India launched air strikes in nine terrorist hubs in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in the early hours of May 7 in response to the Pahalgam attack in April. Pakistan, in return, fired hundreds of drones and missiles to the Indian side, but most of them were successfully intercepted and destroyed. India launched a strong retaliation, targeting several air bases of Pakistan.

Meghalaya honeymoon murder: 'Sonam offered Rs 20 lakh to hitmen to kill her husband'

Reports said Sonam also helped the accused in pushing Raja's body into a deep gorge

Indore (Agency): As more and more details on the chilling murder of Raja Raghuvanshi, an Indore-based businessman, in

Rajput (19), Vishal Singh Chauhan (22), and Raj Singh Kushwaha (21)-has also been arrested in the case. According to

km from where his body was found. Sonam and Raja Raghuvanshi went on a trek to a steep peak to see a waterfall on



reports, Sonam hired hitmen to kill her husband, as she wanted to live with her lover.

Raja and Sonam, who got married on May 11 in Indore, went to Meghalaya on their honeymoon. They disappeared on May 23, hours after checking out of a homestay at Nongriat village, 20

May 23, with the hitmen following them. When they reached a deserted place, Sonam allegedly asked the hitmen to kill her husband. The hitmen, however, refused to commit the crime, and it was at this time that Sonam allegedly raised her offer to Rs 20 lakh. Police found two cuts on Raja's head during the inquest after his body was taken out of the gorge. "The autopsy report from NEIGRIHMS has indicated there are two sharp cuts on the head of the deceased-one behind and one on the front," East Khasi Hills district's SP Vivek Syiem told news agency.

'India had opportunity to take control of PoK': Mamata on Op Sindoor

Bengal Assembly adopted a resolution lauding the valour of the armed forces during the military conflict with Pak

Kolkata (Agency): West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday suggested that India had an opportunity to take control of the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) during the recent military face-off between the two nations. Addressing the state legislative assembly, Banerjee hit out at the Union government over the Pahalgam terrorist attack, and said the Centre had failed to provide security to the people of the country. "The BJP (government) should resign as it has failed to provide security to the people of the country," she said.



"The dastardly attack exposes the Centre's failure to protect our citizens. While our jawans showed unmatched bravery, what was the Centre doing about the recurring security breaches?," she asked. The chief minister questioned why there were no security forces or police personnel present at the spot of the terror

attack that left 26 civilians, mainly tourists, dead. The assembly later adopted a resolution lauding the valour of the armed forces during 'Operation Sindoor', although the term was never mentioned in the tabled resolution.

"We don't support terrorism; it has no religion, caste, or creed," Banerjee said, adding that those behind the Pahalgam attack should be brought to justice. The Trinamool Congress supremo also accused Prime

Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP of trying to politicise the valour of the armed forces with an eye on elections. "PM Modi is only busy advertising about himself," she said. The chief minister's remarks drew sharp reaction from the BJP MLAs who, led by Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari, rose to their feet, shouting slogans and accusing Banerjee of politicising a national tragedy.

UP Party worker slaps SSP chief Mahendra Rajbhar multiple times during public event

Jaunpur (Agency): A party worker reportedly slapped Mahendra Rajbhar, national president of the Suheldev Swabhiman Party (SSP), repeatedly soon after garlanding the latter on stage during a public gathering in Uttar Pradesh's Jaunpur district.

After a video of the assault went viral on social media, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav condemned the incident as "another example of atrocities and insult" on PDA, alleging the BJP's complicity in it.

Yadav uses the abbreviation PDA for 'pichde' (backward classes), Dalits, and 'alsankhyak' (minorities).

The incident took place at Ashapur village under the Jalalpur police station limits during a function held on the occasion of Maharaja Suheldev's victory day.

The event was organised to

perform 'bhoomi puja' for installing a statue of the revered Rajbhar icon in the Rajbhar-dominated Zafarabad Assembly constituency. Mahendra Rajbhar, a native of Mau district, was the chief guest at the event.

To the audience's shock, Brijesh Rajbhar, a party worker, first garlanded Mahendra Rajbhar and then slapped him multiple times in full public view, causing chaos at the event.

Following the assault, Mahendra Rajbhar accused Uttar Pradesh Cabinet minister and Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) president Om Prakash Rajbhar of orchestrating the attack.

However, no statement has yet been issued by Om Prakash Rajbhar or the SBSP in response to the acquisition.

After the incident, Mahendra Rajbhar left the venue and filed a complaint at



the Jalalpur police station, naming Brijesh Rajbhar.

Speaking to reporters, he claimed that Brijesh Rajbhar met Om Prakash Rajbhar four to five days before the event and that the attack was planned under the latter's direction.

"Brijesh was once a worker in my party, but he currently holds no official position. I don't know how or why he came to the event or who invited him.

There is no internal dispute in the party or any financial disagreement," Mahendra Rajbhar said, adding that though many people were present at the event, Brijesh Rajbhar was the one who attacked him.

Confirming that Mahendra Rajbhar has lodged a complaint, Jalalpur SHO Triveni Singh said the viral video of the incident was under review as part of the investigation.

Reacting to the incident, Akhilesh Yadav alleged BJP's complicity in the attack, which he termed another example of growing atrocities on PDA.

"The violent attack on senior leader Mahendra Rajbhar is yet another condemnable example of the growing insults and atrocities faced by the PDA society under BJP rule," Yadav posted in Hindi on X.

"If the BJP thinks it can sustain its divisive politics by breaking communities from within, it is gravely mistaken. If the BJP is not complicit in this attack, the assailant must be immediately arrested and punished for his actions," Yadav said.

"Violence is a manifestation of desperation. The BJP should remember that such acts will not demoralise the PDA but strengthen its resolve further. Long live the Constitution, long live the PDA," he added.

BJP fields Union ministers CMs party leaders to highlight 11 years of PM Modi-led govt

New Delhi (Agency): The BJP on Tuesday fielded its Union ministers, chief ministers and senior party leaders to highlight the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's achievements in 11 years. They held press conferences across the country on the Modi government's policies of 'Seva' (service), 'Sushasan' (good governance) and 'Garib Kalyan' (welfare of the poor), explaining how the concept of all-encompassing and all-inclusive development has been imple-

mented on the ground over the past 11 years, BJP chief spokesperson Anil Baluni said in a statement. They also explained how development work launched by the Modi government has progressed with the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047, he said.

"On the occasion of the completion of 11 years of 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' by the BJP-led NDA government under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP held press conferences across

the country at state headquarters and district headquarters on Tuesday," Baluni said.

This comes a day after BJP president J P Nadda held a press conference at the party headquarters hailing the prime minister's 11 years in office, saying the work done by the government under Modi's leadership should be written in "golden letters".

Baluni, who is also an MP from Uttarkhand's Garhwal Lok Sabha seat said, Uttar Pradesh

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath addressed a press conference in Lucknow, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis in Mumbai, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav in Bhopal, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel in Gandhinagar, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in Guwahati and Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi in Bhubaneswar.

Further, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma held

a press conference in Jaipur, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in Dehradun, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta in Delhi, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant in Panaji, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini in Panchkula and Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha in Agartala, he said.

Union ministers and senior BJP leaders also addressed press conferences at different places across the country, Baluni said. "They prominently include

Dharmendra Pradhan, Kiren Rijiju, G Kishan Reddy, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Bhupendra Yadav, Prahlad Joshi, Sarbananda Sonowal, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Smriti Irani," he said. At the press conferences, they shared details on India's new normal against terrorism, the story of economic development, action taken against corruption, Digital India, Make in India and cultural renaissance among others, the BJP chief spokesperson said.

Meerut Muslim man arrested for hiding identity to marry woman

Meerut: A man has been arrested in Meerut for allegedly marrying a woman under false identity, police said on Tuesday. According to the police, after his true identity was revealed, the man allegedly assaulted the woman and pressured her to convert. Lisadi Gate SHO Ashok Kumar said the accused has been identified as Mubsir (24), a resident of area under Lohia Nagar police station. The woman lodged an FIR on June 7, alleging that Mubsir married her in a temple while concealing his identity. Later, when the woman discovered his real name and religion, he verbally abused and physically assaulted her, and demanded Rs 5 lakh while pressuring her to convert, he said. The police said they have registered the case under relevant sections of the BNS and the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Act, 2021. The SHO said the accused was arrested on Tuesday near Pilokhadi Bridge and further legal action is being taken in the matter.

Review meeting over progress of revenue work held under DM, lays stress on quick disposal of cases



District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan gives instructions after reviewing a review meeting of revenue promises and revenue works

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, A review meeting of the progress of revenue work and revenue promises was convened in the Collectorate Auditorium under the chairmanship of District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan. In the meeting,

Additional District Magistrate (F/R) Ajay Kumar Singh, Additional District Magistrate (L/R) Devendra Pratap Singh, Deputy District Magistrate Sadar Gulab Chandra, Chunar Rajesh Verma, Deputy Collector Tehsildar

and Naib Tehsildar including Shakti Pratap Singh were present. In the meeting, the District Magistrate should dispose of the objections of Section 34 case and dispose of all the Deputy District Magistrates, Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildar on priority. He said that 06 months to one year to one year to three years of case should be disposed of on priority. He said that the cases which are not disputed to be disposed of within 45 days Make sure. After imposing all the officers of Section 67, they should also get them recovered. He asked for the disposal of Section-24 that in whose court the case of three to five years is pending, the concerned officials should ensure that it should be disposed of on priority.

Constitution will not be changed at any cost: Ashfaq

Staff Reporter
Prayagraj: A meeting of the Constitution Bachao Conference was held in Handia by Congress Party Gangapar, in which the Constitution Save and Organization Creation was discussed in detail On this occasion, the Chief Guest Congress Gangapar District President Ashfaq Ahmed said that the BJP wants to change our constitution and bring its constitution. It should be known that our top leadership is gearing up for this. By giving any sacrifice, the Constitution will have to be protected. Every Congress worker stands united for this. At any cost, the Constitution will

not be allowed to change. The constitution creates our law and gives us the right to equality y. Where high, poor, poor rich, gives everyone the same law and justice. The



BJP wants to create two types of India by creating discrepancy in the society through the politics of the temple mosque, Hindu Muslim, forward backward, while the Congress party gives everyone the right to

equality and does justice to all. The program was conducted by Om Prakash Bind and Om Prakash Tiwari. Prominent in the program Ghanshyam Tiwari, Raj Kumar Srivastava, Treasurer Bind, Senior Advocate Devraj Upadhyay, Salim Tiger, former chief Shiv Ram Dubey, Mohammad Saddam, Mohammad Naeem, Mahendra Pratap Singh, Rahul Tripathi, Shivchand Bind, Uma Kant Bind, Arvind Bind, Sunil Pandey, Ram Pyare Pal, Rajwanti Devi, ManjuDevi, Sanju Devi, Rajendra Prasad Bind, Bhagirathi Kaushal, Vidyadhar Bind, etc. were present.

DM holds District Environment & Ganga Committee meet, dept-wise target set for plantation

Executive Engineers PWD, Principal Technical Education absent from meet, instructions given to stop salary

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, To increase the vision of maintaining environmental balance, targets have been set to departments for plantation to increase green cover. All departments should provide detailed action plan including identified sites for plantation to the Divisional Forest Officer in every case. The District Magistrate said that

all the sites should be excavated before the tree plantation and the plantation should be excavated and Each day the information of the pits should be made available to the Divisional Forest Officer. He said that the Block Development Officer should identify at least 05-05 site in his area which should be implemented by identifying the land of barren, fallow and village society where trees can be planted. While identifying the rivers, drains, ponds of the area, an action plan to plant trees should be prepared at a large level. Efforts should be made to select species of shady and fruitful plants. The District Magistrate said that this time, for the protection of plantation to be planted, first action plan should be made

and made available to the Divisional Forest Officer. He directed for urban areas that an action plan should also be



District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan giving instructions to the concerned by meeting the District Environment and Ganga Committee

made for preparation and safety of plantation at major roads, parks, office premises, religious places. The District Magistrate said that lastPhoto graphs of any two tree plantation should also be provided in two years. In the

meeting, the District Magistrate directed the three officers to stop the salary, expressing strong displeasure

at not providing the action plan through the Executive Engineer Public Works Department Construction Block, Executive Engineer Provision and Principal Technical Education and absent from the meeting

without any information. Divisional forest officerGiving information about the target of the department-wise, Arvind Raj Mishra said that it was told by the environment department that in the target allotted to the departments, 4490600 saplings and environment department to the Department of 400000, Rural Development Department 2445900, Revenue Department 201000, Panchayat Raj 260000, Municipal Development 38000, Public Works Department 23000, Irrigation Department 47900, Animal Husbandry 12000, Cooperation 10640, Industries Department 17000, Department of Energy 9520, Secondary Education 14000, Basic Education

24000, Technical Education 3000, Higher Education 23000, Labor Department 4700, Health Department 19000, Transport Department 1500, Horticulture Department 296000, Home Department 12601 Plantation has been set. In the meeting of Ganga Committee, the District Magistrate said that Ganga Chabutro, Ganga villages and parks are cleaned The program of yoga should be done by cleaning. Chief Development Officer Vishal Kumar, Divisional Forest Officer Kaimur Tapas Mihir, Chief Medical Officer Dr. CL Verma, District Panchayat Raj Officer Santosh Kumar, Executive Officer Municipality Goa Lal and all the concerned departments were present in the meeting.

BKU monthly meet held, raising voice against privatisation

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, The monthly panchayat of Bharatiya Kisan Union district Mirzapur was concluded at Village Barbhui, Panchayat Bhawan in Adalhat Mirzapur. Which was chaired by District President Kanchan Singh Fauji and Operations General Secretary Virendra Singh. In the meeting, on 16, 17, 18 June, Sunnik Lal Kothi Haridwar of Har Ki Paidi Requested to run in maximum number to participate in the National Chintan Camp to be held in the National Chintan Camp, which is to run by the Dehradun Janata Express train on 14 June 2025 at Banaras (Manduwadhi) railway station at 06:00 am. There are 86 means cooperatives in the district for organization



expansion. To create a tractor prominent in every villageIt will be made mandatory, 06 pumps of the Son lift project should be filled with water to Dongia Dam and Ahraura, and water should be given to the Madihan area. The power department of Uttar Pradesh should not be privatized, whatever people are agitating, there is strong support. Adequate fertilizer should be made for kharif crop, medicines should be arranged at state agricultural godowns. State Vice President Siddhanath Singh, State General Secretary in the meeting Prahlad Singh Kisan, Divisional President Anil Singh, District President Kanchan Singh Fauji, Virendra Singh District General Secretary, Dr. R Patel former District Panchayat Member, Swami Dayal Singh District Treasurer, Parashuram Maurya Mandal Vice President, Dr. Pancham Singh District Secretary, District Organization Secretary Ghure Prasad Bind, Ramchandra Singh, Ramvriksha Singh Tehsil President, Arvind Singh, Rambriksha Singh, Kismat Kushwaha, Dilip Singh, Parasnath Singh, Pappu Singh, Anil Singh, Jagdish Singh former head, Laxman Singh Lallan Singh, Chulhan Bind, Rajaram, Anant Kumar Singh, Keshanath Singh, the rural people were present.

BRIEFS

DM takes stock of prep ahead of 11th Int'l Yoga Day, ensuring no-holds-barred successful event



District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan giving instructions regarding the preparation of 11th International Yoga Day

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, In view of the preparations for the 11th International Yoga Day to be completed on 21 June 2025, Priyanka Niranjan, in view of the preparations to be completed in the collectorate, all the departmental officers in the Collectorate, themselvesReviewing the preparations after meeting with Sevi organizations, various school principals, gave necessary guidelines. The District Magistrate said that yoga should be organized at all tehsil, block gram panchayat level including district headquarters, for this, District Ayurvedic officers should ensure at least one master trainer for each program. He informed that the main program on 21 June 2025 from 06 am to 08The Government Inter College will be held in Mahuvariya by noon. He directed the District School Inspector, District Basic Education Officer, District Panchayat Raj Officer to provide support for its comprehensive preparation. He said that in addition to this, the program of yoga should be ensured by providing cleanliness in the major parks of the district headquarters. District Magistrate directed in relation to Yoga WeekWhile doing this, he directed to perform the program by making a roster to the Ayurvedic and Unani officer for the Yoga Week, which runs from 15 June 2025 to 21 June 2025. Similarly, yoga related programs will also be organized on tehsil and development blocks. The District Magistrate said that the ancient tourist destination of the district, the place of historical importance, the place of Amrit Sarovaro should also be selected and given prominence. In all technical educational institutions, high colleges, medical education colleges etc., yoga program should be organized under Yoga Week on the occasion of International Yoga Day. The District Magistrate said that all the necessary facilities should also be provided in the main yoga site GIC, drinking water, cleanliness etc. District Unani and Ayurvedic Officer Shrikant Rajak did Tehsil and Development Block Yoga program outlineGave detailed information about. Before the meeting, a brief yoga practice was also conducted to the officers in the Collectorate by the yoga trainees. ChiefDevelopment Officer Vishal Kumar, Divisional Forest Officer Arvind Raj Mishra, Chief Medical Officer Dr. Sunil Singh of Health Department, District Panchayat Raj Officer Santosh Kumar, District Basic Education Officer Anil Verma, District Program Officer Vaani Apart from Verma, apart from Brahma kumarij Sanstha Bindu, other institution representatives and principals of schools should be present.

A drug addict youth committed suicide by hanging himself

Staff Reporter
Banda. The father scolded his son who was creating a ruckus in inebriated condition. Angered by this, the son committed suicide by hanging himself with a towel on the hook of the fan in the room. On receiving the news of death, the family members were in a state of panic. On receiving the information, the police reached the spot, took the body in custody and sent it for postmortem after Panchnama. 30-year-old Pramod, son of Bhagwandin, a resident of Siarpakha village of Naraini Kotwali area, came home drunk on Monday night and started creating a ruckus while abusing. His father scolded him for this. Angered, he entered the room. Hanged himself with a towel on the hook of the fan. In the morning, when he did not come out of the room for a long time, the family members knocked on the door but there was no movement from inside. Breaking the door, the family members went inside and saw that his body was hanging on the noose. On receiving the news of death, the family members were in a state of panic. On receiving the information, the police reached the spot and took the body in custody. The deceased's father said that Pramod was the second among three brothers. He used to work as a tile-layer. He was a drug addict. The deceased has left behind his wife Rekha and a son.

Police sent the body for postmortem

Mother and daughter were beaten up after entering the house, case registered

Staff Reporter
Maudaha. In a dispute regarding purchase of a field, the bullies entered the house abusing and beat up the mother and daughter mercilessly. On the complaint of the victim, the police have registered a case and started the investigation. Gomti, wife of Ramkaran, a resident of village Mavajar of Binwar police station area, told in the complaint letter given to the police station that her husband had bought a field and since the advance payment, Ramesh, Vinesh and Gyanpat etc. of the village were considering it bad and for the past fifteen days they were coming outside the house and abusing and yesterday, finding the house empty, they entered inside and beat her and her daughter with sticks and made them bloody. On the complaint of the victim, the police have registered a case and started the investigation.

Provinces wide protests continue to protest against privatization continuously for 195 days

Staff Reporter
Mirzapur, Electricity Employees' Joint Conflict Committee, Uttar Pradesh's call against privatization on the call of Uttar Pradesh, continuously agitating for the last 195 days, expressing the resolve to improve the movement 31104A new record has been created by supplying the power supply of the megawatt. On the call of the Sangharsh Samiti, the order of protests on all the districts and projects in the state continued today. Officials of the Electricity Employees Joint Conflict Committee, Uttar Pradesh said that the electrical workers are struggling

against privatization, but since the beginning, the Sangharsh Samiti has opinion that consumers in the ongoing agitation against privatization There should be no problem. The Sangharsh



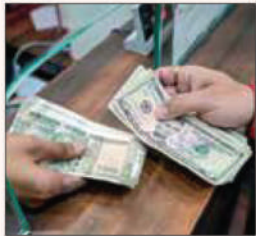
Electrical engineers and employees performing 195th day against electricity privatization

Samiti had called upon the power workers that consumers should not have any problem in view of the ever increasing demand for electricity in the summer. The Conflict Committee said that Electricity workers have full faith in Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the Sangharsh Samiti has appealed to the Chief

Minister to please cancel the process of privatization by taking effective intervention so that consumers do not have any problem in this scorching heat and electric workers continue to set new records of

Devipatan, Ayodhya, Sultanpur, Saharanpur, Muzaffar Nagar, Bulandshahr, Noida, Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Harduganj, Pipri, Obra, Obra, Obra, were protested. Tuesday protest meeting engineer in front of Chief Engineer OfficeThe chairmanship and director of Deepak Singh was concluded under the leadership of Engineer Ram Singh. In the demonstration meeting, mainly engineers Sumit Kumar Yadav, Anshu Kumar Pandey, Vineet Kumar Mishra, Jaykar Patel, Sanjay Yadav, Amit Gupta, Pankaj Kumar, Pramod Kumar, Shambhu Kumar, Brijesh Kumar, Shankar Singh Chandel, Indresh Singh, Hemant Singh, Vikas Singh, Shankar Singh, Rakesh, Sunil Kumar, Pradeep Kumar, Ram Janm, Rajendra, Suyash Kumar Maurya, Deepak Gupta, Dharmendra, Bhola Babu, Jagjivan Ram etc. were present.

Rupee rises 2 paise to 85.66 against dollar



MUMBAI: The rupee appreciated 2 paise to close at 85.66 against the US dollar on Monday, supported by a firm trend in domestic equities and foreign capital inflows.

However, elevated global crude oil prices and the US dollar against major rivals overseas restricted its rise, traders said.

The rupee benefitted from the initial reaction to the RBI rate cut, but the aggressive rate cut narrows the interest rate differential with global peers, they added.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit witnessed a volatile trading session. It opened at 85.61 and moved between a high of 85.45 and a low of 85.72 against the greenback.

The local unit pared all its initial gains and settled in positive territory, 2 paise higher at 85.66 against the American currency.

On Friday, the rupee surged 11 paise to close at 85.68 against the US dollar, after the Reserve Bank cut the repo rate by a higher-than-expected 50 basis points to prop up growth.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading lower by 0.35 per cent at 98.84.

No impact of rare earth magnet shortage on production so far: MSI

NEW DELHI: Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) Chairman R C Bhargava on Monday said there is no impact on the company's production due to the shortage of rare earth magnets as of now.

His comments come against the backdrop of restrictions imposed by the Chinese government since April 4 on the export of rare earth elements and related magnets.

China controls over 90 per cent of global processing capacity for the magnets, used across sectors including automobiles, home appliances and clean energy.

"There is no impact at the moment," Bhargava said when asked if the auto major is facing any production issues due to the global shortage.

The production activity at



the country's largest carmaker is going on as planned, he added.

When asked if the company sees a production crunch over the next few months due to the issue, he noted: "If the licenses come through and they are supposed to come through, there would not be a problem."

The domestic automobile industry has sought government support in expediting approvals from the Chinese government for importing rare earth magnets used in various applications, including passenger cars.

As per the industry sources,

China has mandated special export licences for seven rare earth elements & magnets

various domestic suppliers have already sought approval from the Chinese government through their local vendors in China. However, no approvals have been granted so far.

Many companies are facing the heat due to the shortage of critical raw materials used across multiple sectors including the automobile industry.

The critical materials include samarium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium and lutetium, which are essential in electric motors, braking systems, smartphones and missile technology.

Tata Motors to invest ₹33K-35K cr to boost passenger vehicle business

NEW DELHI: Tata Motors plans to invest around Rs 33,000 crore to Rs 35,000 crore during FY26-30 on 30 product actions, including seven new model launches.

The Mumbai-based company also plans to invest in the introduction of advanced technologies and powertrains across its passenger vehicle portfolio.

It is looking at a market share of 16 per cent by FY27 (including EVs) and around 18-20 per cent in another 2-3 years. The auto major expects the domestic passenger vehicle industry to grow to 60 lakh units annually by 2030.

"Looking ahead, we will strengthen our portfolio by FY30...7 new nameplates and 23 product refreshes will holistically enhance the portfolio," the company said in a presentation to analysts.

There would be intense



action on investment spend (Rs 33,000 crore-Rs 35,000 crore during FY26-30) focused on innovative new products, software-driven vehicles (SDVs), advanced technologies and powertrains, it added.

The company plans to drive in products in the high-growth segments. The company stated that in the PV segment, it aims to deliver robust market-beating growth with an always new and expansive portfolio.

Besides, it plans to expand its sales network to increase service capacity in line with vol-

umes. The automaker stated that it also aims to lead the industry in core emerging technologies, software-driven vehicles (SDVs).

Specifically for the EV business, the company expects to maintain its leadership position, with electric vehicles projected to account for 20 per cent of its total passenger vehicle volumes by the end of FY27, rising further to 30 per cent by FY30.

The company also aims to expand volumes in the entry segment – driving greater EV penetration as a city car. Two new products – Harrier.ev and Sierra.ev – will help the company capture volumes in the growing segment, it noted. Tata Motors also plans to structurally enhance the total cost of ownership through product interventions to capture the CNG fleet customer base.

Sat Pal Bhanoo gets additional charge as LIC Managing Director, CEO

NEW DELHI: LIC on Sunday said Sat Pal Bhanoo has given additional charge of MD and CEO following approval of the Department of Financial Services.

"The Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, vide its letter dated June 7, 2025 conveyed the approval of the competent authority, entrusting the financial and administrative powers and functions of the CEO and MD of the Corporation, for a period of 3 months with effect from June 8, 2025, that is up to September 7, 2025 or till assumption of charge of the post by the regular incumbent," LIC said in a regulatory filing.



The vacancy was created by the completion of the term of Siddhartha Mohanty as CEO and MD of LIC on June 7, 2025.

Mohanty had joined the insurance giant as an apprentice officer in 1985.

Jio BlackRock Mutual Fund appoints leadership team to drive operations

NEW DELHI: Jio BlackRock Asset Management Private Ltd, a 50:50 joint venture between Jio Financial Services Limited (JFSL) and US-based BlackRock, on Monday announced the appointment of its executive leadership team to drive operations.

The mutual fund company had already announced the appointment of Sid Swaminathan as managing director and CEO last month.

Jio BlackRock Asset Management's leadership team brings together asset management experience, digital innovation and customer-centric product design, the fund house said in a statement.

Together, the team is set to deliver Jio BlackRock's mission



to transform investing in India by making it more accessible and affordable for millions of people, it said.

The company appointed Amit Bhosale as Chief Risk Officer, Amol Pai as Chief Technology Officer and Biraja Tripathy as Head of Product, among others.

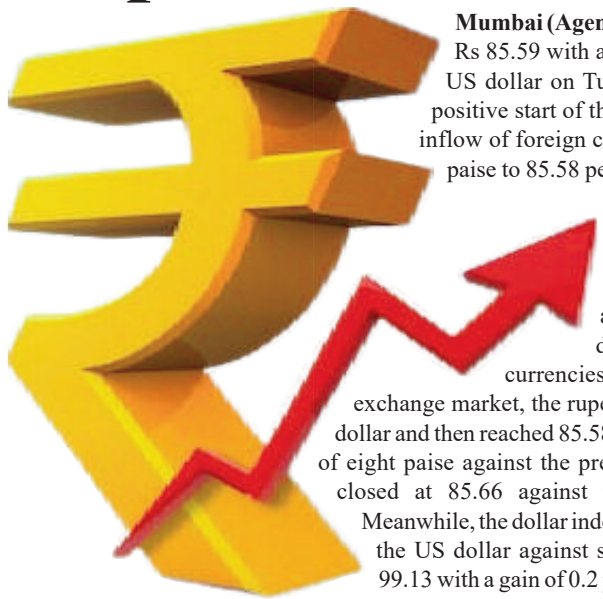
Jio BlackRock Asset Management has also announced an early access initiative on its website. The initiative invites indi-

viduals to register their interest in Jio BlackRock Asset Management's digital-first offering. Participants gain a preview of the company's value proposition and begin engaging with its educational content, it said.

Upon signing up, they can access materials covering the fundamentals of investing, as well as further functionality that will allow them to invest once the offering is launched, it said, adding that it empowers individuals with the knowledge to make informed investment choices.

On May 26, 2025, Jio BlackRock Asset Management Private Limited received regulatory approval from the Sebi for its mutual fund business to commence operations.

Rupee closed with gains



Mumbai (Agency): The Indian rupee closed at Rs 85.59 with a gain of four paise against the US dollar on Tuesday. This morning, amid a positive start of the domestic stock markets and inflow of foreign capital, the rupee rose by eight paise to 85.58 per dollar in early trade. Foreign

exchange traders said that however, the rise in the local currency was limited due to rising crude oil prices globally and the strengthening of the US dollar against foreign currencies. In the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 85.62 against the dollar and then reached 85.58 per dollar, which shows a rise of eight paise against the previous close price. The rupee closed at 85.66 against the US dollar on Monday.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which shows the position of the US dollar against six major currencies, stood at 99.13 with a gain of 0.2 percent.

Wipro promoter entities swap 1.93% stake worth ₹5,057 crore

NEW DELHI: About 20.23 crore shares of Wipro, amounting to a 1.93 per cent stake, were exchanged among promoter group entities through open market transactions on Monday, according to exchange data.

Wipro shares rose by 1.09 per cent to close at Rs 251.30 on BSE. The stock closed 1.26 per cent higher at Rs 251.72 apiece on the NSE.

According to the block deal data available with the NSE, promoter entity Azim Premji Trust offloaded 20.23 crore equity shares or 1.93 per cent stake in Wipro. The transaction, valued at around Rs 5,057 crore,



was executed at an average price of Rs 250 per share.

Meanwhile, Premji Invest through its arm Prazim Trading and Investment Company Pvt Ltd, Hasham Traders and Prazim Traders bought these shares at the same price.

Prazim, Zash and Hasham Traders are part of Wipro's pro-

Wipro shares rose by 1.09% to Rs 251.30 on BSE and 1.26% to Rs 251.72 apiece on NSE

moter group.

In November last year, Premji Invest through Prazim Trading and Investment Company purchased 8.49 crore shares or 1.6 per cent stake in Wipro for Rs 4,757 crore, while Prazim and Zash Traders offloaded an equal number of shares in the IT company.

Amid Trump-Musk fallout, will Tesla's India story run out of charge before it begins?



New Delhi (Agency): After throwing his social and economic weight behind Donald Trump during his Presidential bid and quickly establishing himself as one of the most important people in his administration responsible for optimising government spending, Elon Musk and the US President are now in the middle of a messy and nasty divorce.

The spectacular, and very public, break in their relationship has put the spotlight squarely on Musk's companies' expansion plans, since many had predicted that with Trump on his side, the billionaire stood to benefit economically across multiple regions globally. Many saw that cutting Musk's companies a favourable deal could be used as a potential ploy by foreign governments to placate Trump, who has wreaked havoc over the global trading ecosystem. Now though, there are question marks.

Case in point is one of Musk's most successful endeavours, his electric mobility giant Tesla. In India, the company has flip-flopped on whether it will manufacture in the country, but had been moving to set up retail operations. But the feud between Trump and Musk has had a significant bearing on Tesla.

Since the two have had a fallout, the company's stock has taken a beating, falling close to 15%, and erasing around \$150 billion in market value. With electric vehicle sales tempering

globally and the emergence of rivals like China's BYD, Tesla's dominance in the sector was already under attack. And now, without the most influential American's political backing behind its founder gone, Tesla's expansion plans could take a back seat, or at least face some turbulence.

What adds to the misery is not just Trump publicly admonishing Musk publicly, and vice versa, but also that the US President has suggested he could terminate government contracts and subsidies given to Musk's companies. Earlier this week, Union Heavy Industries Minister H D Kumaraswamy said that Tesla was not interested in manufacturing in India, but was looking to open retail showrooms in the country. He added that global EV makers like Mercedes-Benz, Volkswagen, Skoda, Hyundai and Kia have shown interest in applying under the ministry's flagship Scheme to Promote Manufacturing of Electric Passenger Cars in India, notified in March last year. An auto industry executive noted that with its stock taking a beating, and a reconciliation between Musk and Trump seeming unlikely, the company could find it difficult to tell its investors why it was pursuing setting shop in a market like India, where its vehicles may not garner mass appeal due to their high cost and India's relatively nascent EV market and infrastructure.

Indian manufacturing continues to struggle to compete with Chinese imports, with the goods trade deficit crossing a record \$100 billion.

New Delhi (Agency): China's economy, built on an unsustainable model of a growing trade surplus—now at a record high of nearly \$1 trillion—and declining domestic consumption, is not only harming itself but also the "entire world", a US Treasury report released Friday said. It suggested Beijing to boost household consumption and reduce the "negative spillovers" of its policies on trading partners. The observations of the US treasury on the Chinese economy assumes significance as Indian manufacturing continues to struggle to compete with Chinese imports, with the



goods trade deficit crossing a record \$100 billion. This comes despite large-scale use of anti-dumping duties and quality control orders over the past two years by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The report said that China now accounts for over 60 per cent of global goods trade surpluses, while the share of domestic consumption, including both

household and government spending, fell to less than half its pre-pandemic average in the second half of 2024. "China's net exports' contribution to growth for the most recent three quarters was among the highest on record, while domestic consumption's share, which includes both household and government consumption, fell to less than half of its pre-

pandemic average in the second half of 2024," the US Treasury report said. A Chinese white paper in April, however, had said that trade imbalance in goods between China and the United States is both "an inevitable outcome" of structural issues within the US economy and a consequence of comparative advantages and international

division of labour between the two countries—not a result of China's deliberate pursuit of a trade surplus.

China's opaque forex intervention

The new US Treasury report said that China remains an outlier in not disclosing its foreign exchange market interventions, forcing Treasury staff to estimate China's activity using two proxy measures.

"The People's Bank of China (PBOC)'s foreign exchange assets booked at historical cost—the first proxy measure—decreased by \$7 billion in 2024. Meanwhile, net foreign exchange settlement data—another proxy measure that includes the activities of China's state-owned banks—recorded net foreign exchange sales, adjusted for changes in outstanding forwards, of \$165 billion last year, with \$120 billion in net sales in the second quarter alone, when the Chinese yuan (RMB) faced sustained depreciation pressures," the report said. The US Treasury concluded that the data indicated the most significant foreign exchange sales by China's banking sector since the 2015-16 capital outflows crisis. The divergence between these two proxy measures could suggest that monthly changes in the PBOC's foreign exchange assets are not adequately capturing the full extent of China's intervention methods, the report added. "This highlights the need for China to improve transparency regarding its foreign exchange intervention activities, which would also be in China's own interest by reducing the risk of policy miscommunication and associated market volatility," the US Treasury said. China's economy continues to be characterised by historically large and persistent macroeconomic imbalances, with a share of the global manufacturing trade surplus that has surpassed the peaks once held by Germany and Japan, the report said.

EDITORIAL

Growth over Caution

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has sent a bold signal with its sharpest rate cut in five years — a 50 basis point slash in the key policy rate, coupled with a phased 100 basis point cut in the cash reserve ratio. This triple strike of easing over three successive policy meetings in 2025 is a calculated gamble aimed at lifting India's growth trajectory amid global headwinds and domestic slack. It speaks of a central bank that sees more risk in economic stagnation than in inflation overheating. The move comes at a moment of rare alignment between low inflation and a tepid credit environment. With retail inflation plunging to a six-year low of 3.16 per cent in April and core inflation remaining subdued, policymakers have chosen to make the most of this limited but precious window. The fact that inflation is projected to undershoot the RBI's own 4 per cent medium-term target suggests there was a solid case for front-loading rate cuts. Yet, the policy shift also has a subtle undertone of finality. The transition from an “accommodative” to “neutral” stance is a signal that the rate-cutting cycle may now pause, if not end altogether. This delicate balancing act — aggressive easing without opening the door to inflationary risks — shows that the central bank is well aware of both the opportunities and the limits of monetary policy. In many ways, this policy round feels like a preemptive strike — designed to cushion against external shocks and revive domestic momentum before stress builds up. What makes this round of easing particularly significant is its intention to prompt real-world action.

The transmission of lower rates from the RBI to borrowers via commercial banks has often been slow and incomplete. By adding liquidity through a reduced cash reserve ratio and cutting rates decisively, the RBI is nudging financial institutions to lower lending costs and stimulate demand. The ball is now squarely in the banking sector's court. While fiscal measures remain constrained by budgetary limitations, the burden of reviving demand has largely shifted to monetary policy. This makes coordinated action between the Centre and states vital. Without parallel reforms — especially in infrastructure, credit delivery, and business facilitation — monetary tools alone may yield diminishing returns over time. At the same time, structural impediments remain. The fact that loan growth had dipped below 10 per cent in May reflects not only cost of capital issues but also weak investment appetite, especially in segments sensitive to global demand and domestic regulatory uncertainty. Monetary easing, while necessary, is not sufficient on its own to spur a robust revival. Ultimately, this is a message of intent more than a guaranteed outcome. The RBI appears to be betting that decisive moves now will create the confidence needed to spark investment and consumption, especially when global cues are uncertain and private capital remains cautious.

Right Turn

In a nation long teetering between liberal aspirations and nationalist instincts, the latest presidential election in Poland has underscored just how finely balanced its political future remains. With right-wing historian Karol Nawrocki clinching the presidency by a 50.9 per cent to 49.1 per cent margin over liberal Warsaw Mayor Rafal Trzaskowski, Poland has once again delivered a verdict that is as politically charged as it is symbolically potent. Mr Nawrocki's rise is not merely a personal triumph; it is a lifeline for the national-conservative Law and Justice (PiS) party, which lost parliamentary power 18 months ago. Though the Polish presidency is largely ceremonial, it holds a crucial power — the veto — which Mr Nawrocki is expected to wield to frustrate the pro-European Union agenda of Prime Minister Donald Tusk. For PiS, Mr Nawrocki's victory is a signal that their base is far from eroded and that the 2027 parliamentary elections could well tilt back in their favour. The race itself mirrored Poland's deep ideological divides. On one side stood Mr Trzaskowski, urbane and liberal, representing a vision of Poland firmly integrated into the European mainstream, working closely with France and Germany. On the other was Mr Nawrocki, a staunch traditionalist favouring Catholic values, national sovereignty, and a vision of Poland less beholden to Brussels. Though both candidates support Ukraine in its fight against Russian aggression, Mr Nawrocki's resistance to Ukrainian accession to Nato or the EU marks a significant divergence with the West's strategic consensus. Mr Nawrocki's campaign also tapped into the populist narrative that continues to resonate across parts of Europe and the United States.

From emphasising physical toughness to posting photos with US President Donald Trump, he positioned himself as a cultural warrior ready to defend “ordinary Poles” from what he sees as liberal overreach. The contrast with Mr Trzaskowski's cosmopolitanism was stark — and, ultimately, decisive in a race decided by a narrow difference of 1.8 percentage points. Yet, Mr Nawrocki's mandate comes with shadows. Controversy over his real estate dealings, particularly the purchase of a pensioner's apartment under questionable circumstances, cast doubt on the ethical consistency of his populist persona. That the scandal did not significantly dent his support suggests either fatigue with liberal moralising or a hardened scepticism toward elite narratives. The immediate political future in Poland will be marked by gridlock. Prime Minister Tusk, now facing a president likely to block his flagship reforms, has announced a vote of confidence — a calculated move to shore up legitimacy but one that will not resolve the fundamental impasse. Poland may continue to drift in a state of democratic tension, where power is shared but rarely cooperative. This election is more than a national contest — it is a mirror to the ideological fault lines shaping much of the Western world. Poland's pendulum has swung right once again, but it hangs now in a zone of deep political uncertainty.

When a nation's idea of itself is stolen, what follows must be more than recovery

How should you react when something you value is stolen? Once you overcome the initial bewilderment (Where is it?), curiosity (Who stole it? How?) and guilt (Was I careless?), you arrive at the all-important question: How do I reclaim it so as to not lose it again? That is the question I would like to take away from the thoughtful response (‘Who stole my nationalism?’, IE, May 31) to my article (‘The nationalism we forgot’, IE, May 27) by Suhas Palshikar — my colleague, co-author and friend for three decades. His disagreements are constructive, as our starting point is the same. Suhas bhai puts it better than I did: It's not just the backsliding of Indian nationalism, but the delegitimisation and resolute replacement by a phoney version based on the “narrow, vicious, macho and exclusionary European duplication of nationalism”. Therefore, reclaiming Indian nationalism is arguably the most critical priority for political action today. Let me begin by accepting all the corrections that Suhas bhai suggests to my initial outline. Indeed, Indian nationalism was an audacious project, difficult to realise and even more difficult to sustain. Yes, the uniquely Indian version of “belonging without othering” always had its communal rivals in the Hindu and Muslim versions that copied the European models of national belonging

via the “othering” of religious communities. Of course, we have not just forgotten our nationalism; it has been stolen by the RSS version of pseudo-nationalism. That leaves only one serious disagreement. Suhas bhai thinks that I exaggerate the role of the tiny English speaking and deracinated elite in squandering the rich legacy of Indian nationalism. I still believe that the ruling class is always tiny, yet its ideas become the ruling ideas with lasting consequences. But this is a dispute the two of us can continue over a cup of tea (with bakarwadi from Chitale Bandhu) in Pune. Let me focus on the more pressing question of the here and now: What is to be done? How do we regain Indian nationalism in a way that we do not lose it again? This is not a simple political question of how to take on the BJP. This is also not a simple ideological question of how to combat the RSS's Hindutva with our received liberal progressive ideology. This is a serious intellectual and cultural question. I suspect that critics of today's phoney nationalism underestimate how serious this intellectual challenge is. Let me list three uncomfortable questions that we need to address head-on before we begin the project of the recovery of Indian nationalism. First of all, what is India? Is this a cultural-civilisational entity or just a political unit with boundaries defined by accidents of

history? The pseudo-nationalist version offers a narrow yet thick notion of Indianness, of Bharatvarsha, a Sanatan and Akhand Bharat, that may be rescued from 1,000 years of Muslim and British colonial history. The response of the progressive critics is to fall back upon a liberal yet thin version of Indianness, which views India only in modern, political and constitutional terms, as a political community of people brought together by accidents of history. The uncomfortable question that we need to ask is this: Is the modern Indian state a successor to the civilisation called India? If so, what are its defining cultural features? Answering this question, without falling into dominant majoritarian myths, was never easy. In a sense, Jawaharlal Nehru's The Discovery of India was an attempt to do exactly that. The task has got more difficult today after Partition and with deeper awareness of the multiple histories and geographies that the Indian state is heir to. Yet, this is a question we cannot evade any more. We need a thick yet liberal notion of Indianness, a notion that has cultural resonance with the people of India. Second, should we be proud of being Indian? Here again we confront two bad answers. The dominant answer is jingoistic, the political equivalent of football club loyalty. Every Indian must, at all times, be proud of everything Indian as it is our “motherland”. This powerful sentiment then drums up all kinds of reasons for this pride: India as the vishwaguru, India as the mother of democracies, India as the fountain of ancient wisdom, and so on. The critics of this narrative of national pride demand good reasons for such an assertion. Accident of birth is no proof of excellence; if anything, this conflict of interest calls for extra care in judging our own country.

Satyapal Malik: Whether I am here or not, I am telling the truth

Former Union Minister and former Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Satyapal Malik is undergoing kidney treatment at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. He is continuously on dialysis. CBI has filed a case against him and presented a charge sheet. CBI is continuously harassing him in the name of investigation. The kind of vigilance that should be taken regarding his treatment at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, it seems from his post that negligence is being done in that. While in the hospital, he has put the government and CBI in the dock. Now the government and CBI are not able to answer. How can he be guilty of a crime which he has not committed? From the hospital, he has written a post on social media. In which he has written, my condition is very serious. I have been admitted to the hospital for the last one month. I am struggling with kidney problem. I have been shifted to ICU again. My condition is getting serious day by day. Whether I am there or not, I definitely want to tell the truth to the countrymen. He wrote in his post, when he was the governor, he was offered a bribe of Rs 150-150 crores. He rejected that offer. The Prime Minister was informed about it immediately. When I was the governor, the farmers' movement was going on at that time. I went among the farmers and supported their movement. I complained to the Prime Minister at that time about the people who had put pressure to clear the file. Since then I am being harassed. I supported the movement of women wrestlers. I raised the matter of the brave soldiers martyred in the Pulwama attack. The government has not conducted any investigation of it till date. The government has filed a charge sheet to trap me in a false case by showing the fear of CBI. I had informed the Prime Minister about the tender which I had cancelled myself. After that I was transferred. Satyapal Malik has written in his post. The government has put all its strength to defame me. He has requested the government agency. He has a political career of more than 50 years. He has served on high posts. Currently, I am living in a one-room house. I have debts. If I had money, I would have got myself treated at least in a good private hospital. Satyapal Malik is a very aggressive leader. He has always done politics of ethics. He does not do anything out of fear. He has also mentioned his guru, former Prime Minister Charan Singh in the post. The way allegations have been leveled against him. His health is bad. He is admitted in the hospital. Due to which he has clarified his position by writing a post on social media. Looking at his current condition, this post can also be called his deathbed statement. The kind of apprehension he has expressed in his post, this feeling is reflected. When Satyapal Malik complained to the Prime Minister. At that time, he had said while taking the name of a Sangh pracharak. He had pressurized him to clear both the files. He did not listen to him. The consequences of which he is facing now. He is worried about his image. He has always done politics keeping morality at the top. The government is defaming him by hanging the case in the name of CBI investigation. The government is trying to trap him in the case about which he himself has complained and call him corrupt. Satyapal Malik is upset about this. After writing the post on X, Satyapal Malik has shown his honesty. Since then this matter is gaining momentum. In the coming time, CBI can also come under target.

Community currency can facilitate social change

Ramvilas Sharma

Money is not merely a piece of paper or a metal disc or an electronic digit but ‘in essence it is a social relationship’. Money is the promise to repay by one to another in a society. The promise is based upon trust. On a different note, Prof. Robertson said, “Money helps each member of the society to ensure that the means of enjoyment to which he has access, yield him the greatest amount of actual enjoyment which is within his reach.” Money is used as medium of exchange. An individual also saves money setting aside a part of her earnings, deposits it in banks. The trust bestowed upon banks by its customers acts as stimulus to them to perform better. On the other hand, according to Prof. Friedman, “Saving in terms of money generates a sense of confidence among the consumers.” Money also generates freedom. It has a great psychological effect. Money acts as an important indicator and provides information about probable demand for commodities and supply of goods. It is the basis of the price mechanism, cost and revenue estimates and is the determinant of profit. Marshall commented: “Money is the pivot around which the whole economic science clusters.”

Money flows like the life blood in the economic system. Research reveals that the bulk of today's money supply is created and allocated by commercial banks in their role as providers of credit. Efficacy of the banking system depends much upon the credit landscape of banks. Estimates show that a large and increased share of present bank credit now goes to consumers for personal usage, e.g. purchase of flats, cars, shares or for higher education, etc. There is a paradigm shift in the bank credit scenario from manufacturing to personal loans implying policy changes of the banks on credit emphasis, from productive to speculative purposes.

This may result in higher incomes to banks but with associated risks. It is argued that this system is inherently unstable. Further, the use of money towards creation of national wealth thereby generating national income is getting vitiated. Kate Raworth in her book ‘Doughnut Economics – Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st Century Economist’, commented: “We live in a monoculture of money, one so familiar and established that — like fish that have never noticed the water — we are barely aware of it.” She said the design of money — how it is created, its characteristics and use — has great consequences. Raworth advocated that there are many options to redesign money.

Many different kinds of money can coexist, ‘with the potential to turn a monetary monoculture into a financial ecosystem.’ However, over recent years the complementary or community currencies play significant roles in many communities for specific purposes. A community currency has been designed intentionally to address specific social issues, for example to increase financial stability, reduce poverty and support environmental conservation. These currencies, though not legal tender, act as mediums of exchange. Raworth narrated in her book about one such community currency Bangla-Pesa, which was launched in March 2013 by Will Ruddick, an American community development

to challenge the Shilling, Ruddick and others were released. And instead, the government started supporting them to spread the scheme. This paper currency was launched in a network of about 200 business traders, majority being women — from bankers and fruit sellers to carpenters and tailors — members of the network. However, participation was voluntary. Once in the

network, businesses are allowed to exchange their Bangla-Pesa vouchers for buying and selling their own goods and services.

No one is allowed to have more than 400 BanglaPesa at any one time. Bangla-Pesa meets basic needs like food, water etc. Thus, they can save the official currency which can be used for paying for other essentials. The majority people in the slum lived in poverty and were unable to meet their basic needs. Therefore, the goal was to use the currency to encourage economic activity, which in turn would help reduce poverty of the people who do not earn much conventional money to be able

to buy food and other necessities. Where there are underutilised workers and underutilised resources, this community currency can play the role of a game changer.

The local market shall provide basic needs at local or community currency. Thriving communities can thus build their own prospering economies. It has been experienced that this has helped increase trust, sales revenue, job creation and food security in the community. Time-banking is another example of community currency where people exchange services with one another, using time as a unit of account. ‘Time credit’ is the currency one can earn for the hours they contribute to the community or to serve others in the form of baby-sitting, elder care-giving, gardening, tutoring etc. These credits can be used to pay for services from other members in future when needed. Time banking creates a sense of community development through mutual support and trust and ensures social connection with reciprocal exchange.

Invention of block chain technology combining data base and network technologies emerges as the decentralised platform for value exchanges among people in a closed group. This technology is immensely useful in developing and maintaining community currency. It records each transaction and stores it in each computer in the network in a secure manner. It acts as a transparent public ledger which cannot be altered or reversed or deleted. No one outside the network can have access to it and alter the data. Thus, there are no chances of fraud. Therefore, the participants can have absolute trust on the data.

Block chain technology remains as a critical component in various sectors including the financial sector. It can provide a complete closed network and a decentralised platform for design, development, delivery and maintenance of community currency. Creating a local currency gives broader insight into the local economy — how it works, how people respond and react to markets, and how money can reshape the local economy and lives of people in the community. Money is an invention that works only because a community stands behind it, willing to use it as medium of exchange for goods and services. Most official currencies, which are legal tenders, are creations of national governments that manage and back them.

But if a poorer community creates its own currency i.e. a ‘People Powered Money’ to foster social exchange it must have appreciation. The idea of community currency is no longer a marginal one. Community currencies have the potential to become an integral part of mainstream economic life. The central message is that money can really make a positive difference to our lives and genuinely can enrich and empower the communities in which we live and work. ‘Money is a tool; we can use it to our advantage.’



Israel deports Greta Thunberg after Gaza-bound ship was seized

JERUSALEM (Agency): Activist Greta Thunberg arrived in Paris after being deported from Israel on Tuesday and called for more actions to support aid efforts for Gaza. Speaking upon arrival at Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport, Thunberg called for the release of the other activists who were detained aboard the Freedom Flotilla. She described a "quite chaotic and uncertain" situation during the detention. She said the conditions they faced "are absolutely nothing compared to what people are going through in Palestine and especially Gaza right now." Israel deported activist Greta Thunberg on Tuesday, the country's Foreign Ministry said, a day after the Gaza-bound ship she was on was seized by the Israeli military. Thunberg left on a flight to France and was then headed to her home country of Sweden, the Foreign Ministry said in a post on X. It posted a photo of

Thunberg, a climate activist who shuns air travel, seated on a plane. Thunberg was one of 12 passengers on the Madleen, a ship carrying aid to Gaza that was meant to protest Israel's ongoing war there and shed light on the humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian territory, according to the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, the group behind the journey. Israeli naval forces seized the boat without incident early Monday about 200 kilometers (125 miles) off of Gaza's coast, according to the coalition, which along with rights groups, said Israel's actions were a violation of international law. Israel rejects that charge because it says such ships intend to breach what it argues is a lawful naval blockade of Gaza. The boat, accompanied by Israel's navy, arrived in the Israeli port of Ashdod Monday evening, according to the Foreign Ministry. The Freedom Flotilla

Coalition said three activists, including Thunberg, had been deported along with a journalist. It said it had encouraged some of the group to do this so they could



international law," the coalition said in a statement. It called for the remaining passengers to be released without deportation and said their lawyers would demand that they be allowed to complete their journey to Gaza. Sabine Haddad, a spokeswoman for Israel's Interior Ministry, said the activists who were being deported Tuesday had waived their right to appear before a judge. Those who did not will face one and will be held for 96 hours before being deported, she said. Rima Hassan, a French member of the European Parliament who is of

Palestinian descent, was also among the passengers on board the Madleen. She has previously been barred from entering Israel because of her opposition to Israeli policies toward the Palestinians. It was not clear whether she was being immediately deported or detained. French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot said Tuesday that one of the detained French activists signed an expulsion order and will leave Israel on Tuesday for France. The other five refused. He said all the activists received consular visits. Sergio Toribio, a Spanish activist who was deported, slammed Israel's actions after he arrived in Barcelona. "It is unforgivable, it is a violation of our rights. It is a pirate attack in international waters," he told reporters. On Monday, Adalah, the rights group, said that Israel had "no legal authority" to take over the ship, because the group said it was in

international waters and it was headed not to Israel but to the "territorial waters of the state of Palestine." "The arrest of the unarmed activists, who operated in a civilian manner to provide humanitarian aid, amounts to a serious breach of international law," Adalah said in a statement. Amnesty International said Israel was flouting international law with the naval raid and called on Israel to release the activists immediately and unconditionally. Israel said its actions were consistent with international law. Israel viewed the ship as a publicity stunt, calling it the "selfie yacht." Israeli officials said that the flotilla was bringing "meager" aid with what amounted to less than a truckload of goods. Israel and Egypt have imposed varying degrees of a blockade on Gaza since Hamas seized power from rival Palestinian forces in 2007.

'Shake up the board': Dubai orders Mall of Emirates owner

DUBAI: A special judicial committee in Dubai has reportedly ordered the parent company of one of the region's retail giants to restructure its board, trying to end years of turmoil after the death of its billionaire founder and secure the future of the owner of the Mall of the Emirates. The changes at Majid Al Futtaim come as Dubai tries to guide the family-run businesses that powered the city-state's growth in the United Arab Emirates through generational change. Authorities also likely want to avoid any further infighting that could slow down the growth of a firm that long has made hiring Emiratis a key goal. The Financial Times first reported on the changes to Majid Al Futtaim's board, saying it came at the orders of a government-established special judicial committee. In 2022, Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, established a special judicial committee to look after the estate of Majid Al Futtaim's founder. AGENCIES

Underground surprise: Syrian contractor stumbles upon ancient tomb complex

Uncovers 1500-year-old Byzantine tomb complex beneath rubble

MARAAT AL-NUMAN: A contractor digging into the earth where the rubble of a destroyed house had been cleared away in northern Syria stumbled across a surprise: the remains of an underground Byzantine tomb complex believed to be more than 1,500 years old. The discovery emerged last month in the town of Maarat al-Numan in Idlib province, which is strategically located on the route between the cities of Aleppo and Damascus. The community became a touchpoint in the nearly 14-year Syrian civil war that ended with the fall of former President Bashar Assad in a lightning rebel offensive in December. Assad's forces seized the area back from opposition control in 2020. Houses were looted and demolished. Aerial images of the area show many houses still standing but without roofs. Now residents are beginning to return and rebuild. In



A guard inspects an engraved stone found in the underground tomb

the course of a reconstruction project, stone openings were uncovered indicating the presence of ancient graves. Residents notified the directorate of antiquities, which dispatched a specialised team to inspect and secure the site. Aboveground, it's a residential neighbourhood with rows of cinder-block buildings, many of them damaged in the war. Next to one of those buildings, a pit leads down to the openings of two burial chambers, each containing six stone tombs. The sign of the cross is etched into the top of one stone column. "Based on the presence of the cross and the pottery and glass pieces that were found, this tomb dates back to the

which began in the 4th century AD, was a continuation of the Roman empire with its capital in Constantinople — today's Istanbul — and Christianity as its official religion. Abandoned Byzantine-era settlements called Dead Cities stretch across rocky hills and plains in northwest Syria, their weathered limestone ruins featuring remnants of stone houses, basilicas, tombs and colonnaded streets. In the past, the owners of sites where archeological ruins were found sometimes covered them up, fearful that their property would be seized to preserve the ruins, said Ghiath Sheikh Diab, a resident of Maarat al-Numan who witnessed the moment when the tomb complex was uncovered. He said he hoped the new government will fairly compensate property owners in such cases and provide assistance to the displaced people who have returned to the area to find their homes destroyed. AGENCIES

Summary

- » The remains of an ancient underground Byzantine tomb complex, believed to be more than 1,500 years old, have been unearthed in northern Syria
- » Residents alerted the directorate of antiquities, which dispatched a specialised team to inspect and secure the site

Italians head to polls in referendum on citizenship, labour



However, vote risks sinking on low turnout

ROME: Italians headed to the polls Monday on the second and final day of referendums that would make it easier for children born in Italy to foreigners to obtain citizenship, and on providing more job protections. But partial data showed a low turnout, well below the required 50 per cent plus one threshold, risking to invalidate the vote. Campaigners for the change in the citizenship law say it will help second-generation Italians born in the country to non-European Union parents better integrate into a culture they already see as theirs. Partial data from Italy's Interior Ministry published at 2100 GMT on Sunday showed that national turnout stood at 22.7 per cent, just over half of the 41 per cent registered at the same time of the day in the latest

comparable referendum held in 2011. The polling stations close later Monday at 1300 GMT. The new rules, if passed, could affect about 2.5 million foreign nationals who still struggle to be recognised as citizens. The measures were proposed by Italy's main union and left-wing opposition parties. Premier Giorgia Meloni showed up at the polls on Sunday evening but didn't cast a ballot — an action widely criticised by the left as antidemocratic, since it won't contribute to reaching the necessary threshold to make the vote valid. "While some members of her ruling coalition have openly called for abstention, Meloni has opted for a more subtle approach," said analyst Wolfango Piccoli of the Teneo consultancy based in London. AGENCIES

HUGE OVERNIGHT DRONE BOMBARDMENT AGAINST KYIV Russia launches 479-drone assault, it's biggest

KYIV: Russia launched almost 500 drones at Ukraine in the biggest overnight drone bombardment of the three-year war, the Ukrainian air force said Monday, as the Kremlin pressed its summer offensive amid direct peace talks that have yet to deliver progress on stopping the fighting.

Despite the difficulties in reaching a ceasefire, Russia and Ukraine swapped another batch of prisoners of war Monday. In addition to the 479 drones, 20 missiles of various types were fired at different parts of Ukraine from Sunday to Monday, according to the air force, which said the barrage targeted mainly central and western areas. Ukraine's air force said its air defences intercepted and destroyed 277 drones and



Keir Starmer with EC president Ursula von der Leyen on Monday

19 missiles, claiming only 10 drones or missiles hit their targets. Officials said one person was injured. It was not possible to independently verify the claims. A recent escalation in aerial attacks has coincided with a renewed Russian battlefield push along eastern and northeastern parts of the

roughly 1,000-km front line. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said late Sunday that in some of those areas, "the situation is very difficult." He provided no details. Ukraine is short-handed on the front line against its bigger enemy and needs more military support from its Western part-

NIH scientists go public to criticise Trump's deep cuts in health research

WASHINGTON: In his confirmation hearings to lead the National Institutes of Health, Jay Bhattacharya pledged his openness to views that might conflict with his own. "Dissent, he said, "is the very essence of science." That commitment is being put to the test. On Monday, scores of scientists at the agency sent their Trump-appointed leader a letter titled the Bethesda Declaration, a frontal challenge to "policies that undermine the NIH mission, waste public

resources, and harm the health of Americans and people across the globe." It says: "We dissent." In a capital where insiders often insist on anonymity to say such things publicly, more than 90 NIH researchers, programme directors, branch chiefs and scientific review officers put their signatures on the letter — and their careers

on the line. They went public in the face of a "culture of fear and suppression" which they say President Trump's administration has spread through the federal civil service. "We are compelled to speak up when our leadership prioritizes political momentum over human safety and faithful stewardship of resources," it says. AGENCIES

The four-page letter sent to Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy Jr

In addition to the 479 drones, 20 missiles of various types were also fired at Ukraine

ners, especially air defences. But uncertainty about the US policy on the war has fuelled doubts about how much help Kyiv can count on. Ukraine has produced some stunning counter-punches, however. Its June 1 drone attack on distant Russian air bases was unprecedented in its scope and sophistication. The Ukrainian General Staff said special operations forces struck two Russian fighter jets stationed at the Savasleyka airfield. AGENCIES

10 dead in Austria school shooting: Mayor



VIENNA (Agency): Ten people died on Tuesday after a suspected shooter opened fire in a school in the southeastern Austrian city of Graz, the local mayor was quoted as saying. Several students and at least one adult, as well as the suspected shooter, were among the dead, mayor Elke Kahr confirmed to Austrian press agency APA. School shootings are much more rare in Europe than in the United States but in recent years Europe has been shaken by attacks at schools and universities, that were not connected to terrorism. "Currently, a police operation is underway... The reason for the deployment was that gunshots were heard in the building," the police said on X, confirming the attack in the city of Graz. Police and interior ministry officials could not immediately be reached by AFP. "The situation is very unclear at the moment," police sources told Austria's APA news agency. EU top diplomat Kaja Kallas declared herself "deeply shocked" Tuesday by reports of the shooting. "Every child should feel safe at school and be able to learn free from fear and violence," Kallas

posted on X. "My thoughts are with the victims, their families and the Austrian people in this dark moment." Attacks in public are rare in the Alpine nation of almost 9.2 million people. It ranks among the ten safest countries in the world, according to the Global Peace Index. In January 2025, an 18-year-old man fatally stabbed a high school student and a teacher at a school in northeastern Slovakia. In December 2024, a 19-year-old man stabbed a seven-year-old student to death and injured several others at a primary school in Zagreb, Croatia. <In December 2023, an attack by a student at a university in central Prague left 14 people dead and 25 injured. A few months earlier that year, a 13-year-old gunned down eight fellow classmates and a security guard at an elementary school in downtown Belgrade. Six children and a teacher were also injured. The shooter contacted the police, who arrested him. In 2009, nine pupils, three teachers and three passers-by were killed in a school shooting at Winnenden in southern Germany by a former pupil who then killed himself.

Ex-prez Hamid returns to B'desh after protests

DHAKA: Bangladesh's former President Abdul Hamid, who served two terms during deposed premier Sheikh Hasina's regime, returned to the country on Monday after receiving medical treatment abroad. The 81-year-old ex-president returned from Thailand a month after his "secret departure" sparked protests in Bangladesh for being allowed to leave despite being accused in a murder case. "He landed here in predawn hours on a Thai Airways flight. He left the airport on completion of required immigration formalities that took nearly an hour and a half," an official of the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport told reporters. Hamid returned like other

ordinary passengers, said HSLA Executive Director Group Captain SM Ragib Samad. Private TV channels also shared footage of his car leaving the airport. He left Dhaka on May 8 through the same airport after completing the required formalities but his quiet departure sparked loud protests. Leaders and activists of the student-led National Citizen Party (NCP), which led last year's violent movement that ousted former prime minister Hasina's Awami League government, said authorities let Hamid "flee" despite being accused in a murder case. Home Affairs Adviser Retd Lt Gen Jahangir Alam Chowdhury had vowed to step down if he failed to take punitive action against the culprits. AGENCIES

Iran to present counter-proposal to US as nuclear talks hang by thread

DUBAI: Iran will soon hand a counter-proposal for a nuclear deal to the United States via Oman, Iranian foreign ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said on Monday, in response to a U.S. offer that Tehran deems "unacceptable". The spokesperson also called on the international community to force nuclear disarmament upon Israel, Iran's longstanding foe which Tehran says is trying to thwart the nuclear negotiations. "The U.S. proposal is not

acceptable to us. It was not the result of previous rounds of negotiations. We will present our own proposal to the other side via Oman after it is finalised. This proposal is reasonable, logical, and balanced," Baghaei said. "We must ensure before the lifting of sanctions that Iran will effectively benefit economically and that its banking and trade relations with other countries will return to normal." Reuters previously reported

that Tehran was drafting a negative response to the U.S. proposal which was presented in late May. An Iranian diplomat said the U.S. offer failed to resolve differences over uranium enrichment on Iranian soil, the shipment abroad of Iran's entire stockpile of highly enriched uranium and reliable steps to lift U.S. sanctions. Baghaei said there was not yet any detail on the timing of a sixth round of nuclear talks between Tehran and Washington. AGENCIES

Honeymoon murder in Meghalaya: Kangana Ranaut calls Raja Raghuvanshi’s wife Sonam ‘dumb’, says, ‘how absurd a woman can’t say no to...’

The recent murder case of Raja Raghuvanshi while he was on his honeymoon in Meghalaya has caused a storm on the internet. BJP MP-actor Kangana Ranaut has reacted to the Meghalaya Honeymoon murder case on social media, penning a long note. She called Raja’s wife Sonam Raghuvanshi ‘dumb’ and mentioned that the murder is ‘cruel, heinous, and cold-blooded’. Taking to her Instagram Stories, she called the incident ‘cruel’ and wrote, “How absurd is this!! Woman can’t say no to marriage because she is scared of her own parents but she can plan a cold-blooded murder with supari killers. This has been on my mind since morning but not able to wrap my head around it!!! Uuffff getting a headache now!! She couldn’t even

divorce or run away with her lover.” The actor added, “How cruel, heinous and above all absurd and dumb. Dumb people should never be taken lightly. They are the biggest threat to any society... We often laugh at them and think they are harmless but it’s not true. Intelligent people may damage others for their own good but remember a dumb person has no idea what they are doing !!! Be aware very aware of dumbness around you.” Raja and Sonam were reported missing on May 23 while they were on their honeymoon in Meghalaya. However, it turned into a murder investigation after Raja’s body was found in a gorge near the Weisawdong waterfalls on June 2, even as Sonam remained missing. The Meghalaya Police suspected that



Sonam had allegedly hired killers to kill her husband. Officers from the Madhya Pradesh Police’s Crime Branch told The Indian Express that Raja Kushwaha, the 21-year-old who is also suspected of conspiring with Sonam Raghuvanshi to murder her husband Raja in Meghalaya, had

planned to kill him just days after the couple got married. According to the police, Sonam surrendered before the Nandganj Police Station in Ghazipur district on Sunday night and was later arrested, while Kushwaha was arrested in Indore. As per PTI, there are four other accused besides Sonam – Akash Rajput, Vishal Singh Chauhan, Raj Singh Kushwaha, and Anand. All of them were arrested from various parts of Madhya Pradesh. As per Raj’s family, Sonam made the plan for honeymoon in Meghalaya and asked him for Rs 9 lakh for the bookings. She also made him carry expensive jewellery there much against the family’s wishes. Sonam, meanwhile, maintains that she was kidnapped and drugged.

‘Feels like COMING home again’



Navjot Singh Sidhu will be back in ‘The Great Indian Kapil Show 3’

NEW DELHI: Former cricketer Navjot Singh Sidhu is set to make his comeback to Kapil Sharma’s comedy show with its third season, the makers announced.

Sidhu was a permanent guest at ‘Comedy Nights with Kapil’ between 2013 and 2016. He also appeared in the first two seasons of ‘The Kapil Sharma Show’ and ‘Family Time with Kapil Sharma’. ‘The Great Indian Kapil Show 3’ will stream on Netflix from June 21. The streaming platform shared the announcement with a video on its ‘Instagram’ handle.

“Ek kursi paaji ke liye please. Har funnyvaar badhega humara parivaar with the comeback of Navjot Singh Sidhu & Archana Pura Singh. Watch them in the new season of ‘The Great Indian Kapil Show’, streaming from June 21, at 8 PM only on ‘Netflix’, the caption on the streamer’s ‘X’ read.

Sidhu said returning to the show feels like coming back home. “Coming to ‘The Great Indian Kapil Show’ feels like I’m coming home again. It is a home run for me. We heard the voice of the people, so many fans and well-wishers who loved our interactions and wanted to see more,” he said.

“A smile doesn’t cost you a cent, but it is worth millions of dollars and ‘The Great Indian Kapil Show’ is an instrument of god’s goodwill to bring happiness to mankind - honoured to be part of it again,” he added.

Sharma said, “Humne promise kiya tha ki har funnyvaar badhega humara parivaar and I’m so excited to have Sidhu paaji part of the family along with Archana ji to enjoy all the ‘chutkules’ (jokes), the ‘shayaris’ (poetry) and ‘masti’ (fun).” PTI

Akhanda 2 teaser: ‘God of Masses’ Nandamuri Balakrishna embodies fierce essence of Lord Shiva

Even the God of Death obeys the command of my Lord Shiva. Do you think you can get away?” Akhanda (Nandamuri Balakrishna) roars at a rival. Beside him, on both sides, are several people wielding machine guns. As he raises his trident into the air, it becomes clear that these were simply bodies of people he had already eliminated. Now, they are simply impaled and displayed on his weapon. Thus begins the teaser of director Boyapati Srinu’s Akhanda 2, a sequel to the actor and director’s 2021 blockbuster action drama Akhanda.

In the 77-second teaser, we see Balakrishna’s character embodying the fierce essence of Lord Shiva, always ready to annihilate evil forces in the snowy Himalayas using his divine trident. As the promo progresses, viewers are given more glimpses of Akhanda 2’s expansive world, with a strong focus on high-octane action and grand production design, held together by the unshakable swagger of the “God of Masses” Nandamuri Balakrishna. Written and directed by Boyapati Srinu, who previously worked with Balakrishna on films such as Simha (2010) and Legend



(2014), Akhanda 2 is set for a worldwide release on September 25, 2025, coinciding with the Dasara season. The movie is bankrolled by Raam Achanta and Gopi Achanta under the banner of 14 Reels Plus. It features music by Thaman S, cinematography by C Ramprasad and Santosh D Detake, art direction by AS Prakash, and editing by Tammiraju. The 2021 action drama Akhanda, which starred Nandamuri Balakrishna in a dual role, also featured Pragya Jaiswal, Jagapathi Babu and Srikanth in key roles. Although it received

mixed to negative reviews from critics, the film went on to become a commercial hit. Mounted on an estimated budget of Rs 50 crore, it grossed Rs 117 crore worldwide. Balakrishna was last seen in director Bobby Kolli’s Daaku Maharaaj, which released in January this year and featured Bobby Deol, Shraddha Srinath, Pragya Jaiswal and Urvashi Rautela. Akhanda 2 also marks Boyapati Srinu’s return after two years, following the box office failure of the Ram Pothineni and Sreeleela-starrer Skanda (2023).

‘Not seen anything bring the world together more than HARRY POTTER’



Tom Felton to reprise his role in ‘Harry Potter and the Cursed Child’

LOS ANGELES: Hollywood actor Tom Felton believes nothing brings the world together more than ‘Harry Potter’, whose fandom is relevant even now. Felton, best known for starring in ‘Harry Potter’ films, is set to reprise his role of Draco Malfoy in Broadway’s ‘Harry Potter and the Cursed Child’. The actor will make his Broadway debut with the stage show, which will run for a limited 19-week engagement starting November 11. The 37-year-old actor said he thought the fandom of ‘Harry Potter’ would disappear over time, but it didn’t. “I think we all thought that the fandom flame might be doused over the years, but clearly, it’s not. The most

exciting part is to do it live. It took nine months, more or less, to shoot a film and this is all compact. This is all reimagined into a very loving, new type of story. And I get to be a dad, which is really fun,” he told the entertainment news outlet ‘Variety’. The franchise is also being revived into a series at HBO. The series will be a full adaptation of J K Rowling’s books. Felton was asked if he feels Rowling’s recent anti-trans comments have any effect on the upcoming ‘Harry Potter’ projects. He said he ‘can’t say it does’. “The only thing I always remind myself is that I’ve been lucky enough to travel the world here I am in New York and I have not seen anything bring the world together more than ‘Potter,’” he added. PTI

He’ll make his Broadway debut with the stage show



Blake Lively opens up on emotional turmoil caused by Justin Baldoni’s lawsuit, reacts to dismissal: ‘I’ve felt the pain’

Actor Blake Lively responded after a judge dismissed a sweeping defamation and extortion lawsuit brought against her by filmmaker Justin Baldoni. In a post on Instagram Stories, the actor acknowledged the emotional toll of what she described as a retaliatory legal attack, and reaffirmed her commitment to defending women’s rights. “Last week, I stood proudly alongside 19 organisations united in defending women’s rights to speak up for their safety,” Lively wrote. “Like so many others, I’ve felt the pain of a retaliatory lawsuit, including the manufactured shame that tries to break us. While the suit against me was defeated, so many don’t have the resources to fight back.” She also added: “I’m more resolved than ever to continue to

stand for every woman’s right to have a voice in protecting themselves, including their safety, their integrity, their dignity and their story. There are protections out there. Check out some of the incredible organisations below for resources and information. With love and gratitude for the many who stood by me, many of you I know. Many of you I don’t. But I will never stop appreciating or advocating for you.” Her post also included links to legal and advocacy groups such as the California Employment Lawyers Association, California Women’s Law Center, CHILD USA, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, and Equal Rights Advocates. The statement came after a court decision on Monday that marked a significant legal defeat for Baldoni. A federal judge dismissed both his \$650 million defamation lawsuit against The New York Times and a related countersuit against Lively, her husband Ryan Reynolds, and their publicist Leslie Sloane. Baldoni had accused the group of extortion and defamation connected to their public comments and media coverage regarding the 2024 film It Ends With Us.

Fardeen says producers pulled out of his films after ‘Prem Aggan’ flopped

Fardeen Khan made his debut with his father Feroz Khan’s film ‘Prem Aggan’. The film got a lot of criticism and also flopped. While there was a lot of pressure on Fardeen as his father was launching him, he was also harsh on his son after the film didn’t do well. In a recent interview, Fardeen opened up on how many people pulled out of his other films after his debut venture failed at the box office. He opened up on the ‘Cyrus Says’ podcast when asked about it and said, “Of course, it was tough.

Criticism was harsh. People I was supposed to be working with in my next few projects changed their minds and pulled out of the projects. Money had to be returned. It was really a good chance to sit back and think.” The actor added that there

‘Of course, it was tough. Criticism was harsh,’ says the Bollywood actor

was a lot of pressure on him. “I had a director who was just not my father, but also an iconic actor. So, you’re just worried about not getting it wrong. You bury the pressure and put it away, especially in cases like mine whose father is so iconic in so many ways. If you think about that, you’re finished.

You just try and be honest with yourself and the written word in the script. And you try not to mess it up,” he said. Fardeen further spoke about his father’s reaction and added, “He said, ‘We tried. We failed’. I’m putting a roof over your head. I’ll pay you an X amount of money every month. After that, you’re on your own,” said Fardeen, adding, “It was a beautiful call. He said I’ve sent you to one of the best universities in the world. I hope you’re prepared to deal with life. This is how life is.” AGENCIES



‘Can’t play something if I don’t speak the language’



LOS ANGELES: Hollywood veteran Al Pacino said he was offered a ‘Star Wars’ film, but he turned it down as he didn’t connect with the script. The first ‘Star Wars’ film was released in 1977, starring Mark Hamill and Harrison Ford and was directed by George Lucas. There have been 12 films in the franchise in total. Pacino recalled getting the script for the film but said he couldn’t understand it. “So, I loved their work, but I was doing a show on Broadway at the time. They handed me this script and I thought, ‘I don’t understand’ (I thought). I must be out of space myself. But I looked at this thing and I sent it to Charlie Loughton, my friend and mentor, actually. I said, ‘What do you make of this?’ He was pretty wise and he said, ‘I don’t get it, Al. No, I can’t play something if I don’t speak the language.’” PTI

Nations League: Beat Spain in penalties to lift trophy; CR7 on target

MUNICH: Cristiano Ronaldo hoisted up the Nations League trophy and “We Are The Champions” rang around the stadium after Portugal defeated Spain 5-3 in a penalty shootout in Munich on Sunday.

Portugal goalkeeper Diogo Costa saved Alvaro Morata’s fourth penalty for Spain, then R ben Neves converted his team’s fifth to seal the win after their match finished 2-2 after extra time.

Morata was the only player to miss after seeing every player score their spot-kicks before him. He was inconsolable.

Ronaldo had kept Portugal in the game when he equalized in the 61st minute of regular time with his record-extending 138th international goal after Mikel Oyarzabal had given Spain a half-time lead. Oyarzabal squeezed the ball past Portugal goalkeeper



Portugal's players and staff celebrate winning the final

Diogo Costa in the 45th after Pedri played him in. “It’s a shame and it’s tough, but

with time it will be more appreciated,” Oyarzabal said. “We struggled more in the second half,

we were tired. The substitutions helped them. But we are proud of our team and we will fight to

3

Spain's Oyarzabal has become the first player in Spanish history to score in three different finals

be close to winning a title again.” Spain, still the European champions, failed to display the cohesion and fluency in attack that put five goals past France in the semifinal on Thursday. “I have many titles with my clubs, but nothing is better than winning for Portugal,” Ronaldo said. “These are tears. It’s mission accomplished.” AGENCIES

Munich WC: Elavenil aims for top prize as shooters seek more glory

MUNICH: Two-time medallist Elavenil Valarivan will fancy her chances on the first competition day of ISSF World Cup here on Tuesday as three shooters from the country make their tournament debut in the women’s 10m air rifle and men’s 10m air pistol events, respectively.

The first two finals -- the women’s 10m air rifle and the men’s 10m air pistol -- are lined up on the opening day of the season’s third World Cup (Rifle/Pistol) stage at the Olympic Shooting Range.

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) had sent a 22-member team for the tournament with double Olympics medallist Manu Bhaker and Kiran Ankush Jadhav shooting in two individual events.

Elimination and qualifications to four of the 10 events on the roster begin from Tuesday afternoon besides the two finals.

India will field as many as three debutants in the two medal events on the opening day, with national champion Ananya Naidu in the women’s event and Aditya Malra and Nishant Rawat in the men’s event, starting for the first time at this level.

Arya Borse, the second Indian



Elavenil Valarivan will compete on Day 1 of the event

India will field as many as three WC debutants in the two medal events on the opening day

air rifle shooter, is also in her first senior year but has been in great form, making one individual final and winning two mixed team silvers in the year’s first two World Cup stages in Buenos Aires and Lima respectively.

That leaves two-time Olympian and two-time individual World Cup gold medallist Elavenil and

Asian Championships winner and four-time World Cup medallist Varun Tomar to don the senior’s mantle in the two events.

“The thing is the Munich range is familiar to most of the shooters and they have all come here several times for other events on the European circuit also, so that should not be a problem.They have all settled down well and are shooting well in training... so let’s see,” quipped national rifle coach Deepali Deshpande during pre-event training on Monday morning. India have done very well in the first two World Cup stages in South America earlier this year and will look to replicate their performance in the Germany city. AGENCIES

INDIA VS ENG TESTS Cracking conditions code key for India?



Gautam Gambhir during the team's practice session on Sunday

NEW DELHI: Former Indian cricketers on Monday advised the Shubman-Gill led side to ace the conditions in England for a successful tour while Michael Vaughan believes that the five-Test series could be a start of “something special” for the visitors.

India are going through a transitional phase following retirements of Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and spin ace Ravichandran Ashwin, while fast bowler Mohammed Shami was not picked in the touring party.

Cheteshwar Pujara said each and every player will have to contribute for the team to come up trumps.

“India’s team to England must adapt quickly and play (according) to the conditions. As someone who understands batting in English conditions and team dynamics, I believe discipline, patience and support for each other are crucial,” said Pujara.

“Every player will need to contribute and respect the challenges that lay ahead. I am sure this tour will be a great opportunity for the growth and success of each player and the team as a whole,” Pujara said.

Former left-arm pacer Ashish Nehra also echoed the same sentiment. “To me, England

India’s team to England must adapt quickly and play (according) to the conditions. Every player will need to contribute and respect the challenges that lay ahead.

Cheteshwar Pujara, former India batter

tour is always challenging but it’s great fun as well. Adapting to the conditions will be the key and I am sure our players are capable of doing that. Bowling wise we have the experience.”

Former India all-rounder Irfan Pathan said the sooner Indians adapt, the better it is for them. “India’s new squad faces a tough challenge in England, but as an all-rounder, I know adaptability is key. Gill’s leadership, Pant’s energy, and India’s young talent must step up. England’s conditions test every skill — swing, seam, and temperament.” AGENCIES

MS Dhoni among seven others inducted into ICC's Hall of Fame



LONDON (Agency): Former India captain MS Dhoni was on Monday inducted into the ICC's Hall of Fame for the year 2025 along with Australian great Matthew Hayden and South Africa's Hashim Amla. The International Cricket Council (ICC) will be inducting seven cricketers ‘five men and two women’ in its Hall of Fame 2025. “Celebrated for his calm under

pressure and unmatched tactical nous, but also a trailblazer in the shorter formats, MS Dhoni’s legacy as one of the game’s greatest finishers, leaders and wicketkeepers has been honoured with his induction into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame,” said the ICC statement. “With 17,266 international runs, 829 dismissals and 538 matches across formats for India, Dhoni’s numbers reflect not just excellence but extraordinary consistency, fitness and longevity,” it said. Dhoni, who led India to the T20 World Cup win in 2007, ODI World Cup victory in 2011 and the Champions Trophy in 2013, said in a statement shared by the governing body that, “It is an honour to be named in the ICC Hall of Fame, which recognises the contributions of cricketers across generations and from all over the world.” “To have your name remembered alongside such all-time greats is a wonderful feeling. It is something that I will cherish forever.”

Madrid's new street circuit to debut in 2026, replacing Imola on F1 schedule



LONDON (Agency): A new street circuit in Madrid will make its debut on the Formula 1 schedule in September of next year, replacing the Emilia-Romagna Grand Prix at Imola.

F1 announced its schedule for 2026 on Tuesday, setting the first Grand Prix at the new Madring track in the Spanish capital for Sept. 13.

Spain gets two races for 2026 as Barcelona stays on the calendar for the final year of its contract. It faces an uncertain future after that.

F1 has previously said Madrid’s race will be known as the Spanish Grand

Prix. The new schedule doesn’t specify a new name for Barcelona’s race, which has been known as the Spanish Grand Prix since 1991. Spain’s second race means Italy drops back to having one Grand Prix as Imola leaves the schedule. The historic track, a favorite with drivers, returned to schedule in 2020 as a late addition amid the COVID-19 pandemic and has hosted five races since. Its contract was up this year.

The 2026 F1 season will start March 6-8 in Melbourne with the Australian Grand Prix and concluded with the Abu

India’s venues for WI and SA Tests swapped between Delhi and Kolkata

NEW DELHI: Kolkata’s Eden Gardens and Delhi’s Arun Jaitley Stadium will swap their allocated Test matches against West Indies and South Africa respectively during India’s upcoming home season, the BCCI announced on Monday.

While Delhi was set to host the opening Test

against South Africa from November 14-18, it will now host the second Test against West Indies starting October 10.

Though the BCCI release doesn’t state the reason for the venue swap, it is understood that air pollution levels in mid-November in the National Capital Region become a

health hazard like it happened during a Test against Sri Lanka few years back.

India’s home season starts with two WTC Tests against West Indies, starting October 2 in Ahmedabad, followed by the Delhi Test. India then play a full three format series against South Africa starting with two Tests. AGENCIES

WTC FINAL Serial winners Oz eye title No. 11 as South Africa plot an ambush

LONDON: When it comes to major cricket finals, Australia are in a league of their own.

Only Australia have won all four men’s global trophies. They are hard to beat in finals, having won 10 of 13 across the 50-over World Cup, 20-over World Cup, Champions Trophy, and World Test Championship. And let’s not get started on the women’s team, which is even more dominant.

The men go for world title No. 11 from Wednesday in the WTC final against South Africa at neutral Lord’s.

That ruthless focus Australia bring on the biggest stages is in marked contrast to South Africa, a perennial under-achiever. The Proteas have won just one of cricket’s major international titles, the Champions Trophy’s inaugural predecessor in 1998, when most of the current Proteas were toddlers. An experienced squad — average age 29 1/2 — compensates with a bond that can’t be underestimated, a determination to have each other’s backs.

That showed often in the 2023-25 WTC cycle as the Proteas, who used 30 players — more than any other team — found a run-scorer or wicket-taker at just the right time. They won their last seven Tests and were first to qualify



Temba Bavuma and Pat Cummins with the Test mace at Lord's

for the final.

“We haven’t been super dominant in our performances,” South Africa captain Temba Bavuma said when the team qualified in December.

“We definitely haven’t been clinical or ruthless when the opportunity or the situation is called upon. But I think what we’ve done is that we’ve found ways to make sure that the result is on our side.”

Australia already had a veteran team when it won the 2023 final by crushing India by 209 runs at the Oval. Ten of that 11 are back. Only David Warner is missing, retired from the Test format.

Medium-pace bowler Josh Hazlewood was injured and didn’t play, but he’s expected

to replace one of the 2023 stars, Scott Boland. Hazlewood overcame a shoulder injury to spearhead Royal Challengers Bengaluru to a first Indian Premier League title last week with 22 wickets in 12 innings.

Warner’s permanent replacement at opener still hasn’t been settled. Sam Konstas made an audacious debut at age 19 in December against India, but Travis Head was preferred in Sri Lanka in February. They seem to be the main candidates. It may not matter. Australia have four of their top 10 all-time leading wicket-takers in Nathan Lyon (553, third), Mitchell Starc (382, fourth), captain Pat Cummins (294, eighth), and Hazlewood (279, 10th). AGENCIES

West Indies batter Nicholas Pooran announces shock retirement from international cricket at 29

PORT OF SPAIN (Agency): Star West Indies batter Nicholas Pooran on Tuesday stunningly announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 29 without specifying any reasons but insisted that “much thought and reflection” had gone into taking the call.

His decision came days after he opted out of selection for the T20I series against England. The swashbuckling left-handed batter finished as West Indies’ most capped T20I player with 106 matches and also its highest run-getter, with a tally of 2275 at an average of 26.14 and strike rate of 136.39. In 61 ODI appearances, he scored 1983 runs at an average of 39.66 and strike rate of 99.15.

“After much thought and reflection, I’ve decided to announce my retirement

from international cricket,” Pooran, a former West Indies white-ball captain, wrote on

cricket for his country.

“Wearing that maroon, standing for the anthem, and



his social media pages.

“This game we love has given and will continue to give so much - joy, purpose, unforgettable memories, and a chance to represent the people of the West Indies,” said the Trinidadian who made his international debut in 2016 in a T20 International match. He never played Test

giving everything I had each time I stepped on the field... it’s hard to put into words what that truly means to me. To have led the team as captain is a privilege I will always hold close to my heart,” he said. Pooran had recently opted out of selection for West Indies’ T20I series against England

after playing the full Indian Premier League (IPL) season for Lucknow Super Giants (LSG). He hasn’t featured in ODIs since West Indies’ exit in the 2023 World Cup Qualifiers. His last match for West Indies was against Bangladesh at Kingstown in December 2024.

“To the fans - thank you for your unwavering love. You lifted me in the tough moments and celebrated the good ones with unmatched passion. To my family, friends and teammates - thank you for walking the journey with me. Your belief and support carried me through it all,” he wrote.

“Though this international chapter of my career closes, my love for West Indies Cricket will never fade. I wish the team and the region nothing but success and strength for the road ahead.” A regular in the franchise

circuit, Pooran is expected to feature in the Major League Cricket (MLC) and The Hundred this summer. Apart from the Caribbean Premier League and the IPL, he is also a regular in the ILT20 in the UAE. He had a magnificent season in 2024, hitting the most sixes in a calendar year (170) before finishing IPL 2025 with 524 runs at a strike rate of 196.25 with five half-centuries. He was expected to be a key part of West Indies’ plans for the T20 World Cup early next year, before Tuesday’s shock announcement.

Cricknet West Indies lauded Pooran for his outstanding contribution to Caribbean cricket. “Nicholas officially informed the leadership of his decision to retire from international cricket, bringing to a close a significant chapter in his career,” it said.

Cancer patient found to have a tumor 10 times bigger than his kidney, successful surgery done at BMHRC, patient used to smoke

Bhopal (Agency): A 58-year-old gas-stricken cancer patient was living with a tumor 10 times bigger than his kidney in his body for the past one year. However, he had no idea about it. Due to the large tumor, his stomach was swollen from the left side. Sometimes he used to have pain in the stomach, which used to get cured after taking medicine. When, a month ago, he started bleeding in his urine, he consulted Bhopal Memorial Hospital. The tumor was confirmed in the examination. Due to various reasons, the operation had become very risky, but seeing the seriousness of the disease, the doctors of the Cancer Surgery Department of BMHRC successfully removed the tumor. Doctors say that they have never seen such a large kidney tumor in their entire career. The patient's condition has now improved a lot and he will be discharged from the hospital on Wednesday. Assistant Professor in the Department

of Cancer Surgery, BMHRC, Dr. Sonvir Gautam said that usually the size of a normal



kidney is 9*3 cm, but due to the tumor, the kidney had become 22*18 cm. This tumor had stuck to the aorta and other veins that carry blood from the heart to other parts of the body, due to which there was a risk of the vein bursting and excessive bleeding during the operation. He said that the

cancer had also spread to the lymph nodes present in the stomach. These lymph nodes

patient was taking blood thinning medicines. These medicines work to prevent blood clots in the body. In such a situation, it could have been very difficult to control the situation if there was excessive bleeding, but our skilled team negated any such apprehension. The team that carried out this important surgery included Assistant Professor Dr. Sonvir Gautam of the Department of Surgical Oncology, Professor Dr. Sarika Katiyar in the Department of Anesthesiology, Associate Professor Dr. Sandhya Ivne, Assistant Professor Dr. Kapilkant Tripathi in the Department of Cardiology, Senior Resident Dr. Rishi K. Athiya, Junior Resident Dr. Ashish Vaidya of the Department of Surgical Oncology and Senior Nursing Officer Jagdish Srivastava. Dr. Gautam said that the patient used to smoke bidi for the last 15 years. He also used to chew gutkha.

Tobacco and smoking are a major cause of kidney cancer. That is why it seems that the patient got this disease by smoking bidi. The patient is currently admitted in the ward. He said that he has resolved that he will never touch bidi cigarette in the future. He will also inspire other people to quit smoking. Dr. Manisha Srivastava, Director-in-Charge, BMHRC, Bhopal has said that this case is an important warning that any unusual problem or change in the body should not be taken lightly. Despite the tumor being in the body for a long time, the patient did not realize the seriousness. If the investigation was not done on time, the situation could have become even more complicated. Timely detection of a disease like cancer and starting treatment can prove to be life saving. I request everyone not to ignore any symptoms and consult a doctor immediately.

The person who committed more than 75 thefts was hiding in Khatu Shyam, arrested with goods worth eight lakhs

Bhopal (Agency): Bhopal Police has caught a vicious criminal who has committed thefts and other crimes at about 75 places so far. This gang had hidden in Khatu Shyam in Rajasthan after committing thefts in Habibganj and TT Nagar police station areas of Bhopal. Police has arrested two accused of this gang and recovered goods worth about eight lakhs. Bhopal Police scanned footage of about 400 CCTVs to catch the accused and find out their route charge. Police has started interrogating the accused. Habibganj police station in-charge Sanjeev Chaukse said that accused Bablu alias Ballu Thorat already has more than 75 crimes registered against him in the capital Bhopal and other districts. On June 3, the

accused stole goods worth about eight lakhs from the house of Tara Kujur, resident of Swapnil Home in Ashoka Society located in E-7 Arera Colony. Tara Kujur had gone to the office at the time of the incident. When the police searched the CCTV footage, they got information about Ballu Thorat. After this, it was learned from the informer that he has fled to Khatu Shyam. The gang has committed the crime in TT Nagar police station area. The police was chasing them for arrest, meanwhile the other gang member Ayush Rajak, resident of Kamala DK Nagar, was caught. The police surrounded the area and arrested Bablu alias Ballu Thorat. Jewellery and cash worth about Rs 8 lakh have been recovered from the accused.

Minister Vijay Shah was absent from two cabinet meetings after the comment on Colonel Sofia, but attended the third meeting

Bhopal (Agency): Minister Vijay Shah, who was missing since the controversial comment on Colonel Sofia Qureshi, attended the cabinet meeting on Tuesday after a month. Earlier on Monday, he appeared on the public stage for the first time in the program organized on the death anniversary of Birs Munda in Byahari, Shahdol, where he shared the stage with Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav. Minister Shah was absent from the cabinet meeting



twice since the controversial statement. He had also released videos apologizing thrice for his comment, but did not participate in any public

program. Vijay Shah's statement is being investigated by a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed on the instructions of the Supreme Court.

BRIEF NEWS

Bail granted to accused of giving bribe in exchange for bail

Delhi (Agency): Rouse Avenue Court has granted bail to Vishal, accused of allegedly bribing court employees and helping in the release of people in various cases. Special Judge Deepali Sharma's court granted bail to Vishal Kumar, believing that he is no longer required to be kept in custody. The court said that according to the period of custody of the applicant and the answers filed by the investigating officer, it is clear that further custody of the accused is not required. The court has given him relief on a personal bond of Rs 50,000.

Stay on transfer orders of 41 engineers

Delhi (Agency): The transfers of executive and superintendent engineers made on June 6 in Delhi Jal Board have been stayed for the time being. An order has been issued for this by Water Board Deputy Director Hemant Bhardwaj. He has said that the order issued for the transfers will be kept suspended till further orders. However, he has not clarified the reason for postponing this order. This order of 41 engineers issued on June 6 was in discussions. This order was considered a major action after the new CEO took charge.

Protest against harassment of Indian students

Delhi (Agency): The National Students Union of India (NSUI) on Tuesday protested in the capital against the assault and forced deportation of an Indian student at the US airport. The NSUI said that the victim student had legally taken admission in an American university. In such a situation, throwing him on the ground, tying him up and forcibly expelling him from the country is a worrying incident. NSUI National President Varun Chaudhary said that thousands of students are upset with the change in immigration rules.

Sending thousands of kilometers away from their district; CM Yadav spoke on Raja murder case after Sonam's arrest

Bhopal (Agency): After the revelation of the murder case of Indore's young businessman Raja Raghuvanshi and the revelation of his wife's involvement in this case, the statement of the state's head Mohan Yadav has also come out regarding this brutal murder. He says that we need to take lessons from such cases and be very careful in future. He said that perhaps due to all these reasons, in the olden times, people used to be afraid of sending the new bride and groom out of their district immediately after marriage, or did not send them at all. The CM said this while talking to a news channel. When Chief Minister Mohan Yadav was asked a question

related to Indore couple Raja Raghuvanshi and Sonam Raghuvanshi, he said, 'It is absolutely right that we all should think about this subject. While marrying children, we should do it, and at the same time we should also keep an eye on the children.' He further said, 'If we talk about the old times, then in our times, sending the new bride and groom thousands of kilometers away from their district after marriage was not considered appropriate in any way, at least not for a month. I am not questioning those who promote such incidents, but this whole matter definitely teaches us that we need to be very careful in the coming times.' CM Yadav said, 'This

incident is a very painful incident for the society and also a lesson. We get many lessons from this for the future. Especially when we make relations of children for marriage, two families come together, then there is a need to take care of all things very closely. In the future, there is also a need to think about letting children go so far after marriage. I am hurt by this incident today, we all get a lesson from this. This is a very painful incident.' On Saturday, two days before the revelation of the Raja murder case on Monday and the arrest of the main accused Sonam Raghuvanshi, CM Yadav had requested Union Home Minister Amit Shah to get the case investigated

from the Meghalaya Police to the CBI on the demand of



Raja Raghuvanshi's family. Giving information about this on social media, Yadav had written, 'In this hour of crisis, Madhya Pradesh stands with the family of Mrs. Sonam Raghuvanshi. I

have discussed this with the Chief Minister of

Meghalaya. Senior police officers of Madhya Pradesh are in constant touch with the officials of Meghalaya. I have requested the Honorable Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah ji to

order a CBI inquiry in this case. Every possible effort is being made for the safe return of Mrs. Sonam Raghuvanshi.' However, this was not needed and the Meghalaya Police very successfully solved the entire case. Raja and Sonam reached Shillong for their honeymoon on May 21 after their marriage in Indore on May 11. On May 23, the couple went missing in Sohra area of East Khasi Hills district a few hours after checking out of a homestay in Nongriat village. Their scooter, which they had rented from Shillong, was found in Sohrarim on May 24. On May 25, Raja's family reached Meghalaya and lodged a missing person's

complaint in East Khasi Hills district. On June 2, Raja's body was found in a valley near Weisadong Falls, about 20 km from the place where he was last seen. Revealing the case on Monday, June 9, the police said that Raja's wife Sonam, along with her lover Raj Kushwaha, had got her husband killed. For this, both of them had given a contract to kill Raja by luring Raj's three friends with money. While Sonam, the prime accused in the case, was taken into custody from a restaurant in Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh in the early hours of Monday, four others, including her lover Raj Kushwaha, 21, were arrested from Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

92 Bangladeshi intruders arrested in Delhi in one day, police told what was their purpose of coming here

Delhi (Agency): The police campaign against Bangladeshi intruders is going on continuously in Delhi, during which the police recently detained 92 illegal Bangladeshi migrant citizens in one day. Giving information about this, a police officer said on Tuesday that after this action on Monday, the number of Bangladeshis detained in the national capital so far this year has increased to 242. Apart from this, five Bangladeshi citizens including three minors were also caught from Anand Vihar area of East Delhi on Tuesday. According to the officer, a total of 92 Bangladeshi citizens including 31 men, 22

women, 24 minor boys and 15 minor girls were detained during a special operation conducted near Mangolpuri railway line on June 9. According to the police, it conducted this operation on the basis of special intelligence, which told that a group of illegal intruders was preparing to flee from the area. Giving information about the case, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer) Sachin Sharma said, 'When the police reached near Mangolpuri railway line on June 9 after receiving secret information, the policemen saw that 3 to 4 different groups of people were preparing to board the train with luggage. However, on

seeing the police, those people started dispersing and tried to run away, although



the officers stopped them on the spot. Sharma said that during interrogation and search, none of the people present there could show valid travel or identity

documents to stay in India and expired passports and visas were recovered during

the verification process. The Deputy Commissioner of Police said that deportation proceedings were started in coordination with the Foreign Regional

Registration Office (FRRO). The officer said that most of the people caught had come to India in search of better livelihood and were working in the private sector or as laborers. The DCP said that out of the 242 Bangladeshi nationals detained so far this year, 86 were caught by the Mundka police from areas around Tikri border, 5 by Rannahla police from Nala Road and 151 by the Foreign Cell from Peeragarhi Camp, Mangolpuri, Nihal Vihar and Sultanpuri. DCP (East) Abhishek Dhanias said, 'So far 25 illegal Bangladeshi immigrants have been identified and deported in East Delhi since the campaign started on November 19, 2024.'

Accused acquitted for possessing buttoned knife due to flaws in investigation

Delhi (Agency): The Karkardooma court has acquitted the accused arrested for allegedly possessing illegal buttoned knife. The court of Judicial Magistrate First Class Sanghamitra said that there are flaws in the investigation and the prosecution has failed to prove the guilt of the accused beyond doubt. The

case is of December 3, 2022. When at 12.50 pm, accused Hemant was caught with a buttoned knife near Swami Dayanand Hospital (between gate number one and two). He did not have any license to keep the knife. On this, a case was registered against Hemant under section 25 of the Arms Act. After the FIR was registered,

the investigating officer started the investigation and filed a chargesheet. The court framed charges against him under section 25 of the Arms Act on March 23, 2024. During the hearing, the accused's lawyer Nitin Nichaudiya told that his client has been falsely implicated. The prosecution's case is entirely

based on the testimony of police witnesses and has not been independently corroborated. No CCTV footage of the incident has been brought on record. Also, there are contradictions in the testimony of prosecution witnesses. The court found that the incident took place in a public place, but no

independent witness was deposed. The witnesses present at the scene had smartphones, but neither videos nor photographs were taken. Giving reasons, the court said that the prosecution has failed to prove its allegations beyond doubt. Therefore, accused Hemant is acquitted of all charges.

Bill to curb fees of Delhi schools passed by cabinet, when will it become law?



Delhi (Agency): The Delhi government has passed a bill to curb arbitrary hike in fees of private schools in an important cabinet meeting today. Now it will soon be sent to the President for final approval, after which it will take the form of law. Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood congratulated the parents of Delhi on this and said that today is a day to celebrate.

After the Delhi Private School Fee Regulation Bill was passed by the Cabinet, Education Minister Ashish Sood said that today is a golden day in Delhi. It is a day of joy and celebration for those parents of Delhi. After the passage of this bill, their exploitation and discrimination will stop from today. Ashish Sood further said that the Delhi government has passed this bill in the cabinet meeting, after which it will soon go to the President for final approval and after that it will become a law.

Targeting the Aam Aadmi Party, the Delhi Education Minister said that as soon as the Fee Regulation Bill is passed, their delirium will start. Officials said the ordinance lays down a systematic framework to monitor how private schools fix their fees. The ordinance will address longstanding complaints of parents about arbitrary fee hikes and lack of clarity in the fee structure. The ordinance proposes setting up of school-level fee regulatory committees, district-level appellate bodies and a state-level review committee to manage fee disputes and appeals. This will be the first three-tier mechanism of its kind in Delhi.