



Chief Minister honored high school and intermediate tapors students at a program...



PEOPLE'S

Microfinance sector suffers from vicious cycle of overindebtedness, high rates: **RBI Deputy Governor Rao**

Amitabh Bachchan completes 7 projects in 2 hours; director says he is setting a 'bad...

A

London-bound Al plane crashes near Ahmedabad airport AT LEAST 241 KILLED,, EX-GUJ CM RUPANI AMONG DEAD

Ahmedabad (Agency): At killed, a senior official said. Sevleast 241 people were killed on Thursday when a Londonbound Air India plane carrying 242 passengers and crew

crashed into a medical college complex here and burst into a ball of fire less than a minute after takeoff, an official said. The dead in the country's worst air disaster in recent times included several people on the ground.

While one passenger identified as Vishwash Kumar Ramesh survived the crash near the airport involving the Boeing 787 Dreamliner(AI 171), BJP leader C R Paatil said former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani was among the dead.

"241 bodies have reached the city civil hospital as per the message we received," Deputy Commissioner of Police Kanan Desai told reporters late in the night several hours after the twin-engine wide-body aircraft crashed in the city civil hospital and BJ Medical College outside the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport perimeter. Several bodies were reported to be charred beyond recognition. Four MBBS students and a

eral students were impacted after parts of the plane smashed into a dining hall at lunch time in the multi-storey hostel building.

According to Air India, of the 230 passengers, 169 were Indians, 53 British, seven Portuguese and one Canadian. The other 12 people on board were two pilots and 10 crew members.

Ramesh, who was seated in 11A, largely remained unscathed after the miraculous escape. He was seen in TV footage walking around after the crash.

Ramesh was admitted to the trauma ward of the Ahmedabad civil hospital, Dr Shriq M said. The lucky passenger was travelling to London with his brother.

Union minister Amit Shah told reporters that the temperature in the ill-fated plane was so high due to burning fuel that

there was no chance to save anvone At the same time, Shah told reporters, "The good news is

that one person survived the crash and I am coming here after meeting him.

caught heat so it was impossible saster

"The number of those killed

will be officially released by the authorities after DNA test and identification of the victims." As rescuers struggled to find

survivors in the charred wreckage and pull out the injured, many of them with grievous "There was 1.25 lakh litres of burns, officials tried to assess doctor's wife were among those fuel inside the plane and it the human magnitude of the di-

to save anyone," Shah said.

a 'Mayday' distress call, denoting a full emergency, soon after takeoff at 1.39 pm, the Air Traffic Control at Ahmedabad said. The search was also on for

the aircraft's black box -- the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder -- for clues to understand what happened in the last crucial moments of the

The 11-year-old aircraft could be seen from miles away, losing altitude rapidly and combusting in a fiery blaze that sent plumes of thick black smoke spiralling up in the air.

Noting that the aircraft with a full fuel load for a long trip climbed just about 600-800 feet before plummeting to the ground

able visuals lack of thrust in both engines and a bird hit could be among the probable causes. TV footage showed the aircraft making a slow descent shortly after taking off, with its landing gear

"The aircraft departed from Ahmedabad at 1339 IST from Runway 23. It gave a MAYDAY

said the blaze was so intense that it led to several multi-storey buildings being burnt, trees singed and cars damaged. One image showed the snout of the plane crashing through the top floor of a building that appeared to be a dining area of the hostel of nurses and doctors.

Elsewhere too, there were scenes of complete devastation with mangled metal of the wreckage, snarls of tangled wire and smoke rising from burning embers

This is the first crash involving the Boeing Dreamliner, feted for its advanced features. It is also India's second biggest air disaster since 2020 when an Air India Express flight skidded off a wet runway while landing at Kozhikode in Kerala and split into two. Of the 190 people on board, 21, including two pilots, lost their lives.

Airport operations in Ahmedabad were temporarily suspended and resumed towards the evening.

Visuals from the wreckage area showed bodies being pulled The shock of the disaster echoed through political corriout and the injured, many with dors in India and abroad with burns, wheeled into the city civil heads of states and others of-Eyewitnesses in Ahmedabad fering their condolences.

Working with local authorities to establish facts provide support UK High Commission in India

"Official updates may be fol-

Embassies here of many

countries, including the US, Iran

and the Delegation of the Euro-

pean Union to India, expressed

condolences over the accident.

New Delhi (Agency): The British High Commission in India Thursday said it is working with local authorities to urgently establish facts about the London-bound plane that crashed soon after taking off from Ahmedabad airport and provide support

According to Air India, the Boeing 787-8 aircraft from

"Our thoughts are with the families and loved ones of the lowed from the Ministry of Civil victims," it said on X. Aviation and Air India. Air India helpline 1800 5691 444," it noted.

The Indian embassy in Lisbon, Portugal, said it is shocked and deeply saddened to learn about the tragic accident involving the Air India flight AI171 bound for the UK from

"On behalf of the U.S. Mission in India, we are deeply saddened by the tragic plane crash in Ahmedabad. Our heartfelt condolences and thoughts are with the families who have been affected by this horrific tragedy. We stand with India in this time of grief," it said, sharing the statement on X.

The US Embassy in New

eas and follow the directions of local authorities. The welfare and safety of U.S. citizens abroad is the highest priority of the Department of State. We will continue to provide information to U.S. citizens in the area through Alerts, our Embassy and Consulate websites," it added. The Delegation of the European Union to India also joined in

still extended.

King Charles sends personal condolences; UK and US experts will assist AI 171 crash probe King Charles specially commended medical teams and first responders on the ground in Ahmedabad UK AAIB and US NTSB are flying in to assist India

according to a statement from

the Directorate General of Civil

Aviation (DGCA).

hospital close by

171 air crash in Ahmedabad. The message came

through the English royal family's official X

handle.Signed Charles R, the note said: "My

New Delhi (Agency): At 5:52pm IST on June terrible events in Ahmedabad this morning. Our 12, King Charles conveyed his personal condo- special prayers and deepest possible sympathy lences to the next of kin of all victims of the IA are with the families and friends of all those affected by this appallingly tragic incident across so many nations, as they await news of their loved ones.



Ahmedabad to London Gatwick was carrying 242 passengers and crew members. Of these, 169 were Indian nationals, 53 British nationals, seven Portuguese and one Canadian national.

Several casualties are feared.

"We are aware that a flight from Ahmedabad to London has crashed near Ahmedabad airport. We are working with local authorities to urgently establish the facts and provide support. Our thoughts are with all those affected," the British High Commission here said in a brief statement on its official X handle.

In its post, the High Commission also shared a link to its travel advisory

The Canadian High Commission in New Delhi also expressed its deepest condolences following the tragic plane crash in Ahmedabad.

India. "As per available information, seven Portuguese nationals were on board. Our thoughts are with all those affected," it wrote on X

The Embassy of India, it said, will render all required assistance to the families concerned. "For any urgent support, please contact us on our emergency number: +351 911 991 939



"We are deeply saddened by the tragic plane crash near Ahmedabad involving the Air India flight to London. Our thoughts are with the passengers, the crew, their families, and all the people of #India at this difficult time," the US Embassy

here said in a statement quoting Chargé d'Affaires Jorgan Andrews

Delhi, in another post on X, said, 'We are aware of a plane crash in Ahmedabad on June 12, 2025. We strongly encourage citizens in the affected areas to monitor local news, follow the emergency instructions provided by local authorities, enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at http:tep.state.gov to receive important emergency information, and follow us on Twitter/X (@TravelGov) and Facebook (@TravelGov) for additional updates".

It also urged US citizens in the affected areas who are safe to contact their loved ones directly and/or update their status on social media.

"If you are in the affected area and need immediate emergency services, please contact local authorities. We urge US citizens to avoid the affected ar-

mourning the loss of lives in this accident.

"Our deepest condolences to the families of the passengers, crew, and all those affected by this tragedy. #Ahmedabad," the EU in India posted on X.

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New Delhi also expresses its deepest sorrow and heartfelt condolences over the accident.

"We extend our sympathies to the Government and people of #India, especially to the bereaved families of the victims. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time. We also wish a swift and full recovery to all those who have been injured in this heartbreaking incident. We stand with the people of India in this moment of sorrow. #planecrash

#AirIndia," it said.

wife and I have been desperately shocked by the terrible events in Ahmedabad this morning. Our special prayers and deepest possible sympathy are with the families and friends of all those affected by this appallingly tragic incident across so many nations, as they await news of their loved ones." The king had a special word of respect for medics and first responders on the ground. "I would like to pay a particular tribute to the heroic efforts of the emergency services," the note said, "and all those providing help and support at this most heartbreaking and traumatic time." At 5:52pm IST on June 12, King Charles conveyed his personal condolences to the next of kin of all victims of the IA

171 air crash in Ahmedabad. The message came through the English royal family's official X handle.

Signed Charles R, the note said: "My wife and I have been desperately shocked by the led investigation," the UK AAIB added.

The king had a special word of respect for medics and first responders on the ground. "I would like to pay a particular tribute to the heroic efforts of the emergency services," the note said, "and all those providing help and support at this most heartbreaking and traumatic time." AI 171 was bound for London Gatwick from Ahmedabad. Of the 242 passengers, 52 were British nationals. The UK Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) said on its website that it has "formally offered its assistance to the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau, India.

"In addition, the UK AAIB will have expert status in the Indian safety investigation," the statement said. This is standard protocol according to International Civil Aviation Organization norms as UK citizens were travelling on the aircraft. "We are deploying a multidisciplinary investigation team to India to support the Indian-

AI crash: No chance to save anyone as temperature due to burning fuel was high, says Amit Shah

Shah said on Thursday that the temperature in the Air India plane that crashed in Ahmedabad was so high due to burning fuel that there was no chance to save anyone. "There was 1.25 lakh litre of fuel inside the plane and it caught heat so it was impossible to save anyone," Shah told reporters. The entire nation is in deep shock following the tragedy, he told reporters. Shah also expressed condolences to relatives of those killed in the accident."The number of those killed will be officially released by the authorities after DNA test and identification of the victims," Shah said.

'The good news is that one person survived the crash and I am coming here after meeting him," he said. "The process of collecting DNA samples from bodies of those killed in the plane crash is over. Forensic ScienceLaboratory and National

Ahmedabad (Agency): Union minister Amit Forensic Sciences University in Gujarat will conduct DNA tests of the victims," he said. The London-bound Air India plane carrying 242 passen-



gers and crew crashed in a residential in Ahmedabad minutes after taking off from the city | switch that we can't have one airport on Thursday afternoon.

Record of Pak on terrorism very clear: MEA on top US general hailing ties with Pak

New Delhi (Agency): Pakistan's record on terrorism is "very clear" and the Pahalgam attack is only the recent example of cross-border terrorism, the Ministry of External Affairs said

on Thursday. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal's remarks at his weekly media briefing here came in response to a query on the recent comments made by a top US general on Washington's ties with New Delhi and with Islamabad.

"We have to have a relationship with Pakistan and with India. I do not believe it is a binary with Pakistan if we have a rela-

tionship with India," US Army General Michael Kurilla, Commander of US Central Command (CENTCOM), had said.

"We should look at the merits of the relationship for the positives that it has," the US general said during a testimony before the US House Armed Services Committee.

Briefing the media here, Jaiswal said, "The record of Pakistan, of what Pakistan is, is very clear".

"We all know the Pahalgam attack is only the recent example of cross-border terrorism. I would remind you that only recently one of the conspirators of the 26/11 attack, Tahawwur

United States to India.

"Obviously, none of us have forgotten that Pakistan gave



shelter to Osama bin Laden. It is significant that the person, and you would be aware, Dr Shakil Afridi, who helped locate Osama

Rana was extradited from the bin Laden, is still imprisoned by the Pakistani military," he said.

The MEA spokesperson was also asked about reports suggesting that Pakistan Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir has received an invitation to attend the US Army Day celebrations on June 14.

"On invitation part, I would urge you to be better informed as to who are the people who are invited, there are foreign leaders who have been invited or not. Take your questions to the American side, they will be in a better position to answer it," Jaiswal told reporters.

He was also asked about the India-Bangladesh ties during

the media interaction. "Our ties with Bangladesh is well-known, I have said from this podium several times. We want a positive and constructive relationship with Bangladesh that is anchored in the aspirations of the people of the two countries," he said.

He was also asked if India is monitoring the situation in West Asia. "We are following the development very closely. And, yes, we have a large diaspora population in that region. Our embassies all across the region, they are in touch with our community members also guiding them on their safety and security," Jaiswal said.

nation

BRIEFS

A 3-year-old girl from **Banda district in Uttar** Pradesh died, the slogan of 'Beti Bachao' is hollow, when will the society wake up **Staff Reporter**

Chilla. A small flower-like three-year-old girl, for whom the world was limited to toys, mother's lap and father's love. But the incident of a monster raping her innocence in the Chilla police station area of Banda shakes the heart of every person who believes in humanity. The sensational incident of rape of a three-year-old girl has not only shamed Banda but the entire society. After struggling between life and death for seven days, that innocent girl became silent forever. This girl, who was referred from Banda Medical College to Kanpur's Higher Center, died on the seventh day. Her tiny body was telling the painful story of brutality. The police took the body in their possession, filled the Panchayatnama and sent it to Kanpur Higher Center for post-mortem. But the question is, will the post-mortem be able to tell the pain that that innocent girl suffered? Will this society ever be able to answer the tears of that mother who lost her daughter? The same police took action but the justice was incomplete. In this Banda rape incident, the police took immediate action. Last Tuesday night at 9 o'clock, information was received in Chilla police station area that a three-year-old girl was missing. The police immediately registered a case and started searching. After interrogating the suspects, the accused Sunil Nishad was arrested in an encounter, who was shot in the leg. He was sent to jail after treatment. District Superintendent of Police Palash Bansal assured that a charge sheet will be filed soon and strict punishment will be given. But can this action bring that innocent back? Can the prison bars reduce the pain of that mother? The Banda rape case has once again proved that in our system, justice is delayed, and sometimes not at all. 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao': a slogan or a joke? This slogan of "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" is heard on every street corner. But this incident of Banda rape tells us how hollow this slogan is. When a three-year-old girl is not safe near her home, then how far-fetched is the talk of educating daughters? The government started this scheme in 2015, so that daughters get respect and security. But cases like Banda rape prove that slogans and schemes are limited only to papers. Here the question arises - why was an innocent found soaked in blood in the forest? Why did the villagers have to take out a candle march and demand death penalty? Why is it time for the society and the system to wake up to save daughters? This innocent girl of Banda rape is no longer in this world. Her screams, her pain and her mother's tears are enough to wake us up. This is not just the responsibility of the police or the law, but the responsibility of the entire society. We have to provide a safe environment to our children. We have to keep an eye on our neighbours, make our children aware and most importantly, we have to change the mindset that gives rise to such incidents. The screams of the innocent should not go in vain. This three-year-old girl of Banda rape case is no longer our daughter. But her screams should not let us sleep peacefully. Her mother's cries should keep shaking us.

The slogan of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' will remain hollow till our daughters are not safe. This is the time for the society to wake up, the law to be strict, and the wolves of lust should be punished in such a way that it becomes a

Grand event of Chief Minister Sports Award and Education Department Honor Ceremony concluded



It is a laudable initiative by the government to honour and encourage such talents from time to time: Prakash Dwivedi

Staff Reporter

Banda. A grand felicitation ceremony was organized in Maharishi Bam Dev Auditorium, Collectorate on Thursday. In which two important programs were concluded simultaneously. Under the first program, meritorious students who performed excellently at the district level in the high school and intermediate examination year 2025 were honored. The first 10 meritorious students of high school such as Akanksha Singh, Deepika Singh, Payal Shiv Hare, Aaradhya Gupta, Shivkaran Yaday. Sahil Vaishya, Pranshu Singh Rathore, Anuj and other students and the first 11 meritorious students of intermediate Sunny Patel, Yogita Yadav, Deepak Singh, Parsauni, Ashutosh, Simal, Kumar, Kiran Ravi Kushwaha, Ajit Singh, Utkarsh Mishra Shreyansh Garg were honored by giving

second program, under the Chief Minister's Sports Award Scheme, students of the state who won medals in the 68th National School Sports Competition 2024-25, such as Himanshu Yadav Gold Medal ₹ 35000, this student was awarded by the Chief Minister in Lucknow. Under this, Harshit Yadav Silver Medal ₹25000, Adarsh Rai Silver Medal ₹ 25000, Abhishek Yadav Silver ₹ 25000, Mahi Rajput Silver ₹ 25000, Paritosh Rai Silver Medal ₹ 25000, Roshni was awarded bronze medal along with a sum of ₹ 15,000, a certificate and a medal. This award was given to a total of five players. As chief guests in the program, Sadar MLA Prakash Dwivedi, District Panchavat President Sunil Patel, Naraini MLA Om Mani Verma, BJP District President Kallu Singh Rajput, Municipal Council President Malti Gupta, Teacher MLC representative Singh, Alok District Panchayat member Santram, District Magistrate G. Reeba, Additional Commissioner Bhagwan Sharan Dasvardhak. Chief Development Officer Ajay Kumar Pandey and many public representatives were present.

certificate and medal. In the

The government's Har Ghar Jal Yojana has become a showpiece. The Har Ğhar Jal Yojana has fallen prey to corruption governments pat its back

with 5050 funding and

But what is the ground

reality? LNT did provide

contribution.

community

It has been a year since the taps were sinstalled but water has not reached yet

Staff Reporter

Banda. The Uttar Pradesh government claims that under the Har Ghar Jal program, pure drinking water has been supplied to 2.32 crore households through pipes. The target of Jal Jeevan Mission is to cover 2.6689 crore households by 2024. In August 2019, only 5.16 lakh households had piped drinking water, but by November 2024. connections are claimed to be in 2.315 crore households. Piped drinking water is being talked about in 14.27 lakh households in 4470 villages in Bundelkhand and 6.69 lakh households in 3307 villages in Vindhya region. The central and state

Truck overtakes and hits four wheeler, two injured

Staff Reporter

Maudaha. A truck hit a four wheeler carrying people going from Sumerpur to Chitrakoot, in which two people were seriously injured. Pahadi resident Rajkumar Tiwari (52) son of Gaya Prasad Tiwari and Karvi resident Vikas Singh (32) son of Ghanshyam Singh were going to Chitrakoot with their relatives by four wheeler from Sumerpur, when a speeding truck overtook and hit the four wheeler near Naraich on the National Highway, due to which the vehicle was shattered and Rajkumar Tiwari, Ghanshyam Singh were seriously injured. After treatment at Naraich ANM Center, they were sent to CHC Maudaha through ambulance where the injured are being treated, while the truck fled from the spot.

Two brothers went to take bath in Ken river, one drowned and one died

Staff Reporter

Banda. Two brothers who had gone to their aunt's house drowned in the deep waters of Ken river while bathing. One brother died in this. The other brother was admitted to Rani Durgavati Medical College. As soon as the news of death was received, there was chaos among the family members. On receiving

Chhote, brother Piyush and sister. On Thursday morning, Prince had gone to take bath in Ken river with his 7-year-old younger brother Piyush and the children of the neighborhood. While bathing, his feet slipped and he drowned in the deep water. <

Seeing his brother drowning,

after examining him. Piyush is undergoing treatment. On receiving the news of death, there was chaos among the family members. On receiving the information, the police reached the spot and took the body into custody.

The deceased's cousin Ratiram told that Kaushal lives in Mumbai with

paper, but the thirst of the villages is not quenched. This is not water in every house, but deceit in every house. The question is how



connections in the village, long will this government hypocrisy continue. The but the taps are dry - no tap, no water. People are poor will keep cheating the yearning for every drop of people when Ramesh Yaday, water. Taps have become a resident of Jaspura town, show pieces. This is the told that a tap was installed in condition of Jaspura town of our house a year ago but till Jaspura block, there are taps, date we have not got a single but no water. So the scheme drop of water and whenever is complete only on paper, we tell any employee of the water crisis persists in the water institute, he says that it rural areas of Jaspura block. will be done and a year has People are dependent on old passed by saying this but hand pumps and wells. water has not been delivered Government claims shine on yet. In such a scorching heat,

water has to be brought from a long distance through a hand pipe. Jai Narayan Singh told that people have been cheated by the Har Ghar Yojana. If people had to keep the tap after seeing it, then why was the connection done? The reality of the government is something else and everything is complete on paper. From Lauki Baba Temple to PGS Public School, not a single tap connection has been made while it has been said many times and in this scorching heat, masons and children need water but people keep roaming around for a drop of water and go to drink and fill water in the hand pipe. Also, wherever the pipeline was laid in the village, the RCC has been broken. It has not been repaired due to which people face a lot of problems in removing it. In the Har Ghar Jal Yojana, only the contractors have benefited and no poor person has

Wells are essential for our environment, we all must come together to save their existence - Social worker Sumit Shukla

benefited.

result,

fighting

wells

for

their



Staff Reporter

Banda. If we look at it, a few years

ago the wells in Bundelkhand were not in the same condition as they are today. People were maintaining them very responsibly because till

existence today. Slowly they are being filled up and leveled. Somewhere household being garbage is dumped in them due to which their water sources are getting blocked and their utility is also ending. Social worker Sumit Shukla said that even today people worship wells with great pomp but this is only a momentary feeling. After that the same corrupt mentality is seen. We all have to wake up and struggle to save the existence of wells which are present as the heritage of Bundelkhand. Awareness among people

son for others. The soul of that innocent will get peace only when we promise that no other daughter becomes a victim of such brutality.

Awareness workshop organized in Badausa on Child Labor **Prohibition Day**



Staff Reporter

Banda. On the occasion of Child Labour Prohibition Day, a workshop was organized in the office of Green and Happy India Trust to make the youth aware of the horrors of child labour, constitutional provisions and legal rights so that they can become the harbingers of change. Only when the youth will stand with the constitution, will society be free of the stigma of child labour. Uma Kushwaha, Director, Green and Happy India Trust said that Article 24 and the Right to Education Act are shields for the children, but are ineffective until the society becomes aware. Rajni Raikwar, social worker said that labour will flourish till we remain silent. Every youth will have to speak up. Santosh Kushwaha, youth speaker, the revolution should begin from Badausa. The target now is to eliminate child labour from every Panchayat. Ground data tells the truth; there are more than 1.2 Lakh child labourers in Uttar Pradesh. More than 4,500 children are still engaged in labour in the district. The most affected areas are Badausa, Atra. Naraini etc. Resolution of the youth, all participants took an oath that they will take every child to school. They will identify child labourers and coordinate with the administration. They will spread awareness about child rights in every village.

the information, the police reached the spot, took the body in their custody and sent it for postmortem after Panchnama. 15-year-old Prince, son of Kaushal Yadav, a resident of Jaurahi village of Dehat Kotwali area, had gone to his aunt Rani's house in Bari Garh village of Chhatarpur district on Wednesday with his mother Shobha, father

Piyush also jumped into the river to save him, he also drowned. The fellow children shouted. Hearing the noise, people bathing nearby ran. On receiving the information, the family also reached the spot. After a lot of hard work, both were taken out of the water.

Both were admitted to Rani Durgavati Medical College. Where the doctors declared Prince dead

his family, he comes to the villag once a year. He has come to the village with his family a few days back. Before going to Mumbai, he has come with his family to meet his sister. This incident happened on Thursday. The deceased was the eldest of two brothers. Due to this sudden incident, mother Shobha became very upset and started crving.

then the main source of drinking water was well and most of the irrigation was also done through wells. But with time a lot has changed. People who were dependent on wells for water have discovered many other ways to get water. Which have been replaced by hand pumps, submersibles etc. As a

natural forest wealth but it is being exploited continuously which is the biggest reason for pain. Social worker Sumit Shukla said that if the government works with a true heart then the condition of ponds and wells situated in Bundelkhand which increase the pride of Bundelkhand can improve.

Everyone will have to understand

their contribution towards the

environment. Bundelkhand region

is a land of mountains, rivers and

Secretary, Pradhan and Pradhan representative Abhilakh and Vikash indulged in massive corruption in Gram Panchayat

Villagers and Panchayat members accused everyone of misusing the money

Staff Reporter

Banda. Community toilets were built in villages by spending crores of rupees under Swachh Bharat Mission. But they were always found locked in the village and every month thousands of rupees are spent for cleaning and maintenance. But despite this, the negligence of the responsible village head and officers can be seen and there is a pile of garbage in the village. Villagers living in Tilausa Gram Panchayat under Kamasin Block and 11 people including Panchayat member Mahendra Singh, former head Atul Singh, Ramkhelavan, Sunaina

BDC, Yogendra Tripathi had given affidavit to DM and alleged that Secretary Dharmendra Prajapati, Pradhan Anshu Devi and Pradhan representative Abhilakh and Vikas have done a lot of corruption in the Gram Panchayat and are deeply immersed in corruption. Let us tell you

that the cleanliness system in Tilausa Gram Panchayat is in a bad state. The toilets are locked and people are forced to defecate in the open. The people of the village alleged that payments are being made in the name of caretaker and the Swachh Bharat Mission is being openly flouted in the villages. This is not the situation of a day or two, but if the people are to be believed, this has been the situation for years. Toilets were built but they are not opened. Somewhere the ladies toilet, while somewhere the men's toilet

building has been built in the village but the lock is never



opened. It is always locked. People have to make rounds of the block to get copies of certificate, death birth certificate, family register made. There is a heap of

remains locked. A Panchayat garbage in the village; the money has been taken out by head and the secretary together have misused the

government money. The

Pradhan's favourites have

put submersibles in the hand

pipes in the village. Hand

pumps have been lying

broken for many months,

showing reboring. Money has been taken out in the name of reboring the hand pump. The village Pradhan has done a lot of corruption in the name of reboring the hand pipe and there is a pile of garbage in the village. The payment of the caretaker of the Sulabh toilet is also done fraudulently every time. Money has been taken out by showing fake work at many places and the work has not been done till date. Vehicles had come to the village to dump garbage but are lying in the junk, there is no arrangement for cleanliness in the village. Street lights were also installed which are lying broken, in which too a lot of rigging has been done. Former Pradhan Atul Singh and Mahendra Singh Gram Panchayat member said that most of the secretaries are immersed in corruption, who are doing work by taking commission from the

Pradhans. Instead of doing development in the Gram Panchayat, money is spent for personal benefit. The Gram Panchayat members of the same village told that the Pradhan has given houses to his favourites like Shravan Kumar Rajput son of Ramutar Rajput who has a tractor, permanent house and agriculture, who are ineligible and people living in huts in the village were not given houses. When the entire matter was informed to DPRO Rajendra Prasad, he told that an investigation team has been formed. contact the investigation team what happened in the case, when he was asked that the investigation has come to your place from 4 April 25, then how much time does it take to complete the investigation, he disconnected the phone saying that get information from the investigation officer

BUSINESS

Consumers' loss, farmer optimism: In US, trade war sees key groups at odds



New Delhi (Agency): April was one of the most important months in the world's economic history, with the Trump administration's reciprocal tariffs coming into force on April 2 before being put on pause for 90 days a week later. The threat of the reciprocal tariffs, however, has seemingly had the opposite effect as American companies stocked up ahead of the tariffs' rollout.

Data released last week showed that while the US' goods and services trade deficit in April 2025 fell a record 55 per cent from March 2025 to a 19-month low of \$61.6 billion, the deficit for the first four months of 2025 was up 66 per cent compared to a year ago. The basis of Trump's reciprocal tariffs was that it would help bring down the US' trade deficit with various countries. Take India, for instance, which enjoyed a total trade surplus of \$46.09 billion with the US in 2024. However, India's merchandise trade surplus with the US for the first four months of 2025 increased by 45 per cent to \$23.29 billion, with imports from India up 29 per cent according to latest data from the US Commerce Department. In January-April 2025, the US imported \$9.49 billion of advanced technology products from India, up 86 per cent from a year ago.

American consumers have, for a long time, been considered the biggest losers in the Trump administration's pursuit of balanced trade. According to the non-partisan policy research centre The Budget Lab at Yale, American households, on average, are facing a consumption loss of \$2,500 in 2025 when prices are measured in 2024 levels. "The post-substitution price increase settles at 1.3%, a \$2,100 loss per household," The Budget Lab at Yale said. The Budget Lab estimates that Americans are facing an overall average effective tariff rate of 15.6 per cent at present — the highest since 1937 – with segments such as clothing and textiles being affected the most. In the short run, shoe and apparel prices for US consumers are up 31 per cent and 28 per cent, respectively. Despite the pain from tariffs, some in the US are still upbeat; in fact, more so than in several years. The Purdue University-CME Group Ag Economy Barometer index climbed to a four-year high last month, suggesting improved sentiment among farmers due to a "much more optimistic view of US agricultural export prospects, combined with a less negative view of tariffs' impact on 2025 farm income than respondents provided in either March or April".

Equity mutual fund inflows decline 22% to 13-month low of Rs 19,013.12 crore in May: AMFI data

New Delhi (Agency): Inflows into equity mutual funds declined 22 per cent on a month-on-month (m-o-m) basis to hit a 13-month low of Rs 19,013.12 crore in May compared to Rs 24,269.26 crore in April, the latest data from the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) showed.

Helped by mark-to-market (MTM) gains, the net asset under management (AUM) of the mutual fund (MF) industry crossed over Rs 70 lakh crore for the first time, to touch Rs 72.19 lakh crore in

algo trading platforms.

The scheme is going to apply

to brokers dealing with

proceedings before the

regulator and the Securities

Appellate Tribunal. The Sebi

move is to provide a route to

the brokers to conclude these

matters in an expeditious

manner. The scheme which

commences on July 16 will

conclude on September 16,

This scheme aims to provide

a settlement opportunity to

stock brokers linked with

specific algo platforms

against whom proceedings

have already been initiated

by Sebi and are currently

pending before any authority

like

forum

Tribunal or the courts.

Adjudicating

Securities

or

Sebi said in a statement

crore in April. During the reporting month, inflows through systematic investment plan (SIP) touched a record high of Rs 26,688 crore, with the number of contributing accounts rising to an all-time high of 8.56 crores. "Equity inflows moderated to

Rs 19,013 crore this month, reflecting cautious investor sentiment amidst market volatility. Such phases often witness a natural reallocation towards hybrid and arbitrage schemes, offering a more uncertain times," said Venkat remaining strong. The BSE's N Chalasani, chief executive,

MUTUAL FUNDS

AMFI. The reduction in inflows into equity mutual fund schemes came despite Within equities schemes,

returns.

May, as against Rs 69.99 lakh balanced approach during the domestic markets highest inflows were seen in 30-share Sensex rose 1.5 per

> compared to Rs 5,541.71 crore recorded in April. Small-cap fund inflows were down month-on-month to Rs 3,214.21 crore from Rs 3,999.95 crore in April. Inflows into mid-cap funds were Rs 2,808.68 crore, down from Rs 3,313.98 crore in the previous month. Largecap funds saw a 53.19 per cent, while the broader Nifty cent decline in net inflows at climber 1.71 per cent in May. Rs 1,250.47 crore, compared to Rs 2,671.46 crore in April.

flexi-cap funds at Rs

3,841.32 crore in May.

However, inflows were lower

Inflows into sector/thematic funds inched up to Rs 2,052.48 crore in May from Rs 2,000.95 crore in the previous month.

Retail mutual fund folios (equity + hybrid + solution oriented schemes) stood at 18.84 crore in May 2025 as against 18.71 crore in April. Debt mutual fund schemes saw outflows to the tune of Rs 15.908.48 crore in May, compared with inflows worth Rs 2.19 lakh crore in April. Outflows in the segment were majorly witnessed in liquid funds (Rs 40,205.36

Sebi offers settlement for brokers facing action in algo trading

Mumbai (Agency): The The concerned stock brokers Securities and Exchange may settle the proceedings Board of India (SEBI) has and seek an expedited conclusion to their cases by offered a settlement scheme for brokers who were availing of the benefits of undergoing regulatory action for being associated with

provided assured returns. Earlier, trading applications provided by several brokers allowed their clients to use API — a software that allows



this scheme. However, Sebi clarified that actions initiated against stock brokers, who choose not to avail this settlement opportunity, will continue in accordance with the law. Over 100 brokers earlier

reportedly received Sebi warnings for allowing APIs (application programming interface) of an algo provider, which allegedly

two applications to communicate with each other. After they are installed, APIs get the authorisation to perform a host of functions in the trading account, such as placing buy and sell orders or cancelling orders.

prohibiting stockbrokers from any association with platforms offering assured sector counterpart.

conducting an extensive investigation into Jane Street's derivatives trading activity over the past three years, examining whether quantitative the global trading giant attempted to India's manipulate benchmark stock indices, according to a Reuters report.

Market regulator Sebi is

The probe — said to be SEBI's most far-reaching into an international trading firm — comes amid the regulator's broader efforts to temper the heightened activity in India's booming derivatives market.

The investigation is focused on Jane Street, its Singaporebased affiliate Jane Street Singapore Pte, and JSI Investments, its Indian unit. SEBI is reviewing the firms' algorithmic trading strategies, particularly in relation to the NSE's Nifty 50 index and its banking

After passengers fall off moving Mumbai local, Railway Board decides to introduce trains with automatic door closer facility



New Delhi (Agency): Following a major incident in Mumbai where at least four passengers were killed on Monday after falling from moving local trains, Railway Board said that all trains being manufactured for Mumbai Suburban will have automatic door-closer facilities These coaches will be manufactured by Indian Railways manufacturing unit Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai.

Railway Board, which is the apex decision-making body of Ministry of Railways, also decided that apart from new rakes, the possibilities should be explored to provide door closure facilities in old rakes in service.

A senior official of Ministry of Railways said that for installing automatic doors, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Railway Board officials held a detailed meeting with a team of ICF, Chennai.

"The purpose was to find a practical solution to the issue of automatic door closing in local non-AC trains in Mumbai. The major issue with automatic door closing in non-AC trains is suffocation because of reduced ventilation. We found that due to this CO2 increases by 2.5 times. After detailed discussions, it was decided that new non-AC trains will be designed and manufactured where the key issue of ventilation will be resolved using three design changes," said the official.

According to the new design, the doors will have louvers and the coaches will have roof-mounted ventilation units to pump in fresh air. Along with this, the coaches will have vestibules so that passengers can move from one coach to another and balance out the crowd in a natural way.

Indian Railway runs a total of 3,200 location trains in Mumbai suburban daily. Out of this, 1810 trains are run by Central Railway and 1406 local trains are run by Western Railway On an average 66 lakh passengers use Mumba

Microfinance sector suffers from vicious cycle of overindebtedness, high rates: RBI Deputy Governor Rao

the

Officer,

Appellate

Mumbai (Agency): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao has said that the microfinance sector continues to grapple with high indebtedness, elevated interest rates and coercive recovery practices. Speaking at an event on financial inclusion organized

than the rest of the industry and which in disruptions in

access to low-cost funds have previous year. This rise in been found to be charging delinquencies reflects the margins significantly higher growing stress in the small borrower segment. several

instances appear to be excessive. The frequency of the microfinance sector has increased of late, Rao said,

shows that PAR in the 31-180 days overdue bucket has gone up to 6.2 per cent during FY2025 as against 2.1 per



finance banks, followed by

NBFC-MFIs, highlighting persistent challenges," the agency said. According to CRIF High Mark, higherticket loans above Rs one lakh have experienced an uptick in all delinquency buckets as their share in POS expands, highlighting the

communities, he said. "It is in the collective interest of all stakeholders that such disruptions are preemptively addressed and avoided," he said.

Rao asked the regulated entities to enhance their credit appraisal frameworks to prevent over-leveraging of

Sebi issued a circular in 2022

by HSBC last week, Rao said that while some moderation in interest rates charged on microfinance loans has been observed in recent quarters, pockets of high interest rates elevated and margins continue to persist.

"The sector (microfinance) continues to suffer from vicious cvcle of overindebtedness, high interest rates and harsh recovery practices," he said.

The deputy governors noted that even lenders having

adding that incidents of high borrower indebtedness, coupled with coercive recovery practices, sometimes lead to tragic

The consequences. microfinance sector in the country is experiencing a significant surge in delinquencies, with portfolio at risk (PAR), or loans overdue for over 31 days, jumping by 163 per cent to Rs 43.075 crore in the fiscal year

ended March 2025, up from Rs 16,379 crore in the

Ratings

said.

March

Crisil

the Significantly, microfinance industry's gross loan portfolio (GLP) fell to Rs 381,200 crore as of March 2025, marking a 13.9 per cent fall from Rs 442,700 crore a year ago. Data from CRIF High Mark, a credit information bureau,

cent in the same period of last year. PAR in the 180 days plus bucket has jumped from 1.6 per cent to 5.1 per cent during the fiscal. "PAR of 91-180 days and 180 plus days (including write-offs) continue to rise, particularly among banks and small

need for greater caution. However, its delinquency is much lower than the lowerticket sizes, it said. The deputy governor further said that the lenders should look beyond the conventional "high-yielding business" tag for the microfinance sector and approach it with an empathic and developmental perspective. They should recognise the socioeconomic role that microfinance plays in vulnerable empowering

borrowers. They must eschew any coercive or unethical recovery practices, ensuring that financial services are delivered in a manner that is both responsible and sustainable. "While the business model may be sound, the organisational structure and the incentive schemes framed to deliver the services may be flawed resulting in perverse outcomes for customers. This calls for an introspection around the models," he said.

local to commute daily.

"The first train of this new design will be ready by November 2025. After necessary tests and certification, it will be put into service by January 2026. This is in addition to the 238 AC trains being manufactured for Mumbai suburban services," said the official.

Dilip Kumar, executive director (Information & Publicity), Ministry of Railways, said that the initial investigation shows that passengers were travelling on footboard, which is always dangerous.

"Today's incident is extremely tragic. We regularly discourage people from using footboard or boarding the running train. We are moving towards the long-term solution for such problems. Because of this, the Railway Board has decided that from now onwards, all new trainsets for Mumbai Suburban will have closed-door facility to avoid any such incidents.

India to add 75 GW renewables in FY26 and FY27, investments worth Rs 3.8 lakh crore expected: Crisil Ratings

India is set to add 75 gigawatt (GW) of renewable energy in 2025-26 (FY26) and FY27, up 53 per cent from 49 GW added in FY24 and FY25, Crisil Ratings said. Investments in renewables are also expected to surge by 52 per cent from Rs 2.5 lakh crore to Rs 3.8 lakh crore in

FY26 [...] New Delhi (Agency): India is set to add 75 gigawatt (GW) of renewable energy in 2025-26 (FY26) and FY27, up 53 per cent from 49 GW added in FY24 and FY25,

Investments in renewables are also expected to surge by 52 per cent from Rs 2.5 lakh crore to Rs 3.8 lakh crore in FY26 and FY27, largely on account of increasing share of hybrid projects that are more capital intensive, the agency ratings said. However, delays in adding adequate transmission infrastructure could adversely impact future capacity addition, it added. "We expect the strong growth momentum in the renewables sector to continue with 75 GW of capacity to be added over this fiscal and the next, taking the overall capacity to 233 GW by March 2027. This will be led by a strong pipeline of

around 88 GW of utility

projects outstanding as of

2025," Krishan Sitaraman, chief ratings officer at Crisil, said. Of the total 75 GW renewable capacity to be added over the next two financial years, around 37 per cent will come from hybrid and storage-linked projects, significantly larger than the 17 per cent share in FY24 and FY25. Hybrid

projects mix solar and wind capacities to support more consistent generation, while storage-linked projects use batteries and pumped hydro to save excess power generation for later use. "The rising share of hybrid projects is a key requirement on account of the intermittent nature of renewable power, as solar generation happens

during the daytime and wind

power is seasonal. Hence,

renewables in the generation mix has a potential to disrupt

increasing the share of which increased to Rs 2.5 to keep pace with capacity lakh crore in the following two fiscals, and is expected



the grid balance. Hybrid projects, with or without battery storage, provide an optimal solution to support round-the-clock power generation," Sitaraman said. Crisil Ratings said investments in renewables were recorded at Rs 1.8 lakh crore in FY22 and FY23,

to grow by half to Rs 3.8 lakh crore in FY26 and FY27. The surge in investments will partly be on account of rising share of hybrid and storage projects, which are more capital intensive.

A key challenge facing the sector is the inability of transmission infrastructure

FY27. addition. "The need for augmenting transmission capacity to keep pace with the growing renewable capacity is there. And hence, we are seeing an uptick in transmission project awarding. That has ramped up significantly. If all of that gets implemented, then it would go a long way in renewable helping evacuation," Sitaraman said. The transmission sector recorded capital expenditure worth Rs 36,000 crore in FY25, more than double of Rs 15,000 crore in FY24. Tenders worth Rs 1 lakh crore were awarded in FY25, compared to Rs 48,000 crore in the previous financial year. Crisil has projected capex of between Rs 0.9-1

lakh crore in FY26 and

(PPAs).

"However, there is a risk of a shortfall because of the potential for delays in execution. These could arise as the country is now implementing a much higher pace of transmission projects than seen in the past. What is projected to be executed in FY26 and FY27 is double of what we saw in the previous two years. That exposes projects to risk of delays, especially with respect to the supply of equipment such as transformers and other components," according to Sitaraman.

Renewable projects are also facing difficulties in securing buyers through renewable implementing energy agencies (REIAs), with not enough states signing power purchase agreements

"For a majority of the projects awarded in the past one to two years, the progress of power purchase has been slow, with only 50 per cent of such PPAs closed as of March 2025. However, we expect improvement going forward as India's demand for power, as well as discoms' renewable power obligations, would increase further while thermal capacity addition will take time," Sitaraman said. According to a recent Grid-India resource adequacy report, the country will add

45 GW in the ongoing FY26, led by solar (26.5 GW), wind (6.3 GW), coal (4.4 GW), battery energy storage (3.3 GW), hydro (1.6 GW), pumped storage (1.5 GW), and nuclear (1.4 GW).

EDITORIAL

BHOPAL, FRIDAY, 13, JUNE, 2025

EDITORIAL **Kashmir Will Prevail**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Jammu and Kashmir last week carried more than the weight of a new railway link it carried the resolve of a nation that refuses to be broken by terror. Just weeks after the brutal Pahalgam attack that killed 26 Hindu tourists, and days after a tense four-day military skirmish with Pakistan, India has chosen a response rooted in resilience. Not just retaliation - but rebuilding. The inauguration of a long-awaited rail link connecting the Kashmir Valley to the broader Indian railway network is more than an engineering milestone. It is a declaration. Terrorists may plant bombs and sow fear, but India lays tracks, builds bridges, and strengthens unity. Over 28 years in the making, the rail link - featuring the world's highest railway arch - symbolises not only connectivity but continuity. Kashmir's inseparable place in the Indian journey and the importance accorded to its development are in sharp contrast, may we add, to the story in that part of the region which Pakistan has occupied. This is not about



symbolism alone. The new rail route. along with newly opened roads. medical infrastructure, and civic projects, is designed to restore confidence in a region that has seen too much blood

and uncertainty. The Valley, known for its unmatched beauty and dignified people, deserves more than security concerns. It deserves opportunity, investment, and peace on its own terms.

True development in Kashmir must uphold the ideals of a united India - where every citizen, from Srinagar to Kanyakumari, shares equally in the nation's pride, protection. and promise of progress. By targeting tourism - Kashmir's economic backbone - the April attack tried to do more than kill. It sought to cripple the local economy, crush morale, and isolate the region once more. It failed. Tourism may have temporarily dropped, but the government's response - swift, visible, and strategic - has laid the groundwork for revival. The continuing tug-of-war between India and Pakistan over Kashmir reduces every tragedy to a political point. What should have been a moment of collective mourning becomes another line in a diplomatic script. In this zero-sum game, neither truth nor justice wins - only the cycle of suspicion and violence continues unbroken. Pakistan's denials ring hollow. Decades of cross-border infiltration and proxy warfare are not erased by official statements. India has shown restraint and strength in equal measure. The message is clear: if Pakistan fans the flames of extremism, India will answer not just with defence, but with development. Yet Kashmir's story is not Pakistan's to write. It is India's to honour, protect, and empower and for the Kashmiri people to live - with dignity, safety, and purpose. They are not a bargaining chip. They are an inseparable part of India's soul. Development will continue. Terror will be defeated. Kashmir will prevail — because India will not rest until it does.

Tariff Mirage

The recent decline in US imports - a stunning 20 per cent plunge in a single month --- has handed the Trump administration an apparent victory. The trade deficit in goods, a figure long criticized by then former and now returned President Trump, shrank by nearly half. To some, this sharp decline seems to validate the aggressive tariff strategy Mr Trump unleashed earlier this year. But behind the numbers lies a troubling truth: this is less an economic triumph than a distortion, masking deeper risks | cannot be described in scientific have to live in some temporary for both the US and global economies. At first glance, the administration's move seems to be working. By slapping sweeping import taxes - including a blanket 10 per cent levy on most goods - the White House has forced down the volume of foreign goods flowing into American ports. Steel, aluminum, automobiles, pharmaceuticals, toys, clothing and even everyday consumer electronics like mobile phones have been caught in this dragnet. Key trading partners such as China, Canada, and Mexico have seen their exports to the US nosedive to levels not seen in years. For American consumers, this could mean higher Tariffs prices on goods from electronics to apparel as retailers pass on increased stemming costs from disrupted supply chains and import taxes. But this trade squeeze is neither organic nor sustainable. Much of the April decline is the result of panic-driven stockpiling by American firms earlier in the year. Expecting tariffs, they rushed to fill inventories ahead of time - creating a false sense of market activity that inflated import numbers before the drop. The subsequent fall, then, reflects not a new industrial resurgence in the US, but a temporary vacuum after the buying frenzy. There is no evidence yet that US factories are scaling up production to fill this gap. Domestic manufacturing, still hollowed out by decades of offshoring, cannot pivot overnight to replace the sheer variety and volume of goods that Americans import. Without structural investment in industrial capacity and skills, the country risks shortages, price spikes, and supply chain disruptions. Early warnings are already emerging - steel exports from Mexico have halved, while Canada's trade deficit ballooned, both signs of deeper economic friction that could backfire on the US economy itself. Even the sharp reduction in the deficit comes with strings attached. By forcing abrupt changes in global trade flows, Washington risks driving | Limited (CMRL). In an suppliers to pivot permanently toward other markets, bypassing the US in the long term. Vietnam and Taiwan, for example, briefly stepped in to fill some of the supply gap, but such adjustments are tactical, not strategic. Prolonged instability could encourage producers worldwide to diversify away from the US market altogether. Shortterm optics may favour the administration's political message of "winning" on trade, but this is no assured victory. Economic strength cannot be measured by import suppression alone. True success demands a revitalised domestic industry - not merely fewer foreign goods. Until that foundation is rebuilt, the gains will remain fragile, and the risks - both at home and abroad - will only grow.

FROM SILENCE TO SAFETY Legal reforms under Modi govt give a new shape to women's safety Savitri Thakur: Minister of State, Ministry of Women and Child Development **Ramvilas Sharma**

Samyam Bharat: The brutal Legal protection, now a na-Nirbhaya case in 2012 shook the conscience of the nation. It also exposed the deep deficiencies in India's legal and administrative framework for the safety of women. Inadequate policing, slow judicial process, outdated laws and inadequate support for victims painted a dismal picture. By 2014, India was at a turning point. There was tremendous public outrage. But the legal system lay dormant. Fast track courts were a concept, not a reality. There were no single solution centres, no national women's helpline, no forensic support to speed up investigations and no dedicated funds to operationalise these measures. Women's issues were seen as social concerns-not national priorities. Modi Era: From Security to Structural Empowerment: The

Central Government under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has brought about a comprehensive transformation from the sluggish partial response of the last 11 years of governance to a mission-mode approach of legal reforms, responsible attitude of institutions and respect for every woman.

tional commitment: The government initiated the setting up of Fast Track Special Courts across the country and today 745 such courts are functional. Of these, 404 exclusively deal with cases under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. As compared to 2014 when One Stop Centres did not exist, these are now fully functional in over 820 districts that provide legal aid, police intervention, shelter and counselling at one stop to any woman affected by violence. The National Women Helpline 181, launched as part of this ecosystem, has provided emergency assistance to over 86 lakh women 24 hours a day. In addition, women help desks are now established in over 14,600 police stations across the country, manned by women officers. This has changed the climate of response to crimes against women from the earlier one of indifference or even aggression to one of greater sensitivity and support. Through the Nirbhaya Fund, the government has now funded over 50 major projects focused on women's safety and security, compared to the lackadaisical response system before



2014. Progressive legal amendments: Starting with some essential reforms in the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, and now the comprehensive codification of the Indian Justice Code (BNS) and related laws in 2023, colonialera criminal jurisprudence has been replaced by laws defined in the Indian context. The new laws consolidate all

crimes against women into one chapter. Video-recording of victim statements has been made

Removing old protectionist restrictions, women are now legally allowed to work in any sector and at any time, reaffirming their freedom to make their own decisions. Significant procedural reforms have also been made, including protection of witnesses and approval of digital evidence. It redefines the process of providing justice to victims in cases of sexual violence. These are not just amendments - they restore the system of providing justice to the victims.

Empowerment beyond the law: Beyond the realm of legal protection, the Government's approach to women is to bring about legal reforms in broader aspects of social, financial and recording statements in the digital empowerment. Maternity presence of a female magistrate leave has now been increased to enhance sensitivity. Offences from 12 to 26 weeks, and estabsuch as digital stalking, voyeurlishments with more than 50 emism and physical abuse under ployees are now required to profalse promises of marriage have vide crèche facilities. Women are been criminalised for the first now actively participating in time. The legal system now procombat roles in the armed forces. vides for stringent penalties They are getting admissions in against acid attacks, human traf-Sainik Schools, enrolling in the ficking, gang rape and custodial prestigious National Defence sexual violence. Additionally, Academy, and receiving permafailure to file an FIR or provide nent commissions. These are emergency medical care to a rape remarkable changes that were the safest place for a woman to mandatory, with a preference for victim has been criminalised. previously very difficult for live, work, and lead.

them. Discriminatory practices like triple talaq have been legally abolished, and women are now allowed to perform Hajj without a male guardian. Justice delivery has now been decentralised and digitised through community-based Nari Adalats and platforms like She-Box 2.0. This has activated a time-bound redressal mechanism directly at the grassroots level. A safer, stronger India begins with legal dignity: Before 2014, women's safety was often seen as a headline-driven reactionary issue rather than a policy one, but today it is embedded in the structure of governance, supported by funding, forensic tools, legal reforms and frontline workers. As we enter the Amrit Kaal, there is now a clear vision that no woman is alone in this new India. Now her security is not a privilege but a constitutional guarantee backed by the capac-

The journey is still on, but we have come a long way in terms of women's safety. With continued political will, social participation, and legal commitment, India can surely become

ity of the government.

Reincarnation is key to self-realisation

Ramvilas Sharma

In any discussion with Americans, especially Christians, about death and afterlife I find it difficult to bring up the subject of reincarnation. They neither understand nor believe in the concept. For them, the present life is "the one life to live" and the destination upon death is heaven or hell, depending on how they live their life. However, even in their mind, concepts of "heaven" and "hell" are vague, except for the image of heaven as an idyllic place with gardens, flowers, birds etc. and hell as just an eternal fire. It is not just the Christians; I have similar issues with my Indian friends who are atheists and/or technically oriented. They do not understand a concept that terms using scientific laws To them, death is a decomposition of the body to its constituent molecules, and it is an absolute end followed by eternal nothingness. To be clear, I am not a spiritual person. Throughout my younger years, I never followed any religious path. I read no scripture, went to temples only to appreciate architectural beauty, and attended religious festivals for social interactions. It is the concept of reincarnation which drew me back to Hinduism, especially the book "An Autobiography of Yogi" by Paramhansa Yogananda. I find a logical consistency and completeness in how our existence is described in Hinduism. Setting aside reli-

gions for the time being, let us follow the living arrangement of any man from his youth to death.

A certain pattern emerges, no matter which country we focus our attention to. The starting habitat is usually small and modest. The person's financial situation and professional prestige improve over time; perhaps there are additions to the family and he moves to a larger home. However, the house eventually gets old, requiring continuous repair and maintenance. When this becomes a headache, the owner decides to move to a newer home and starts the cycle over again. The transition from one home to another is not an instantaneous process. He may housing in between: perhaps a

sessions. If a person lives long

enough, he would eventually be content with living in a small place, perhaps an attic room, or even a cave, where he can just meditate and think about divine thoughts. Some travel to places like Varanasi and Hardwar to spend their remaining days sitranted to carry on. The process ting on the bank of river Ganges, absorbed in meditation.

In the US, if diagnosed with by discarding the old body.



body which requires less mainsense to me. More specifically, tenance. There are really only here are the salient points as I two reasons for the soul to move see it:

. The soul continuously improves itself in each incarnation. Each life is an opportunity to gain knowledge and broaden one's outlook.

 There is a definitive ending of reincarnation is just like movwhen the soul merges into God. ing from one home to another That is the ultimate liberation – only then the eternal nothingness starts.

> · Reincarnations are not desirable scenarios. We all know that life on this earth is miserable. The goal should be to minimize the number of incarnations and achieve union with God as of the concept of reincarnation. soon as possible. All religious Christianity is an oversimplified practices are different ways to achieve exactly that.

it repeated reincarnations quent religions just rehashed could be interpreted as hell and that ultimate union is heaven.

· Hindu holy men have been saying this for thousands of years. There have been no modifications or additions to the central concepts. There is no "New Hinduism" or dozens of sects. That is why it is the Sanatan Dharma

. The key Hindu rituals can be explained in terms of these central concepts involving reincarnation. Other religious festivities and worshipping various Gods is just mythology and metaphors with various messages for improving one's soul.

· Buddhism and Judaism have accepted certain versions and incomplete interpretation in my view. It seems that Hindu • There is no heaven or hell, holy men said it all and subse-

various pieces of the overall



hotel or a rented place.

This cycle of moving into a new home, making improvements in life and moving on when the house gets too old, continues until the person retires. In retired life, he no longer wants to live in a fancy home with all kinds of physical comfort. He would probably prefer living in a senior community or retreat of some sort in a more peaceful and calmer place. Unlike individual homes, these communities are open arrangements. All retired people prefer such living as they spend more time reminiscing about their lives and emotional interactions as opposed to extravagant lives full of physical pleasures and materialistic ob-

a terminal illness, he can be ad-

mitted into a hospice, where he remains in a halfasleep state. My purpose of bringing this observation is to show the similarity between a person living in a house and our soul (or "atman") living in an enclosure that we call "body". Just like we protect our home using locks, alarm systems, video cameras and even security guards, we protect our body by eating healthy food, taking appropriate medication and vaccines, wearing weather-proof attire etc. Throughout life, the soul makes improvements based on what the person does in life and eventually the time comes to move to a newer and younger

The soul lives on. During the period between successive incarnations, the soul floats around and hovers. The soul "sees" and knows what is going on in the world it left behind but does not attach to a particular body nor communicate. Our soul behaves the same way as we would behave in terms of continuing our existence. According to Hindu yogis, the soul first goes through a physical or gross body, then an astral body and finally a causal body before discarding everything and merging into a universal consciousness or "God". I find this whole narrative both intriguing and captivating because it makes

to a different body: a) the old

body has become ravaged by

age and illnesses, and b) the

soul has made enough improve-

ment that a new body is war-

· Science puts too much emphasis on the role of the brain in processing all signals from our five senses to explain everything, but this explanation is incomplete. It is indeed true when the soul is inside a human body but when we enter the astral world and beyond, we leave behind the human body along with the brain; other senses kick in that science cannot explain.

• Why do we go through these hundreds, if not thousands, of reincarnations? Why not unite with God just after one life? No one can find the answer in our present physical form using five senses.

concepts. Reincarnation is the key to our self-realisation. Finding God and heaven after only one life is like graduating with a PhD after one grade. One must go through twelve grades in school and several more years in college and graduate study; sometimes repeating some classes but gaining knowledge at every step before that coveted degree. I have no doubt that I am coming back to this earth many more times.

Many feel exasperated at the thought of repeating life with the same sequence of life phenomena, but I am looking forward to my next life with the anticipation

of new experiences.

Veena Vijayan denies allegations in CMRL case, opposes CBI probe in Kerala HC

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's

categorically denied all allegations regarding her now-defunct firm, Exalogic Solutions, and its financial transactions with Cochin Minerals and Rutile

affidavit filed before the Kerala High Court in response to a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking a CBI probe into the alleged financial dealings, Veena maintained that all transactions between Exalogic and the Kochibased private minerals firm were transparent and compliant with existing laws.

Veena's affidavit opposed the plea for a CBI investigation

Kochi (Agency): Kerala into the alleged irregularities amounting to Rs. 197.7 crore. daughter, Veena Vijayan, has She stated that the Serious Fraud Investigation Of-

therefore, a parallel investigation was unwarranted. Dismissing claims

that Exalogic was a benami company, Veena affirmed that her IT firm had received payments from CMRL strictly for the IT services it had rendered. "All financial transactions were legal," she asserted.

Describing herself as an educated woman, Veena argued that the PIL was a targeted attempt to malign her image.

She clarified that she had established Exalogic two years

before her father assumed office as Chief Minister and emphasized that he had no role in the company's operations. The firm fice (SFIO) was already ceased functioning during the probing the matter, and COVID-19 pandemic, she added.

The PIL was filed by journalist M.R. Ajayan, seeking a CBI probe into the monthly payments made by CMRL to Veena Vijayan's company.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan also submitted an affidavit opposing the CBI probe. As the 15th respondent in the case, he stated that the PIL lacked merit and that multiple agencies were already investigating the matter.

He emphasized that he had 'nothing to hide" but viewed the demand for a CBI inquiry as "unnecessary and unjustified."

Diarrhoea outbreak in Odisha claims 2 lives, affects over 500 in Jajpur district

outbreak of diarrhoea has claimed at least two lives and affected over 500 people in Odisha's Jajpur district, prompt-

ing state health authorities to launch an emergency response to contain the spread of the disease. The suspected cause of the outbreak is the consumption of contaminated drinking water. The affected areas are reportedly facing an acute potable

water crisis, an official said. Medical teams have been deployed in the affected and surrounding regions, including Dharmasala, Byasanagar Municipality, Danagadi, Rasulpur, and Korei block. State and district health authorities are working in coordination, with inten-

Bhubaneswar (Agency): An the direct supervision of Health Secretary Aswathy S, the official added.

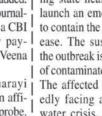
> Director of Public Health Services, Dr Nilakantha Mishra, stated that all patients and spo-



radic cases in adjoining areas are being treated by Rapid Action Teams constituted at the district level. In addition, two Rapid Action Teams from the statecomprising medical officers, misified field-level actions under crobiologists, epidemiologists,

and the Joint Director of the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme-have reached the area and begun field operations in coordination with the Chief District Medical and Public Health Officer, Jajpur. Specialists from Maharaja Jajati Keshari Medical College and Hospital are overseeing the treatment of critical patients. Six medicine specialists from SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack, have also been deputed to Jajpur. The infected individuals are receiving treatment at Dharmasala, Jajpur Road, and Danagadi Community Health Centres (CHCs), as well as the District Headquarters Hospital, Jajpur. Critical patients are being shifted to SCB Medical Col-

lege and Hospital, Cuttack.



PEOPLE'S MAIL

NATION

BHOPAL, FRIDAY, 13, JUNE, 2025

11 years dedicated to service, good governance, poor welfare and Antyodaya: Dilip Patel

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur, In the press auditorium of BJP District Office Barodha Kachar Mirjapur, under the chairmanship of BJP District President Brij Bhushan Singh, India's efficient leadership of the famous Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India developed service, good governance, poor welfare and auntThe press conference was concluded to

the

commemorate completion of the successful 11 years dedicated to. In

which the keynote speaker Dilip Patel, who came from Kashi region, said that this term of the Modi government in the history of the country will be written in golden letters. This tenure is becoming a golden period of "developed India" and "accomplishment of resolution" of "developed

reporters India" and "self -sufficient India". This journey of last 11 years, Modi ji is not alone but himself Tap has done the work of 140 crore countrymen, giving care of hard work, sacrifice and dreams. The period of Modi ji's government is the tenure of laying a strong foundation for the future of India. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where there is technology in the thinking of new India, there is progress. Where the BJP government is there, there is welfare of the poor, the government is now service, the government is now participating and good governance is now culture. Before 2014, our thinking was thatHow will the work be done, it will not be done, it cannot be done, whereas today's thinking-it will happen and it will definitely be because if Modi is, it is possible. The Modi government has brought Politics of Performance in the country's politics. Under the leadership of Modi ji, the government now means Responsive Government, Government. Responsible Accountable Government, Reform Perform and Transforcing Government, Public Intelligence. First we depend on import Was, today they are leading in export with the strength of Make in India. Today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country is being able to take

strong decisions and new norms are being decided. Now action like war will be taken on attacks like terrorism. In the same sequence, he also said that Operation Sindoor is not just a military mission, it is a picture of our resolve, courage and changing India. India also in the field of defenseIt is becoming self-sufficient, today India has become "Made in India, tested in Pakistan and



Regional President Dilip Patel, who counted the achievements of the Central Government after talking to

trusted in the world". Today India's defense exports have increased by 34 times to Rs 23,622 crore. This is the result of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's political foresight and diplomatic preparation. During the crisis period, the Modi government proved its citizens safe from every corner around the world and proved that Prime Minister NarendraModi's government is committed to the safety of Indians worldwide not only within borders. For example, during the Rousse Ukraine War, the Modi government brought crores of Indians safe from abroad through Operation Ganga, Afghanistan at the time of occupation of Taliban and Vande Bharat Mission in Kovid. Together he also told that since the BJP government has been formed under the leadership of Modi ji, scams have been formed. The darkness of the darkness has gone away and the light of good governance is spreading. In these 11 years, the revival of our great culture and religious awakening have been there. In these 11 years, there has been an attempt to bring back the old dignity of its heritage. In these 11 years, strict decisions have been taken like removing section 370 from Jammu and Kashmir, ending triple talaq, implementing GST, Waqf Bill. Our foreign policy shows a glimpse of the cultural significance of the country todayIs. That is why it is said today that "Modi is possible. It is possible. Not just slogans, there is a ground truth. Women participation is at the center of development, India is a pioneer in global leadership. Government schemes are being monitored by digital tracking and

social audit, along with hundreds of schemes to keep the schemes in front of the Chief Guest Dilip Patel Ji Media.The exhibition was inaugurated and observed. In this sequence, the Regional President C T Club attended the enlightened conference and made a statement on the concept and our role developed. Along with the MLA Nagar Pt. Ratnakar Mishra Service, Good Governance and Poor

Kalvan kept his subject on 11 years and District in-charge Shasroz Kushwaha ji kept his subject strong India-Survited India. Convenor of the said campaign districtGeneral Minister Dinesh Verma was. The press conference was held by District Media in-charge Gyan Prakash Dubey. The convenor of the exhibition was District Working Committee member Singh the Shvam and Convenor/Operations of the enlightened conference, District Vice President Ravindra Narayan Singh Patel. In the above programs, mainly MLA Chunar Anurag Singh, MLA Majhwan Shuchismita Maurya, Chairman Nagar palika Mirjapur Shyam Sundar Kesari, Chairman DCB Jagdish Singh Patel, Chairmanb Vijay Kumar Verma, District Vice President Dinesh Pratap Singh, Vipul Singh, Nirmala Rai, Amit Kumar Pandey, District General Secretary Ravi Shankar Pandey, District Secretary Kaushal Shrivastava, Hemant Tripathi, Gaurav Umar, Nitin Gupta, Dr. CL Bind, District Treasurer Sanjay Yadav, Pranesh Pratap Singh Chandel Advocate and other enlightened class Hundreds of people were present. The above information was given by District Media in-charge Gyan Prakash Dubey.

2025 becoming 'Biggest Yr' for Škoda Auto India



Staff Reporter

New Delhi: The year 2025 marks an important milestone for ŠkodaAuto worldwide, celebrating 130 years of rich history and 25 exciting years in India. Building on the strategy of getting closer to customers, Škoda Auto India has outlined a slew of key brand, product. network. and customer- centric initiatives to drive momentum in the Indian market.

Speaking at the occasion, Ashish Gupta, Brand Director, Škoda Auto India, said, "India is the most important growth market for Škoda Auto outside Europe. We are focused on building a

strong, future- ready brand with strength of purpose, clarity of vision, and agility of execution. Our product offensive strategy is in tune with evolving consumer needs and aspirations, fuelling our journey of progress. We are getting closer to customers, strategically expanding our network, and reinforcing our legacy of quality, safety, and value. With the wheels in motion across all our business imperatives, 2025 will be the year where we significantly strengthen the brand and surge ahead in India." Product Offensive: Škoda Auto India's product offensive strategy includes

an 'SUV for Everyone' and enhancing its sedan heritage. With the Kylaq, Kushaq, and Kodiaq catering to every SUV aspiration and price point, Škoda Auto India will also build its sedan legacy driven by the Slavia and a soon-to-be-launched 'global icon'. Expanding to newer markets: Škoda Auto India continues with its vision of expanding to tier II and tier III markets. From over 165 cities today, the brand targets being present in over 200 cities this year. The company has already grown from 120 customer touchpoints in 2021 to over 290 today, with an aim for 350 touchpoints by the end of 2025.

India's first liquid choco filled pop!

Staff Reporter Varanasi: Alpenliebe

Eclairs has long been a household favourite, known for its signature rich, liquid choco center-a hallmark of indulgence that consumers have come to love and expect. Building on this iconic experience, Alpenliebe now brings the same choco delight in an allnew format with the launch of Alpenliebe Eclairs Pop, India's first-ever lollipop with a choco liquid filling. At just Rs. 5, Eclairs Pop delivers a premium sensory experience-combining the familiar chewy caramel exterior with a rich, flowing choco center. It brings a much-loved indulgence to a convenient. on-the-go format, tailored for teens and young adults looking to their satisfy cravings anytime, anywhere. Whether you savor it slowly or go for that single, blissful bite. Eclairs Pop transforms everyday snacking into pure choco joy. "With Alpenliebe Eclairs Pop, our aim was to extend a much-loved experience into a new, convenient format. We know how deeply loved the Eclairs' choco center is - and this product carries that indulgence forward in every

Chief Minister honored high school and intermediate tapors students at a program organized in Lucknow

Greetings and best wishes given by public representatives and DM to meritorious

Staff Reporter Mirzapur, State Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday said a demo check of Rs 21-21 thousand to the toppers/outstanding students of Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education High School and Intermediate Examination-2025 in the Auditorium of Lucknow Lok Bhavan (which was sent online to their account), tablets and citation and the golden status in 68th National School Sports Competition, by giving tablets and citation and citation.Players were awarded the "Mukhyamantri Vidyalaya Sports Award" to the medal and bronze medal players. On this occasion, the

entire program was shown by broadcast. In the honor ceremony organized at the Collectorate, MLAs and District Magistrates and Municipality Chairman Mirjapur, by giving a check, tablet and citation to the



Public representatives and District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan rewarding toppers of high school and intermediate

Time important for future direction determination after inter via Abhyudaya coaching: District Magistrate

that many schemes are being time to determine the future run by the state government for the benefit of better education of the students for the benefit of better education of the students. Are being benefited. Wishing the bright future of District Priyanka

and there, there is a lot of difficulty in determining future. Therefore, all the students should give special emphasis on their education during this period and set the goal in which direction, setting the goal of that direction and ensure studies. He said that very good books and onlineUse it for competitions. He said that in the district Jubilee Inter College, the state government is conducting free abandal coaching for the preparation of various competitions to the students, in which they can also prepare for NEET, JEE, IAS, PCS and other competitive examinations by getting their nominations done. On this occasion, District School Inspector Mayaram, all public representatives District Magistrate and The program concluded the program by welcoming and thanking other visitors. The program was successfully conducted by Sanjay Srivastava, Other concerned officers of the district should be present on this occasion.

direction. At this time, if the

student wastes his time here

National Vice President of Educational Federation gave talks with CM Yogi, insists on old pension

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur, National Vice President of National Educational Federation and Organization Secretary of Uttar Pradesh Mahendra Kumar gave Chief Minister

in the context of the teachers context of the teachers of the

of the primary cadre, there primary cadre, due to which



The Chief Minister said that This episode is in his notice and he has assured the members of the delegation that soon the teachers of the primary cadre will also be given the benefit of the old pension scheme. On this occasion, Mahendra Kumar gave a letter to the Chief Minister to covered with the old pension scheme. This delegation included Higher Education, Prof. Udayan of North Central Region and Swadesh Singh of Technical Cadre. These people also Gave a sheet of problems related to his cadre to the Chief Minister.

Yogi Adityanath to the Chief Minister's residence to covered the primary cadre teachers who were selected before 2005 with the old pension scheme. Mahendra Kumar told the Chief Minister that you had given clear guidelines to all the teachers and employees of the selected state before the old pension scheme before the old pension scheme, but

Teacher leader Mahendra Kumar talking to the Chief Minister to give old pension to teachers of specific BTC 2004

has not been a clear order there is a sense of regarding the addition of the disappointment among more old pension scheme in the than 40 thousand teachers.

Minister. Nagar MLA Ratnakar Mishra, MLA Majhanwa Shuchishmita Maurya, MLA Chhanbe Rinke Kol, District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan, Chairman Municipal Council Mirjapur Shyam Sundar Kesari andIn presence of the the meritorious students of the district-students and their parents and teachers, the

districts/Executive

foundation stone of various

new buildings of the state was

also laid by the Chief

meritorious/outstanding tapors students who have done the district meritorious/outstandCongrat ulations and best wishes. On this occasion, MLA Nagar Ratnakar Mishra, MLA Majhwan Shuchismita Maurya, MLA Chhanbe Rinke Kol and Chairman Municipality Mirjapur congratulated the students who have excelled, and said

Niranjan students, he said that for all you are all outstanding students and roll models for students. He said that after the high school examination, there is a need for continuous hard work to perform outstanding in inter and further classes. He passed intermediate students passing intermediate Appealing to, he said that after inter has an important

Div Commr seeks action plan related to flood preparation within two days

Div Commr reviewed preparations related to relief and rescue from possible floods and gave directions to officials

Staff Reporter

Mirzapur, In view of preparations for preparations related to the possible flood and relief from the Ganges river and other rivers in the districts of Vindhyachal division. Mirjapur, Sonbhadra and Bhadohi, Balakrishna Tripathi held a meeting with all the additional District Magistrates (F/R) and other concerned officials including all the Additional District Magistrates (F/R) and other concerned officials. Divisional Commissioner Balakrishna TripathiIt is said that in the flood -affected areas, all three district officials should ensure all arrangements in identified shelters, similarly, in the primary and health centers of the affected areas, sufficient

ensure arrangements etc. He directed the district Mirjapur. Sonbhadra and Bhadohi Additional District MagistratesIt was said that the flood checks made in the flood areas should be activated and ensure that the names, mobile numbers and flood control rooms of the shift-wise are made available Additional to the Commissioner Administration/Incharge Disaster within two days. He directed Additional Director Health that Duties in Flood Chakio and

should also

Commissioner Shri Tripathi quantity of life-saving medicines doctors should said that strict action should be taken against the presence of doctors compulsorily on duty, if a doctor is found absent on the spot or on the spot. Additional Directors should also inspect the preparations made by the Health Department. Assistant Director Veterinary Camp for Animals. AnimalsAlong with the vaccine medicines and other necessary adequate quantity of Bhusha, green fodder etc. should be ensured in advance and providing drinking water on all temporary camps should be ensured. The officer of the

Community/Primary Health Centers located in the affected areasAnd the name and Irrigation Department was mobile number of other staff directed to inspect the major be made embankments/dams available Divisional ensure that the ponds and pokors be filled by the panchayat officers on flood canals, If the water is checks. Municipalities of the decreasing in the ponds filled three

Divisional Commissioner Balakrishna Tripathi giving instructions after meeting for possible flood rescue and

in the past, then make sure to fill them so that the water system can come up at the water level along with the water system. Deputy Director Panchayati Raj was instructed for better cleaning in rural areas, cleaning drains and deployment of gram

Petted

and

relief

medicines,

temporary/made

Officers of Nagar Panchayat were directed that Cleaning of drains in urban areas should be provided for the pre cleaning situation. photograph of the situation after cleaning. The Mandalavukta directed the Executive Officer

Robertsganj to conduct the encroachment campaign in with compliance the instructions given after the visit of his own under Robertsganj Municipality, after the encroachment was not removed yetOn the lack of information about the established control room number and the employees posted, the demand for clarification was given to the campaign under the Municipality Renucoot, expressing displeasure over the lack of cleanliness and conducting a campaign. The Commissioner directed the officials of all municipalities to run a plastic-free campaign. The Divisional Commissioner while directing all the Additional District Magistrates said that during the flood, food andIn

addition to other cols, the tender process should be ensured before the flooding to purchase all the collectors including tent, plastic foil so that if there is flood, time can be distributed from the affected people. He directed all the concerned officers and said that by making an action plan related to their floods of their respective departments, they compulsorily made available to the Additional Commissioner Administration bv Monday.To be given Directing the Block Development Officer present in the meeting, he said that the Block Development Officer of the affected areas should go to the spot and inspect the relief camps on the spot, if there are any deficiencies, then remove it. He directed

that through all the Deputy District Magistrates, big and small boats for rescue in flood affected areas, including motorboats, names and mobile numbers of sailors and divers Also be made available. The meeting was attended by Additional Commissioner Administration Dr. Vishram, Additional District Magistrate Mirjapur Ajay Kumar Singh, Additional District Magistrate Bhadohi, Additional District Magistrate Sonbhadra, Joint Development Commissioner Ramesh Chandra. Superintending Engineer Electricity, Superintending Engineer Irrigation. Additional Director Health, Assistant Director Animal Abhiyan and other concerned officers were present.

ENTERTAINMENT

'Kapil Sharma was being exploited by Comedy Circus, he didn't have an identity': Navjot Singh Sidhu played central role in comedian's success



ormer cricketer Navjot Singh Sidhu participated in the reality show Bigg Boss in 2012. He recently shared that the only reason he did the show was money. Sidhu shared that his career as politician wasn't lucrative enough for him to build his dream house in Amritsar. "Bigg Boss gave a lucrative offer," said Navjot Singh Sidhu. He will soon return on Kapil Sharma's show on Netflix. He shared a detailed vlog on his YouTube channel, where he also opened up about his Bigg Boss stint. "People cannot go to Bigg Boss and comeback without spoiling their reputation. However, I took up that challenge because I needed money to build a house in Amritsar. I wouldn't have been able to build a house with what I earned from being a politician," he said

He added, "Bigg Boss was an opportunity for me to earn money. They had a very lucrative offer. I told them my charges for the first month, second month and third month. However, they could afford me just for a month. And I was out after the first month. In that one month's time I never said a word against anybody in the house. I managed to return from the house without harming my reputation in the society. This opened many doors for me.

Post his stint in Bigg Boss, Navjot Singh Sidhu received offers from Star Sports and Colors. He said, "Star Sports offered me commentator's job. Colors put a condition before Kapil Sharma to sponsor his independent show: 'Bring Navjot Singh Sidhu as your permanent guest'."

Navjot Singh Sidhu said he was the only reason behind Kapil Sharma getting an independent show after being exploited in Comedy Circus. He said, ""Kapil Sharma rose to fame after he appeared in the show Laughter Challenge. Later, he was exploited in Comedy Circus, he didn't have an identity of his own. Kapil Sharma came to me and said, 'Paaji, I have a request. If you will agree to be part of my show, they will give me an independent show.' I was like who, 'He said Raj Nayak sahab'. Raj Nayak was the head of Colors back then. He wanted me to be the judge of the show. He wanted me as he wanted to increase the channel's TRP. We met over breakfast and I agreed to do it.'

Aamir Khan says he was fired from Yash Chopra's Darr because he wanted a joint narration with Sunny Deol: 'I didn't say no, I was removed'

fired from Yash Chopra's Darr because he wanted a joint narration with Sunny Deol: 'I didn't say no, I was removed'

Yash Chopra's Darr was a pivotal film in Shah Rukh Khan's career. Starring alongside Juhi Chawla and Sunny Deol, this film had SRK playing the role of an obsessive stalker who is determined to be with the woman he loves, even if he has to murder the people around

amir Khan says he was her. But, before Shah Rukh, the role was presented to Aamir Khan. In a recent interview. Aamir said that he was fired from Darr by Yash Chopra because he insisted on a joint narration with the two heroes of the film but Yash refused to do SO.

In a chat with Zoom, Aamir was talking about films that he refused to do, which later went on to become big hits. Here, the topic of Darr came up and Aamir corrected



the interviewer and said that he didn't refuse the film, but was actually fired from it. "I didn't say no to Darr. I said yes but I was fired from the film because I wanted a joint narration. There were two actors and I have this principle that if there are two actors then the director should give a joint narration and Yash ji did not want to do that so he fired me. Everyone has their own way of working. I think when two people are working

together, they should listen to the narration together so we can work together as a team," he said. Aamir said that he believes that if there are more actors, "they should all listen to the film together." "That didn't happen in Darr so I was fired. I was removed from Darr.'

Aamir said that he followed the same principle in Rajkumar Santoshi's Andaz Apna Apna where he starred with Salman Khan.

Amitabh Bachchan completes 7 projects in 2 hours; director says he is setting a 'bad precedent'

actor Amitabh Teteran Bachchan recently shared on his blog that he completed "five ad films and two photoshoots" in just about two hours, prompting a director to jokingly remark that he was setting a "bad precedent" for others

Taking to his blog, Amitabh wrote, "Working away .. and the joy of it .. did 5 films and 2 photo shoots in about 2 hrs...of course they were for an Ad., for a client endorsement ..! but still!!"

The actor added that he finished the work so fast that the crew and director were left shocked. "The crew and friend director tells me

- 'I am spoiling the work template of his latest blog. work veteran actorthey Amitabh Bachchan told recalled being jokingly accused of setting a "bad precedent" after completing seven projects in just two hours.

me ...'if you are going to finish However, the veteran actor didn't an entire days work in one 4rth of half a day then, your client shall give more films to be made in the one day designated, and that shall set a bad precedent .. for all "!!Oh .. I just love this."

Amitabh Bachchan also shared

that he works this way "for the

benefit of workers." "But the

expediency of the work is

helping the Producer and the

crew .. I would rather do that for

the benefit of the worker, than

myself... many a times they ask

me what I have seen as change in

the Film World .. and I have many

In

changes noticed," he stated.

elaborate on the changes in the industry as it can be used to "attract a headline". "BUT .. NO .. I shall not say it here , because this

communication Universe has been besieged by the -IMPOTENCY OF CONTENT .. НАНАНАНА EACH EXPRESSION SHALL BE DIFFERENT GIVEN Α MEANING IN ORDER TO ATTRACT A HEADLINE (sic)."

Amitabh concluded his blog by stating that he enjoys doing his work. "The work is so rewarding," he wrote.

On the work front, Amitabh Bachchan was last seen in Vettaiyan in 2024, which starred Rajinikanth in the lead role. The actor has many movies in the pipeline, including Section 84, the sequel of Kalki 2898 AD, and Brahmastra Part 2: Dev. He will also return as the host for the next season of Kaun Banega Crorepati, later this year.

John Abraham rents out three properties in Mumbai for Rs 6.30 lakh



ctor John Abraham recently rented out three properties in Mumbai for Rs 6.30 lakh per month. The properties are located at The Sea Glimpse Co-operative Housing Society of Bandra West. According to property registration documents accessed by Square Yards, the rental agreement has been registered with a stamp duty of Rs 1.12 lakh and registration charges of Rs 1000. The actor also charged a security deposit of Rs 36 lakh collectively for three properties. These properties are leased out for five years and will earn a cumulative monthly rent of Rs 6.30 lakh in the first year and will increase to Rs 8 lakh in the final year. The rent will increase by 8% annually for the first two years, then reduce to 5% annually for the final two years. The actor will earn approximately Rs 4.3 crore from his rental deal. According to Financial Express, John Abraham has a net worth of Rs 251 crore. The actor has successfully ventured into business beyond films. He owns the production house JA Entertainment, the football club NorthEast United FC, the racing team Goa Aces by JA Racing, and JA Fitness.

Alia Bhatt's hotel note in Cannes addresses her as 'Alia Kapoor', fans speculate whether the actress has changed her surname

▲ lia Bhatt, who recently marked her Cannes debut.

Bollywood stars are incapable of laughing at themselves; if Himesh Reshammiya can do it, why can't Sunny **Deol?**

Post Credit Scene: Shockingly, Sunny Deol's Jaat is spectacular fun for over an hour. It's only natural that it nosedives in the second

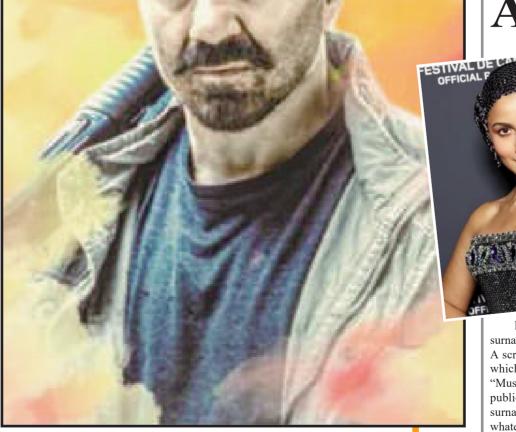
half, but that's only because **Bollywood stars don't** have a sense of humour. The

smartest thing that Himesh Reshammiya has probably done in his professional life, besides transitioning from composer to singer, is to embrace the inherent ridiculousness of his stage persona. For the longest time, he seemed entirely unaware. He'd perform bicep curls to his own love songs on Instagram, seemingly oblivious to how meme pages were responding. But something changed after Janhvi Kapoor went on Koffee with Karan and essentially pulled the curtain on what was maybe the greatest insidejoke of our times. Two years down the line. Reshammiya is starring in a movie called Badass Ravikumar and going on a 'Cap Tour' of sold-out live shows. It's genius. If only Sunny Deol had the same self-awareness in Jaat.

Bollywood, and, for that matter, India's other regional industries, are consumed by a seriousness that borders on devotion. How can Salman Khan poke fun at himself in Sikandar when people literally make pilgrimages to his house on religious occasions? Laughing at some of

Rajinikanth's antics would probably get you stabbed. Anirudh Ravichander would have to leap off the stage and diffuse the tension. It would be a whole thing. But one thing's clear: half of our country's most terrible movies would instantly become 20% better if they simply realised that they are comedies first, and revenge epics second. For roughly an hour, shockingly, Jaat seems to get away with it.

Directed by Gopichand Malineni in his Hindi-language debut, Jaat inevitably falls into the same trap that has consumed so many of Bollywood's Jawan clones in the recent past; movies such as Baby John, Bhaiyya Ji, and, yes, Sikandar. The second half is overwhelmingly straightfaced, despite Deol's typical brand of high-decibel drama. This transition feels more jarring because the first half is genuinely enjoyable; it's nimble on its feet, playful, and miraculously, in on the ioke. For over an hour, the only thing motivating Sunny Deol's stock character is a stubborn, egotistical desire to score an apology. Not because someone insulted his mother or something — we learn nada about his family — but because a bunch of goons bumped into him at a roadside eatery, and sent his nice idli breakfast tumbling to the ground.



shared a video of her time at the International Film Festival and her transition through her many

outfits. While, her video exhilarated her fans who "missed" her YouTube content, some eagle eyed fans noticed the change in her surname as it read, "Alia Kapoor". In a nearly fiveminute-long video, Alia gave a glimpse of her time at Cannes. While she was seen getting her makeup done under the guidance of her stylist Rhea Kapoor for her many looks, a part of the video featured the welcome note by the hotel she stayed at. It read, "Dear Alia Kapoor". This prompted many of her fans to think whether she

has legally adopted her husband Ranbir Kapoor's surname, dropping Bhatt.

A screenshot of the same was shared by a Reddit user which attracted a lot of attention. A user speculated, "Must've taken her husband's name and kept Bhatt for her public facing career since she is widely known by that surname." Others expressed, "It's her choice to keep whatever last name she likes, buttt I really think Alia Bhatt has more ring to it. Alia Kapoor just sounds so basic. I think there must be an alia Kapoor in every block of South Delhi. I hope she never changes this publicly at least." Another user took a wild guess and wrote, "Someone pointed out here that it's a French Hotel, so probably took her name from there which means that She's legally taken the name Alia Kapoor." Another comment read, "How will a hotel in France know her husband's surname? Anyway, hotel booking is done according to your legal name on IDs." In the video, Alia Bhatt was seen having a fun banter with Rhea Kapoor and her team. Expressing her feelings of debuting at Cannes, Alia shared, "I am both excited and nervous." In the video, the actress was seen signing autographs for her non-Indian fans and also adhering to their photo request. Alia Bhatt still maintains Bhatt as her surname in her movies and brand endorsements. Alia Bhatt married her Brahmastra co-star Ranbir Kapoor in 2022. The couple are now parents to a daughter, Raha

'Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan made a pro-India statement in front of Pakistani diplomats, he was a courageous man': Javed Akhtar recalls anecdote

Triter-lyricist Javed Akhtar made headlines a few years ago, when he reminded a gathering of Pakistanis in Lahore that Indians cannot ignore the nationalities of the perpetrators of various terror attacks over the years. He said that he was in Mumbai during the 26/11 attacks, and that he watched his city burn. He also reminded the crowd that while India has rolled out the red carpet for Pakistani artists such

as the singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan and the poet Faiz Ahmad Faiz, Pakistan hasn't extended the same courtesy to Indian singers. He said that Lata Mangeshkar was by far the most popular celebrity in Pakistan, but she was never invited to perform there. His comments were praised by Indians, but the incident hasn't diminished his admiration for Nusrat. In a recent interview, he recalled an anecdote about meeting Nusrat at an event in



Delhi, and what transpired there. Appearing on AajTak

Radio, he said, "I'm not a big fan of qawwali, but I was a

huge admirer of Nusrat. He was a lovely man. We worked on an album together, called Sangam. I wrote it, he composed it. It was released at a big five-star hotel in New Delhi. A delegation from the Pakistan high commission was seated in the front row. Nusrat was asked to say a few words, and he said, 'I travel all over the world, but the reception I get in India is unmatched. I hang my head in shame when people ask me

why my country hasn't hosted Lata Mangeshkar. I'm saying this here because I want the people from the Pakistan high commission to pay attention'." Javed said that it takes 'conviction' and 'daring' and 'honesty' to make such statements. "For me to say this isn't a big deal; I'm an Indian. But for a Pakistani to say this to his own people, and then return to Pakistan, it was an extremely courageous statement to make," he said.

Kapoor.

PEOPLE'S MAIL

sport

BHOPAL, FRIDAY, 13, JUNE, 2025

Sloppy India undone by unforced errors as they go down 3-4 vs Argentina in another Pro League defeat exchanges on Wednesday.

New Delhi (Agency): Argentina's first goal against India came in the 3rd minute of the FIH Pro League match in Amstelveen. The second goal came in the 17th – just two minutes after the start of Q2. The third came in 34th minute - not long after the second half started, and more relevantly, just within one minute of the restart after India made it 2-2. And the fourth – and decisive – goal came within 20 seconds of pushback at the start of the fourth quarter. The first two goals were completely avoidable unforced errors from India, and the next two came as they were caught on

the back foot. When Craig counts, India were found Fulton took over as India's wanting as they lost 3-4



coach, he made it clear that his mantra is 'defend to win'. After the last two matches both close defeats against two world No 1 Netherlands captain Harmanpreet Singh said, 'Our first priority is to defend.' On both those blocks

against Argentina to suffer their third straight defeat of this European leg. Unlike the matches against Netherlands where they made the better start, India were slow to get off the

in the opening

those notes and I feel like

His immediate focus right

now is the U-22 Asian

Championships which is

working," he said.

Argentina began with a couple of circle entries, moving the ball at speed. A move down the right flank saw Krishan Pathak deal with a cutback but Amit Rohidas, collecting the ball right next to the byline, with barely any pressure on him, attempted an aerial ball that was mishit. The ball fell to Matias Rey at the edge of the circle and the Argentina captain fired in a bullet strike high to Pathak's left. It was a goal of India's own making, yet another unforced error as we saw against the Dutch, creating pressure on themselves out of nowhere.

After Thailand high, boxer **Deepak aiming for bigger bouts** is critical. I keep an eye on



CHENNAI (Agency): Indian boxers have largely been in the shadows due to the current predicament surrounding the Boxing Federation of India (BFI). In this unfavourable climate, two boxers stood out during Open the Thailand International Boxing Tournament that was held recently. Deepak Poonia, who plies his trade in the 75kg category, was one of the pugilists from the country who returned with a golden gong. As compared to other marquee events, this gold might not hold much weight but it was a momentous occasion for Deepak, the No 2-ranked Indian in the said category. It was Deepak's first-ever medal at the senior

international level. The youngster from Haryana had taken down three boxers en route to gold in Bangkok. "It was a great experience. It was my first medal at the senior international level. I had undergone good training and things went according to about discipline. I think that

scheduled to be held next month. "In regards to my targets inside the ring, it's a step-by-step process. My main focus is the Asian trials. It's happening next month and my training is based on that. After that, there'll be the plans. So it was a good more trials and I'll move feeling," Deepak, who hails accordingly." As Deepak from Burak Village in Hisar plans his future, his elder District, recalled. Deepak, who'll turn 21 in October, has no time to dwell on the

sisters Sonu and Poonam will be two people who'll also be keeping a close eye victory as he has bigger fish on his progress. Both are also to fry in the months to come. part of the women's national Currently part of the national camp in Patiala. It was training camp in Patiala, the because of them that Deepak, youngster is looking to add supported by Olympic Gold more weight in his punches. Ouest, took up the craft, "I One of the many young faces started after watching Sonu in the senior team, Deepak is and Poonam. I was into naturally hungry for more. basketball earlier. I had taken With some massive events up the gloves to maintain my fitness and I gradually started — World Championships in England and World Cup getting more interested in it. I Boxing in India — scheduled started to spare myself from to be held later this year, it is studies and then I began vital for youngsters like liking it," he said. "We have a good bonding. They teach me Deepak to maintain his competitive edge. For a lot. Both of them are my Deepak, who is part of mentors. They create a path Garhwal Unit with the Indian for me and I follow it," he Army, it's all about added. Late in 2023, he had captured a gold medal in the "I have put up notes (targets) national boxing on my wall. The things that I championship. However, he need to work on on a weekly could not replicate that

performance this year and

could only win a silver medal

instead.

European game generated 38 bln euros in 2023-24 season, study shows

New Delhi (Agency): Europe's soccer market grew by 8% in terms of revenue in the 2023-24 season to 38 billion euros (\$43.46 billion) with England's Premier League generating the most, Deloitte said in a study published on Wednesday. In its Annual Review of Football Finance, Deloitte said the top five leagues — Premier League, Bundesliga, LaLiga, Serie A and Ligue 1 — generated 20.4 billion euros in revenue, an increase of 4%.

Premier League clubs had the highest revenue of Europe's top leagues at 6.3 billion pounds (\$8.50 billion). However, the traditional 'big six' clubs in England's top flight reported lower average revenue growth (3%) than other clubs that were in the The study said the growth was largely driven by expansion of clubs' commercial offerings, which also led to the teams cumulatively generating more than two billion pounds in commercial revenue for the first time. "A focus on stadia

development and diversification of commercial revenues led to growth across the European football market in the 2023-24 season," Tim Bridge, lead partner in Deloitte's Sports Business Group, said.

'Dream come true' for Alexander-Arnold as he is introduced **by Real Madrid** - to get him on June 1

MADRID (Agency): Trent Alexander-Arnold was officially introduced by Real Madrid Thursday, on saying he was fulfilling his dream to play for

the Spanish powerhouse. The 26-year-old England back was the latest reinforcement on defense for Madrid after a season in which the back line struggled following injuries.

Madrid moved forward with signing Alexander-Arnold from Liverpool — for a reported fee of up to 10 million euros (\$11.5 million)

WTC Final





Caught first slip. Caught second slip. Caught keeper. Caught keeper. Caught first slip. Bowled. Bowled. Caught first slip. Bowled. Bowled. Bowled. Caught first slip. Bowled. Bowled. There was a very clear trend behind all 14 wickets to fall on Day One of the final of the World Test Championships between South Africa and Australia. After the former invited the latter to bat in overcast conditions, they either induced the outside edge or found the stumps. When it was time for the holders to bowl in the third session, they returned the favour in kind. It was just that kind of day, and surface, at Lord's. The bowlers knew there was juice to be extracted as it was

seam an increasingly important weapon in a seamer's arsenal when bowling in these parts

-again played a big role. The end result? This generation's generational redball operators — Mitchell Starc, Kagiso Rabada, Josh Hazlewood and Pat Cummins -all left their footprint in the longest format's showpiece event of the last two years. The awesome foursome scalped nine wickets for just 85 runs across 36 bewitching overs. But South Africa, seeking their first men's ICC title this century, were in the mire when stumps were drawn on Wednesday. The Proteas were 43/4, trailing Australia by 169 runs.

The holders may have left a few runs with the bat but their bowlers were on the money

instead of for free at the end of the month. That allowed Madrid to count on the defender to play for Xabi Alonso's team at the Club World Cup in the United States. Madrid opens its Club World Cup group-stage campaign against Saudi club Al-Hilal next Wednesday at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. Alexander-Arnold was

accompanied by his parents

and relatives in the capital.

After signing the contract

alongside Real Madrid

president Florentino Pérez,

he was introduced with a

video of his highlights and

then spoke briefly, in

right from the off. In England,

it's all about making that

adjustment to hit that same

top of off mark and they made

that adjustment that bit

sooner. They were also more

disciplined in their length as

they kept the most common

mode of dismissals --- nicked

behind to the keeper or

cordon or bowled or lbw—in

play throughout the third

session. In the absence of

freebies, bowlers were given

extended runs to the same

batters. Here are a few

samples. Wiaan Mulder's

three came off 37 deliveries.

Temba Bavuma played out

five overs before opening his

account. The only time

Australia erred in line, it came

two balls before stumps when

a tired Cummins went in

search of two magic balls in

Bedingham put both of those

balls away. But the Proteas

need more of those if they

want to realise their dream of

global glory. Two hours into

Wednesday, though, they

would have been excused for

doing just that at lunch. There

similarities to the last World

Test Championship final after

the first 30 overs on

were several

Wednesday.

David

strange

succession.

Spanish.

"Thank you for this opportunity," he said. "To sign with a club like Real Madrid doesn't happen very often. It's a dream come true. I'm very happy and proud to be here. I'm very excited to show my game to Madrid fans but I'm aware that it's a great responsibility to play for Real Madrid. I'm ready to give my all for this team and for the fans "

Madrid also this week introduced central defender Dean Huijsen

Alexander-Arnold, who will wear the No. 12 jersev. arrived on a six-year contract through June 2031. He will ioin fellow England international Jude Bellingham.

Jack Grealish left out of Manchester **City's Club World Cup** squad

New Delhi (Agency): In what could be a move that foreshadows Jack Grealish's future at Manchester City, the club left out their 100 million pounds signing from the upcoming Club World Cup squad. City manager Pep Guardiola named a 27member strong contingent with Grealish's name a notable omission.

The England forward was a British record signing when he moved to City from Aston Villa in 2021 and went on to help the club win three Premier League titles, the Champions League and a host of other trophies. But he has become an increasingly peripheral figure and made only seven league starts last season.

City's squad includes four new players signed in time to take part in the monthlong tournament in the United States: Rayan Cherki, Tijjani Reijnders, Rayan Ait-Nouri and Marcus Bettinelli In January, City also spent big to sign Omar Marmoush, Abdukodir Khusanov and Vitor Reis as Guardiola began his overhaul of a squad that saw its dominance of English football broken by Liverpool last season. Back in January, Guardiola had said that Savinho was starting in place of Grealish because the Brazilian was in better shape than the England player. He also said Grealish has to fight for his place in the starting XI. "Savinho is in better shape and everything than Jack, and that's why I played Savinho. Do I want the Jack that won the treble? Yeah, I want it, but I try to be honest with myself for that. They have to fight. You can say it's unfair," Guardiola said.



Kerala bets big on 3x3 basketball as U-23 national championship begins today

maintaining his discipline.

basis and I try to ensure that

the targets are met. It's all



KOCHI (Agency): Fast, fierce, and built for the streets — 3x3 basketball is all set to make a splash as Kerala hosts India's firstever U-23 3x3 national basketball championship, beginning on Thursday at the Regional Sports Centre in Kochi. The three-day showdown will see 28 men's and 21 women's teams vying for glory in a format that promises raw energy, tighter play, and lightning-fast decisions. For Kerala, a state long known for its basketball pedigree, this is more than just another tournament. It is a push to transform basketball from a court game to a culture. "We've always had great players. But basketball hasn't broken into our streets like cricket or football," says P J Sunny, life-president of Kerala Basketball Association (KBA). "3x3 changes that. It's lean, portable, and exciting. You can play it anywhere — even outside

your home. Unlike the traditional five-aside game, 3x3 basketball is tailored for the fast and the furious. Each team fields just three players, plus one substitute, playing on a half court with one hoop. No coaches. No tactical timeouts. Just 10 minutes of non-stop action, or until one team hits 21 points. "It's a player's game. There's no coach yelling instructions. It's all instinct and team chemistry. That's what makes it thrilling — for both players and spectators," Sunny explains. Field goals

are worth just one or two points (instead of the traditional two or three), and the game uses a size-6 ball, typically used in women's games but weighted like a men's ball for speed and control. 3x3 basketball has its roots in the gritty street courts of 1980s America born not in academies but in neighbourhoods, parks, and

high school gyms.

'They will miss the aura of Virat Kohli': **Ollie Pope ahead of India** vs England Test series

nibbling both ways. The

New Delhi (Agency): England vice captain Ollie Pope on Wednesday said that even though the Indian Test team led by Shubman Gill has plenty of depth and talent, they will be missing the aura of Virat Kohli during the 5-match Test series, scheduled to start at Leeds from June

20. "It's a young team, but these Indian players they have got so much depth and talent. So they've got a lot of young guys coming through; a lot of good players. Shubman Gill, their new captain, is a fantastic player. They will miss the aura of Virat Kohli standing at slips and chirping away. But they have got some good talent, so they will feel confident. But our players are ready for it," Pope told talkSPORT Cricket.

India are coming into the England series with an almost new look side with stalwarts like Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Ravichandran Ashwin hanging up their boots from the longest format in the last 6 months. They will also be missing the talent of Mohammed Shami as well due to the pacer lacking match fitness while Jasprit Bumrah is expected to be available for 3 matches out of the 5 Tests.

India have not won a Test series in England since 2007, having lost in 2011, 2014 and 2018, while the 2021-22 series ended in a draw.

Pope emphasised the importance of



New Delhi (Agency): Former India head coach Ravi Shastri has said that if he had anything to do with the decision-making process, he would have handed over the Test captaincy to Virat Kohli immediately after the Australia series ended earlier this year. The captaincy of the Indian men's test team has been a talking point recently after the retirement of Rohit Sharma in the middle of the Indian Premier League season, after it emerged that the selectors were looking to move on from the veteran opening batter for the fivematch series coming up in England. Rohit had earlier stood down from the role ahead of the final Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia, citing his own poor form. Then Kohli too announced his retirement from the red-ball format. The BCCI then handed over the reins of the Test team to Shubman Gill

Ravi Shastri, who had multiple stints in India's dressing room but most crucially as the head coach





from 2017-2021 when Kohli was the captain, said that that his retirement could have been handled better. "It's when you go then, that's when people will realize how big a player he was. I feel sad that he is gone and the way he is gone," Shastri is quoted as saying by Sony Sports in a promo video for a docuseries released on Wednesday. "I think it could have been handled better. There should have been more communication. If I had anything to do with it, I would have made him captain straightaway after Australia," the former India

captain added.

"If you think that, then it's fine, but you have to prove (to me), 'Okay, I'm going to fight with Savinho, to deserve to play in that position', every single day, every single week and every single month," the Spaniard added.

But things didn't get any better for Grealish in the remaining few months of the season as he remained out of favour and City finished trophy-less for the first time in many years.City's first match at the 32-team CWC tournament is against Wydad Casablanca next Wednesday in Philadelphia. The other teams in the group are Juventus and Abu Dhabi's AlAin.

the upcoming India series for England, calling it vital preparation in the lead-up to the Ashes later this year.

"It's a great time for us to play India. Last summer, we had the West Indies and Sri Lanka, but with India coming over, the level of quality that they will bring is a great way for us to focus on that and not look too far ahead. "So yeah, for us, it's the perfect time to play India, and then once the Ashes come around, it will be exciting."

PEOPLE'S MAIL

Meghalaya

trip together. But both of the

couples who dreamed of

making this trip memorable

had different intentions. One

was Raja Raghuvanshi who

wanted to remember the time

spent with his wife Sonam in

Meghalaya for the rest of his

life, on the other hand there

was Sonam who wanted to

remove Raja from her path

for her lover Raj Kushwaha.

In such a situation, both have

reached Meghalaya and

today is 23 May. Raja was

murdered in Meghalaya on

23 May. What did those

BHOPAL/DELHI

BHOPAL, FRIDAY, 13, JUNE, 2025

returned to Indore on 25 May

by Kamakhya Express. On

May 30, the three accused

returned to Indore via Bihar.

On June 1, Raja's body was

recovered from a deep ditch

by the Meghalaya police.

After this, on June 8, the police arrested Sonam's

lover Raj Kushwaha and his

cousin Arvind from Indore.

Rajput was arrested from

Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh. On

June 9, Sonam surrendered

before the Nauganj police in

Ghazipur and on the same

day Kurmi was arrested from Bina in Madhya Pradesh. In

this way, the truth of the Raja

Raghuvanshi murder case

kept coming out layer by

layer

BRIEF NEWS **Dancer Sonal** Mansingh awarded Sankardev Award Delhi (Agency): Renowned

classical dancer Sonal Mansingh has been awarded the Srimanta Sankardev Award. The award was started by the Assam government in 1986. Assam Governor Laxman Prasad Acharya presented this award. President Draupadi Murmu congratulated Mansingh for the award and called him an inspiration for the people.

New date of **Axium-4 mission** not announced

Delhi (Agency): NASA has not yet announced the new date of the Axium-4 mission carrying Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla and three other astronauts to the International Space Station. The mission was postponed for the fourth time on June 11 due to oxygen leak. In this regard, Axium Space and NASA said in a joint statement that a new date for the mission will be announced. NASA said on Thursday that it wants to monitor the cabin pressure before sending new passengers. Officials stressed that the seven astronauts currently present in the space station are completely safe and there is no impact on the ongoing mission there. **EPFO** settles nearly 50 percent of claims in three days

Delhi (Agency): Retirement fund body EPFO has settled nearly 50 percent of claims within three days of claiming so far in the current financial year. Referring to data till June 5, an official said that the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has settled a total of 68.96 lakh claims within three days between April 1, 2025 and June 5, 2025. He said that the proportion of claims settled in this way was about 39 percent i.e. 2.34 crore in the financial year 2024-25. The official said that the proportion of claims settled within three days is expected to increase rapidly

accused do with Raja and Bhopal (Agency): After Sonam on the day of the marriage on 11 May, a couple from Indore reached murder? The entire timeline with the is revealed intention that this is their first

Raja Raghuvanshi and Sonam Raghuvanshi stayed at Shipara Guest House after reaching Meghalaya. On the morning of 23 May at 5:30, both left Shipara Guest House and headed towards Cherrapunji. Shortly after this, at around 6 pm, Sonam messaged Vishal Chauhan. Vishal and the other accused were also staying in a homestay in the same area. After receiving the message, the three accused left for the same place where Sonam and Raja were going.

Around 9:30 am, the three

killers met Sonam and Raja and became friends with them. Around 10 am, a local guide Albert PD saw the five of them together at a place. After this, at around 12:30 pm, Sonam called her mother-in-law Uma Raghuvanshi. Sonam spoke to her mother-in-law on the phone and told her that Raja's phone was discharged. Raja also spoke to his mother. At 1 pm, the five reached the parking lot of Wei Sawdong waterfall.

Around 1:30 pm, Sonam lied that she was very tired and her speed had slowed down during the climb, but Raja kept moving forward with Vishal and Akash. Amidst all

effect of severe heat wave can

also be seen in some places

But the good news is that the

temperature may drop by 2-4

degree Celsius after the next

three days. The pace of

till June 13.

murder, who attacked first; the entire timeline is revealed this, Kurmi was monitoring attacked him on his forehead from behind. The three were with a sharp weapon.

What happened on the day of Raja Raghuvanshi's



moving ahead together when At around 2.15 pm, Sonam Vishal attacked Raja on the shared a message on social back of his head and as soon media. After this, around as Raja turned back, Vishal 2.30 pm, Raja's body was thrown into a ditch in Riyat Arliang. After throwing Raja's body into a deep ditch, Sonam left on a scooter alone and the other three went to the other side with another scooter.

Around 3.30 pm, the three met again. Sonam transferred Rs 15,000 to one of them through UPI. Police told about this person that this money was transferred through an account named Jitendra Raghuvanshi. Sonam's brother Govind has told the police that Jitendra is his cousin. Sonam went to Shillong on the day of the murder and the killers stayed there.

After killing Raja, Sonam

Showers of rain amid the heat, IMD gave good news in Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal (Agency): These days the mood of the weather in Madhya Pradesh has

changed. The scorching heat has troubled people in many areas. Meanwhile, the Meteorological Department has given a good news. According to the latest forecast of IMD, there is a possibility of rain in many districts of Madhya Pradesh today. Relief from heat is expected after the rain. The temperature will also come down in two-three days. Apart from this, an update has also come regarding monsoon. Light to moderate rain is expected at different places in the eastern and central parts of Madhya Pradesh. Lightning with thunder and lightning and strong winds at a speed of 30-50 km per hour can also blow. In the next few days (14-15 June), the scope of rain will

increase and heavy rain Pradesh. Heat wave (64.5-115.5 mm) is expected conditions will persist in in some areas of eastern and some places today and the



western Madhya Pradesh. The heat is still showing its attitude in Madhva Pradesh. The maximum temperature will be between 39-43 degree Celsius in many areas, especially much above normal in western Madhya

According Meteorological Department, the northern boundary of the southwest monsoon is currently passing through Mumbai, Adilabad and Bhawanipatna. Monsoon is likely to gain more strength in

> 14 Although the full force of monsoon will not be seen in the state right now, light rain in some areas is ready to give relief from the heat. Several weather systems are active in shaping the weather of Madhya Pradesh. A cyclonic circulation over central Madhya Pradesh and a trough extending line from northwest Rajasthan to the Bay of Bengal are promoting rain and strong winds. There will be further change in the weather due to further activation of these systems from 14-15 June.

Madhya Pradesh around June

Laxman Rekha Crossed; Why Congress 'Get Out' **Digvijay Singh's Brother**

Bhopal (Agency): Congress veteran Digvijay Singh's real brother and former MLA Laxman Singh has been shown the way out of the party. Singh has been expelled by the party for six years for crossing the 'Laxman Rekha'. The senior leader had been adopting a rebellious stance for some time and did not refrain from targeting even Rahul Gandhi.

The brother of staunch Congress leader Digvijay Singh has also joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for some time. The 70-year-old leader was once again making statements that made the party uncomfortable. He was attacking the party since he lost the Chachauda assembly seat in the 2023 assembly elections. Laxman Singh had criticized the Gandhi family's non-participation in the Ram Mandir Prana Pratishtha to the party's stand on the Pahalgam terror attack. Till the time of writing the news, Laxman Singh had not reacted to his expulsion.



cause notice when he commented on Rahul Gandhi and his brother-in-law Robert Vadra in the context of the Pahalgam terror attack. He had said, 'Gandhi and Vadra are immature. The country is suffering due to their immaturity.' He even said that Rahul Gandhi should think before saying anything. Even in December 2023, Laxman Singh had said that Rahul Gandhi is just a party worker and MP. Apart from this he is nothing. Rahul Gandhi should not be given much importance.

Earlier, Laxman Singh was given a show

monsoon is now increasing. What special advice did PM Modi give to Delhi leaders in a closed room, CM Rekha Gupta was also present

Delhi (Agency): Prime Minister Modi had called Delhi MLAs and MPs, including CM Rekha Gupta, for a high-level meeting at his residence on Wednesday. During the meeting, the PM also gave special advice to everyone. Let us tell you that this hours, focused on strategies to improve the living standards of Delhi residents. This meeting of PM Modi with Delhi leaders revolved around urban infrastructure, pollution control, public transport, cleanliness and implementation of the 'Clean Delhi. Green Delhi'

Ahmedabad plane crash is not

just an accident...; What else



government has completed its 11 years.

Sharing pictures of the meeting on X, Modi wrote that he interacted with Delhi BJP MPs, MLAs and other leaders. We had an extensive discussion on ways to improve the quality of life for the people of Delhi." The meeting was also attended by Speaker of Delhi Assembly, BJP national general secretary (organisation) BL Mohan Santosh and Delhi BJP described the meeting as president both symbolic and strategic. Virendra Sachdeva. BJP MP Yogendra Chandolia

Modi encouraged the MLAs to increase grassroots engagement and ensure that government schemes reach

every household. He also urged them to focus on sustainable development, reducing traffic congestion and water management, which are key issues transparent, efficient and affecting the capital. Deputy

Singh

Bisht

Minister's vision has played a key role in the party's recent electoral success, with Delhi voters supporting the "Modi model" in both the Lok Sabha Assembly and elections. The meeting concluded with a new resolve to provide

as the EPFO will soon increase the limit of automatic claim settlement from the current Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh. **Raids in two**

states to unearth **BKI network**

Delhi (Agency): The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday conducted searches at several locations linked to the Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) terror outfit in Punjab and Haryana. The NIA said that a total of 15 places were raided in Amritsar, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur, Pathankot, Kapurthala, Rupnagar and Sirsa in Haryana in connection with the January 2025 grenade attack on a police post in Amritsar district of Punjab. Several incriminating materials including mobiles digital devices and documents were seized during the searches. Investigation is underway for further clues about the terror syndicate of BKI. The investigating agency said that BKI is involved in criminal conspiracy to recruit and train associates in India. Also provides funds, arms and explosives to the regional cadres of the terror outfit through its associates located in other countries including Pakistan.

meeting held at Lok Kalyan Marg was the first such meeting called after the BJP's spectacular victory in the 2025 Delhi Assembly elections. The meeting, which lasted more than three

initiative. Prime Minister Modi emphasized the importance of coordinated governance between the Center and the Delhi government, calling for a "triple-engine" model of the

Center, state and local bodies meeting has also taken place to work together. This

Sources said Prime Minister

at a time when the Modi highlighted that the Prime **Big update on 50-year-old DDA colonies,** will be rebuilt; final decision pending

Delhi (Agency): Delhi's DDA residential colonies older than 50 years will be rebuilt. The governmentindustry task force constituted by Delhi Governor VK Saxena has sent the recommendation. If these recommendations are accepted, hundreds of colonies of Delhi will be rebuilt. For this, now Delhi's Rekha Gupta government has to take the final decision. If the proposal of the task force constituted by the LG is accepted, then these colonies will be rebuilt after conducting a security check. There are about 30 such 50year-old colonies of DDA, which are 50 years old and need to be rebuilt. The task force constituted by the LG said that all these colonies were built in 1957. All these colonies are spread across the capital. The task force constituted by the LG of Delhi has presented a report titled 'How to Revive Delhi'. This report recommends that the circle rate of commercial and industrial properties in Delhi should be reduced, as

the circle rate here is much higher than the neighboring of Noida cities and Gurugram. The task force said that the circle rate of Delhi is even higher than Mumbai in some places. In this chapter, the task force has also recommended industrial activity in Delhi and developing slums on the PPP model.

According to the information available on the DDA website, DDA started building its residential colonies in 1967. Earlier, some residential colonies, and government land buildings were under the Delhi Administration. After this, in 1969, 27 colonies

were transferred to DDA. In 1981, 99 more societies were transferred to DDA except one society. Today, DDA colonies that are more than 50 years old exist in Safdarjung, Masjid Moth, Saket, East of Kailash, Friends Colony, Munirka, Kalkaji, Madangir, Sunlight Colony, Katwaria Sarai, Pitampura, Rajouri Garden, Shalimar Bagh, Narayana, Wazirpur, Lawrence Road, Paschim Puri (in Paschim Vihar), Janakpuri, Shankar Road, Vivek Vihar. Deshopur, Najafgarh Road, Prasad Nagar, Vikas Puri, Govind Puri, Sheikh Sarai, Rohtak Road and Yamuna

Puri.

people-centric governance in the capital.

General Information



It is informed to the general public that I am Pravendra Kumar, resident of Ward No. 15 Chor Gali Bhind (MP) My daughter Akshita's has name been erroneously written as Prabha in the Aadhaar card. Her Aadhaar card number is 32××-×××- \times ×06. I want to correct her name and make it Akshita. My daughter's birth certificate, Ladli Laxmi Yojana and family register etc. documents have Akshita, which is correct and true. After the date of publication of the press release 31/05/2025, my daughter will be known only by the name Akshita. An affidavit is presented for this. The information given in the affidavit is completely true and correct

Informant Pravendra Kumar, Ward No. 15 Chor Gali Bhind (MP)

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Delhi (Agency): A horrific plane crash took place in Gujarat's capital Ahmedabad on Thursday. The plane had taken off for London, in which a total of 242 passengers including the pilot and crew members were on board. But shortly after the plane took off, it crashed in the BJ Medical College campus. In this horrific accident, news has come out that the passengers were badly burnt and died. Aam Aadmi Party MP Sanjay Singh has expressed grief over this accident, he said that the Ahmedabad plane crash is not just an accident ...

MP Sanjay Singh has written a sad message on X, he has termed this accident as an Singh wrote - The Ahmedabad plane crash is not just an accident, but a deep human tragedy. In this, who knows how many dreams remained unfulfilled and how many lives came to an end untimely. This heart-wrenching

accident as well as a deep

human tragedy. Sanjay

accident has immersed the country in the immense pain of grief. Behind every lost life, an

entire world was destroyed. We stand with full sympathy and solidarity with the bereaved families in this unbearable hour. May God grant eternal peace to the departed souls and give the bereaved families strength to bear this immense loss. Let us tell you that Ahmedabad Police has expressed sad apprehension about this accident and said that it is difficult for any of the passengers to survive. There were 169 Indians, 53 British, 1 Canadian and 7 Portuguese citizens on board the crashed plane. This plane fell on top of the medical college hostel, due to which there is news of the death of medical interns and doctors.