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CHAITRA NAVRATRI 2025 DAY 1: SHAILPUTRI PUJA- PAGE : 10

At least 1,644 dead after earthquake rocks Myanmar

PM Modi speaks to Junta chief, India aids with Operation Brahma



Yangon, March 29 (IANS) A total of 1,644 people died and 3,408 were injured, and 139 remained missing due to the powerful earthquake in Myanmar, said the Information Team of the State Administration Council on Saturday.

A powerful 7.7 magnitude earthquake, followed by a 6.4 magnitude aftershock minutes later, struck Myanmar's Mandalay region on Friday, causing massive casualties and damage in multiple countries.

The epicentre was only about 20 km from Mandalay, the country's second-largest city with a population of 1.5 million. In response, the National Disaster Management Committee declared a state of emergency across the Sagaing Region, Mandalay Region, Magway Region, the northeastern part of Shan State, the capital of Nay Pyi Taw and Bago Region.

Rescue operations are underway, while international relief efforts are being swiftly mobilised to address the dire needs of the affected population.

Public hospitals in Sagaing, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw urgently called for blood donations as they treated a surge of injured patients, while rescue operations continued amid reports of more people trapped under the rubble of collapsed buildings.

Official reports said the earthquake caused a power supply system failure and disrupted mobile networks, leaving parts of Yangon, the country's largest city, without signal. Several key roads linking Mandalay and Yangon in the south were damaged or blocked, while airports in Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw were temporarily shut down, with all flights canceled. Photos and videos posted on social media showed significant structural damage to buildings, temples and several historical sites in the Mandalay region, including the Mandalay Palace and the Mahamuni Pagoda.

5.1 aftershock strikes near Myanmar's Naypyitaw

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Just a day after a series of powerful earthquakes ravaged Myanmar, claiming over a thousand lives, the nation was struck by another 5.1-magnitude tremor on Saturday, according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

The latest seismic activity occurred near Myanmar's capital, Naypyidaw, around 2.50 p.m., at a depth of 10 km. The full extent of damage and potential casualties from this new tremor, which impacted the same regions affected by Friday's earthquakes, remains unclear.

17 Naxalites killed in Sukma encounter



Sukma, March 29 (IANS) Security forces eliminated 17 Maoists in an intense encounter in the Kerlapal area of Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Saturday.

The gunfight erupted as part of a joint anti-Maoist operation launched by the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) based on specific Intelligence regarding Maoist presence in the region. Officials confirmed that the joint team moved into the area on March 28, and intermittent firing between security forces and the insurgents continued into early Saturday morning. Following the successful operation, search teams have been deployed to comb through the encounter site and the surrounding forested terrain. Authorities stated that a detailed report will be released once the operation concludes. Sukma, one of the worst Maoist-affected districts in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region, has witnessed multiple violent confrontations between Maoists and security personnel over the years.

The encounter comes a day after a soldier was injured in Narayanpur district due to an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) blast triggered by Maoists. Additionally, on March 1, two Maoists were gunned down in the Kistaram police station limits of Sukma.

Modi govt will eradicate Naxalism: Shah

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Union Home Minister Amit Shah lauded security forces for eliminating 16 Naxalites in an anti-Naxal operation in Chhattisgarh on Saturday. The home minister said the Centre is resolved to end Naxalism and urged the left extremists to give up arms. Hailing security forces in a social media post on X, Amit Shah said, "Another strike on Naxalism! Our security agencies have neutralised 16 Naxalites and recovered a massive cache of automatic weapons in an operation in Sukma. Under the leadership of PM Shri @narendramodiJi, we are resolved to eradicate Naxalism before the 31st of March 2026."

Chhattisgarh moving towards Maoist-free status by 2026: CM

Raipur, March 29 (IANS) Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said that the state is moving towards Maoist-free status by 2026 and also showered praise on the security forces after they eliminated 16 Maoists in an operation in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Saturday, in which two soldiers were also injured. "Chhattisgarh's growing steps towards eradicating the cancer of Naxalism. In an ongoing encounter between security forces and Naxals in the Upampalli area of the Kerlapal police station in Sukma district, 16 Naxals have been killed so far.

Maoist arrested in Latehar

Latehar, Mar 29 (IANS) : A self-styled area commander of a splinter group of the outlawed CPI (Maoist) was arrested in Latehar district on Saturday, police said. The member of Jharkhand Jan Mukti Parishad (JJMP) was apprehended from Katia forest in Chipadohar police station area, a senior officer said. "During interrogation, he has confessed involvement in two encounters with police at Bokakhand and Herhanj," he said. Further investigation is underway.

PM in Nagpur today

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Nagpur on Sunday, where he will pay tribute to the founding leaders of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) at Smruti Mandir, according to a government release on Saturday.

ROZA TIME TABLE
IFTAR (30 March) 06.01 PM
SEHRI (31 March) 04.29 AM
Sreeleathers
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Jamshedpur dazzles with spectacular Hindu New Year, faith and culture on full display

Mail News Service





Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The city came alive with grandeur and devotion as thousands of devotees participated in a majestic Hindu New Year procession, organized by Hindu Jagran Manch and Hindu Utsav Samiti.

The celebrations showcased spectacular tableaus, traditional performances and spiritual fervour, making it an event to remember.

The Hindu Jagran Manch procession commenced from Old Durga Puja Ground near Agrico Roundabout, passing through Bhalubasa and Sakchi Bada Roundabout, before concluding at Sakchi Subhash Maidan (Aam Bagan Ground) with a grand Bharat Mata Aarti.

The event featured mesmerizing tableaus of Shri Ram Darbar, Shiv Baraat and Bharat Mata, alongside Shiv Tandav dance performances and traditional weapon demonstrations, symbolizing Hindu cultural heritage.

Enthralling acts from mythology, including Lord Krishna lifting Govardhan Hill, Hanuman carrying the Sanjeevani mountain and Goddess Durga slaying Mahishasura, captivated the audience.

Simultaneously, the Hindu Utsav Samiti took out an equally grand procession from Mango Dimna Road Transport Nagar, where a 21-foot-high statue of Lord Ram stood as the highlight. Devotees, led by Matri Shakti, marched towards Sakchi Subhash Maidan, chanting devotional songs.

Along the route, mythological enactments such as Bhishma Pitamah on the bed of arrows and Arjuna receiving the Bhagavad Gita's teachings from Lord Krishna enriched the spiritual experience. The event culminated in a Bharat Mata Aarti, conducted by 21 priests, showering divine blessings on the city.

To ensure smooth proceedings, 200 volunteers managed law enforcement and traffic, while streets and squares were adorned with flags, banners and decorative lights, creating an atmosphere of unity and cultural pride. Dr. Kavita Parmar emphasized the significant increase in women's participation, making this year's celebration even more inclusive.

Several key individuals, including Balbir Mandal, Chandrashekhar Mishra, Babua Singh, Kanhaiya Singh, Appu Tiwari, Anil Singh, Satish Gupta, Chintu Singh, Pappu Upadhyay, Shailesh Gupta, Satish Mukhi, Sonu Thakur, Sagar Rai, Surendra Singh Shinde, Amish Agarwal, Raman Singh, Kush Kumar and Amrik Singh, played a vital role in organizing the event. This year's Hindu New Year celebration in Jamshedpur was not just a religious observance but a grand cultural and spiritual event, reflecting devotion, heritage and unity. With its breath-taking tableaus, mythological enactments and overwhelming participation, it will be remembered as one of the city's most vibrant and extraordinary celebrations. (w/nkm)

Banna joins Hindu New Year procession





Jamshedpur, Mar 29: Former Health Minister Banna Gupta actively participated in the Hindu New Year procession organized by the Hindu Utsav Samiti from Dimna.

With resounding chants of "Jai Shri Ram," he joined the celebratory march and also visited various temples for prayers. On this occasion, he extended his New Year wishes to the people, hoping for peace, prosperity and happiness in everyone's lives. He emphasized the importance of collective efforts to advance society and the nation, urging everyone to work together with unity and dedication. (w/nkm)

Saryu's intervention leads to unified procession in Mango

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: A significant development occurred in Mango regarding the Hindu New Year procession. Initially, two separate processions were planned, but MLA Saryu Roy stepped in to mediate and proposed a unified march instead.

On Saturday morning, Hindu Utsav Samiti patron Upendra Singh Mastan and Hindu New Year Procession president Sarvjeet Tiwari met with Saryu Roy at his Bistupur residence. Roy expressed his concern over the idea of conducting two separate processions, considering it unnecessary. Following discussions, both groups agreed with Roy's suggestion and consented to organize a single grand procession. They also requested him to lead the event, a responsibility he gladly accepted. (w/nkm)

Basanti Puja Festival to be held grandly in Gamharia

Mail News Service



Gamharia, Mar 29: The Sri Sri Sarvajanik Basanti Puja Committee, Satwahini, Dhirajganj, has decided to organize the Basanti Puja Festival with grandeur this year.

In a recent meeting, chaired by committee president Bankim Choudhary, it was decided that the Kalash Yatra will take place in the morning of April 3, followed by the main puja at 7 PM.

This year, the decoration and the grand idol of Goddess Durga will be the main attraction.

Various cultural programs are planned for the festival. On April 5, Maha Ashtami, after the Dandi Puja, a Jagran (night-long prayer) and tableau display will take place. A three-day fair will also be organized. On April 6, Maha Navami, Mahabhog (sacred food offering) will be distributed to devotees. The festival will conclude on April 7, Maha Dashami, with the immersion of the idol at 4 PM. Preparations are in full swing, with committee members, including vice president Shashibhushan Das, secretary Rupesh Gorai, joint secretaries Kanu Kishore Bera and Ujjwal Chatterjee, treasurer Utpal Choudhary and co-treasurer Baleshwar Pauly, working tirelessly to ensure a successful event. (w/nkm)

Grand procession on Chaitra Hindu New Year in Adityapur

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Mar 29: Adityapur: A grand procession was taken out on Saturday by Hindu organizations to mark the Hindu New Year. Thousands of young participants enthusiastically joined the rally, chanting "Jai Shri Ram" slogans. The event was led by Vishwa Hindu Parishad's district president, Dr. J.N. Das, starting from Adityapur Toll Bridge Road.

A massive crowd of participants carried saffron flags, marching through the streets. Many from the procession later moved towards Jamshedpur. A bike rally was also organized as part of the celebrations. The Adityapur police ensured tight security arrangements to maintain order during the event.

Additionally, several Hindu organizations gathered in Adityapur, where another rally commenced towards Jamshedpur. Notable attendees included BJP district president Uday Pratap Singhdeo, BJP industry cell coordinator Bablu Singh, Sanjay Sardar, former ward councillor Abhijeet Mahato, Chintu Singh, Awadhesh Singh, Om Prakash Khan, Sanu Kumar, Dhananjay Swarnkar, Gurjit Singh, Sawan Gupta, Santosh Singh and Kishan Pradhan, among many others. (w/nkm)

AFFIDAVIT

I, **MENJO SUNDI**, W/o. Late Ramayan Sundi, resident of village Paramsai, Karkatta, P.O.- Barkella, P.S. Muffasil, Chaibasa, Dist-West Singhbhum, Jharkhand-833201 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows :-

1. That I am Indian Citizen by birth and I am permanent resident of village Paramsai, Karkatta, P.O. Barkella, P.S. Muffasil, Dist-West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.
2. That my actual and correct name is Menjo Sundi, which is written in my Voter Card, vide No. FYD5311261.
3. That due to some in advertence of mistake, in my Aadhar Card, vide No. 2522 9006 4181, in which my name has been written as Menja Shundhi, in place of correct name Menjo Sundi.
4. That Menjo Sundi and Menja Shundhi, both names are same and one person i.e. my self.
5. That I am assuring this Affidavit to produce before the authority concern for Rectification or correction in my correct name as Menjo Sundi, in my Aadhar Card.

Dt.: 23-01-2025 Advocate

Self-Reliance and innovation key to success: ITC Chairman

595 students receive degrees at XLRI's 69th Convocation



Sanjiv Puri honored with Sir Jahangir Ghandi Medal



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, March 29: XLRI held its 69th annual convocation on Saturday, marking a significant milestone in the institute's legacy. The event witnessed the presence of ITC Limited Chairman and Managing Director SanjivPuri as the chief guest, while Tata Steel CEO and MD TV Narendran graced the occasion as the special guest. The convocation celebrated the academic achievements of 595 students, who received degrees. In addition, three professors and 14 administrative staff members were awarded the 'Long Service Medal' for completing 15 years of dedicated service to the institute.

A major highlight of the event was the prestigious Sir Jahangir Ghandi Medal for Industrial and Social Peace Award, which was conferred upon ITC Chairman and MD SanjivPuri for his outstanding contributions to industry and society. Students who excelled academically were honored with gold medals, underscoring the institution's commitment to excellence and leadership. The ceremony was attended by XLRI Director Dr. (Fr.) Sebastian George, S.J., Dean Academics Dr. Sanjay K. Patro, Dean Admin & Finance Dr. (Fr.) Donald D'Silva, S.J., faculty members, students, and their proud families.

Purihighlights India's growth potential

Addressing the gathering, SanjivPuri congratulated the graduating students and faculty members. He highlighted India's vast potential for growth and innovation, urging students to follow their passions and contribute meaningfully to society. He emphasized the Tata Group's long-standing commitment to societal value and stated that success should go beyond business achievements to drive positive change in the world.

"Self-reliance and an innovative approach are essential for success in today's dynamic business environment,"Puri said, underscoring the importance of continuous improvement, empowerment, and clear goal-setting. His speech inspired students to embrace ethical leadership, innovation, and sustainable development in their careers.

Puri also shared insights into ITC's growth strategy, emphasizing the company's focus on leveraging institutional strengths, digital transformation, and distributed leadership. He highlighted the company's commitment to fostering talent and innovation while maintaining ethical leadership in business.

'For the past 3 decades, ITC's CHRO has been from XLRI'

During his address, Puri pointed out XLRI's remarkable contribution to the corporate world, particularly in human resource leadership. He noted that for the last three decades, ITC's Chief Human Resource Officer (CHRO) has been an XLRI alumnus, reflecting the institution's strong legacy in grooming top business leaders.

Graduating student Kislay Kumar Bhardwaj (PGD (HRM) 2025, Placed at Nestlé) shared: "XLRI has been a transformative experience, instilling in me confidence and self-belief. Convocation brings mixed emotions-joy in our achievements and nostalgia as we part ways with an institution that has shaped us."

A proud parent, LavkushShukla, father of VidushiShukla (PGD (HRM) 2025, Placed at Searce), expressed: "Seeing my daughter graduate from XLRI is a dream come true. Her dedication and perseverance have made this moment even more special for our family."(w-mb)

Leadership is about creating meaningful impact: Narendran

Jamshedpur, March 29: T. V. Narendran, Chairman, Board of Governors, XLRI, addressed the graduating class. He said, "As you step into the world, remember that leadership is about creating meaningful impact. XLRI has prepared you to lead with integrity, embrace innovation and drive sustainable progress. You are now part of a legacy that influences industries and communities worldwide. Congratulations and best wishes for your journey ahead."

For over seven decades, XLRI has nurtured leaders: Director

Jamshedpur, March 29: Dr. (Fr.) Sebastian George, S.J., Director, XLRI, emphasized the institution's commitment: "For over seven decades, XLRI has nurtured leaders who drive excellence and serve the greater good.

Your education here is not just about professional success but about shaping a more equitable and sustainable world. Stay connected and continue the XLRI legacy."

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

DRM/ENGG, South Eastern Railway, Chakradharpur acting for & on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders against Open Tender. Manual Offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **(1) Tender Notice No.: CKP-WEST-24-25-51, Date: 27.03.2025. Name of work:** Through sleeper renewal (P) of 53.806 Tkm between station Rourkela-Jharsuguda Jn. (DN) by Track Relaying Train (TRT), Deep screening by BCM and T-28 and other miscellaneous works under the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN(West)/Chakradharpur in Chakradharpur Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 5,71,48,705.66. **EMD:** ₹ 4,35,800. **(2) Tender Notice No.: CKP-WEST-24-25-52, Date: 27.03.2025. Name of work:** Through sleeper renewal (P) of 67.034 Tkm between station Rourkela-Jharsuguda Jn. (UP) by Track Relaying Train (TRT), Deep screening by BCM and T-28 and other miscellaneous works under the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN(West)/Chakradharpur in Chakradharpur Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 8,27,31,763.15. **EMD:** ₹ 5,63,700. **Cost of Tender form:** ₹ 0 (for Sl.No. 1 & 2 each). **Date of Opening:** 21.04.2025 (for Sl.No. 1 & 2 each). The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. **Note:** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority– Railway Board's letter no. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-1282)**

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If a transformer is not repaired within 12 hours, consumers will get Rs 25 compensation

Rule unveiled in delegated committee meeting chaired by Saryu Roy

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: Do you know that if the transformer near your home in an urban area burns out or stops functioning and isn't repaired within 12 hours, you are entitled to a compensation of Rs 25? Similarly, in rural areas, if the transformer is not restored within 24 hours, each connected consumer can claim Rs 25 as compensation. However, this claim must be filed at the office of the Superintending Engineer.

This crucial provision was brought to light during a meeting of the Legislative Assembly's Delegated Committee, chaired by Jamshedpur West MLA Saryu Roy on March 28. The committee reviewed and discussed existing rules and



- Provision under the Distribution Licensee Standards of Performance Regulations 2015 (Jharkhand State Electricity Regulatory Commission).
- Officials and employees will bear the penalty amount from their own salaries.
- Applies to both Tata Steel and state government electricity services.
- Lack of public awareness results in unclaimed compensation.

regulations, revealing that the Distribution Licensee Standards of Performance Regulations 2015 (Jharkhand State Electricity Regulatory Commission) clearly outline these consumer rights.

According to this regulation, electricity providers, whether state-run or private (including Tata Steel), must replace or repair a damaged transformer within 12 hours in urban areas and 24 hours in rural areas. Failure to do so will result in each affected consumer receiving Rs 25, deducted directly from the salaries of responsible officials and employees. This provision ensures that electricity department personnel remain proactive in their duties.

Saryu Roy emphasized that while the government has introduced many consumer-friendly regulations, a lack of public awareness prevents people from benefiting from them. Many consumers remain unaware of their right to claim compensation, leading to unnecessary hardships and delays in services. The committee's analysis found that few people take advantage of the compensation provision due to unawareness.

To address this, Roy has urged citizens to stay informed and vigilant. By exercising their rights and demanding accountability, consumers can ensure that transformers are promptly repaired within the stipulated timeframe, minimizing disruptions to daily life. (w/nkm)

Former Bihar minister, four others sentenced to 3 years RI

Mail News Service

Patna, Mar 29: After 28 years, the CBI court has delivered its verdict in the high-profile bitumen scam case. Former Bihar minister Iliyas Hussain and four other convicts have been sentenced to three years in prison. Additionally, each of them has been fined Rs 15 lakh. The case dates back to 1994, when bitumen was falsely supplied on paper and payments were fraudulently withdrawn using forged documents. After an extended trial, the CBI court pronounced its judgment.

Seven accused acquitted due to lack of evidence : The convicted individuals include Iliyas Hussain, Shahabuddin, Pawan Kumar Agarwal, Ashok Kumar Agarwal and Vinay Kumar Sinha. On Saturday, the CBI court found them guilty and sentenced them to three years of imprisonment. Meanwhile, seven other accused were acquitted due to insufficient evidence. The individuals acquitted include G. Ramnath, S.P. Mathur, Tarun Ganguly, Ranjan Pradhan, Subah Sinha and M.C. Agarwal.

510 metric tons of bitumen supplied only on paper : The verdict was delivered by Special CBI Judge P.K. Sharma on Saturday. Special Public Prosecutor Khushbu Jaiswal represented the CBI during the hearing. The bitumen scam dates back to 1994, involving fraudulent transactions worth Rs 27.70 lakh.

As per records, 510 metric tons of bitumen was supposed to be supplied to the Road Construction Department (Hazaribagh), but in reality, no supply was made. Instead, fake supply documents were created to show the delivery. The fraudulent paperwork was prepared using the name of a company called Pawan Carrier to facilitate the financial irregularities. (w/nkm)

FIR against Union Minister Sanjay Seth,7 others over protest in Ranchi

Mail News Service



Ranchi, Mar 29: An FIR has been registered against Union Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth and seven others for allegedly obstructing government work and engaging in a scuffle with the police during the Ranchi bandh. The bandh was called in protest of the murder of BJP leader Anil Tiger. The case has been filed at Pandara OP police station based on a written complaint by Sub-Inspector Manish Kumar.

The other accused named in the FIR include Lalit Ojha, Kumud Jha, Baiju Soni, Satyanarayan Singh, Pradeep Ojha, Dharmendra Sahu and Ashok Yadav. Additionally, several unidentified individuals have also been booked. The police have launched an investigation into the incident.

According to the complainant, he was on duty with police personnel near Piska Mod when bandh supporters, armed with sticks, began chanting slogans and blocked the main road. Despite repeated attempts by police and magistrates to clear the blockade, the protesters refused to disperse.

The situation escalated further when Union Minister and Ranchi MP Sanjay Seth arrived at the scene with 60-70 bandh supporters. They staged a sit-in protest, blocking the road. Despite multiple warnings, Seth's supporters allegedly forced shopkeepers to shut down their businesses. Some protesters also set tires on fire on the road, creating a fire hazard for nearby shops, which led to panic among shopkeepers, forcing them to close their establishments. Following the incident, authorities registered the case and initiated further legal proceedings. (w/nkm)

5 yrs jail term for ex-treasury officer

Ranchi, March 29: Former treasury officer of Doranda Treasury, Pawan Kumar Kedia, has been sentenced to five years in prison by the special vigilance court on charges of corruption. A fine of Rs 30,000 has also been imposed. If Pawan Kumar Kedia does not pay the fine, he will have to undergo an additional six months of imprisonment. Pawan Kumar Kedia was accused of demanding Rs 30,000 in exchange for passing a bill in Doranda Treasury. The vigilance team verified and arrested Pawan Kumar Kedia on 29 May 2013. During the hearing of the case, Vigilance presented 9 witnesses. (W-rg)

Saryu to perform Kalash Sthapana at Shri Lakshmi Narayan Temple

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: On Sunday, March 30, during Chaitra Navratri, Jamshedpur West MLA Saryu Roy will perform Kalash Sthapana at Maa Rakshak Kali Temple, located within the Shri Lakshmi Narayan Temple (Birla Temple) premises. The ritual will begin at approximately 8:30 AM and will be followed by Durga Saptashati Path.

Daily worship of Goddess Durga will take place, with morning and evening aarti. Additionally, Ramcharitmanas Navahna Parayan will commence near the Hanuman temple. This recitation will continue throughout Navratri, culminating on Ram Navami with a Havan (fire ritual), after which prasad will be distributed. (w/nkm)

Two accused acquitted in four-wheeler theft case

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: In a four-wheeler theft case, the court of ADJ-III Nishant Kumar on Saturday acquitted two accused, Sunil Kumar Singh and Manish Agarwal, due to a lack of evidence. However, two other accused, Vinay Kumar Mishra and Tinku Das, remain absconding. The case saw testimonies from five witnesses during the trial.

The Incident: August 6, 2017

The case was initially registered by then-Golmuri police station in-charge, Srinivas, after receiving a tip-off about a vehicle theft gang transporting stolen cars via Golmuri-Birsanagar to Adityapur for sale. Acting on this information, a police team set up a checkpoint at Golmuri Chowk. During the operation, a Bolero (JH-01 AZ-4257) was stopped and its registration documents were found to be forged, with the original number being JH-01 AZ-4251. The police seized the vehicle and detained the accused. Further investigation led to the recovery of multiple stolen vehicles, including Boleros (JH-02S-1934, JH-02AD-4591, BR-01PB-4467, BR-01PB-27-6479), a Tata Safari (BR-4N-6452) and another vehicle (JH-03L-9009) from various locations such as Chandil and Chhotanagpur. (w/nkm)

MLA Purnima Sahu meets SSP over law and order issues

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: Concerned over the rising crime rate and deteriorating law and order in Jamshedpur East Assembly constituency, MLA Purnima Sahu met SSP Kishore Kaushal on Saturday, urging immediate action on 11 key demands related to public safety, crime prevention and traffic improvements.

Accompanied by her representative Gunjan Yadav, she submitted a detailed letter highlighting the recent surge in crimes such as murder, theft, snatching, harassment, drug abuse and illegal activities.

She specifically mentioned the brutal murder of Vijay Kumar Nandrajog from Bagun Nagar under Sidgora police station, calling it highly alarming.

Sahu emphasized that growing fear and insecurity among residents require urgent administrative action. She demanded the swift arrest and strict punishment of the culprits involved in the Sidgora murder case.

Her 11-point demand list included increasing police patrolling in sensitive areas, deploying female officers in all police stations, ensuring officers' presence is displayed at stations,



adopting a cooperative approach towards complainants, deploying Tiger Mobile units near schools during dismissal hours, cracking down on drug trade, strengthening intelligence surveillance, designating fixed checkpoints for two-wheeler inspections, avoiding unnecessary harassment of company employees returning home from work, focusing traffic enforcement on smooth mobility rather than paperwork checks, deploying traffic police at key junctions for smoother vehicle movement and preventing drug and alcohol consumption in open areas at night.

SSP Kishore Kaushal assured her that all issues raised would be addressed promptly and effectively to ensure public safety.

MLA visits murder victim's family : Following the murder of Vijay Kumar Nandrajog alias Rinku in Sidgora, MLA Purnima Sahu visited the victim's family on Saturday. She met the grieving relatives, gathered details about the incident and assured them of justice by urging the administration to take strict action against the culprits. She also pledged full support to the bereaved family. (w/nkm)

Severe water crisis in 33 Bastis: Protests and allegations of negligence

How long will Bagbera stay thirsty? We need water, not empty promises: Subodh



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: Under the leadership of Subodh Jha, President of the Bagbera Mahanagar Development Committee, a large-scale protest is underway across various settlements, demanding immediate implementation of the Bagbera Rural Water Supply Scheme. Due to groundwater depletion below 600 feet, nearly 200,000 residents are facing an acute water crisis.

Protesters have urged the district administration to deploy 30 water tankers and have appealed to JUSCO, Tarapore Company, UCL Company and social organizations to assist in providing water relief to 113 villages across 21 panchayats and 33 railway settlement areas, including Bagbera, Kitadih, Ghaghidih, Harharguttu, Gandhinagar, Ramnagar and Pashtunagar. With government bore-wells dried up and deep boring systems failing, the committee has demanded immediate intervention to supply water tankers.

Meanwhile, Subodh Jha also inspected the filter plant of the Bagbera Housing Colony Water Supply Scheme, expressing outrage over severe negligence and the supply of contaminated water to nearly 20,000 residents of 1,140 households. Anomalies amounting to Rs 21.63 lakh were found in funds allocated for the filtration plant's construction, but no repairs were made, leading to its collapse. A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed in the Jharkhand High Court resulted in an order on March 29, 2023, for a report submission within 30 days. However, 726 days have passed and the issue remains unresolved.

Despite Rs 1.88 crore being sanctioned under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the project, which began on April 27, 2023 and was scheduled for completion by July 26, 2024, remains unfinished. Superintendent Engineer Anil Kumar now claims that by April 2025, every household in Bagbera Colony will receive water, but residents remain sceptical due to shifting deadlines and incomplete work. Jha accused the water department of misleading the court with false reports and pledged to make these documents public. The committee has decided to meet the Deputy Commissioner on Monday to demand immediate water tanker arrangements until regular water supply is restored.

Prominent protesters include Vinod Ram, Deepak Dangi, Raju Sharma, Sangeeta Sharma, Munilal Sharma, Ashok Rajak, Kanhaiya Chaudhary, Munnibai, Anita Devi, Rajesh Prasad, Lakhan Kumar, Ritesh Singh and Akhilesh Kumar. Protesters have warned that if the crisis persists, their agitation will intensify. (w/nkm)

Champai raises concern over 'conversion' of tribal people



Ranchi, Mar 29 (IANS): Former Jharkhand chief minister Champai Soren on Friday raised concern over the alleged religious conversion of tribal people and called for the preservation of their culture, ahead of Sarhul, the biggest festival of indigenous people.

Advocating the "delisting" of tribal people who have converted to other religions, Soren said that if conversion is not stopped, tribal culture and existence will disappear.

"Despite moving away from our traditions, these people (who have converted to other religions) are enjoying the benefits of reservations (meant for tribals). The children of the Sarna tribal society are lagging behind in this race. "If the conversion is not stopped, who will worship in the future at our Sarna Sthals, Jahersthans, Deshauli, etc.? If this continues, our culture will come to an end. Our very existence will be erased," Soren posted on X.

He also said tribal leader Kartik Oraon had moved the 'delisting' proposal in Parliament in 1967, in which he proposed to exclude those who changed their religion from the reservation.

His proposal was referred to a parliamentary committee by the then central government, he added.

"The Joint Committee of Parliament scrutinised the proposal and gave its recommendations on November 17, 1969. Their major recommendation was that any person who has renounced tribal traditions and converted to Christianity or Islam shall not be considered a member of a Scheduled Tribe," he said.

Soren claimed that Oraon had also submitted a letter signed by 322 Lok Sabha members and 26 Rajya Sabha MPs to the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, insisting that she accept the committee's recommendations on the proposal, as it is a question of survival for crores of tribals.

Law and order on high alert: SSP directs officers to ensure public safety

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: A monthly crime review meeting was conducted under the chairmanship of Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Kishore Kaushal. The meeting, held in the presence of the Superintendent of Police (SP) for both urban and rural areas, brought together all Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSPs), Sub-Inspectors, and Station Incharges from across the district.

The primary agenda of the meeting was to review the status of pending cases and ensure compliance with government-issued guidelines for law enforcement. The SSP



emphasized the importance of expediting the resolution of outstanding warrants, executing attachment orders, and fast-tracking passport and character verification processes. Additionally, officers were instructed to intensify efforts in tracking and apprehending absconding accused individuals.

A significant focus of the discussion was on the effective implementation of various technological and digital policing initiatives, including the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS), Integrated Traffic and Surveillance System Online (ITSSO), Integrated Road Accident Database (iRAD), Dial-112 emergency response system, Jharkhand Online FIR System (JOFS), and eSakshaya digital verification platform. The SSP stressed the importance of leveraging these tools to enhance crime prevention, investigation, and public safety measures.

In light of upcoming festivals, special directives were issued to ensure peaceful celebrations and maintain law and order across urban and rural areas. Officers were instructed to increase patrolling, deploy adequate security personnel, and remain vigilant against any potential disturbances.

Coordination with local intelligence units was also emphasized to preemptively address security concerns.

The SSP reiterated the police department's commitment to swift and efficient law enforcement, urging officers to work diligently in serving the community.

The meeting concluded with an assurance that all directives would be implemented effectively, contributing to a safer and more secure environment for the residents of Jamshedpur and surrounding areas.

The police administration has urged citizens to cooperate with law enforcement agencies and report any suspicious activities to help maintain peace and security in the region. (W-pb)

MLA returns to public after assembly session, holds Janata Darbar

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: After the conclusion of the second (budget) session of the sixth Jharkhand Assembly, Potka MLA Sanjib Sardar has resumed addressing the concerns of his constituents. On Saturday, he organized a Janata Darbar at the Turamdih office, where villagers presented their grievances. Many issues were resolved on the spot, while others were directed to the concerned officials for further action.



MLA Sanjib Sardar is known as a people's leader who remains among the public in all circumstances. Whether it is stormy weather, heavy rains, or normal days, he ensures his availability to the people through Janata Darbars at various locations—including his residential office, Hata office, or his ancestral home in Udal.

During the Assembly session, he could not be physically present among the public, but his representatives actively listened to their problems. Now, with the session over, he is fully engaged in resolving the region's issues. Villagers appreciate his accessibility and promptness, which have earned him significant public support. (w/nkm)

Shani Dev Temple consecration ceremony held in Seraikela

Mail News Service



Seraikela, Mar 29: A grand consecration ceremony was held at the newly built Shri Shani Dev Temple near Patnayak Tola, Jail Road, Seraikela. Devotee Lalit Chaudhary, along with a group of worshippers, organized the event.

The consecration was conducted by priest Brijmohan Sharma with full rituals and Vedic chanting. It was performed on the auspicious occasion of Amavasya (New Moon), believed to bring divine blessings and peace to the region.

Following the rituals, prayers were offered for global harmony and prasad was distributed among the devotees. The event concluded with a sense of devotion and reverence, leaving attendees spiritually uplifted. (w/nkm)

Blood donation camp organized at Tarapore School

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Mar 29: Tarapore School, in collaboration with the Voluntary Blood Donors Association and Jamshedpur Blood Bank, successfully organized a blood donation camp on its premises. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, resulting in the collection of 35 units of blood to support patients in need. The initiative aimed to promote social responsibility and highlight the importance of voluntary blood donation. Tarapore School has long been committed to fostering a spirit of community service among its students. Through various awareness programs and outreach activities, the school encourages young minds to actively contribute to society.

The event was lauded by organizers and participants alike, emphasizing the critical role of collective efforts in saving lives. Such initiatives reinforce the school's dedication to creating a socially conscious and compassionate generation. (w/nkm)

Press Club of Seraikela hosts Holi Milan, DC, SP extend greetings

Mail News Service



Seraikela, Mar 29: The Press Club of Seraikela-Kharsawan, the district's only recognized journalist organization, celebrated its Holi Milan event on Saturday at Four Seasons Resort, Kandra, located on the Tata-Seraikela road.

DC Ravi Shankar Shukla attended as the chief guest, while SP Mukesh Kumar Lunayat was present as a special guest. Other notable attendees included Adityapur Municipal Corporation Administrator Ravi Prakash, Deputy Municipal Commissioner Parul Singh, Gamharia Block Development Officer Abhay Kumar Dwivedi, CDPO Durgesh Nandini and Kandra Police Station in-charge Vinod Murmu, along with several journalists from the organization.

During the event, participants exchanged abir-gulal and extended Holi greetings to one another. They also pledged to work together for societal welfare during upcoming festivals.

Prior to the celebration, the club held its AGM, where discussions on the upcoming elections took place. The Press Club has been actively working for journalists' interests in the district for the past four years.

DC Shukla appreciated the organization's efforts, stating that it is commendable to see a body dedicated solely to journalists' welfare. Club President Manmohan Singh expressed gratitude for the district administration's support and hoped for continued cooperation in the future.

The event saw the presence of club patron Santosh Kumar, General Secretary Mohammad Ramzan Ansari, Treasurer Sanjeev Mehta, Vice Presidents Pramod Singh and Arun Maji and around 60-65 journalists, making it a grand success. (w/nkm)

110 health ambassadors honoured under School Health and Wellness Program



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: On March 29, 2025, a felicitation ceremony was organized at Birsa Munda Town Hall under the School Health & Wellness Program (SHWP) for 110 outstanding Arogya Doots (Health Ambassadors) from five selected schools across the 11 blocks of East Singhbhum district.

The event was held under the National Adolescent Health Program and the National Health Mission, Jharkhand, with technical support from the Center for Catalyzing Change (C-3), in collaboration with the education and health departments. The Chief Guest, Civil Surgeon Dr. Sahir Pal, honoured the selected teachers and health ambassadors for their exceptional contributions.

The program commenced with a lamp-lighting ceremony. Key officials present included Shravan Kumar from Center for Catalyzing Change, district officials like Victor Vijay Samad, Chief Medical Officer (VBD), ACMO, district quality advisors and health educators. The event also recognized four District Resource Groups (DRG) for their contributions.

During the program, the importance of SHWP's objectives was highlighted and attendees were informed about Health and Wellness Day, observed every Tuesday under the initiative. Chief Medical Officer Dr. A. Mishra emphasized the need for continued efforts and congratulated all health ambassadors.

The successful organization of the event was credited to the coordinated efforts of the education and health departments, along with technical support from Center for Catalyzing Change (C-3). (w/nkm)

Grand Kali Puja held at Mukti Dham for regional prosperity

Mail News Service



Jaduguda, Mar 29: The first form of Goddess Kali was worshiped with great devotion at the Jaduguda Mukti Dham, with prayers for regional prosperity. A large number of devotees gathered at the temple to participate in the celebrations.

The Maa Tara Kali Temple Committee, led by President Tikki Mukhi, has been organizing this annual grand Kali Puja at Mukti Dham on the occasion of Chaitra Amavasya for the past 15 years. The ritual began with the invocation of Baglamukhi, followed by the establishment of the sacred urn and the lighting of 108 havan lamps to please the goddess. Devotees also partook in the grand Mahabhog Prasad distribution.

UCIL Management plays a crucial role in supporting this long-standing tradition. Committee members include Tikki Mukhi, Lolin Mukhi, Ashok Singh, Rajesh Sharma, Amit Singh, Anil Singh, Mrinal Mahato and Shankar Bhakta. The responsibility for conducting the Kali Puja was assigned to Chief Priest Shakti Majumdar, along with Tantric Priests Ginu Ram Soren and Gandhi Karmakar. The event witnessed an overwhelming turnout of devotees, reflecting the deep-rooted spiritual and cultural significance of this celebration in the region. (w/nkm)

Basanti Durgotsav at Sakchi Durga Bari from April 3

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, March 29: The Sakchi Durga Bari at Chenab Road, will be hosting its 88th annual Basanti Durgotsav between April 3 and April 7.

General Secretary Santanu Bose briefed that the Maha Shasthi Puja would commence from 9:42 pm with the inaugural prayer song at 7:30 pm. The invocation of the deity will be performed in the interim period. Saptami Puja will be performed on Friday, April 4 from 8:13 pm.

The Mahashthami Puja on Saturday, April 5 will commence at 7:27 pm. The Sandhi Puja will commence at 7:03 pm. Santanu explained that Sandhi Puja is of 48 minutes' duration which sees the culmination of Ashtami and commencement of Navami. He explained, "The 48-minute time frame of Sandhi Puja is divided into two parts of 24 minutes each. The first part takes puja rituals up to the conclusion of Ashtami while the second part leads to the commencement of Maha Navami Puja."

The Maha Navami Puja which will be held on Sunday, April 6, will commence at 7:24 pm.

The Dashami Puja rituals would be completed by midday on Monday, April 7. The idol of the Mother will be taken out in a procession and immersed in the Swarnarekha River. (w/gsd)

Anti-Riot Mock Drill conducted by Chaibasa Police

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, Mar 29: On March 29, 2025, the Chaibasa Police conducted an Anti-Riot Mock Drill at the Police Center, Chaibasa, in preparation for upcoming festivals, including Eid, Sarhul, Chaiti Durga Puja, Chhath Puja, Hindu New Year and Ram Navami. The drill focused on handling unruly elements and crowd control using anti-riot security equipment, ensuring readiness for emergency situations.

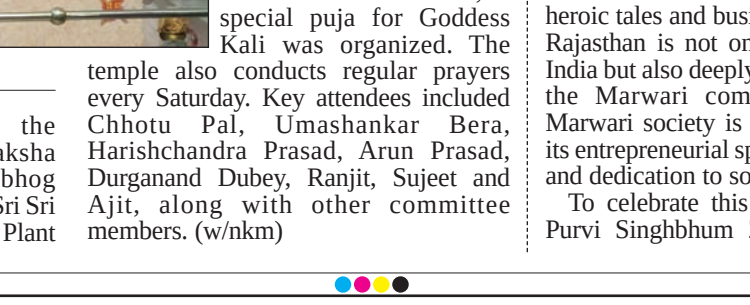
Police officers and personnel were given detailed instructions on managing disturbances and maintaining public order, especially in light of the recent Holi celebrations.

Additionally, a flag march was conducted across various police station and outpost areas in the district to ensure law and order during the upcoming festivities. Sensitive locations were closely monitored and residents were urged to cooperate in maintaining peace and harmony.

The initiative reflects the district administration's commitment to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all during the festive season. (w/nkm)

Carmel Junior College holds Graduation Ceremony for Batch 2024-25

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The Graduation Ceremony for the outgoing Std. XII Batch 2024-25 of Carmel Junior College was held on March 29, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the school auditorium. A total of 109 graduates participated in the solemn event, led in a grand procession by School Manager Sister Jyothi D'Souza A.C., Principal Sister Sharel A.C., Vice Principal Sister Amala A.C. and the school faculty.

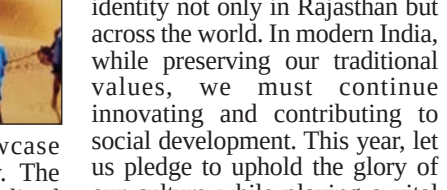
The ceremony began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the school management, class teachers, head boy, head girl and a parent representative. A prayer was offered by a student, a teacher and a parent, followed by a traditional Candle Light Procession, symbolizing hope and self-belief as the graduates step into new responsibilities.

Graduates were awarded certificates and batch souvenirs, with special awards recognizing holistic excellence. A parent representative shared their appreciation for the school's role in shaping students' futures.

Principal Sister M. Sharel congratulated the graduates, highlighting the importance of lifelong learning and making meaningful contributions to society. The ceremony was an emotional farewell for students who had spent fourteen years growing within the school's nurturing environment.

The event concluded with the singing of the school anthem by the graduates. (w/nkm)

Free eye and health check-up camp organized by UCIL



Jaduguda, Mar 29: A joint eye and health check-up camp was organized by UCIL and the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) in Ahar Ghutu village near the Turamdih Uranium Project. Dr. Jaya Moitra examined each patient and provided necessary medicines. For the past one and a half years, UCIL and the Red Cross Society have been conducting such camps in nearby villages, offering free medical services to the local residents. Many villagers prefer these camps over hospitals due to their accessibility and effectiveness. Local resident Pano Murmu shared that she had been suffering from a skin condition but was completely cured after receiving treatment at the camp. Similarly, Champa Baske, who suffered from asthma, reported significant improvement after receiving free medication. Red Cross Society Secretary Vijay Singh stated that UCIL has organized 300 health camps so far, providing free cataract surgeries to restore vision. The initiative has significantly benefited local residents, encouraging them to seek medical help at these camps instead of hospitals. The camp was attended by UCIL officials, including Girish Gupta, Arun Nayak, Dr. Jaya Moitra, Radheshyam and Rajesh Kumar Prasad. (w/nkm)

Amavasya bhog distribution at Dakshineswari Kali Temple



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: On the occasion of Chaitra Shukla Paksha Amavasya, a grand puja and bhog distribution event was organized at Sri Sri Dakshineswari Kali Temple in East Plant Basti. Hundreds of men and women participated in the religious ceremony. The temple committee's president, Galvinder Singh Gwale, stated that every Amavasya, special prayers and bhog distribution are conducted at the temple. Chaitra month holds great significance in Hindu tradition and therefore, a special puja for Goddess Kali was organized. The temple also conducts regular prayers every Saturday. Key attendees included Chhotu Pal, Umashankar Bera, Harishchandra Prasad, Arun Prasad, Durganand Dubey, Ranjit, Sujeet and Ajit, along with other committee members. (w/nkm)

Rajasthan Day: Celebrating a glorious heritage and culture

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Mar 29: On the auspicious occasion of Rajasthan Day, we honor the unique culture, traditions and glorious history of this land of valour. Rajasthan was unified on March 30, 1949, marking its establishment as an organized and powerful state. Known for its rich traditions, heroic tales and business acumen, Rajasthan is not only a pride of India but also deeply connected to the Marwari community. The Marwari society is renowned for its entrepreneurial spirit, diligence and dedication to social service.

To celebrate this heritage, the Purvi Singhbhum Zila Marwari Sammelan is organizing a grand two-day Rajasthan Festival. The event will include cultural programs, traditional folk dances, music, lectures and other vibrant performances to showcase Rajasthan's cultural legacy. The exact dates are yet to be finalized based on venue availability, but the enthusiasm and grandeur of the celebration will remain undiminished.

Mukesh Mittal, President of the Purvi Singhbhum Zila Marwari Sammelan, emphasized, "Rajasthan Day is not just a historic date but a celebration of our culture, traditions and business excellence. The Marwari community has established its identity not only in Rajasthan but across the world. In modern India, while preserving our traditional values, we must continue innovating and contributing to social development. This year, let us pledge to uphold the glory of our culture while playing a vital role in societal progress." (w/nkm)

SCCI delegation explores defence manufacturing opportunities in Kolhan

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Mar 29: A delegation from the Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry, led by President Vijay Anand Moonka, met with the Union Minister of State for Defence, Sanjay Seth, in New Delhi. The delegation discussed the possibility of establishing defence-related manufacturing units in Kolhan to boost industrial development in the region.

During the meeting, the Chamber urged the minister to consider setting up a defence-related enterprise in or around Jamshedpur, which could create new opportunities for local industries. Responding to the request, Sanjay Seth stated, "The central government is committed to manufacturing all defence-related products within the country under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative. If such production takes place in Jamshedpur, it will be a matter of pride." The minister also informed the delegation that an Air Show is scheduled to be held in Ranchi on April 19-20 and a Defence Expo will take place in Jharkhand in September or October for the first time. The expo aims to introduce entrepreneurs to new opportunities in the defence sector.

Following this, the delegation held a high-level meeting with Sanjeev Kumar, Secretary, Department of Defence Production. They requested the ministry to provide Kolhan's industries with information on new defence products to help them enter the sector. Sanjeev Kumar assured, "The ministry's production department will conduct regular webinars and meetings with the Chamber to guide entrepreneurs on potential opportunities in this field."

During the meeting, the secretary presented a list of approximately 38,000 defence-related products, which the Chamber examined for possible business prospects in Kolhan.

Expressing the Chamber's commitment, President Vijay Anand Moonka stated, "If the Defence Ministry takes steps in this direction, the Chamber will actively participate and ensure a conducive industrial environment for this initiative." (w/nkm)

5 convicted in minor's gang rape case, sentenced to 20 years RI

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The Special POCSO Court in Jamshedpur has sentenced five men to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for the 2020 kidnapping and gang rape of a 17-year-old girl from Birsanagar. Each convict was also fined Rs 1,000, with an additional three months' imprisonment if they fail to pay.

Special POCSO Judge Sirish Dutt Tripathi pronounced the verdict on Saturday against Chandan Lohara alias Tempo, Akash Dhal alias Kachim, Jashu Sabaiya alias Motu, Ganesh Bari alias Damru and Govinda Bari after hearing testimony from 12 witnesses.

The incident occurred on August 11, 2020, when the victim was alone at home. According to the prosecution, Chandan Lohara offered to take the girl to her grandmother's house on his scooter but instead took her to Khairwani, where he and four accomplices held her captive and repeatedly assaulted her.

The victim managed to escape the following morning when she asked to take a bath. She reached a nearby pond where she borrowed a mobile phone from a woman and contacted her mother. Her family arrived at the location just as the perpetrators were attempting to recapture her. They apprehended one of the accused and took him to the police station.

The court convicted the five men under Section 6(1) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. (w/nkm)

Anniversary of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati to be celebrated today

Mail News Service

Jaduguda, Mar 29: The 136th birth anniversary of Swami Sahajanand Saraswati will be celebrated on March 30 at Brahmarshi Bhavan in Kadma. To discuss event preparations, the Swami Sahajanand Saraswati Kalyan Sansthan held a press conference at the venue.

Brahmarshi Vikas Manch President Vikas Singh emphasized Swami Sahajanand's role as a pioneer of the farmers' movement. "He fought for farmers regardless of caste or community. His ideology remains relevant today," Singh stated, urging the government to declare his birth anniversary a public holiday. The event will feature notable guests, including MP Kalyacharan Singh, former Cabinet Minister Arjun Munda, MP Bidyut Mahato and former Chief Minister Raghubar Das. Bhojpuri singers Golu Munda and Nisha Pandey will perform at the celebration. Speakers at the press conference, including Deepu Singh and Jai Kishore, stressed the importance of spreading Swami Sahajanand's vision to the masses. The program aims to honor his contributions to the farmers' movement and encourage further discussions on his legacy. (w/nkm)

Four Shiksha Niketan students selected for Netarhat School



Mail News Service

Seraikela, Mar 29: Four students from Bal Vikas Shiksha Niketan, a leading educational institution in Seraikela, have secured admission to the prestigious Netarhat Residential School. The selected students, Janmejay Sardar, Anuj Sinku, Sanjay Mahato and Anilesh Soye, successfully cleared the entrance examination and will be enrolled in Class 6.

School directors Vidyabhushan Singh, Baban Singh and Kumar Kaushal shared the achievement, expressing immense pride in their students' success. "This is a testament to our commitment to quality education. We congratulate our students and wish them a bright future," they stated.

The entire school community celebrated the achievement, extending their best wishes to the students and their families. (w/nkm)

Farewell ceremony for Class 8 students at BMS School



Seraikela, Mar 29: A farewell ceremony was organized at Balak Madhya Vidyalaya, Seraikela, for students who successfully passed Class 8 and are set to enrol in other schools. The event featured cultural performances, including dance and music, where students bid an emotional farewell to their outgoing peers. Speaking at the ceremony, Principal Kanchan Kumari Sinha and Class Teacher Reena Sethi wished the students success and encouraged them to remain disciplined and focused on their goals. "Discipline and determination will help you achieve great success in life," the teachers advised the students. The school arranged a special meal and sweets for all departing students as part of the farewell celebrations.

AMC issues final warning to tax defaulters

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The Adityapur Municipal Corporation has issued a final warning to property tax defaulters for the financial year 2024-25. Building owners who have yet to pay their holding tax must do so within three days, failing which legal action will be initiated. As per the directive of Municipal Administrator Ravi Prakash, the revenue department has compiled a list of defaulters. If payment is not made within the stipulated period, defaulters will face severe consequences under the Municipal Act.

For those owing over INR 1 lakh, bank accounts may be frozen, body warrants issued and properties seized. Additionally, restrictions will be placed on property sales until dues are cleared. Municipal officials stated that this stringent action was necessary due to repeated non-compliance despite three prior notices. "We urge property owners to clear their dues immediately to avoid legal complications," an official remarked. (w/nkm)

Middle-aged man brutally killed in Sidgora

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: A murder occurred in the Sidgora police station area, where a 52-year-old man was brutally killed with stones near the Surya Temple at Kanta Maidan. The deceased, identified as Bijay Kumar Nandrajog alias Rinku, was a resident of Bagunhatu Road No. 1 and worked in the Sakchi fruit market.

The incident came to light early Friday morning when locals discovered the bloodied body and informed the police. Officers arrived at the scene, conducted an investigation and sent the body for post-mortem. Family members later identified the victim.

According to Bijay's cousin, Manoj Kumar, he used to leave for work at 9 AM daily on his bicycle and return by 9 PM. On Thursday night, when he did not return, the family searched for him but found no trace. Eventually, they reported his disappearance to the police. The discovery of his body the next morning has left the community in shock and police are conducting a thorough investigation to identify the perpetrators. (w/nkm)

160 headmasters receive tablets under education project

Gamharia, Mar 29: The Education Department distributed 160 tablets among headmasters and in-charge principals at an event held at the Block Education Auditorium. Subrata Mahato, the Block Education Extension Officer, stated, "Under the guidelines of the Jharkhand Education Project and the Samagra Shiksha initiative, the department has provided these tablets to all schools in the block." The tablets will assist teachers in tracking student and teacher attendance, managing mid-day meal records and updating school-related data online. Training was also provided to ensure efficient use of the devices. (w/nkm)

Administration conducts route inspection for Ram Navami procession

Sereaikela, Mar 29: On March 28, 2024, the administration, along with Mahavir Mandal, conducted a route inspection for the upcoming Ram Navami Shobha Yatra. During the inspection, Mahavir Mandal pointed out several problem areas along the route and the administration instructed immediate repairs to ensure a smooth and hassle-free procession. Officials present during the inspection included the Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO), Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO), Sadar Police Station In-charge, Muffasil Police Station In-charge, Municipal Council Administrator, CO and BDO. Mahavir Mandal was represented by President Ranjit Yadav and General Secretary Deepak Gupta. (w/nkm)

JSW, Seva Group conduct free cataract surgery for 65 patients

Mail News Service



Barbil, Mar 29: A free eye check-up camp was jointly organized by Seva Group and JSW. The camp was inaugurated by chief guest Laxman Mahanto, President of Munshi Party and special guest Ramesh Chandra Nayak, Executive Officer of Barbil Munshi Party.

Conducted in three phases, the camp provided eye examinations to 1,656 people, out of which 65 were diagnosed with cataracts and underwent free surgeries at Keonjhar. Additionally, free spectacles were distributed to the patients.

The initiative aimed to provide quality eye care to those who could not afford expensive medical treatments. A team of expert ophthalmologists emphasized the importance of timely eye check-ups and proper care.

Seva Group President Vinod Bhavsikh highlighted the organization's long-standing commitment to social service and pledged to continue such medical camps in the future. Key contributors to the camp's success included Shankar Konark, Kapil Karmakar, Rajesh Rai, Vikas Jaiswal and Monu. (w/nkm)

Food safety probe begins after MDM tragedy in Noamundi block

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, Mar 29: An incident unfolded at Nayagaon Odia Primary School in Noamundi block, West Singhbhum, where 17 schoolchildren and five village children fell ill after consuming the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) on Thursday. One girl lost her life following the incident. In response, Food Safety Officer Abhishek Anand visited the school on Saturday to inspect the premises and collect food samples for testing. He stated that the meal included rice, dal and potato-brinjal curry, which allegedly caused the illness. Samples of dal, rice, oil and spices were taken for further analysis. Following the incident, fear gripped the students and none attended school on Saturday, despite it being open as usual. Meanwhile, medical teams set up a camp in the village to examine the affected children and provide necessary care. The school, which has a total of 35 enrolled students, saw nearly half of them fall sick after consuming the meal. Teacher Birendra Nath Mahato mentioned that he and other staff members had also eaten the same food but remained unaffected. Investigations are ongoing to determine the exact cause of the illness. (w/nkm)

Bhayli Mahila Mandal celebrates Gangaur Sindhara Utsav

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The Bhayli Mahila Mandal celebrated the 13th Gangaur Sindhara Festival at Rajasthan Bhavan, Sonari, with great enthusiasm. Under the leadership of President Kavita Agarwal, women and daughters from the Marwari community actively participated in the event.

The festival featured competitions such as Gangaur Antakshari, Rajasthani folk dance, traditional attire contest and Gangaur decoration contest.

The winners were honored by esteemed guests. Renowned singer Mahavir Agarwal Munna mesmerized the audience with his melodious Rajasthani and Gangaur songs.

The event was inaugurated with a lamp-lighting ceremony by chief guest Suman Nagelia. Senior Marwari women, including Savitri Agarwal, Bimla Pancholi, Gayatri Agarwal and Pushpa Jain, were honored with shawls and certificates for their contribution to the community. Rupa Jain, who saved her husband's life through liver donation, was recognized with the Life Saver Award.

Social media influencer Priya Sharma was also acknowledged for promoting Marwari traditions through digital platforms.

The event witnessed active participation from key members, including Manju Agarwal, Suman Agarwal, Neelam Nagelia, Kanchan Agarwal, Lata Agarwal, Lakshmi Agarwal, Uma Danga and several others. Bhaili Mahila Mandal aims to keep the Marwari culture alive through such vibrant celebrations each year. (w/nkm)

Stone pelting on trains continues

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The Durg-Ara South Bihar Express was once again targeted with stone pelting. The incident occurred after Rourkela when the train reached Manoharpur. Stones hit Coach B4 near berth 71, shattering a window, but no passengers were injured. The matter has been reported to the RPF, which has registered a case and begun an investigation.

The train passed through Manoharpur, Goilkera, Sonua, Chakradharpur, Rajkharsawan and Sini before reaching Tatanagar, where officials conducted further checks and spoke with passengers. Stone-pelting incidents have been increasing, with seven trains attacked in just three months. Despite the growing concern, no concrete steps have been taken to curb the menace, which has been ongoing since 2024. (w/nkm)

Two new commissioners for Jamshedpur EPFO

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, Mar 29: The Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) regional office in Jamshedpur has undergone a leadership change. Commissioner Shashibhushan Kumar has been transferred to the headquarters and Upendra Pratap Singh has been appointed as the new regional commissioner. A transfer list issued on March 27 included 110 officials of commissioner rank.

Senior officer Prashant Kumar has also been transferred to Jamshedpur from Giridih, while Arvind Pradhan, previously posted in Sambalpur, will join as Assistant Commissioner. Meanwhile, Assistant Commissioner Eric Herman Lakra has been transferred to Raipur. The post of Commissioner-2 had been vacant for several days. (w/nkm)

Police leaves cancelled for festivals

Mail News Service

Ranchi, Mar 29: Jharkhand Police has cancelled all leaves for police personnel to maintain law and order during upcoming festivals, including Eid, Sarhul and Ram Navami. DGP Anurag Gupta issued the order on Saturday. Leaves will only be granted in special cases with approval from SPs, DIGs, or IGs. Seven districts-Ranchi, Palamu, Hazaribagh, Jamshedpur, Giridih, Bokaro and Palamu-are considered highly sensitive. Authorities have been instructed to take strict action against troublemakers. During a recent review meeting, the DGP directed officers to ensure peace by monitoring processions via drones, verifying communal incident-prone areas and keeping a close watch on social media for misinformation. (w/nkm)

Students face water crisis at Kolhan University

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Mar 29: Students at Kolhan University's PG department are struggling due to the lack of drinking water on campus. Despite multiple complaints, no action has been taken.

Student union president Sanatan Pingua highlighted that Kolhan University was established in 2009 to provide quality education to underprivileged students. In 2019, a water purifier was installed by Rungta Mines, but it stopped functioning within a year due to poor maintenance. Many students travel 50-60 km daily and are forced to carry their own drinking water. The student body has warned that if the issue is not resolved within five days, they will stage a protest on campus. (w/nkm)

Inciting speeches

An example of how an inciting speech can create mayhem is that of Samajwadi Party MP Ramjilal Suman who gave his controversial comment on Rana Sanga. He should not have exposed his insignificant knowledge of history through such an observation. Moreso, he made his observation when debate was on in the Rajya Sabha on the working of the home ministry. It seems that he wanted to draw a controversial discussion on himself a la his Maharashtra legislator Abu Azmi. If this was not the motive then what need did he have to object to the slighting of Babar and raise questions on Rana Sanga? The topic of his criticism was more irrelevant because most historians do not agree with his points of view that he raised absurdly. If he adopted this absurd manner to point out the so-called discrepancies in history, it can only be dubbed a mischievous ploy. It may be a good reason to agree that Ramjilal Suman's controversial remarks on Rana Sanga may have stemmed from the lure of cheap vote bank politics. On the one hand he agrees that no one has any praise for Babar but on the other, he seems to feel hurt at the criticism cast on the Moghul ruler. But why?

Ramjilal Suman should have well known the impression the people of the country have on Rana Sanga. If his comments on Rana Sanga led irate people to the conclusion that they were directed towards the attainment of narrow political ends, they cannot be blamed. It also does not mean that the irate folks attack his house. Such acts have no place in a democracy. Protests against inciting comments and observations should be made within lawful purview. No one has the right to take law into one's own hands and resort to violence to express protest or sentimental hurt. Unfortunately, this is happening almost regularly. Such nature has to be brought under leash but, at the same time, political leaders while expressing their views on any topic, should do so after much consideration on the subject. This aspect is of prime importance because, otherwise, the absurd and inconsiderate comments of leaders have been leading to public rancour. The irony is, such inciting comments are made deliberately. Nothing could be worse than to deliver deliberately inciting speeches to create social divides. It is strange that while Ramjilal Suman has stated that his intent was not to insult anyone but he has not even expressed his regret over his observation.

From the Editorial Desk

Vijayan 3.0? The growing BJP factor in Kerala's next Assembly election

With just over a year left for the next Kerala Assembly elections, discussions are already going on about the possibility of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan securing a third consecutive term. At the same time, the growing influence of the BJP in the state is also a topic of intense debate.

Vijayan, along with CPI(M) state secretary M.V. Govindan and other party leaders, has begun hinting at a historic third term for the Left Democratic Front (LDF). This has rejuvenated party cadres who, at one point, were doubtful due to the challenges faced by Vijayan during his second term.



While Kerala has traditionally alternated between the CPI(M)-led LDF and the Congress-led UDF, Vijayan broke this cycle by leading the Left to victory in 2021.

The BJP, which has struggled to gain a foothold in the state, made history in 2024 by winning its first-ever Lok Sabha seat from Thrissur, where actor-turned-politician Suresh Gopi pushed the Congress to third place.

Despite its limited success in state elections -- winning just one Assembly seat in 2016 and none in 2021 -- the BJP has steadily increased its vote share. In 2021, it secured 12.41 per cent of the vote, finishing second in nine constituencies. In the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, this rose to 15.64 per cent.

The LDF had won 99 of the 140 Assembly seats in 2021 with 45.43 per cent of the vote, while the UDF secured 41 seats with 39.47 per cent. After the BJP's breakthrough in Thrissur, the Congress accused the Left of a covert deal with the BJP to ensure Gopi's victory. The CPI(M), however, countered by blaming Congress for helping the BJP by splitting the anti-BJP vote.

With both the Congress and CPI(M) trading accusations over alleged ties with the BJP, a political observer, speaking anonymously, pointed out that the BJP's primary rival at the national level is the Congress, not the CPI(M) in Kerala.

"The BJP's strategy in the South is to prevent the Congress and its allies from regaining power. In Tamil Nadu, for example, talks of a BJP-AIADMK alliance are emerging. If the Congress in Kerala fails to resolve its internal conflicts, a third term for Vijayan cannot be ruled out," said the political observer.

Now, with BJP leader and former MoS Rajeev Chandrasekhar leading the party's Kerala unit, all eyes are on the upcoming Nilambur Assembly by-election and local body polls later this year, which could offer early signs of how the BJP's strategy unfolds in the state.

India's long-term outlook strong, another RBI rate cut likely in April



India's long-term outlook remains strong and the investment cycle is projected to be on a medium-term uptrend supported by government investment in infrastructure and manufacturing, pickup in private investments, and a recovery in the real estate cycle, a new HSBC report said on Friday.

The HSBC Mutual Fund's 'Market Outlook Report 2025' expects higher private investments in renewable energy and related supply chains, localisation of higher-end technology components, and India becoming a more meaningful part of global supply chains to support faster growth.

"Post the recent correction, Nifty valuations are now in-line with its 5/10-year average. We remain constructive on Indian equities supported by the more robust medium-term growth outlook," the report mentioned.

Nifty now trades on 18.1 times, one-year forward price-to-earnings (PE) ratio. This is now a 7 per cent discount to its 5-year average and in line with its 10-year average.

Valuations in Midcap and Smallcap space have also moderated following the sharp correction over January and February.

According to the report, the global macro environment remains challenging with heightened geopolitical and economic uncertainties.

For India, GDP growth has improved to 6.2 per cent (YoY) in Q3 FY25.

"We believe the government has tried to partly address the slowdown in private consumption through the income tax rate cuts in the Union Budget. However, a pick-up in private capex will be critical as government capex is moderating," the report noted.

Central government capex spending is now expected to grow only at 7 per cent (YoY) in FY25 and at 10 per cent (YoY) in FY26. The RBI is also now trying to ease policy rates.

"We believe longer-term outlook remains strong," the report said.

On debt outlook, the report mentioned that after a rapid slide seen in January, the currency levels fared better in February owing to the RBI's policy steps -- the FX buy/sell USD swap windows.

"The real economy, as of now, has evinced resilience to global developments. Basis the growth-inflation numbers, the MPC's last policy action as well as the MPC minutes, we believe the RBI-MPC would deliver another 25 bps cut at its April policy while continuing to stay nimble and flexible on its liquidity strategy," the report projected.

For a third rate cut, inflation trajectory, monsoon outlook and global developments will possibly be key inputs going into the June policy meeting.

Retail boom



The Indian retail sector is witnessing strong growth, with demand for mall space surpassing supply for the third consecutive year, a new report said on Wednesday.

The leasing momentum remains high as retailers continue to expand their presence in organised retail spaces across major cities.

A report by Anarock Retail showed that in 2024, more than 6.5 million square feet of organised retail space were leased, significantly exceeding the supply of new stock.

This has led to a sharp decline in vacancy rates, which now stand at just 7.8 per cent in shopping malls. As a result, rental values have surged, reflecting the increasing competition among retailers for prime retail locations.

Retailers are also shifting towards larger store spaces to enhance customer experience. Spaces ranging between 2,000 and 5,000 square feet have recorded the highest number of leasing transactions.

However, stores between 1,000 and 2,500 square feet are also in high demand due to the limited availability of spaces in malls.

Among retail categories, the beauty & personal care and departmental store segments saw an 11 per cent rise in leasing activity in the second half of 2024.

Apparel and accessories continue to dominate, accounting for 40 per cent of total leasing transactions during this period.

The decline in vacancy rates is most evident in premium malls, where occupancy has reached nearly full capacity, the report said.

Vacancy levels have fallen from 15.5 per cent in 2021 to just 7.8 per cent in 2024, showcasing the strong appetite for retail space.

Looking ahead, the report indicated that around 37.7 million square feet of new mall space is expected to be added between 2024 and 2028.

The highest supply is expected in the National Capital Region (NCR), which alone accounts for nearly 47 per cent of upcoming mall developments.

Other major cities such as Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Hyderabad and Bengaluru will also see significant additions to organised retail space.

"Rental values across malls and highstreets are on the rise and are expected to continue their upward climb until new good quality supply is added," said Anuj Kejriwal, CEO and MD, Anarock Retail.

As BYD overtakes Tesla, Musk's India strategy might go beyond EV + Starlink



By Dev Chandrasekhar



The news that Chinese automaker BYD has overtaken Tesla in global EV sales for Q1 2024 might seem like a setback for Elon Musk. BYD, backed by strong government support, aggressive pricing, and a robust supply chain, has rapidly scaled its operations to become the world's leading EV manufacturer. With a stronghold in China and growing dominance in international markets, BYD's success reflects its ability to produce high-quality electric vehicles at lower costs, leveraging a vertically integrated supply chain and in-house battery production. While Tesla remains a formidable force in the EV sector, BYD's ascent signals shifting competition that Musk must navigate carefully. Given this, a deeper look at his sudden renewed interest in India reveals not a reactionary move but a calculated strategic pivot that has been years in the making. What we are witnessing is not just Tesla seeking a new market or Starlink expanding its footprint; it is Musk orchestrating a comprehensive ecosystem play in the world's most populous country-one that could reshape global technology-and turn around Tesla's fortunes.

After prolonged negotiations with the Indian government, Tesla is reportedly ready to commit $2-3 billion to establish manufacturing operations in the country. This decision follows years of back-and-forth discussions regarding import duties and local production incentives. The recent developments, including India's new EV policy that slashes import duties for companies committing to local manufacturing, create a more favorable entry point for Tesla. Beyond cars, Musk's Indian strategy extends to Starlink. SpaceX's satellite internet arm has secured commercial licenses to operate in India, a move that could bring high-speed connectivity to the country's vast rural and underserved areas. These two developments alone highlight a dual-pronged approach-leveraging India as both a manufacturing hub and a key digital infrastructure market.

The timing of Musk's India pivot is telling. Tesla's dominance in China, once its most promising international market, is being eroded by increasing competition from BYD and other local EV manufacturers. China's state-backed push for homegrown EV brands and shifting regulatory pressures have made Tesla's position more vulnerable. Meanwhile, SpaceX remains effectively locked out of China due to its tight government controls on foreign space companies. With rising geopolitical tensions between the U.S. and China, Musk's businesses face increasing vulnerability in that market. India, therefore, emerges as a perfect hedge-offering a rapidly growing economy, a massive consumer base, and an open regulatory environment that aligns with Musk's broader ambitions.

Musk's India ambitions go far beyond selling Tesla cars. The real play appears to be an integrated technological ecosystem that spans multiple domains. Reports suggest Tesla is working on a $24,000-$26,000 model, specifically designed for emerging markets. India's growing middle class provides the perfect customer base for such an offering. India's vast pool of engineers and AI researchers offers fertile ground for xAI, Musk's artificial intelligence venture. Setting up research centers or partnerships in India could give him a crucial advantage in the AI race. India has over 800 million internet users, but millions still lack access to high-speed connectivity. Starlink could revolutionize rural internet access, particularly in remote and underserved areas. India's space agency, ISRO, has been gaining global recognition. Collaborations with SpaceX could accelerate space technology development while enhancing India's satellite capabilities. India's ambitious renewable energy goals align well with Tesla Energy's solar and battery storage solutions. Large-scale deployment of Tesla Powerwalls and Megapacks could help address grid stability and energy storage challenges. India's Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, aimed at boosting local manufacturing, provides an added financial incentive for Tesla's entry. Additionally, India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy by 2027, presenting a market opportunity too large to ignore. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has actively encouraged foreign investment in the EV and space sectors. The recent easing of import duties for automakers committing to local production is a direct invitation for Tesla to set up shop in India. Similarly, the government's push for digital infrastructure aligns with Starlink's expansion goals.Critics might view Musk's India pivot as merely a reaction to Tesla's weakening position in China. However, this perspective overlooks the broader strategic vision. What we're seeing is not a defensive retreat but an offensive redeployment-a recognition that the future of technology will be shaped not just by innovation but by access to markets, talent, and resources. In chess terms, Musk's India gambit isn't about protecting his king-it's about repositioning his pieces for a stronger attack. And in the global technology power game, that might prove to be a winning move.

(The Author is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Innovation in Public Policy. The views expressed are personal.

India-EU FTA to remove trade barriers in new geo-political world: UIA's Carlo Mastellone



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) The bilateral free trade agreement (FTA) between India and the European Union will enhance market access and remove trade barriers for both the nations in the new geo-political world, Carlo Mastellone, UIA President, Studio Legale Mastellone in Florence, Italy, said on Saturday.

Speaking at a seminar in the national capital, Mastellone said there is a very large domestic market in India and the time is now ripe to change the approach from multilateralism to bilateralism.

"From the perspective of the European Union, which is where I come from, we are looking at one of the bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs). From the European point of view, that will be accomplished in this new geopolitical and geographical situation," Mastellone told the gathering.

In February this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen agreed to expedite the conclusion of the India-EU FTA by the end of the year and hold further focused discussions on the defence industry and policy to explore opportunities from new initiatives and programmes.

The leaders committed to task their respective negotiating teams to pursue negotiations for a balanced, ambitious, and mutually beneficial FTA with the aim of concluding them within the course of the year. Officials were asked to work as trusted partners to enhance market access and remove trade barriers.

Robust arbitration mechanism key to make India a global manufacturing hub: Piyush Goyal



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Strong arbitration and mediation mechanisms are crucial for India's emergence as a global manufacturing hub, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, said on Saturday.

Addressing the Special Plenary Session at the United International Avocat Conference in the national capital, the minister underscored the importance of a strong legal and arbitration framework in supporting India's rapid economic growth.

He emphasised the need for confidence in arbitration mechanisms and acknowledged concerns regarding the influence of large corporations and international biases.

The Minister also urged stakeholders to strengthen arbitration practices in India to make them more efficient and impartial, thereby fostering a more investor-friendly climate.

Goyal highlighted the nation's robust economic performance, stating that India is the fastest-growing major economy and is on track to becoming the fourth-largest global economy by 2025-26.

Centre sends another notice to Ola Electric over mismatch in Feb sales: Report

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has reportedly sent a fresh show-cause notice to Ola Electric Mobility, seeking an explanation about mismatch in its sales numbers recorded in February.

The show-cause notice, dated March 21, seeks details about Ola scooters of various models sold and registered last month, reports NDTV Profit.

The Bhavish Aggarwal-led electric vehicle (EV) maker has been asked to respond to whether Ola scooters sold in February are on the road without registrations; whether Ola scooters were delivered to customers without number plates; and whether Ola scooters are being sold from stores without trade certificates.

It was not clear yet if the EV maker had responded to the ministry's letter within the seven-day deadline.

Ola Electric claimed to have sold 25,000 scooters in February but only 8,652 of them were registered due to renegotiation of contracts with vendors that handled vehicle registrations.

The vendors, Rosmerta Group, subsequently filed insolvency petitions against the company over unpaid dues of up to Rs 25 crore.

India saw massive 3,580 pc growth in solar power capacity in 10 years: Pralhad Joshi



Ahmedabad, March 29 (IANS) There has been an unprecedented increase in solar power capacity in the country -- from 2.82 GW in 2014 to 104 GW today -- showing a significant increase of 3,580 per cent in the last 10 years, Union Minister of New and Renewable Energy, Pralhad Joshi, said on Saturday.

By 2030, the production of solar modules will skyrocket and reach 150 GW and the capacity for solar cells will increase to 100 GW, with wafer production reaching 40 GW, said the Union Minister while inaugurating a state-of-the-art 5.4 GW solar cell gigafactory/manufacturing facility of Warree Energy at Chikhali in Gujarat.

"This magnificent facility embodies the spirit of India and stands in the form of India's growing expertise in the global renewable energy scenario. The plant will not only cater to local needs but also position India as a major exporter of advanced solar technologies," said Joshi. The minister said that the emphasis on module production has also increased and its capacity has increased from 2 GW in 2014 to 80 GW today. "In 2014, the production of solar cells and wafers did not exist, but today, India has 25 GW of cells and 2 GW of Wafers produces. To give a further boost to this, the government has issued guidelines stating that all solar PV modules used in projects will have to get their solar cells from ALM list-II starting from June 1, 2026," Joshi explained.

Tata Neu HDFC Bank Card crosses 2 million milestone

Ranchi/Jamshedpur :March 29 Tata Neu and HDFC Bank today announced a significant milestone: the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card has surpassed 2 million cards issued, solidifying its position as one of India's preferred rewards credit cards. This achievement underscores the card's remarkable success in delivering value and a seamless rewards ecosystem to customers across the country.

Since its launch in August 2022, the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card has made significant strides, loved by its users for offering the most simple and transparent rewards ecosystem in the Indian credit card market. With a significant share of new cards issued (over 13% net new cards issued in Q3 FY25-RBI), it has rapidly gained the trust and loyalty of customers across the country.

"At Tata Digital, we are dedicated to revolutionizing the credit card experience by making benefits more rewarding and transparent for our customers," said Gaurav Hazrati, Chief Business Officer, Financial Services, Tata Digital. "Crossing 2 million Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Cards issued is a strong testament to the trust our customers place in NeuCard. We remain committed to continuously enhancing the NeuCard experience, delivering even greater value to our growing community of NeuCard holders."

Every transaction with the Tata Neu HDFC Bank Credit Card unlocks a universe of rewards, including up to 10% savings, accelerated NeuCoin earnings, and exclusive privileges across travel, fashion, electronics, groceries, and more. The card's seamless, technology-driven experience, featuring digital onboarding, instant approvals, and contactless payments, caters to the modern

Freight sales up Rs 54,805 crore in 4 years; passenger revenue rises by Rs 20,024 crore



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) The freight revenue by Indian Railways has risen by Rs 54,805 crore in four years -- from Rs 1.13 lakh crore in 2019-20 to Rs 1.68 lakh crore in 2023-24, the government said on Saturday.

On the other hand, passenger revenue increased by Rs 20,024 crore in four years -- from Rs 50,669 crore in 2019-20 to Rs 70,693 crore in 2023-24, informed Union Minister of Railways and Electronics and IT, Ashwini Vaishnaw.

"Revenue earned by Indian Railways on account of flexi fare, tatkal and premium tatkal during 2019-20 to 2023-24 is approximately 5.7 per cent of the total revenue earned from passenger services. Amount credited on account of cancellation of tickets is not maintained separately," said the minister.

There were about 79,000 coaches being utilised for running train services (as on April 1, 2024).

Meanwhile, the total land in possession of Indian Railways is about 4.90 lakh hectares out of which 8,812 hectares land has been leased for various purposes, according to the minister.

This includes railway land leased/licensed for passenger facilities, cargo related facilities, commercial development, etc.

FOREIGN

It will 'work out very well', Trump says of trade issues with India



Washington, March 29 (IANS) US President Donald Trump, on Friday, called Indian tariffs "brutal" but expressed optimism that things will "work out very well" between the two countries on trade.

The US President also spoke warmly and effusively about Prime Minister Narendra Modi and their relationship.

"It's brutal... it's brutal," Trump said of Indian import duties at a White House news conference in response to a question about trade talks between the two sides.

"I think it's going to work out very well, between India and our country," he said further, without divulging his plans or the size of the hike on imports from India that could take place on April 2, when he is scheduled to announce a system of reciprocal tariffs that will match American tariff on imports from trading partner countries.

"He's a very smart man and a great friend of mine, actually," he said of Prime Minister Modi, and referring to his recent White House, he added, "we had very good talks."

He went on to call him "a great Prime Minister".

Trump has also complained about Indian tariffs and the trade imbalance between the two sides.

The US goods trade deficit with India was $45.7 billion in 2024, a 5.4 per cent increase ($2.4 billion) over 2023, according to the office of the US Trade Representative (USTR), the top trade negotiator for the US.

Total goods trade between the two countries was an estimated $129.2 billion in 2024.

Doctors deliver baby on Bangkok street amid earthquake horror



Bangkok,March 29 (IANS) Doctors in Bangkok delivered a baby on the street outside the Police General Hospital during the massive earthquake in Thailand. The woman was in surgery when the tremors hit on Friday, and doctors were forced to evacuate the hospital. The patient was carried out of the hospital by medical teams and, surrounded by healthcare staff, gave birth to a baby boy, said Police Colonel Sirikul Srisanga, the hospital's spokesperson.

Videos of the incident were widely shared on social media, showing the woman lying on a stretcher as hospital staff assisted with her delivery in the open air. In the footage, numerous stretchers of other hospital patients can also be seen shifted into the courtyards, where doctors continued their treatment.

According to the Thai Enquirer, the woman was in the middle of surgery when the earthquake occurred. "While closing the abdominal wall, an earthquake occurred. The surgical team decided to stabilize the patient and evacuate them to a safer location," Police Lieutenant Colonel Jiramrit said.

"Upon reassessment, it was determined that the patient required immediate abdominal closure to prevent the risk of intestinal herniation and potential exposure of bowel loops to external air. Given the urgency, the surgical team proceeded with the final closure of the abdominal wall in a sterile environment outside the operating room, completing the procedure within 10 minutes,"

AI startup xAI acquires X in $33bn stock deal: Elon Musk



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Billionaire Elon Musk has announced his artificial intelligence company, xAI, has acquired social media platform X for an all-stock transaction of $33 billion.

The combination, which "values xAI at $80 billion and X at $33 billion ($45B less $12B debt)," will "unlock the immense potential"

It will blend "xAI's advanced AI capability and expertise with X's massive reach". X has more than 600 million active users.

Musk had in 2022, bought X -- originally Twitter -- for $44 billion.

In the last two years, the platform "has been transformed into one of the most efficient companies in the world, positioning it to deliver scalable future growth".

India, US agree to finalise first tranche of bilateral trade agreement by fall 2025

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) In a bid to expand their bilateral trade to $500 billion by 2030, India and the US on Saturday concluded their talks in the national capital, broadly reaching an understanding to finalise the first tranche of the bilateral trade agreement (BTA) by fall 2025.

As a follow-up to the India-US joint statement of February 13 during the successful meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with US President Donald Trump, representatives of India's Department of Commerce and the Office of the US Trade Representative convened in New Delhi from March 26-29.

In a statement, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that in order to realise the shared objective of promoting growth that ensures fairness, national security and job creation, both sides have through four-days of discussions in New Delhi broadly come to an understanding on the next steps towards a mutually beneficial, multi-sector BTA, with the goal to finalise its first tranche by fall 2025.

"Sectoral expert level engagements under the BTA will start virtually in the coming weeks and pave the path for an early negotiating round in person," the ministry informed. During these discussions, the two sides also had a productive exchange of views on deepening bilateral cooperation in priority areas, including increasing market access, reducing tariff and non-tariff barriers and deepening supply chain integration in a mutually beneficial manner.

Trump expresses openness to tariff deals after reciprocal tariffs are enforced on April 2

Washington, March 29 (IANS) US President Donald Trump has expressed openness to cutting tariff deals with other countries as he plans to unveil new taxes on imports in the coming days, but he suggested any deals would be made after the tariffs go into place on April 2.

"It's possible if we can get something for the deal - but, you know, we've been taken advantage of for 40 years, maybe more. It's just not going to happen anymore. But yeah, I'm certainly open to it," Trump told reporters on Friday aboard Air Force One as he travelled to Florida, on being asked if he was open to making deals with countries like the UK that have discussed reducing tariffs on the US.

Pressed on whether that would happen before the tariffs are announced, he said, "No. Probably later."

Trump also reiterated plans to announce pharmaceutical tariffs.

The President declined to provide a specific rate for those tariffs, but said it would be "enough to get the drugs and the pharmaceutical companies bringing their product into our country - we never want to have to rely on other countries, like we did during Covid."

He downplayed a shift in tone regarding Canada following his Friday morning call with Prime Minister Mark Carney, saying, "I've always loved Canada and we had a very good conversation."

Earthquake leaves 10 dead, 101 missing in Bangkok



Bangkok, March 29 (IANS) Ten people were dead, 16 were injured, and 101 others remained missing in the capital, Bangkok, Thai authorities said on Saturday after a powerful earthquake struck Myanmar, sending strong tremors across Thailand.According to the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), emergency disaster areas have been declared in Bangkok and two other provinces, with authorities conducting structural safety assessments and damage surveys across the affected regions.

Phasakorn Boonyalak, director general of the DDPM, said 14 provinces have reported damage following the earthquake that rocked central Myanmar on Friday afternoon, reports Xinhua news agency.

Tremors were felt in 57 provinces, particularly in Bangkok, prompting mass evacuations from office buildings, residential complexes, and convention centers as people gathered on the streets and in parks as temporary shelters.

The earthquake disrupted multiple subway and Skytrain services in Bangkok, bringing traffic to a standstill. Most train services resumed normal operations by Saturday morning. Thai Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra said during a meeting for earthquake disaster updates and relief measures on Saturday that the earthquake situation has stabilised, with aftershock intensity gradually weakening.

Mass protest erupts in Nepal's Maitighar Mandala over journalist's death



Kathmandu, March 29 (IANS) A wave of outrage has gripped Nepal's media community on Saturday following the tragic death of Avenues TV journalist Suresh Rajak, who was reportedly burned alive during a violent pro-monarchy protest in Tinkune, Kathmandu. Journalists across the city have converged on Nepal's Maitighar Mandala to stage a mass protest, demanding justice and accountability for the heinous crime.

Eyewitness accounts, including those from Kantipur Television journalist Ramkrishna Bhandari talked about the chaotic scene. Bhandari described how protesters targeted media personnel, threatening violence and setting fire to property.

"They were saying that we will also attack the media, we will set fire, we will not spare you," he recounted, detailing the destruction of office equipment and the escalating tension that culminated in Rajak's death. Meanwhile, curfew order, restricting movement, gatherings, and protests, was lifted in Nepal's Baneshwar-Tinkune stretch and surrounding areas on Saturday as tension eased. Till now, 51 people, mostly top pro-monarchy protestors, including the senior vice-chairman of the Rastriya Prajatantra Party Rabindra Mishra, General Secretary Dhawal Sumsher Rana, Swagat Nepal, Shepherd Limbu and Santosh Tamang, as well some other leaders were held for 'instigating' violence, according to local media reports.

Will probably never come back: Tourist's viral post on Goa horror



Goa, March 29 (IANS) A man on a trip to Goa claimed he was assaulted and verbally abused, vowing to never return to the popular tourist destination. In a long post on social media, the man said the locals harassed and beat him near Madgaon railway station over a traffic dispute.

The man recounted his ordeal in a Reddit post titled "Got physically abused in Goa, will probably never come back." He said he rented a car for his trip and was on the way to catch a train from Madgaon station after dropping his girlfriend at the airport.

"I went with my girlfriend this time and rented a car cause we didn't want to drive a scooty in this scorching heat. While going back, I dropped her at the airport (GOI) and I was going to Madgaon for my train," he said.

Driving towards the station, he said he apparently "cut" two local men on a two-wheeler, though he insisted there was no contact between the vehicles. "No bump, no scratches, our vehicles did not touch, and frankly I didn't even cut him," he wrote.

The men allegedly followed him to the railway station, blocked his car and threatened to smash his windshield. "One guy got off, picked up a stone and threatened to break the windshield if I didn't open the window," he wrote.

When he opened the window, the man said he was punched repeatedly and verbally abused by them. "The moment I opened it, he punched me straight up. His other friend was just standing and both were abusing me about me being from outside," the man wrote. He added that all this was happening when he just had a few minutes left to return the car and board his train.

"Finally, some locals helped me leave and I barely was able to return the car and get to the train. This was so horrible I haven't even processed it fully yet," he wrote.

The experience has left him disturbed. "I hate Goa now because of this and has scarred all the good times I had," he added.

He has since expressed his intent to file a police complaint, although he was unable to capture footage of the attackers or their vehicle.

This incident sparked safety concerns among other users in Goa.

One user commented, "I am gutted. I have loved Goa since my college days. I visit once every two year. Last I visited was in 2023 and it was a lot of fun. Have things really gotten so bad since? From what I keep hearing about Goa online, I don't think I will visit anymore."

Another comment read, "Mob justice and vigilantism is the new culture in the country. Get used to it…this is not just a question of Goa , this is the new culture and the new norm in the whole country." "It has become way too stressful in Goa because of lack of transport options. Local taxis charge a bomb," wrote another user.

A couple of users claimed they, too, had similar experiences in the union territory.

"Exact same feeling. Faced something similar but comparatively a very mild reaction but yes never gonna go to Goa again as I was the one who used to visit Goa every year," said one.

Another commented, "I had a similar experience though it didn't go to punches as I am heavily built and look menacing myself. Goa has gone down to the dumps. This was my 9th visit and yes like you, the last." There was no confirmation if the visitor lodged any formal complaint.

Trying to find love, Noida man loses Rs 6.3 crore life savings



New Delhi,March 29 (IANS) When Daljit Singh, a divorcee, created a profile on a dating app to give love another chance, little did he know he would lose his lifelong savings. Last year, the Noida resident matched with a woman who allegedly convinced him to invest in certain companies that she claimed would earn him huge profits.

Instead, he lost his savings of Rs 6.3 crore.

Strangers To Friends: Trust Or Trap?

In December, Mr Singh, Director at a Delhi-based firm, matched with a woman named Anita, who claimed to be from Hyderabad. From casual greetings to more intense discussions, the conversations and closeness grew between the two. They became good friends.

After winning Mr Singh's trust, Anita allegedly shared information on earning huge profits through trading and named three companies.

Mr Singh invested Rs 3.2 lakh on the first website and earned Rs 24,000 within a few hours. Mr Singh's trust was reinforced when he effortlessly transferred Rs 8,000 from the profit to his bank account. Mr Singh was convinced that Anita was his well-wisher and was giving him the right advice.

He then leaped and transferred his lifelong savings of about Rs 4.5 crore. On Anita's suggestion, he took a loan of Rs 2 crore and invested that as well.

Mr Singh transferred a total of Rs 6.5 crore to 25 bank accounts through 30 different transactions.

Suspicion Builds Up

When Mr Singh tried to withdraw the money, like he did earlier, he was asked to transfer 30 per cent of the amount invested. On refusing to do so, the contact with Mr Singh was cut off. Two of the three websites that Anita had allegedly informed about were down.

Mr Singh got suspicious and lodged a complaint at Cyber Police Station in Noida Sector-36. Upon investigation, Anita's dating app profile turned out to be fake. Police are now trying to gather information on the accounts to which the money was transferred.

EV maker Kinetic Green's losses surge 11 times to Rs 77 crore



Mumbai, March 29 (IANS) Electric vehicle maker Kinetic Green faced a major financial setback in FY24, with its losses widening 11 times to Rs 77 crore as compared to the Rs 7 crore in the previous year (FY23).

The biggest contributor to its rising losses was a massive jump in advertising expenses, which surged 8.2 times to Rs 58 crore in FY24.

Additionally, employee benefit costs increased by 52.4 per cent, further straining the company's finances.

Although procurement remains Kinetic Green's largest cost, accounting for 62 per cent of total spending, this cost actually declined by 5.4 per cent to Rs 229 crore, as per its financials.

Other expenses, including finance, transportation, legal, and travel costs, pushed the total expenditure up by 19 per cent to Rs 369 crore, compared to Rs 310 crore in FY23.

According to its consolidated financial statement, Kinetic Green's revenue from operations also dropped to Rs 291 crore in FY24 from Rs 301 crore in FY23.

The Pune-based company's EBITDA margin stood at (-)20.55 per cent, and it spent Rs 1.27 to earn every rupee in revenue.

As per reports, these figures highlight the deep financial challenges faced by the company, which currently holds about 1 per cent of the electric two-wheeler market.

By the end of FY24, the company had current assets worth Rs 169 crore, including Rs 2.3 crore in cash and bank balance.

Kinetic Green has raised a total of $27 million in funding so far, with $25 million coming from Greater Pacific Capital, which holds a 5.6 per cent stake in the company.

The remaining majority share of 91.7 per cent is held by co-founders Sulajja Firodia Motwani and Ritesh Ramesh Mantri.

Reports suggest that the startup will need to focus on improving operational efficiency and boosting revenue in the coming years as its position in the market is still weak while the electric two-wheeler segment remains strong in India.

Open Jeep, Gun, 'Mehbooba Mehbooba':Reel stunt lands Hyderabad man in trouble



Hyderabad, March 29 (IANS) An air rifle, an open jeep and 'Mehbooba Mehbooba' from Sholay combined may work for a movie, but a man in Hyderabad tried to copy it for a social media reel and got a police case along with views.

A video is now viral on social media where a 21-year-old man, Afeezuddin, is travelling in an open jeep, with an air rifle on the dashboard and the iconic song 'Mehbooba Mehbooba' from Sholay playing in the background. The police have registered a case for "creating a nuisance". The video was shot near the Sarvi Hotel on Road No. 1, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.

The police apprehended the 21-year-old man along with the jeep driver and seized the air gun, which featured in the reel.The accused is a videographer by profession and often uses the air gun to make reels, the police said.

Nothing really matters anymore: Fans upset over studio Ghibli-style AI art







New York, March 29 (IANS) Days after people, in hundreds of thousands, used OpenAI's image generator in the GPT 4o model to create Studio Ghibli-inspired art on social media, fans of legendary Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki and critics have expressed their disapproval of the trend and copyright concerns.

On X (formerly Twitter), a tech columnist highlighted several "mind-blowing examples" of Studio Ghibli art created using OpenAI's latest text-to-image model, which is available only through ChatGPT's paid version.

But not everyone was impressed, with one X user asking if they "truly value art so little that it's just a filter for your profile pic?"

The person urged them to rather pay the artist and "make something real."

Another person commented, "People act like this is a good thing but all the soul has been sucked out of society, we really are at the peak, nothing really matters anymore."

Not just that, several people pointed out how the AI tool was being used to generate controversial studio Ghibli-style AI art of events such as the 9/11 attack on the US in 2001 as well as the demolition of Babri Masjid in Ayodhya.

"With #Ghibli style even scary events look like cozy art," one X user wrote, sharing an AI-generated image of the attack on the Twin Towers.

Another user shared how people were "celebrating" Babri Masjid's demolition using the AI tool. The assassination attempt on US President Donald Trump at an election rally last year was also among the AI images shared by some users.

Copyright concerns

The viral trend has also led to ethical concerns about AI tools trained over copyrighted creative works, The Associated Press reported.

OpenAI has encouraged the 'Ghiblification' experiments on the internet, with its CEO Sam Altman changing his X profile picture into a Ghibli-style portrait.

"The gpt-4o update is GOOD," he said in a post.

The company, which faces copyright lawsuits over its flagship chatbot, said its latest tool was taking a "conservative approach" to mimic the aesthetics of the individual artists.

It claims to have added a "refusal which triggers when a user attempts to generate an image in the style of a living artist".

Still, it has permitted "broader studio styles" that have been used widely to generate "truly delightful and inspired original fan creations."

What Hayao Miyazaki said about AI

As people went about reimagining themselves in Studio Ghibli world, an old video of its co-founder Hayao Miyazaki went viral.

In the clip, the renowned filmmaker, known for masterpieces such as Spirited Away and My Neighbour Totoro, said the AI would not understand the real feelings of humans, adding it was an "insult to life itself".

"I can't watch this stuff and find [it] interesting. Whoever creates this stuff has no idea what pain is whatsoever. I am utterly disgusted. If you really want to make creepy stuff, you can go ahead and do it. I would never wish to incorporate this technology into my work at all," Mr Miyazaki told FarOut Magazine.

One-day children's event organized on water conservation

Mail News Service



Seraikela, Mar 29: A one-day children's event was organized at the Block Resource Center, Seraikela, under the leadership of Block Resource Person (BRP) Gautam Kumar. The event aimed to educate school children about the importance of water conservation and how to effectively store rainwater.

BRP Gautam Kumar emphasized that saving water is more crucial than saving food, as all life forms—humans, animals and plants—depend on water for survival. Field coordinators from Sini Tata Trust, Pushpa Herenz and Bahalen Barla, engaged students in group activities, discussing the significance of water conservation and methods to store rainwater.

Students from Balak Middle School, Seraikela, highlighted concerns about increasing water scarcity, attributing it to rapid urbanization and rising temperatures. They stressed the urgent need for rainwater harvesting. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, who actively learned about water conservation. Pushpa Herenz and Bahalen Barla played key roles in conducting the event. It concluded with a vote of thanks to all participants, including BRP Gautam Kumar, field coordinators from Sini Tata Trust and around 30 students from Balak Middle School. (w/nkm)

Emotional farewell to principal of Kashi Sahu College

Mail News Service



Seraikela, Mar 29: Kashi Sahu College, Seraikela, bid an emotional farewell to its retiring principal and Head of the Mathematics Department, Dr. B.K. Sinha. The farewell ceremony was attended by faculty members, administrative staff and students.

Dr. Sinha was honored with a traditional welcome, including a tilak ceremony and floral greetings. During the event, he shared his sentiments while cutting a farewell cake with mathematics students.

History Department's Amlesh Singh, who conducted the event, praised Dr. Sinha's dedication and highlighted his contributions, including resolving long-pending salary issues for inter-level staff since October 2022.

Expressing his gratitude, Dr. Sinha called the farewell a symbol of his lifelong dedication to education. He encouraged students to work diligently and make their parents, college and the Mathematics Department proud.

Several faculty members, including Dr. Krishna Pyare, Dr. Manoj Mahapatra, Dr. Suprabha Tuti and Dr. Vinita Oraon, shared their experiences and best wishes. The event was attended by senior teachers, administrative staff and a large number of students. (w/nkm)

Sindri College dispute: Lady teacher blames principal for attack on her

Mail News Service

Dhanbad, Mar 29 : A new twist has come in attack on Sindri College Sindri lady teacher as the victim assistant professor in written statement has blamed principal of the institution for the incident.

The victim assistant professor Dr Sharmistha Acharya, who is also examination controller of the college, has alleged that she was attacked on road as she had complaint to university authority against irregularities of principal. Dr Acharya was attacked by bike borne goons on March 22 at around 5.30 pm while she was returning residence by car from college after conducting examination.

Notably Dr Acharya has not mentioned name of principal in her complaint to Sindri police station.

Dr Acharya alleged that the principal Dr KK Pathak and chief accountant Shibesh Shankar Jha had been pressurizing her to sign on fake examination bill but she refused to do and duly informed the university.

"The principal had prior information of attack on me as without information he said my name to reporter when he asked him about incident", said Dr Acharya.

The examination controller alleged that she personally informed the principal about the incident but neither he came to Sindri nor directed any staff of college to help me.

"Even after one week of incident principal has not informed Sindri police station about it", she said.

Dr Acharya also alleged she and magistrate Rampad Tudu had caught a fake examinee of semester 5 examination but principal and staff set him free.

'Allegation to cover faults'

Sindri College principal Dr KK Pathak said he would not involve in slaging match with teacher but of course would clear that she is making all allegation to cover her fault.

" I have left one year service. I have always helped her. No student has taken admission in Bangla subject in last three year. Keeping this mind former vice-chancellor Dr Sukhdeo Bhoi had issued notification directing her to attend classes two-day in week at Chas College (Bokaro) but she does not go there. I never pressurized her", said Dr KK Pathak.

The principal said one side Dr Acharya has alleged she has been removed from post of examination controller, other side she today (Saturday) signed on paper. "In absence of student in her subject, Dr Acharya has no work in college and that is why she is engaged in blame game", he said.

Dhanbad to host Khelo India Women's Judo City League tomorrow

Mail News Service

Dhanbad, Mar 29: One-day Khelo India Women's Judo City League will be held here at DAV Public School Koylanagar tomorrow.

In the league championship being organized by Sports Authority of India, ministry of sports, school students of Dhanbad, Bokaro and Palamu will participate.

Giving this information Pappu Singh said that this prestigious national league championship is being organized simultaneously in 25 cities of the country. Dhanbad has been also selected as one of the venues.

The inaugural function of the championship would be all women's affair. Dr Sharmila Rani, principal SSLNT Women's College would be chief guest while police Inspector Nutan Modi, Karuna Srivastava, Dhanbad Public School (Hirak Road branch) principal Purnima Shil, Jiven Jyoti School for Special Children principal Aparna Das would be guests of honour.

Pappu Singh said that besides Bokaro and Palamu schools, girls of Dhanbad's rajkamal Saraswati Vidya Mandir, DAV Public School Koylanagar, Dhanbad Public School, Saraswati Vidya Mandir Sinidih Katras, Dhanbad martial Arts Centre, Saraswati Vidya Mandir Bhuli, Adani Fitnesh Centre Sindri, DAV Barora and other institutions' girls would participate.

Dhanbad-Jammu Tawi Express extended for 3 months

Dhanbad, Mar 29: The railway has extended up and down movement of Dhanbad-Jammutawi Express Trains (03309/ 03310) for three months till June 29.

Giving this information Senior Divisional Commerce Manager (Sr DCM) of Dhanbad Rail Division Md Iqbal said that having seem heavy rush of passengers in Dhanbad-Jammutawi Express trains in summer season, it has been decided to extend it till June for facility of travellers.

Dhanbad-Jammutawi up and down Express which was launched last year had March 31st last 2025. But now under new announcement, the trains would run till June 29, 2025.

The railway official said the trains would make total 26 rounds from either sides. 03309 Dhanbad- JammuTawi Express would run every Tuesday and Saturday in a week from April 1 to June 28.

The train no.303310 Jammutawi Express will run every Wednesday and Sunday from April 2 to June 29.

Since it is lone direct train for Jammutawi from Dhanbad, travellers will get comfortable from hustle bustle journey.

Dhanbad admin cracks down on sand mafias



Mail News Service

Dhanbad, Mar 29: Special Task Force of Dhanbad district administration on Saturday cracked down on sand mafias seizing five sand loaded tractors on NH-32 near Balaji Petrl Pum under Saraidhela police station.

On the directive of deputy commissioner Madhvi Mishra, Task Force Team under SDM Rajesh Kumar, district mining officer (DMO) Ritesh Raj Tigga and district transport officer (DTO) Diwaker C Dwivedi conducted a sudden raid on NH-32 near Balaji Petrol Pum and seized five sand loaded trucks of mafias.

As Task Force Team members directed the tractors to stop, drivers of all five vehicles fled from the spot. The officials said the local people informed that sand had been brought from Barakar river under East Tundi police station through illegal mining.

"Task Force Team is probing the matter to identify who had done illegal mining for taking legal action. The team seized all five tractors and handed over to Saraidhela police station. FIR has also been lodged against drivers and other involved persons.

Last month a sand mafia had attacked on Task Force team at same spot (Balaji Petrol Pum) when officials seized sand loaded tractors.

The official said on directive of deputy superintendent special campaign is under progress in district against illegal mining, storing and transporting of sand and minerals.

Mining inspector Sumit Prasad, Barat Uraon along with Saraidhela police were members Task Force team.

कार्यालय, क्षेत्रीय शिक्षा संयुक्त निदेशक, कोल्हान प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

खुली निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

विभागीय संकल्प संख्या 778 दिनांक 18.05.2017 के आलोक में कोल्हान आवासीय विद्यालय, मोजोडिम्बा, प0 सिंहभूम, चाईबासा (वर्त्तमान अस्थायी रूप से संचालित प्राथमिक शिक्षक शिक्षा महाविद्यालय, चैनपुर, प0 सिंहभूम परिसर) में आवश्यक सामग्रियों की आपूर्त्ति हेतु प्रतिष्ठत संस्थाओं/प्रतिष्ठानों से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा दो लिफाफे में (यथा तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय) अलग–अलग जमा किया जा सकेगा जिसके ऊपर स्पष्ट रूप से तकनीकी निविदा एवं वित्तीय निविदा अंकित किया जाना आवश्यक होगा। तकनीकी निविदा में सफल होने के उपरांत ही निविदादाता का वित्तीय निविदा नियमानुसार खोला जाएगा। क्रय की जाने वाली सामग्रियों की संख्या, विशिष्टताएँ एवं निविदा प्रपत्र क्षेत्रीय शिक्षा संयुक्त निदेशक, कोल्हान प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा के कार्यालय से दिनांक 03.04.2025 से 21.04.2025 (कार्यालय अवधि) तक प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। निविदा जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 22.04.2025 के अपराह्न 4:00 बजे तक निर्धारित की जाती है। जिसे क्षेत्रीय शिक्षा संयुक्त निदेशक, कोल्हान प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा के कार्यालय में जमा किया जा सकेगा। दिनांक 23.04.2025 को सभी प्राप्त निविदाओं को निविदादाताओं अथवा उनके प्रतिनिधियों के समक्ष अपराह्न 12.00 बजे खोला जाएगा। निविदा में किसी भी प्रकार के संशोधन अथवा रद्द करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। इस संबंध में किसी भी प्रकार की जानकारी क्षेत्रीय शिक्षा संयुक्त निदेशक, कोल्हान प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा के कार्यालय से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

क्षेत्रीय शिक्षा संयुक्त निदेशक–सह–अध्यक्ष
कोल्हान प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

PR 349544 West Singhbhum (24-25)_D

निर्वाचक निबंधन पदाधिकारी, 48–जमशेदपुर पूर्व विधानसभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र –सह–अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी का कार्यालय, धालभूम, जमशेदपुर।

(निर्वाचन शाखा)

पत्रांक–22/नि0, दिनांक–29.03.2025

सूचना

एतद् द्वारा 48–जमशेदपुर पूर्व विधानसभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के मतदाताओं को सूचित किया जाता है कि ECI के द्वारा समान नाम समान महाकव्य डुप्लिकेट के रूप में पहचाने गये मतदाताओं के लिए पहले से ही नामांकित (Already Enrolled) होने के कारण हटाने का कारण बताते हुए फॉर्म 7 तैयार किया गया है।

सूचनापट्ट पर चस्पा किया गया Form-7 से सम्बन्धित सूची का दावा/आपत्ति प्राप्त करने हेतु Form-10 में सूची का प्रकाशन किया जाता है, जो दिनांक–04.04.2025 तक ERO कार्यालय में प्रकाशित रहेगा।

उक्त सम्बन्ध में कोई भी दावा/आपत्ति हो तो वे ERO कार्यालय में लिखित रूप में साक्ष्य के साथ दिनांक–05.04.2025 तक दे सकते हैं। निर्धारित आवधि में दावा/आपत्ति प्राप्त नहीं होने के स्थिति में अग्रेत्तर कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

निर्वाचक निबंधन पदाधिकारी,
48–जमशेदपुर पूर्व विधानसभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र
–सह–अनुमण्डल पदाधिकारी, धालभूम, जमशेदपुर।

PR 349588 (East Singhbhum) 24-25

प्रमण्डलीय आयुक्त का कार्यालय, सिंहभूम (कोल्हान) प्रमंडल,चाईबासा
(उप निदेशक,कल्याण)

आवश्यक सूचना

शैक्षणिक सत्र 2025–2026 में कोल्हान प्रमंडल अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण विभाग द्वारा संचालित एकलव्य मॉडल आवासीय विद्यालय/अ0ज0जाति आवासीय विद्यालय/आश्रम विद्यालयों में प्रवेश परीक्षा के माध्यम से नामांकन हेतु दिनांक–09.03.2025 को आयोजित परीक्षा में चयनित छात्र/छात्राओं की सूची उप निदेशक, कल्याण कार्यालय, चाईबासा / जिला कल्याण कार्यालय, चाईबासा, सरायकेला एवं जमशेदपुर/ संबंधित विद्यालयों में देखा जा सकता है।

उप निदेशक, कल्याण,
सिंहभूम (कोल्हान) प्रमंडल,चाईबासा।

PR 349550 (West Singhbhum) 24-25 (D)

जिला परिषद का कार्यालय, प0 सिंहभूम, चाईबासा
Email - zpchaibasa@gmail.com

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

अति अल्पकालीन ई–निविदा सूचना संख्या– **ZP/CHAIBASA/25/2024-25**

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी :–

मद का नाम :– 15th FC

क्रम	प्रखण्ड	योजना का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	अग्रधन राशि	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
01.	GUDRI	गुदड़ी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत बिरकेल पंचायत के ग्राम तनजिरा में गिरजा घर के सामने चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
02.	GOILKERA	गोईलकेरा प्रखण्ड तरकटकोचा पंचायत के ग्राम गुलरूबाँ में तालाब में स्नानघाट का निर्माण।	435000	8700	1250	02 माह
03.	TONTO	टोन्टों प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत बामेबासा पंचायत के ग्राम मौदा में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
04.	NOAMUNDI	नोवामुण्डी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत बड़ा पासेया पंचायत के ग्राम कितांगतोड़ांग में रोयाराम लागुरी के घर के सामने चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
05.	NOAMUNDI	नोवामुण्डी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत गुवा पूर्वी पंचायत के ग्राम गुवा पूर्वी के रेलवे मार्केट में चर्च के पास चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
06.	NOAMUNDI	नोवामुण्डी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत नोवामुण्डी पंचायत के ग्राम नोवामुण्डी बस्ती में दिउरी घर के सामने चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
07.	JAGANNATH PUR	जगन्नाथपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत सियालजोड़ा पंचायत के ग्राम देवगाँव के रामतीर्थ स्थल में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
08.	BANDGAON	बन्दगाँव पंचायत के ग्राम कालिकाबेड़ा में तालाब में स्नानघाट का निर्माण।	435000	8700	1250	02 माह
09.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत कोलचोकड़ा पंचायत के ग्राम रूंगसाई के सरना आखाड़ा में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
10.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत गुलकेड़ा पंचायत के ग्राम गुड़गाँव के खेल मैदान में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
11.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत केनके पंचायत के ग्राम बाघमारा के बड़ा तालाब में स्नानघाट का निर्माण।	435000	8700	1250	02 माह
12.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत सुरबुड़ा पंचायत के ग्राम सुरबुड़ा के पुलिया से धोबासाही ग्राम तक पीसीसी पथ का निर्माण।	814500	16500	1250	02 माह
13.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत हतनातोड़ांग पंचायत के ग्राम बारूकानी के प्राथमिक विद्यालय के पास चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
14.	CHAIBASA	चाईबासा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पंडाबीर पंचायत के ग्राम छोटा बकाउँ में कमरसंडे बैठक स्थल पर चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
15.	SONUA	सोनुवा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत आसनतलिया पंचायत के ग्राम एदेलबेड़ा में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
16.	SONUA	सोनुवा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पोड़ाहाट पंचायत के ग्राम पोड़ाहाट के मुख्य सड़क से पंचायत भवन तक पीसीसी पथ का निर्माण।	703400	14100	1250	02 माह
17.	SONUA	सोनुवा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत गोलमुण्डा पंचायत के ग्राम निश्चितपुर के तालाब में स्नानघाट का निर्माण।	435000	8700	1250	02 माह
18.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत हथिया पंचायत के ग्राम सेताहाका के उराव टोला में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
19.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत हथिया पंचायत के ग्राम टोंका टोला गाँव के आखाड़ा कमिटि में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
20.	CKP	चक्रधरपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत कोलचोकड़ा पंचायत के ग्राम इन्द्रा कॉलोनी में आखाड़ा कमिटि में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
21.	MANJHARI	मंझारी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत रोलाडीह पंचायत के ग्राम थई के गणेश हासदा के खेत में गार्डवाल का निर्माण।	499100	10000	1250	02 माह
22.	SONUA	सोनुवा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत बोईकेड़ा पंचायत के ग्राम वेदराबिन्धा में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
23.	SONUA	सोनुवा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत देवाबीर पंचायत के ग्राम तैस में स्नानघाट का निर्माण।	435000	8700	1250	02 माह
24.	SONUA	सोनुवा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत बारी पंचायत के ग्राम कसरूबाँ में गुन्डा टोला में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
25.	GUDRI	गुदड़ी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत टोमडेल पंचायत के ग्राम कोड़ाकेल में मुख्य पथ से कटहल पेड़ तक पीसीसी पथ का निर्माण।	879300	17600	1250	02 माह
26.	MANJHARI	मंझारी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पड़सा पंचायत के ग्राम पड़सा में बंगाली पाडेया घर के सामने कुर्सी बिरूवा के तालाब के किनारे में गार्डवाल का निर्माण।	499100	10000	1250	02 माह
27.	HATGAMHARIYA	हाटगम्हरिया प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत सिन्द्रीगौरी पंचायत के ग्राम बिचाबुरू में स्वास्थ्य केन्द्र के पास चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
28.	MANJHARI	मंझारी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत मेरोमहोनर पंचायत के ग्राम खंडाहार में जोजोबाड़ी जगह में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
29.	MANJHARI	मंझारी प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत पड़सा पंचायत के ग्राम दुबिला में कृष्णा बिरूवा के तालाब में रोड किनारे मे गार्डवाल का निर्माण।	499100	10000	1250	02 माह
30.	GOILKERA	गोईलकेरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत बिला पंचायत के ग्राम बिला में मांगता मुण्डा के घर के सामने चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
31.	GOILKERA	गोईलकेरा प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत केबरा पंचायत के ग्राम होरो में मेन रोड से कुम्बा घर तक पीसीसी पथ का निर्माण।	925500	18600	1250	02 माह
32.	BANDGAON	बन्दगाँव प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत नकटी पंचायत के ग्राम हातीबारी में रतना पुरती के घर के पास चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
33.	BANDGAON	बन्दगाँव प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत ओटार पंचायत के ग्राम घाघरा में पीतम गोप के घर के पास चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
34.	BANDGAON	बन्दगाँव प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत कराईकेला पंचायत के ग्राम कराईकेला के नायक टोला में संजय नदी में स्नानघाट का निर्माण।	875400	17600	1250	02 माह
35.	BANDGAON	बन्दगाँव प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत मेरोमगुटु पंचायत के ग्राम कुवाडीह में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
36.	BANDGAON	बन्दगाँव प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत मेरोमगुटु पंचायत के ग्राम सीटीबुरू में चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह
37.	JAGANNATH PUR	जगन्नाथपुर प्रखण्ड अन्तर्गत भनगाँव पंचायत के ग्राम रेंगड़ाबेड़ा के रोमा चातोम्बा घर के पास चबुतरा का निर्माण।	256500	5200	750	02 माह

1. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – दिनांक– 11.04.2025
2. ई–निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय– दिनांक– 11.04.2025 से दिनांक– 19.04.2025 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक।
3. ई–निविदा खोलने का स्थान– जिला परिषद का कार्यालय, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।
4. ई–निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय – दिनांक– 21.04.2025 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे।
5. ई–निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता– जिला अभियंता, जिला परिषद, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।
6. ई–निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष संख्या – 8709623131 (संबंधित जिला अभियंता का दूरभाश संख्या)
7. परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है, तदनुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
8. सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग झारखण्ड सरकार राँची के पत्रांक 02(नि०नि०–17)–251/23 ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग 3130(अनु०), राँची, दिनांक 09.10.2023 द्वारा दिये गये निदेश के अनुपालन में सभी कागजात के साथ, निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई–भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बन्द कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।
10. निविदा में सिर्फ जिला परिषद, चाईबासा के अन्तर्गत पंजीकृत समुचित श्रेणी के संवेदक ही भाग ले सकेंगे।
11. स्थानीय संवेदकों को प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी। किसी भी समय बिना सूचना के निविदा रद्द एवं किसी भी प्रकार का संशोधन करने का अधिकार अद्योहस्ताक्षरी को सुरक्षित रहेगा एवं इस पर किसी प्रकार का दावा या आपत्ति मान्य नहीं होगा।

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Sonam Kapoor says sister Rhea Kapoor is 'brilliant' as 'Crew' turns 1



Mumbai, March 29 (IANS) As Rhea Kapoor's film "Crew" turned one on Saturday, actress Sonam Kapoor heaped praise on her sister and tagged her as brilliant.

Rhea first shared a black and white video featuring Tabu, Kareena Kapoor and Kriti Sanon with the song "Choli Ke Peeche" playing in the background.

"Happy one year to my history making, record-shattering #CREW #oneyearofcrew #crew," Rhea wrote as the caption.

Sonam shared the video on her Instagram stories and wrote: "My sister is brilliant."

"Crew" is a heist comedy film directed by Rajesh A Krishnan. Produced by Ekta Kapoor, Rhea Kapoor, Anil Kapoor, and Digvijay Purohit under Balaji Motion Pictures and Anil Kapoor Films & Communication Network.

The film also stars Diljit Dosanjh and Kapil Sharma in supporting roles.

In the film, three air hostesses become involved in a gold smuggling operation. The film is noted to be a parody of Vijay Mallya owned Kingfisher Airlines, which closed down due to bankruptcy and non-payment of dues and salaries to employees.

Recently, Sonam took a moment to celebrate her mother, Sunita Kapoor, expressing her deep gratitude for the invaluable lessons she has imparted throughout her life.

In a heartfelt birthday note on March 25, Sonam thanked her mother for instilling strength, grace, and resilience, which have shaped her into the woman she is today.

For the caption, the proud daughter wrote, "To my favourite WOMAN in the whole world, my mama, my inspiration, my strength, my guiding light-happy, happy birthday! My constant through every season of life, showing me what it means to live with grace, courage, and boundless love. Everything I am and everything I hope to be is rooted in the values you've taught me-through your actions, your compassion, and your unwavering support."

Sonam added, "Thank you for being the heart of our family, the most incredible role model, and the most beautiful person I know. I love you more than words can ever express, Mama. Today and every day, I celebrate you."

Chaitra Navratri 2025 day 1: Shailputri puja



Shailputri Puja marks the first day of Chaitra Navratri and is dedicated to Goddess Shailputri, the first form of Navdurga. On March 30, 2025 (Sunday, Pratipada Tithi), devotees across India will worship Maa Shailputri, seeking blessings for a prosperous and harmonious life. This day is also associated with the color orange, symbolising energy and enthusiasm.

The word 'Shailputri' means 'Daughter of the Mountains', and she is the incarnation of Goddess Parvati. She holds a trident (Trishul) in one hand and a lotus in the other, riding a Nandi (bull). Shailputri represents purity, strength, and devotion. Worshipping her on this day is believed to bring stability, peace, and blessings for a successful life.

Observing Shailputri Puja during auspicious timings enhances its spiritual benefits. Here are the key timings for the day:

" Pratipada Tithi (Lunar Day)

" Begins: March 29, 2025, at 3:57 am

" Ends: March 30, 2025, at 12:19 am

Ghatasthapana Muhurat (Kalash Sthapana)

" Morning Slot: 6:57 am to 11:07 am

" Abhijit Muhurat: 12:48 pm to 1:38 pm

It is recommended to perform Ghatasthapana during the morning slot while Pratipada Tithi is prevailing. If this is not feasible, the Abhijit Muhurat, which falls around midday, serves as an alternative auspicious time.

Performing Shailputri Puja with sincerity ensures divine blessings

Observing Shailputri Puja on March 30, 2025 with dedication brings strength, positivity, and divine grace into one's life. This day sets the tone for Navratri, inspiring devotees to embrace spirituality, discipline, and devotion to Goddess Durga.

Health

Study of cardiac cells in space to help repair heart damage on Earth



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) A new study of cardiac cells at the International Space Station (ISS) is set to pave the way for repair of the heart damage on Earth.

Researchers from Emory University looked at cancer cells that proliferate -- grow and divide to produce more cells -- much more quickly in microgravity. Spaceflight also triggers cancer cell survival mechanisms, helping the cells better cope with the stressful environment.

In the paper, published in the journal Biomaterials, the researchers hypothesised that heart cells might exhibit similar behaviour.

This would address two current roadblocks in developing cell-based therapies for heart disease, said Chunhui Xu, a professor in the department of paediatrics.

After successfully testing the theory in a ground-based study using simulated microgravity, Xu and her team conducted two spaceflight investigations.

The first examined how stem cells differentiate into heart muscle cells, while the second looked at the maturation of heart muscle cells into tissue-like structures.

The insight gained from the team's space-based research could significantly advance methods to produce cardiac cells for regenerative therapies, helping to transform the landscape of heart disease treatment.

"The space environment provides an amazing opportunity for us to study cells in new ways," Xu said

"Our research on the ISS could allow us to develop a new strategy to generate cardiac cells more efficiently with improved survival when transplanted into damaged heart tissue, which would greatly benefit patients on Earth," she added.

The heart is a powerful muscle that pumps oxygen-rich blood throughout the body, but once heart muscle tissue is damaged, it becomes scarred and cannot regenerate. This makes it difficult for the heart to pump enough blood to meet the body's requirements.

The only option for people with end-stage heart failure is a heart transplant, but the number of people in need of a transplant far outnumbers the donor hearts available.

The team found that heart muscle cells generated in simulated microgravity were purer and more mature than those produced in normal gravity. Both characteristics are critical for cell replacement therapies.

"Not everyone can have a donor heart, so the research community has been looking for other ways to save patients by transplanting new heart cells into the damaged area," Xu said. "This is a very promising field, but there are also challenges.

Ishaan on working with Shahid Kapoor: Won't be able to wait to sink my teeth into a role



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) For actor Ishaan Khatter, the thought of working with Shahid Kapoor excites him beyond measure as he said that he won't be able to wait to sink his teeth into a role if he is facing the camera with his brother and star Shahid Kapoor.

Asked if he has a genre in mind to work with his brother Shahid in a Bollywood movie, Ishaan told IANS: "See, the beautiful thing about this industry and this business is that you never know what's going to come next and it is unpredictable. So I think we're both people who rely very strongly on instinct.

"I think we're both brothers who I highly respect, I mean, he's my elder brother, but I think there's a mutual respect and we give each other the space and independence in our own careers," said the actor, who strutted the runway at the Blenders Pride Fashion Tour in Guwahati.

Ishaan tagged it as a "special moment", if the two stars work together.

"If we get to work together, I think it would be a very special moment and we would like to make it equally or more special for the audience as well," said Ishaan, who made his first screen appearance as a child in the 2005 film Vaah! Life Ho Toh Aisi!, which starred Shahid.

He added: "So as far as the story is concerned, it could be any genre, but I can't, I won't be able to wait to sink my teeth into a role if I'm facing the camera with my brother."

Looking forward, Ishaan is gearing up for the release of "The Royals", where he is all set to star alongside Bhumi Pednekar.

According to the teaser, Ishaan will be seen playing Aviraaj Singh, a charismatic heir to the royal throne of Morpur. He crosses paths with Bhumi's character, Sophia Kanmani Shekhar, a driven and no-nonsense CEO.

Sanjay Dutt, Palak Tiwari-starrer 'The Bhootnii' trailer is all about ghosts, gadgets and guns



Mumbai, March 29 (IANS) The trailer for the upcoming film "The Bhootnii", starring Sanjay Dutt, Palak Tiwari, Mouni Roy, and Sunny Singh, was unveiled on Saturday. It promises a thrilling blend of fun and spookiness.

The trailer is filled with witty punchlines, eerie thrills, and a generous dose of Sanjay's iconic swag. The Bhootnii promises to transport audiences into a world where horror meets humor in the most unexpected ways.

The makers launched the trailer of the movie at a mega event in Mumbai in presence of the entire star cast. It was on February 26, when Sanjay had revealed the title of the film, which was earlier called "The Virgin Tree", on the auspicious occasion of Maha Shivratri. It was also revealed that the project will be hitting the theatres on April 18, 2025. The makers had also shared a teaser, which gives an insight into the mystical world where 'love turns into darkness'. Soham Rockstar Entertainment and Three Dimension Motion Pictures are presenting "The Bhootnii", which has been produced under the banner of A Soham Rockstar Entertainment Production by Deepak Mukut, Sanjay Dutt, Hunar Mukut, and Maanayata Dutt.

Viola Davis, Julius Tennon's marriage has no rules



Los Angeles, March 29 (IANS) Hollywood actress Viola Davis and husband Julius Tennon are not just on the same page but the same line, and even the same word.

Viola, 59, and Tennon, 71, attended the premiere of their new movie 'G20' in Hollywood, California, reports 'People' magazine.

At the event, the longtime couple said they don't hold to any specific rules in their marriage to keep their relationship healthy.

"We really don't, because we have so much respect for one another and then we both kind of have the same synergy," Tennon said.

"So it just flows with us."

"We have it like that," Viola, who also cites the couple's shared "respect" for each other, added.

"I tell you all the time 'We're the one'."

As per 'People', Viola and Tennon's relationship dates back to 1999, when the pair met on the set of the CBS series 'City of Angels'.

The pair got married in 2003 and founded JuVee Productions, through which they co-produced 'G20' together, in 2011.

They share one daughter, Genesis, who joined her parents at the premiere.

Back in 2020, the actress said that she and Tennon make a priority of keeping romance alive in their marriage.

"We have together time every single morning when we get in the jacuzzi and we have together time every night 'cause we get in the tub together (sic)," she said at the time.

"And we soak in the tub and we talk. Sometimes he falls asleep with his mouth open."

Aditi Rao Hydari on deciding to marry Siddharth: Didn't even take a second



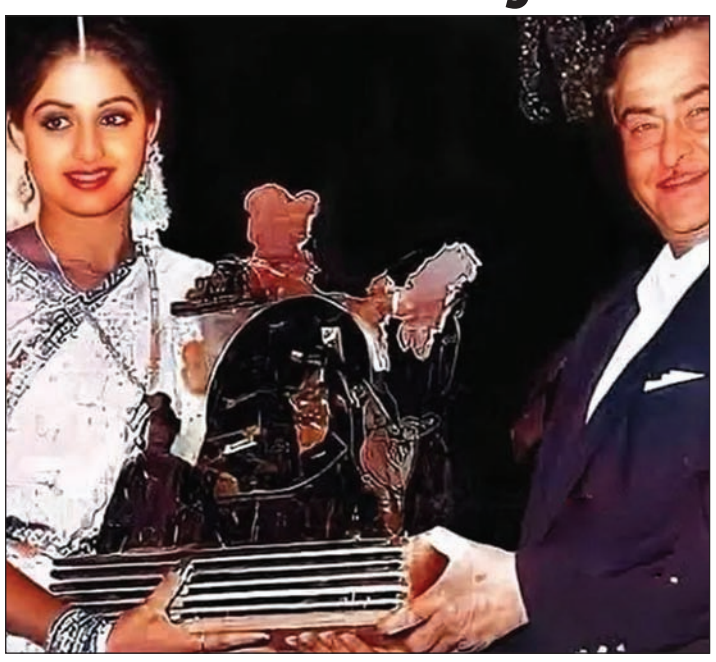
Mumbai, March 29 (IANS) Actress Aditi Rao Hydari revealed that she did not even take a second in deciding to marry her actor-husband Siddharth.

Aditi featured in her friend Farah Khan's vlog, where the two made the actress' favourite Hydarabadi dish "Khageena."

While chatting, Farah asked Aditi what was that one moment she decided she wanted to marry Siddharth, the actress said: "Oh my god, It did not even take a second… He's a very entertaining human being and a very good human being… There is nothing artificial in him… What you see is what you get and (he's) so loving (sic)."

Aditi added: "And the best part about him - me, my family and Siddu, if he knows that if somebody is really close to me and part of my life, he will just bring everybody together and that's how I have grown up and that I really love."

Boney Kapoor recalls a fond memory with late wife Sridevi and Raj Kapoor



Mumbai, March 29 (IANS) Producer Boney Kapoor used social media to recall a fond memory with late wife Sridevi, and showman Raj Kapoor.

He shared some throwback pictures of Sridevi on Instagram from the time when she was presented the 'Mr India' silver jubilee trophy by Raj Kapoor.

Sharing a fun anecdote from the evening, Boney revealed that Raj Kapoor wanted to cast the late actress in his film, 'Gungat ke Pat Khol', and even narrated the plot of the movie to her.

Boney mentioned in the caption, "Sri being presented Mr India Silver jubilee trophy happily by Raj Uncle & in the 3rd picture listening to Raj uncle intensely probably Raj uncle was narrating the plot of 'Gungat ke Pat Khol' for which he wanted to cast her as I remember he had mentioned to me earlier during one of my chats with him during our regular late evening sessions of chatting about several topics in fact I was called Cinderella by his family members."

He further revealed that when Raj Kapoor met Sridevi during the event, the showman told his wife, Krishna Kapoor, "Wait has been worth it".

"My mother is also seen in the 4th picture where Raj uncle's comment of him meeting her is there too Addressing to Krishna aunty 'Wait has been worth it' upon meeting Sri", he wrote.

Back in Holy this year, Boney noted that "Holi was happiest" for him with Sridevi.

He posted an old photo of Sridevi playing "sindoor khela" during a Durga Puja celebration on his IG. Vermillion was applied to the actress's face, and colored powder was used to write "Boney" on the back.

"Holi was happiest," Boney captioned the post.

For the unversed, Boney and Sridevi fell in love on the sets of the 1987 film "Mr. India". The couple tied the knot back in 1996 and were blessed with two daughters, Janhvi and Khushi Kapoor.

However, Sridevi suddenly left for heavenly abode in 2018 in Dubai after an accidental drowning.

Rajat Dalal & Asim Riyaz's heated clash on 'Battleground' goes viral

Mumbai, March 29 (IANS) Amazon MX Player's highly-anticipated reality show, 'Battleground' has set the social media ablaze after Rajat Dalal and Asim Riyaz got into a fiery confrontation.

The video of a face-to-face showdown between the two has gone viral on the internet. In the clip, emotions run high as the two exchange sharp words, with both refusing to back down. However, it is still unclear what caused the disagreement. Both Rajat and Asim, known for their bold personalities are yet to address the incident publicly. Meanwhile, in another exciting update, Indian cricket icon Shikhar Dhawan, aka 'Gabbar' has stepped into the show as the Supermentor. With his relentless spirit, championship mindset, and unparalleled energy, Dhawan will be guiding the contestants through the ultimate test of strength, endurance, and resilience.

Expressing his excitement about being a part of the show, Dhawan said, "I've always believed that true strength isn't just about physical power-it's about pushing past your limits, staying mentally tough, and embracing the will to win.

KL Rahul set to return as DC face SRH at Vizag

Vizag, Mar 29 (IANS): The moment Ashutosh Sharma smashed one down the ground to seal Delhi Capitals' opening game, he celebrated with an imaginary switch-hit, dedicating the victory to team mentor Kevin Pietersen. The DC dugout erupted in joy, and their skipper made it clear that this aggressive approach was here to stay. "Get used to it now. Under my captaincy, it's going to be like this only," Axar declared.

On the other side, there's Pat Cummins - renowned for giving his players full license to express themselves and bat with fearless freedom. The expectations from Sunrisers' batting unit were so high in their previous clash against LSG that even a total of 190 felt underwhelming. On paper, SRH might boast the stronger batting lineup, but when they take on DC in Vizag, expect a contest packed with all the spice of a high-octane showdown.

A lengthy break since their opening game against Lucknow Super



Giants would have allowed DC to settle down and think of strategies to consolidate their winning start. On the other hand, Sunrisers have a short turnaround time from their loss to LSG as they look to avoid successive losses after their five-wicket drubbing at home on Thursday. Rishabh Pant was brave enough to ask Sunrisers to bat, and the bowlers justified his call at the toss with a clever performance to stun the SRH batting arsenal. Will DC, if they win the toss, be bold enough to put SRH into bat in Vizag where the square boundaries are relatively short?

While DC will be boosted by the return of KL Rahul, their top order performance in their last game is a cause for concern considering none of their top five touched 30 while chasing 210 against LSG (three of them being single-digit scores). It's a stat they would love to correct on Sunday while SRH too would want to put behind the below-par batting show against LSG as an aberration and get back to their merry run-making ways.

Stokes and Brook are contenders for England's white-ball captaincy : Morgan

Ahmedabad, March 29 (IANS) Eoin Morgan, England's 2019 ODI World Cup winning captain, believes that Ben Stokes and Harry Brook are the two contenders to become the side's next white-ball captain, though he also feels the latter is more of a long-term leadership option.



England are in search of a new white-ball skipper after wicketkeeper-batter Jos Buttler resigned from the role following the side losing all three of its group stage matches in the 2025 Champions Trophy.

On Friday, premier batter Joe Root had ruled himself out of the white-ball captaincy race. "I think there are a couple of options and the options are dependent solely on the direction they want to take. I think it's imperative that you will always have a target in mind."

Wouldn't have been saved if not given CPR properly: Tamim Iqbal on surviving heart attack

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Former Bangladesh captain Tamim Iqbal expressed his gratitude after being discharged from the hospital following a heart attack on Monday. Although he retired from international cricket in January 2025, Tamim is still active in domestic cricket. He was captaining Mohammedan Sporting Club in a Dhaka Premier Division Cricket League match against Shinepukur Cricket Club when he began feeling unwell right after the toss. Tamim was initially taken to a local hospital for treatment, but later collapsed and had to undergo angioplasty surgery on Monday. The veteran said his life was saved due to the timely cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) given to him at the time of his heart attack. "By all your prayers, I am at home now. In these four days, I have discovered my surroundings as I found a new life. All that realisation has only love and gratitude. I have had your love throughout my career. But now I have felt it even more intensely.

Crystal Palace soar past Fulham with 3-0 win to reach semi-final

London, March 29 (IANS) Crystal Palace secured their place in next month's Wembley final with a 3-0 victory over Fulham at Craven Cottage, repeating their earlier league win at the same venue this season.

Three clinical goals from Ebere Eze, Ismaila Sarr, and Eddie Nketiah put the Eagles firmly in control, as they overcame a slow start to dominate the tie.

Oliver Glasner made a sole change to his side, with forward Jean-Philippe Mateta returning



to the team and Nketiah dropping to the bench.

Fulham initially threatened with Rodrigo Muniz testing Palace goalkeeper Dean Henderson early on, but his shot drifted wide. Palace struggled to assert themselves in the opening stages, with Fulham enjoying more possession, though they struggled to create clear-cut chances. A low shot from Joachim Anderson was blocked by Jefferson Lerma, and a follow-up corner was cleared. Palace came close to breaking the deadlock through Jefferson Lerma's long-range volley, which struck the crossbar. But it wasn't long before the Eagles did take the lead. Eze latched onto a pass from Tyrick Mitchell and fired a low shot into the far corner past Fulham keeper Bernd Leno.

Dhoni should have batted ahead of Ashwin, says Watson



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Former Australia opener Shane Watson feels that MS Dhoni should have batted ahead of Ravichandran Ashwin in Chennai Super Kings' 197 chase against Royal Challengers Bengaluru at Chepauk on Friday

Despite Dhoni's late 16-ball 30 not out cameo CSK suffered a heavy 50-run defeat - their second straight loss in the season after losing to Mumbai Indians in their season opener. Dhoni came to bat at No.9 after Ashwin even when Chennai were reeling at 80/6 after 13 overs.

The situation was not ideal for Dhoni to inflict a turnaround but he smashed three fours and two sixes in his short stay at the crease.

However, the move to send Dhoni in the fag end of the innings was not welcomed by many including former players, commentators and fans.

"This is exactly what CSK fans come to see - 30 off 16 deliveries from Dhoni. I would have absolutely loved to see him come up the order. In my opinion, he should have batted ahead of Ashwin. Given the game situation, Dhoni could have played like this for another 15 balls. Over the last couple of years, he has consistently shown that he's still batting beautifully.

Saket from Chaibasa selected for NCA

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Mar 29: The committee led by V.V.S. Laxman, head of the National Cricket Academy (NCA) Center of Excellence in Bengaluru, has selected three players from Jharkhand for NCA training based on their outstanding performances in the BCCI Vijay Merchant Trophy Under-16 Cricket Tournament for the 2024-25 season. Among them is Saket Kumar Singh from Chaibasa. Saket, who captained the Jharkhand team in the Vijay Merchant Trophy, is the son of Aseem Kumar Singh, the Secretary of the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association and the Principal of Municipal



Bangla Middle School. He plays for Chaibasa Cricket Club in district tournaments and is currently a Class 11 science student at Surajmal Jain D.A.V. Public School. In the 2024-25 Vijay Merchant Trophy held in Alur andhra Pradesh, Saket scored 296 runs in six innings with an average of 49.3. His key innings included 58 runs against Karnataka, 79 against Uttarakhand, 81 against Vidarbha and 43 against Jammu & Kashmir.

Recently, in the Under-19 Inter-District Cricket Tournament organized by the Jharkhand State Cricket Association in Ranchi, Saket scored 249 runs in eight innings while representing West Singhbhum. This included a blistering knock of 53 runs off just 24 balls, featuring seven fours and three sixes, against Jamshedpur in the Super Division, helping West Singhbhum reach the final. Saket is set to leave for Tamil Nadu on April 17 to participate in a training program in Salem from April 18 to May 14 under the guidance of former Indian cricketers.

Singhbhum Fighters triumphs over Blasters Cricket Tournament

Mail News Service

Chaibasa, Mar 29: In the Nathamall Singhania District Under-16 Cricket Tournament, sponsored by Sushil Kumar Singhania and organized under the aegis of the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association, Singhbhum Fighters registered a comfortable seven-wicket victory over Singhbhum Blasters in the third league match, securing four points.

The match, held at the Birsa Munda Cricket Stadium in Chaibasa, saw Singhbhum Blasters winning the toss and opting to bat first. However, they were bowled out for 123 runs in 28 overs. Key contributions came from Aamir Parvez (20), Ehsan Ahmed (17) and Piyush Mahato & Aditya Kumar Yadav (15 each). For Singhbhum Fighters, Trinath Pradhan was the standout bowler, claiming three wickets for just eight runs. Navdeep Cavert, Archit Aryan and Samresh



Mahato picked up two wickets each.

Chasing the target, Singhbhum Fighters comfortably reached 126/3 in 20.4 overs. Captain Zeeshan Ahmed played an unbeaten knock of 43 runs, hitting eight boundaries. Opener Yash Yadav scored 36, while Siddharth Jaiswal contributed 26 runs. On the bowling side, Roshan Singh Yadav, captain Vasudev Sundi and Aditya Kumar Yadav took one wicket each for Singhbhum Blasters.

In the post-match award ceremony, Trinath Pradhan was named 'Man of the Match' and received the award from Gurmeet Singh, a lifetime member of the West Singhbhum District Cricket Association and a member of the Women's Selection Committee. (w/nkm)

RFDL: JFC inch closer to National C'ship with third straight win



Mail News Service

Mumbai, March 29: Jamshedpur FC produced a scintillating display of football to dismantle NorthEast United FC 5-2 in the Reliance Foundation Development League (RFDL) National Group Stage, taking a massive step toward National Championship qualification. Playing at the Reliance Corporate Park in Mumbai, Jamshedpur FC asserted their dominance from the first whistle and maintained their unbeaten run with a commanding performance.

Jamshedpur FC started brightly, controlling possession and dictating the tempo. It didn't take long for them to break the deadlock, as the in-form Bivan Jyoti Laskar opened the scoring in the 13th minute. The forward was perfectly positioned inside the box to convert a precise cross from the left by Remson Singh, giving Jamshedpur the lead.

With this emphatic victory, Jamshedpur FC remains at the top of Group A with three wins in three matches, taking a significant step toward the National Championship. They now look ahead to their next group fixture against FC Goa on April 1st. (W-mb)

Jamshedpur FC U13 fall 4-2 to United Sports

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur/Kalna, March 29: Jamshedpur FC U13 suffered a 4-2 defeat against United Sports in their second match at Aghornath Park Stadium, Kalna. United's Debraj Gayen was the star of the game, scoring four goals, including a late brace in stoppage time. He opened the scoring in the 13th minute and added another in the 37th to give his side a comfortable lead. Jamshedpur fought back in the second half, with Piyush Mahato pulling one back in the 60th minute before Prakash Singh struck in the 62nd to bring them level. However, United responded strongly, with Debraj completing his hattrick in the 70th minute before sealing the win in



added time. Despite Jamshedpur's spirited comeback, United's clinical finishing proved the difference. Jamshedpur will now look to bounce back when they face SKM Sports Foundation on March 31, aiming to secure their second win of the tournament. (W-mb)

Jamshedpur FC eye first ever playoff win, Men of Steel to face NorthEast United today

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur/Shillong, March 29: NorthEast United FC will play Jamshedpur FC at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Shillong in the second one-legged knockout game of the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 playoffs on Sunday.

The Highlanders finished fourth in the league standings with 38 points from 24 games, securing 10 victories and eight draws. Jamshedpur FC ended up fifth, earning as many points from the same number of encounters, as both sides will target advancing into the semi-finals now.

NorthEast United FC enter this fixture on a four-game unbeaten run against Jamshedpur FC (W3 D1), their joint longest such streak against the Red Miners. This will also be the first-ever playoffs meeting between these two sides in ISL history.

Jamshedpur FC have endured recent defensive struggles, leaking three or more goals in each of their previous two league games. The Highlanders, contrastingly, have recorded consecutive clean sheets in ISL and could register their longest-ever shutout streak if they deny Jamshedpur FC a goal in this match. However, history suggests the Highlanders will be in for a challenge themselves in the playoffs, having conceded in all four of their previous games at this stage of the competition.

NorthEast United FC have notched the best dribble success rate this season (50.3%) amongst all teams. A blend of individual brilliance



alongside cohesive collective endeavours could see them create fissures inside the Jamshedpur FC defensive third.

Moroccan attacker Alaaeddine Ajaraie has netted four goals in just two ISL games against Jamshedpur FC. Another brace will make him just the third player in league



history to notch two goals in a match thrice against the same opponent (Bartholomew Ogbeche vs Odisha FC) and Roy Krishna (vs Jamshedpur FC). Jamshedpur FC have given away 35 goals in open play this season, the second-most by any side in a single ISL campaign. Encountering the second-highest scorers (NEUFC - 46 goals) in the league could prove out to be a tall task for the visitors in these circumstances. They have failed to win either of their previous two playoff games, falling 0-1 and drawing 1-1 against Kerala Blasters FC in the 2021-22 semi-finals. Khalid Jamil has the historic chance to bag the club's maiden victory at this stage of the ISL.

NorthEast United FC and Jamshedpur FC have faced each other 16 times in ISL history. The Highlanders have won four encounters, while the Red Miners have emerged victorious on six occasions. Six matches have ended in draws.

NorthEast United FC head coach Juan Pedro Benali outlined his side's objectives entering into the knockout.

"We need to be ready, not make any excuses, and score whenever chances come our way. We need to convert our opportunities and always be focused, and stop Jamshedpur FC's special style of play," he said.

Jamshedpur FC head coach Khalid expressed his pleasure at playing the ISL playoffs in Shillong. "We are very happy to be in Shillong. There is a lot of love for football here. The stadium is looking fantastic, the crowd support is amazing, and we are looking forward to securing a positive result," he said. (W-mb)

400 youths recused from Raxaul town on Indo Nepal border in Bihar

Mail News Service



Patna, March 29: In a major swoop, a joint team of the 47th battalion of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and Raxaul police rescued 400 youths and young men drawn from Nepal, Uttar Pradesh and others who were trapped in fraudulent design of two fake companies in Raxaul town of East Champaran on Saturday.

According to police, the rescues were made from different parts of Raxaul town on Indo-Nepal border areas in East Champaran district after these youths fell prey to the design.

"These boys having drawn Nepal, Uttar Pradesh and other districts of Bihar, being held captive under the Raxaul police station area. Following a verification, the raids were carried out and 400 boys, in alk, were rescued who were held captive and their family members were extorted of their money," said Swarn Prabhat, he superintendent of police (SP), East Champaran.

"There are the groups involved in fraudulent activities in the name of networking, marketing, brainwashing and extorting money from people on the pretext of giving them jobs," the SP said.

Among the rescued included minor also, he added

Police gave the name of the fake company where the raids were carried out as Bin Maker and DBRO.

"They have been duping teenagers and young men in the name of jobs for years under the guise of a pharmaceutical company. Prime facie, it appears that these companies have wide network spreading in the remote parts of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Nepal, Odisha. The modus operandi of these companies are simple. They engage them in the name of training. One can spot hundreds of boys clad in formal dress and roaming in different areas of the city to promote the business of these companies. We are looking into the matter," said a police officer who asked not to be identified.

India aims Rs 3 lakh cr in defence production by 2029 with Rs 50,000 cr in exports



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) The government on Saturday said it aims to achieve Rs 3 lakh crore in defence production by 2029, reinforcing the country's position as a global defence manufacturing hub.

About 65 per cent of defence equipment is now manufactured domestically, a significant shift from the earlier 65-70 per cent import dependency.

A robust defence industrial base includes 16 DPSUs, over 430 licensed companies, and approximately 16,000 MSMEs, strengthening indigenous production capabilities, according to a statement by Ministry of Defence.

"The private sector plays a crucial role, contributing 21 per cent to total defence production, fostering innovation and efficiency," it added.

The government said it aims to reach Rs 50,000 crore in defence exports by 2029, reinforcing India's role as a global defence manufacturing hub while boosting economic growth.

Defence exports surged by 32.5 per cent year-on-year, rising from Rs 15,920 crore in FY 2022-23 to Rs 21,083 crore in FY 2023-24. Defence exports have grown 21 times, from Rs 4,312 crore in the 2004-14 decade to Rs 88,319 crore in the 2014-24 decade, highlighting India's expanding role in the global defence sector.

India sends aid to quake-hit Myanmar under Operation Brahma: 'Our policy to be first responder'

No casualties reported among Indian community so far, says MEA



New Delhi, March 29: India on Saturday delivered 15 tonnes of relief materials to Myanmar after a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit the neighbouring nation and claimed over 1,000 lives. The supplies were sent to Yangon, under 'Operation Brahma', in a C130J military transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

"We provided relief, material, humanitarian assistance to the people of Myanmar. It is part of our policy to be the first responder" MEA said in a briefing on Operation Brahma. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed that no casualties have been reported among the Indian community in Myanmar.

The relief materials included tents, sleeping bags, blankets, ready-to-eat meals, water purifiers, solar lamps, generator sets and essential medicines.

India has already dispatched two naval ships to Myanmar while a field hospital is slated to be airlifted later on Saturday. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that two more Indian naval ships would follow under this humanitarian assistance operation. "Besides the Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) being sent via aircraft, a field hospital with 118 members from Agra is expected to leave later on Saturday," he said.

Personnel of the federal disaster contingency force are being deployed under Operation Brahma, with quake rescue equipment such as strong concrete cutters, drill machines, hammers, plasma cutting machines etc to provide succour to the neighbouring country.

The Indian embassy in Myanmar said it is coordinating speedy delivery of assistance and relief supplies from India with Myanmar.

India stands in solidarity with people of Myanmar: PM Modi



New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday expressed deep sorrow over the catastrophic earthquake in Myanmar, which has resulted in the loss of over 1,000 lives.

In a post on X, PM Modi posted, "Spoke with Senior General H.E. Min Aung Hlaing of Myanmar. Conveyed our deep condolences at the loss of lives in the devastating earthquake."

Under its Act East policy, India has launched 'Operation Brahma' to provide urgent relief to Myanmar. On Saturday, more than 15 tonnes of essential aid were dispatched following a series of powerful tremors that wreaked havoc on Friday.

Highlighting India's unwavering commitment to assisting its neighbours in times of crisis, PM Modi further added, "As a close friend and neighbour, India stands in solidarity with the people of Myanmar in this difficult hour. Disaster relief material, humanitarian assistance, search and rescue teams are being expeditiously dispatched to the affected areas as part of Operation Brahma."

Amit Shah reaches Patna on two-Day visit of Bihar



Patna, March 29: With the Bihar Assembly elections due later this year, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday reached Patna on a two-day visit to the state.

Shah reached Patna on Saturday evening, boosting a fresh energy among the ruling national democratic alliance (NDA). "His mere presence and guidance and leadership of CM Nitish Kumar and PM Narendra Modi means a lot. Visit is a big moral booster for us and to tone up our preparedness to clinch 225 seats in the assembly election which is scheduled to be held in 2025," said Nishant Kumar Pandey, state secretary, labour and techincal cell, JD-U.

Shah is scheduled to be in Bihar on March 29 and 30 while Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to visit Madhubani on April 24. On February 24, PM Modi had visited Bhagalpur to release the 19th instalment of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme and had also addressed a public meeting at the airport ground besides interacting with farmers from several neighbouring districts.

He is expected to meet party leaders and take stock of the preparedness for the assembly election. He is scheduled to inaugurate cooperative projects as well as addressing people associated with cooperative committees at Patna's Bapu Sabhagar. Shah is also scheduled to address a public rally in Gopalganj on March 30.

Vulture tagged with chip rescued in East Champaran

Mail News Service



Patna, March 29: A vulture has been rescued tagged with chip and ring on leg from a place in Bihar's East Champaran district on Saturday even though the authorities are at a loss to point out specifically about the bird.

According to a forest official,

the bird was rescued from Bardaha village under Mufassil station in East Champaran on Saturday.

"It is of the species of Himalayan Griffon species which has been found to be tagged with chip with a number. The bird is under our safe custody," said Raj Kumar, the divisional forest officer, East Champaran.

The residents of Bardaha village grew suspicious after they sighted bird with chip and a ring tagged with it and informed the police immediately. Later, the forest department was informed.

Officials, however, are at a loss to point out specifically about the vulture.

"There is probably a vulture conservation center in Nepal. Numbering is done there. It may have come from there. The forest department is taking care of," said Swarn Prabhat, superintendent of police (SP), East Champaran.

President Murmu reminds responsibility to pass on clean environment to next generation

New Delhi, March 29 (IANS) President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday called for nurturing and protecting the environment for the next generation, saying it is a "moral responsibility" of parents towards their children.

Inaugurating a two-day National Conference on 'Environment - 2025', the President said, "It is our moral responsibility to provide a legacy of a clean environment to the coming generations. For this, we will have to adopt an environmentally conscious and sensitive lifestyle so that the environment is not only protected but also enhanced."

She called for actions with which the environment can become more vibrant and said, "Balancing clean environment and modern development is both an opportunity and a challenge."

The President said: "We all have to make India a developed nation by 2047 with clean air, water, greenery, and prosperity that would attract the entire world community."

She highlighted that elders in every family worry about which school or college their children will study in, and what career they will choose. "This worry is justified," the President said.

"But, we all must also think about what kind of air our children will breathe, what kind of water they will get to drink, whether they will be able to hear the sweet sounds of birds or not, whether they will be able to experience the beauty of lush green forests or not," the President said.

Mumbai Police DCP Sudhakar Pathare dies in tragic road accident in Telangana



Hyderabad, March 29 (IANS) In a heart-wrenching incident, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Mumbai, Sudhakar Pathare lost his life on Saturday in a tragic road accident in Telangana. The accident occurred near Domalapenta village in the Nallamala forest area of Nagarkurnool district, on the Ghat Road of the Srisailam-Hyderabad national highway.

DCP Pathare was traveling in an Innova car with his colleague, Bhagwat, when their vehicle collided head-on with an RTC bus from the Picket Depot.

Despite the immediate medical attention provided by a private ambulance and an Eegalapenta SI police vehicle, both DCP Pathare and his colleague succumbed to their injuries before reaching the hospital.

The bodies were later taken to Kalwakurthy government hospital for post-mortem. SP Vaibhav Gaikwad, speaking to IANS, confirmed the details of the incident, stating: "The investigation is underway, and we are also looking into the fact that the seatbelts were not worn, as reported. The cause of the accident is under investigation, and both individuals were confirmed dead before reaching the hospital."

Rana Sanga a 'traitor': Islamic cleric Tauqeer Raza stirs fresh row

Bareilly, March 29 (IANS) Islamic cleric Tauqeer Raza on Saturday reiterated the label of "traitor" for Rajput ruler Rana Sanga, mirroring a recent statement by Samajwadi Party (SP) MP Ramji Lal Suman.

During a press conference, Raza said: "Babur didn't come to India; he was invited to come. Babur never did any attack on India. Babur attacked Ibrahim Lodhi. But Rana Sanga was the one who cheated him (Babur). He (Rana Sanga) asked Babur to start capturing from Delhi, while Rana Sanga was supposed to start from Agra. So, the motive of Rana Sanga was to make Babur attack India." Raza further alleged that he (Rana Sanga) only wanted Babur to come and loot India and do destruction of Delhi so that Rana Sanga could become ruler.

"Rana Sanga broke his promise to Babur. Angered by Rana Sanga's breach of promise, Babur attacked India. Rana Sanga cheated and betrayed his own country," he added.

MP: Municipal official's face blackened for hurting religious sentiment in Damoh, probe underway



Damoh, March 29 (IANS) A group of people in Madhya Pradesh's Damoh on Saturday blackened a municipal official's face, hurled abuses and left him with a warning that they will beat him up if he dares to hurt the sentiment of Hindus again.

A video of the incident surfaced on social media showing two men approaching Chief Municipal Official (CMO), Pradeep Sharma, at his residence in Damoh city.

As Sharma comes out of his home, they overpower him and blacken his face.

Subsequently, Sharma was seen talking to a police official on the phone to inform about the incident.

"They have reached my home and blackened my face," Sharma was heard talking to the ASP in the viral video. The incident comes a day after the Damoh municipality removed Hindu religious flags from the Ghantaghar area in the city.

Bengal will turn into 'West Bangladesh' if Trinamool wins 2026 polls, claims BJP

Kolkata, March 29 (IANS) West Bengal BJP General Secretary Jagannath Chattopadhyay claimed on Saturday that it will be impossible to prevent West Bengal from being converted into 'West Bangladesh' if Trinamool Congress wins the 2026 Assembly elections.

Supporting the recent comments of BJP leader Mithun Chakraborty that Hindus in West Bengal will face extinction like in neighbouring Bangladesh if Trinamool Congress wins the 2026 elections, Chattopadhyay told IANS that Chakraborty has echoed the policy of party.



"The BJP is working relentlessly to unite Hindus in West Bengal. The state has international borders with Bangladesh. There are daily reports of illegal infiltration into West Bengal from Bangladesh. The Rohingyas are illegally entering the state. The state government is giving them protection. They are provided with Indian documents. Trinamool is working in an organised manner to change the demography of the state," he claimed.

He further added that for the 2026 election, the Hindu voters in West Bengal will have to unite to vote Trinamool Congress out of power. "Otherwise, it will be virtually impossible to prevent West Bengal from being converted into West Bangladesh," Chattopadhyay told IANS.

He also criticised the West Bengal government after the April 6 IPL match was shifted from Kolkata to Guwahati.

Chattopadhyay said that he is not surprised that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who described Maha Kumbh as "Mrityu Kumbh", will not be able to organise the match and the Ram Navami celebration on the same day.

"This proves how incompetent the police administration in the rule of Mamata Banerjee is," Chattopadhyay said.