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Pothole Complaints Surge in Mumbai Despite BMC's Concretization Drive PG.3



Shweta Tripathi: "I Never Felt Like an Outsider"

PG.6



Pant ruled out of England series: Gambhir

PG.7



Indian Stock Market Closes Lower as Trade Deal Delays and FII Outflows Weigh

India will respond firmly to any act of terror

Rajnath warns Pakistan from Lok Sabha

Minister Rajnath Singh today issued a stern warning to Pakistan saying India had drawn a new "Lakshman Rekha" on terrorism and would respond firmly and unambiguously to any such act to destabilize our country.

Opening a discussion on Operation Sindoor in Lok Sabha, the Defence Minister said "India has not only showcased its military but capability also demonstrated its national morality, resolve, and political acumen".

"Pakistan is a country built on double standards and falsehoods, and it is now being seen as a failed State. Through Operation Sindoor,

to eradicate the evil game of terrorism from its roots," he

He stated that Operation Sindoor symbolised India's strength, sending a clear message that "any harm to our citizens will not go unanswered. Reiterating his point, he

said that when it comes to security, India's leadership and political system will act decisively, free from any external influence or hesitation.

"Our missiles will cross physical borders, and our courageous soldiers will crush the enemy's backbone," he warned.

Reiterating that the India has shown the entire Government is committed to eliminating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, Rajnath Singh said, "In this context, there is an important point we must understand. Pakistan-sponsored terrorism is not random madness — there is a method

to this madness. It is a well-

planned strategy. It is driven

by a "fundamental rage." "Pakistan-sponsored terrorism is not an act of madness — it is part of a calculated conspiracy. It is a deliberate process that uses terror as a political tool. This is not merely terrorism; it is a toolkit — a toolkit actively employed by Pakistan's



military and its agencies as a matter of policy. This toolkit stands in stark opposition to the civilised code of conduct that the rest of the world

chooses to uphold. It is the product of a radical ideology that leaves no room for tolerance".

He asserted that terrorism

After the Pahalgam's

has been institutionalised as a tool of its foreign policy. The world must no longer harbour any illusions about Pakistan's character, calling it a "nursery of global terrorism. 'The current situation in

Pakistan is well-known. A nation that chooses to make terrorism a cornerstone of its foreign policy eventually becomes entangled in its own web," Singh stated. Emphasising

Pakistan has consistently supported terror networks elevated them to positions of national honour, said, "During Rainath Operation Sindoor, the world

funerals for terrorists, with even military officers in attendance. This is the same country that lacks the courage to confront Indian soldiers at the border and instead targets innocent civilians, children, and pilgrims." He said that Pakistan's

military and intelligence agency, the ISI, were using terrorism as a proxy war to destabilise India.

"I say this from the temple of democracy that those who dream of inflicting a 'thousand cuts' on India must wake up. This is the new India under Prime Minister Modi's leadership—an India that will go to any extent to fight terrorism."

He said, "A country like the wicked understand".

near us in terms of size, capability, strength, and prosperity—how can there be a competition with such a nation? Competing with a country that relies on others for its very existence means lowering our own standards. Our policy is to take effective action against terrorism. Our opposition to Pakistan stems from their policy of terrorism".

The Defence Minister further said, "If we know how to extend a hand for the hope of peace, we also know how to uproot the hands that spread unrest. If we know how to make efforts for peace, we also know how to explain in the language that

BSP chief Mayawati urges unity in Parliament on 'Operation Sindoor' debate

Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati today called for a united approach by all political parties during the Parliamentary discussion on underscoring the importance of rising above party lines when it comes to matters of national security.

As the discussion on 'Operation Sindoor' is set to begin in Parliament today, Mayawati appealed ruling party and the opposition to join forces in formulating a robust and effective strategy.

"The government and the opposition must work together so that no woman



loses her sindoor and no mother is left to mourn the loss of her son. This is the urgent need of the hour," she said in a statement issued on Monday morning. Extending support to the opposition's demand for a full-fledged discussion, the former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister also emphasized the need for a constructive and meaningful dialogue throughout the

Srinagar: Security forces today achieved a major success when they shot dead three terrorists, one of them suspected to be an alleged mastermind behind the Baisaran Pahalgam

sources said. The forces achieved the success on a day when a debate on Operation Sindoor

attack, in a gun battle in the

upper reaches of Dachigam

on Srinagar outskirts, top

While the encounter is being termed a major success, officials have yet to confirm the identities of the three slain terrorists.

began in Parliament.

Official sources said the one of those killed is a

L-bandandS-bandinstruments,

anticipation to welcome the

Prime Minister on September

8, "a moment that will mark

another milestone in our

visit Assam on September 8

The Prime Minister will

conveyed

development

attend

The Chief Minister also

Minister

Finance

Nirmala Sitharaman and

invited her to visit Assam to

lay the foundation stone of

Barua University in Gohpur.

programmes.

Pakistani terrorist Lashakr-e-Taiba Suleiman Baisaran attack, the Jammu Shah alias Hashim Musa, the and Kashmir Police had



Pahalgam attack 'mastermind ' among

3 terrorists killed in Srinagar gun battle

alleged mastermind behind the April 22 Pahalgam attack that left 25 tourists and a local dead and brought India and Pakistan on the brink of a full-fledged war.

announced a Rs 20 lakh reward on anyone providing information about Suleiman, and two others.

Two other terrorists were also killed in todav's operation in the Harwan area which was named by the Army as Operation Mahadev. The encounter erupted

this morning when joint teams of forces launched a combing operation in the area following an input that terrorists behind Pahalgam attack might have moved towards the Dachigam

The Army's Srinagarbased Chinar Corps said three terrorists have been neutralised in an intense firefight.

Security forces have recovered a M4 and AK-47 rifles, grenades and other arms and ammunition during

elections across Maharashtra: Fadnavis

Mahayuti to contest local



Mumbai : Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced today that the Mahayuti (Grand Alliance) will contest the upcoming local elections across the state.

These polls are expected to begin soon with Zilla Parishads, followed by Municipal Councils, and potentially Municipal Corporation elections November or December.

Addressing the BJP's Mahamanthan Melava (grand rally) in Wardha, Fadnavis said, "We will contest these elections Mahayuti." He added that decision-making powers would be delegated to local units, urging alliance partners to hold discussions and resolve differences to ensure joint contests wherever possible.

"We will give local-level authority for certain decisions. Where an alliance is not feasible, the contest should remain friendly, and no criticism should be directed at our allies," he

"Where there are issues, people should discuss with us. As far as possible, under the Mahayuti. Where that is not possible, no criticism should be made against our ally parties," he suggested. Cautioning

elections should be contested

workers, Fadnavis stressed importance maintaining discipline, drawing a contrast with past experiences. "In 2017, Uddhavji was in power with us but still used to abuse us every day—we must not repeat that mistake," he remarked.

While advocating for alliance unity, Fadnavis also underlined the need to assert BJP's strength. "Despite coordination with partners, we must demonstrate BJP's undisputed dominance in these local self-government elections," he told party workers.

In areas where the Mahayuti is not fielding a joint candidate, BJP workers were asked to maintain cordial relations and ensure smooth contests. The Chief Minister's remarks come amid ongoing preparations for a high-stakes electoral season expected to shape local governance across

INDO-US satellite NISAR will start scientific operations after 90 days

ongoing session.

NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite, a collaborative Earth observation mission between the United States and India, is slated for launch on July 30 at 5:40 pm

The 2,400 kg satellite will be carried into orbit by ISRO's Geosynchronous Satellite Vehicle-F16 (GSLV-F16) from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

However, ISRO has clarified that while the launch is imminent, NISAR's dedicated scientific operations will not begin until approximately three months after it is successfully placed in orbit. This initial period will be critical for

New Delhi: Assam Chief

Minister Himanta Biswa

Sarma called on Prime

Minister Narendra Modi here

today and briefed him on the

strides his state has taken

indicators and the near

saturation of major welfare

Office said in post on X "CM

Assam, Shri

himantabiswa met Prime

The Prime Minister's

schemes.

socio-economic

observatory.

into distinct phases. Following the Launch Phase on July 30, the satellite will enter its Deployment Phase. This crucial stage involves the complex inorbit unfurling of NISAR's 12-meter diameter reflector, a key component developed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), which will extend 9 meters away from the satellite

Commissioning Phase, also known as "In-Orbit Checkout (IOC)." This period is solely dedicated to meticulously preparing the observatory for its scientific tasks. It will

Minister @narendramodi."

Assam

Minister said on X "had the

privilege of calling upon

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri

@narendramodi ji in New

Delhi today. Briefed him on

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saturation of major welfare

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The Chief Minister said

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Assam CM calls on PM Modi,

briefs him on development

works in his state

across

Chennai: The highly preparing the advanced involve initial checks and calibrations of the satellite's According to ISRO, the core systems, followed by a along with all necessary NISAR mission is structured thorough engineering checkout of the payload and instruments

> Only after the successful completion of this commissioning phase will the Science Operations Phase commence, extending for the duration of the mission's life. During this phase, NISAR's science orbit will be precisely maintained through regular maneuvers, strategically Subsequently, the mission planned minimize enter a 90-day interference with scientific observations. Extensive validation calibration and (CalVal) activities will also be ongoing. The detailed observation plan for both the

engineering activities, being meticulously generated prior to launch through continuous between JPL and ISRO.

masses. This data is expected to revolutionizeourunderstanding of natural hazards like volcanoes, and landslides, as well as providing critical information for studies on

NISAR is poised to be a groundbreaking providing unprecedented, highresolution, all-weather, dayand-night data to observe Earth's changing ecosystems, dynamic surfaces, and ice

earthquakes,

coordination

climate change, agriculture,

and water resources

SC takes Suo Motu Cognisance of rising stray dog attacks, terms situation "Alarming" sections of society, such as

New Delhi: The Supreme Court today took suo motu cognisance of a disturbing news report highlighting a sharp rise in stray dog attacks across urban and semi-urban areas, resulting in multiple fatalities, especially among young children and the elderly.

A bench led by Justice J.B. Pardiwala expressed deep concern over the "alarming and disturbing facts" presented in the report, which detailed a string of recent fatal dog bite incidents and rabies-related deaths.

Taking note of the growing public health threat, Pardiwala emphasized the urgent need for judicial intervention, underlining the heightened risk faced by vulnerable directed the Registry to

In response, the Court

infants and senior citizens.



motu writ petition and place the matter, along with the news report, before the Chief Justice of India for further directions and appropriate orders. The move marks a

significant judicial step towards addressing what the Court has identified as a pressing and potentially deadly public safety crisis.

Maharashtra BJP President Ravindra Chavan meets PM Modi, submits progress report

Mumbai: Maharashtra State BJP President Ravindra Chavan paid a courtesy visit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi today in New Delhi.

During the meeting, Chavan briefed the Prime Minister on organizational developments within the Maharashtra BJP, planning of upcoming programs, and the roadmap for the party's growth.

the upcoming Kanaklata State BJP office said that he also presented a report to

the Prime Minister the summarizing activities carried out during histenureas BJP Maharashtra's Acting State President from January to June 2025.

This report includes a comprehensive overview of booth-level organizational work, membership drives, training of office bearers, outreach campaigns, and initiatives by the women's and youth wings of the party in

26.34 lakh not eligible under 'Majhi



Mumbai gets arespite from heavy rain

week of heavy downpours, Mumbai today witnessed a brief lull in intense rainfall, offering a welcome breather to residents.

Meteorological Department (IMD) has not issued any weather alert for Monday, marking a shift from the yellow and orange alerts last week for Mumbai, Thane and Palghar. While the torrential rains have eased, light to moderate showers are expected to continue. year's This

monsoon onset has resulted in Mumbai receiving 45.70 per cent of its average annual rainfall already. The city usually records about 2207 mm of rain annually. As of July 27, the eastern suburbs have received the highest rainfall at 1117.42 mm, followed by the western suburbs at 1032.25 mm and

the city area at 876.29 mm.

considerable relief and for the coming months. This is a substantial increase compared to last year's 71.95 per cent and

same date.

Meanwhile in a major development, the seven lakes that supply water to Mumbai have reached nearly 90 per cent of their capacity, offering assurance of water security

61.58 per cent in 2023 on the

Mumbai: Maharashtra Women and Child Development Minister has stated that 26.34 lakh people are ineligible under 'Majhi Ladki Bahin' scheme of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and that benefits for these ineligible beneficiaries have been suspended from June.

Ladki Bahin' scheme, says Maha Minister department of Women and Child Development had sought verification from all government departments about the eligibility of all applicants under 'Majhi

Ladki Bahin' scheme. The

Department of Information

and Technology reported that

26.34 lakh beneficiaries were

availing of benefits despite

being ineligible. She further informed that

benefits for these ineligible beneficiaries have been suspended from June. Out of the 26.34 lakh ineligible individuals, some were found getting benefits from more than one scheme, some families had more than two beneficiaries, and in

some cases, men had applied under the scheme.

Based on the information, the benefits of these 26.34 lakh applicants have been temporarily suspended from June this year. "The benefits will be restored only after verification and ascertaining eligibility collectors," said the minister.



NATION

02 Aryan Age

J&K LG flags off 1st batch of Shri Buddha Amarnath yatra

Shri Budha Amarnath Yatra Pilgrims Flagged Off by J&K LG Manoj Sinha

Jammu, July 28 Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today flagged off the first batch of pilgrims for the annual Shri Budha Amarnath Yatra from the Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas base camp.

Wishing the devotees a safe and spiritually enriching journey, LG Sinha said, "The sacred journey to the abode of Mahadev is an enlightening experience. I truly believe this pilgrimage is a form of divine alchemy that unveils the secrets of life before the devotees.

The Lieutenant Governor appreciated the meticulous work done by Baba Amarnath and Buddha Amarnath Yatri Nvas, tourism de-



partment, district administration, other stakeholders and organisations serving langar."All necessary arrangements have been put in place for both the annual yatra and the Budha Amarnath Ji Mela, the accompanying festival," the Lieutenant Governor said. Speaking to media after the flag-off, LG Sinha said, "In the first batch, more than 1000 pilgrims from across the country set off for the holy yatra of Budha Amarnath Ji."Moreover, he said that approximately 3.77 lakh pilgrims have performed darshan at holy cave of Shri Amarnath ji till yesterday."I hope that pilgrims from across the country will also arrive to pay their obeisance at Shri Budha Amarnath and pray to Bholenath for the peace and progress of J&K and the nation," he said.

Mamata hits streets at Santiniketan to protest 'language terrorism'

Bolpur (West Bengal): Minister Mamata Banerjee today marched about 3 km from Santiniketan, the seat of poet Rabindranath Tagore, to protest the alleged linguistic terrorism on the migrant Bengali-speaking people in BJP-ruled states.

Holding a portrait of Tagore, Banerjee, who led the march of hundreds of her followers, was flanked by her senior cabinet minister Firhad Hakim and Bolpur MP Satabdi Roy.

On July 21 during a Shahid Diwas rally in Kolkata, the CM had announced to renew the language agitation or Bhasha Andolon, from Birbhum. She said the language agitation would continue across the state until the 2026 assembly

The 3-km march from Santiniketan Guest House to Jamboni bus stand was, however, a silent rally in this rural area of district of Birbhum.

Before proceeding to rural Bengal,



Banerjee accused the states ruled by BJP governments of unleashing a "linguistic terror" on Bengali-speaking people, alleging that they were manhandled by Delhi Police.

She also posted a purported video clip on social media X of a child and his migrant family from Chanchal in Malda, allegedly being assaulted by the Delhi Police.

"Atrocious!! Terrible!! See how Delhi Police brutally beat up a kid and even a child is not spared from the cruelty of violence in the regime of linguistic terror unleashed by BJP in the country against the Bengalis!" she said.

Ahead of her street protest, Banerjee held an administrative meeting for Birbhum district where she also expressed surprise that some 1,000 BLOs block level officers) were taken to Delhi for election- related training.

"This is surprising that though these BLOs are from the state government, neither the state government nor the chief secretary knew their assignment. The EC takes charge of a state administration once an election schedule is announced. But before that, you all are state government employees,"

The TMC has been campaigning against SIR, saying a similar attempt would be made in Bengal to "remove

Army Chief stresses embracing emerging technologies for future-ready force during Leh visit

Army Staff (COAS) General Upendra Dwivedi today underlined the need to embrace emerging technologies and continuously evolve to remain a future-ready force.

During his visit to the Fire and Fury Corps headquarters and Siachen Brigade in Leh, the Army chief reviewed operational preparedness and commended soldiers for their professionalism and exemplary service in the world's most challenging conditions. The Army Chief was addressing soldiers after visiting the head-quarters of the Leh-based Fire and Fury Corps and the Siachen Brigade to review

rectorate General of Public Information (ADGPI) said that while addressing the troops, COAS underlined the need to embrace emerging technologies and continuously evolve to remain a future-ready force."COAS visited HQ Fire and Fury Corps & Siachen Brigade, to review the operational preparedness of the formation. COAS commended all ranks for their professionalism & exemplary service in the world's most challenging conditions," ADGP said on X. "Addressing the troops, COAS underlined the need to embrace emerging technologies and continuously evolve to remain a future-



force."General Dwivedi, yesterday, visited a forward post in the Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battlefield, and interacted with the brave soldiers of the 18 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles (18 JAK RIF), a battalion he was once commissioned. The visit of Gen Dwivedi was emotionally resonant, as it brought the COAS back to the very battalion he was once commissioned into and had the hon-

Floods in six Odisha districts, over 11,000 people hit

Bhubaneswar: Incessant rainfall over the past few days has triggered flooding in six districts of Odisha, affecting more than 11,000 people.

Over 1,000 residents have been evacuated to shelter homes in the Mayurbhani and Balasore districts.

According to official sources, the flood situation has impacted the districts of Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Sundargarh, and Keonjhar. The state government has deployed NDRF, ODRAF, and Fire Services teams for rescue and relief operations.

Odisha Revenue and Disaster Management Minister Suresh Pujari, along with Special Relief Commissioner Deoranjan Kumar Singh, reviewed the situation yesterday with the District Collectors of the affected districts and senior engineers from the Water ReThe Minister instructed the Collec-

tors to expedite rescue and relief work, relocate vulnerable populations to safe shelters, and ensure the timely distribution of essential relief materials.

As per the Special Relief Commissioner, Balasore-the worst-hit district—has received five ODRAF teams, one NDRF team, and 26 Fire and Emergency Services teams.

Mayurbhanj has been allotted one ODRAF team and 23 fire teams. In Bhadrak, one ODRAF team, one NDRF team, and 13 fire teams have been deployed, while Jajpur district has received one ODRAF team and 14 fire

A total of 106 boats have been deployed across flood-affected districts for rescue and relief operations.

Reports reaching the State Control Room indicate that water levels in most rivers are receding, except for the Subarnarekha River in Balasore, which remains under close watch. Water levels in the Baitarani and Jalaka rivers are also decreasing.

Night surveillance has been intensified in all flood-affected regions. The government has made arrange-

ments for water purification, the supply of clean drinking water in forested areas, and has ensured adequate stocks of anti-venom to handle snakebite emergencies. Cooked food will be provided as needed until the situation normalises. Additional Relief Commissioner

Manish Agarwal has been deputed to oversee restoration and relief efforts in the Balasore, Bhadrak, and Jajpur dis-

Barabanki Temple tragedy: CM Yogi orders probe, announces ex-gratia

Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered an investigation and expressed deep condolences over the tragic incident at the Ausaneshwar Mahadev Temple in Barabanki district today

an electrical fault around 2 am, claimed two lives and left several devotees injured. Taling prompt action, the Chief Minister announced an ex-gratia of ₹5 lakh each for the families of the de-

In a post from the Chief Minister's Office on social media platform X, CM Yogi expressed grief over the loss of life and property. "The Chief Minister has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic incident at the Ausaneshwar Mahadev Temple and conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families," the post read

He also directed district officials to ensure proper medical treatment for the injured and expedite relief efforts. "CM has prayed to Lord Shiva for peace to the departed souls and a speedy recovery for the injured," the statement added.

Following the CM's directive, Ayodhya Division Commissioner Gaurav Dayal and Inspector General Prayeen Kumar visited the site for a detailed inspection.

terday have made multiple significant arrests and seizures, including unaccounted cash, illicit liquor, and the apprehension of active insurgent cadres from banned out-Police said following a

drug seizure made on July 22 at a residence in Suangdoh village, Churachandpur district, police conducted a follow-up search at the same location. During the operation, they recovered Rs 39,33,300 in cash, which had been stashed in a bag. The money is suspected to be connected to the earlier drug haul. Investigations into the

Imphal: In a series of

across Manipur, the State Po-

lice and security forces yes-

operations

coordinated

matter are ongoing.

In a separate operation, security forces arrested an active member of a banned insurgent group from the Tentha Khunou Bazar area under Khongjom Police Station in Thoubal district. The individual was al-

Militants arrested, large

hauls of drugs, liquor seized

legedly involved in extortion, issuing monetary demands, intimidation, and kidnapping in the region. A mobile handset was seized from his possession.

Three active cadres of a proscribed underground group were apprehended from various locations in Imphal East district. Two of them were intercepted in Huidrom village while reportedly heading to a brick field to collect extortion

money. Based on information obtained during questioning, a third associate was later arrested from Kairang Maning Leikai. Items recovered from them included a scooter, two mobile phones. a wallet containing Rs 700, and three identity cards.

In a separate action in Imphal East, another member of a banned group was arrested from his residential locality.

In an anti-smuggling operation, police also arrested two individuals from the Mantripukhri area under Heingang Police Station. A total of 16,073 bottles of Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL), comprising various brands, were recovered from their possession.

EOW arrests four in Revenue Fraud Case, Tehsildar among 3 still absconding

Srinagar: The Economic Offences Wing (EOW), formerly known as Crime Branch Kashmir, today arrested four out of seven accused individuals in connection with an FIR pertaining to corruption, cheating, and tampering with revenue records.

Among the accused is a Tehsildar who remains absconding.An EOW spokesperson confirmed that Tehsildar Nusrat Aziz, named in the FIR, is currently evading arrest. Although she applied for bail, her plea was rejected by the Court of the Anti-Corruption Judge in Srinagar.

"The case involves organized fraudulent activities, including false mutations and wrongful insertions in revenue records, causing significant financial loss and distress to gullible people in Srinagar and Budgam disthe spokesperson

The four arrested have been identified as Riyaz Ahmad Bhat of Nowgam, Srinagar; Mohammad Shafi Lone alias Shafi Cheeni of Peerbagh, Srinagar; Shahnawaz Ahmad Rather of Padshahi Bagh, Srinagar and Shabir Ahmad Wani of Bagandar, Lasjan.

The EOW said that besides Tehsildar Nusrat Aziz, two other accused — Ashiq Ali (then Patwari, Balhama Srinagar) and Shamima Akhter of Gooripora Rawalpora — are absconding. Efforts are underway to apprehend them as per due process

An FIR under Sections 167, 420, 120-B of the RPC read with Section 5(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, Svt. 2006, was regisindividuals, including two revenue officers, for their involvement in the case.

rat Aziz is involved in four other FIRs-two registered with Crime Branch Kashmir and two with the Anti-Cor-

The case was initiated Shafi Lone alias Shafi Cheetransfer of two kanals of land at Gooripora, Rawalpora, in

from Riyaz Ahmad Bhat belonging to him.

The EOW's preliminary

Earlier, on July 17, EOW

tered on July 7 against seven

The EOW said that Nusruption Bureau (ACB) Kash-

following a complaint by a woman alleging that she had purchased 5 kanals and 4 marlas of land at Balhama, Srinagar, for Rs 17 lakh per kanal from Mohammad ni. A total payment of Rs 88.4 lakh was made, including the exchange.

However, after the sale, the accused allegedly retrieved the original sale deeds under the pretext of updating revenue records and returned them with forged Khasra numbers. Subsequently, a portion of the purchased land was forcibly occupied by a person claiming to have bought it despite the land not legally

investigation uncovered deliberate falsification of survey numbers in connivance with revenue officials. False mutations were allegedly executed by then Tehsildar Nusrat Aziz and then Patwari Ashiq Ali to fraudulently benefit Riyaz Ahmad Bhat, who later sold the disputed land illegally.

teams had conducted raids at multiple locations across Srinagar and Budgam as part of the ongoing investigation.

Telangana govt observes sixth death anniversary of Jaipal Reddy

Hyderabad: The Telangana government observed the sixth death anniversary of former Union Minister and outstanding parliamentarian awardee S. Jaipal Reddy at Spoorthi Sthal, his memorial located on PV Narasimha Rao Marg, Necklace Road in Hyderabad.Telangana Legislative Council chairperson Gutha Sukender Reddy, Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, Tribal Welfare Minister Adluru Laxman Kumar, Minister Gaddam Vivek Venkataswamy, former Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, former Supreme Court judge Justice Sudar-

Minister Seethakka accuses TRS of diverting funds meant for tribals

Hyderabad: Telangana Panchayat Raj, Women and Child Welfare Minister Dr Danasari Anasuya Seethakka accused the previous government of diverting ST Sub-Plan funds that were meant for the welfare of tribal communities and warned the officials not to repeat past mistakes.She asserted that the current government is mulling a plan to increase budget allocations for housing schemes for ST families.

The 7th Tribal Welfare Advisory Council meeting convened at Damodar Sanjeevaiah Welfare Bhavan in Masab Tank today under the leadership of Tribal Welfare Minister Adluru Laxman Minister Seethakka.

While addressing the officials, Minister Seethakka came down heavily on the previous government, accusing it of diverting ST Sub-Plan funds that were meant for the welfare of tribal communities.

"Because of such diversions, essential infrastructure like roads and bridges in tribal areas was neglected, leading to tragic instances such as pregnant women being forced to deliver without access to hospitals," she

"No government has the right to divert ST funds. Every rupee allocated must be spent within the same constituency and district it was sanctioned for. Transferring these funds to plain areas is unacceptable and leads to further marginalization of tribal populations," she asserted, adding that the current government is considering an increase in budget

allocations schemes for ST families, many of whom still lack proper homes.

Minister Adluru Laxman Kumar pointed out that this was the first Tribal Welfare Advisory Council meeting held in five years. "The previous regime ignored this crucial platform meant for discussing tribal issues. We have called this meeting to directly hear your challenges and recommendations," he

Laxman Kumar assured the gathering that all suggesthe Chief Minister for necessary action. He also stressed the importance of paying bills for development works in a timely manner, adding that the delays and irregularities seen in the past will not be repeated under the current administration.

Officials were directed to focus on road and bridge construction in agency areas and ensure that ST sub-plan funds are not left unused or reallocated due to lack of contracts. "Our priority is to make sure that tribal welfare any circumstances," he add-

Deputy Speaker Ramachandra Nayak, Adilabad MP Godem Nagesh, tribal MLAs, MLCs, TRICOR Chairman Bellaiah Nayak, Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, Tribal Welfare Secretary Sarath, and other senior officials from the department attended the crucial meeting aimed at addressing the longstanding issues faced by the Scheduled Tribes (STs) across Telangana, an official statement said.

BJP slams Cong govt over anti-farmer policies

Bengaluru: Karnataka BJP president Vijayendra Yediyurappa launched a scathing attack on the Congress-led state government, accusing it of adopting anti-farmer policies and diverting funds meant for the welfare of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and

Scheduled Tribes (STs). Speaking at a press conference in Bengaluru, Vijayendra alleged that ever since Chief Minister Siddaseveral pro-farmer schemes initiated by the previous BJP government had been arbitrarily discontinued. "Despite the Central

ramaiah assumed office,

government supplying adequate quantities of urea, the state has failed to implement a proper distribution mechanism, resulting in artificial shortages. This has forced helpless farmers to buy urea at exorbitant prices in the black market," he

The BJP leader further accused the Congress government of being indifferent to the plight of the farming community. "The Siddaramaiah government has proven to be anti-farmer. Their failure in ensuring timely and affordable access to fertilizers has severely affected agricultural activities across the state,"

Highlighting concerns

over alleged financial mismanagement, Vijayendra said that funds specifically allocated for the development of SC and ST communities had been diverted to unrelated schemes. "This diversion is a betrayal of the marginalized sections, and BJP will raise this issue as a key agenda in the forthcoming elections," he declared.

Vijayendra reiterated the BJP's commitment to farmers and social justice



and vowed to intensify statewide protests unless

the Congress government reverses these decisions.

>> MUMBAI

Pothole Complaints Surge in Mumbai Kalyan Houses Tumble Like **Despite BMC's Concretization Drive**

monsoon season has once again brought with it the persistent problem of potholes, with over 6,758 complaints reported between June and mid-July. Andheri West (K/ West ward) recorded the highest number of grievances with 488, followed closely by Bhandup (S ward) with 453. Despite this surge in complaints, officials noted a significant reduction in the amount of mastic asphalt used for pothole repairs over the past year.

Despite the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's (BMC) initiative to make Mumbai pothole-free by concretizing 49% of the city's roads before the monsoon, data indicates an increase in complaints this year. The road concretization project, launched in 2022, aims to eliminate potholes, with the remaining work scheduled to resume in October. Between June



1 and July 15, pothole reports increased from 6,231 in 2024 to 6,758 in 2025, suggesting a spike despite ongoing efforts.

To tackle the issue, the BMC has deployed road engineers for daily inspections in each ward, while citizens can lodge complaints via social media, the civic disaster

management helpline, and the 'My Pothole Quick Fix' app. Of the total complaints, 3,461 were submitted through these digital channels, while 3,297 were identified by civic engineers.

During the monsoon, the BMC uses mastic asphalt for pothole repairs, deploying 8 to 10 mastic cookers daily. In 2024, 25,632 metric tonnes of mastic were consumed for repairs and pre-monsoon maintenance, but only 6,548 metric tonnes have been utilized so far this year. The deployment of mastic cookers has also decreased, with a daily peak of 33 in 2024 compared to

24 this year. A civic officer

and repair potholes early to prevent safety risks.'

This year, the BMC has assigned one road engineer to each of its 227 wards. These engineers are responsible for daily inspections within a 10-15 km radius and are expected to resolve pothole complaints within 24-48 hours.

For asphalt and paver-block roads yet to be concretized, the civic body has allocated Rs. 154 crore for repairs, down from Rs. 205 crore last year.

Mumbai's road network spans 2,050 km, with 1,333 km already concretized. The remaining 700 km of asphalt and paver-block roads will be concretized as part of a Rs. 17,000 crore mega-drive. The project aims to concretize 700 km of roads across the city: 320 km (700 roads) in phase I and 378 km (1,421 roads) in

Dominos Amid Heavy Rains

Aryan Age 03

Mumbai: A startling video from Kalyan, approximately 30 kilometers from Mumbai in Thane district, captured the moment five to six houses dramatically collapsed in a sequential manner. This incident highlights the perilous state of structures compromised by continuous monsoon downpours. The collapse, which reportedly occurred on Sunday, fortunately resulted in no casualties, as residents had been evacuated just in time.

Officials confirmed that the collapse began when the lower section of one house gave way. Within seconds, adjacent houses crumbled like a deck of cards, triggering panic in the neighborhood. These structures had previously been identified as dilapidated and had become critically unstable due to the persistent heavy rainfall over the past several days.

Local authorities had been closely monitoring the area, and upon detecting signs of instability, promptly relocated the residents. This timely evacuation is credited with averting a significant tragedy. The affected zone has since been cordoned off, and inspections of other nearby buildings are underway to identify any further collapse

The viral video has reignited discussions about urban housing safety. Civic officials have reiterated their plea to residents



in older or vulnerable buildings to cooperate with evacuation and safety measures.

In a separate but related incident, a 55-year-old man died when his house collapsed in Alyani village, Shahapur taluka, Thane district. The victim, Dunda Malhari Nimse, was trapped beneath the debris when his home collapsed during strong winds and heavy rain early on July 26. Police have registered an accidental death report.

Both incidents have raised significant alarms across the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, which has experienced consistent rain-related challenges this monsoon season. While Mumbai itself saw a brief respite from torrential downpours on Monday, the threat posed by weakened structures remains high. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has not issued any new weather alerts for Mumbai, Thane, or Palghar as of Monday, but light to moderate rainfall is anticipated to continue.

Wife Accused of Strangling Husband **After Being Caught with Lover**

unraveled a shocking murder in Nalasopara, revealing that a wife allegedly strangled her husband in his sleep after he discovered her with her lover. The victim, 34-year-old Vijay Chauhan, was reportedly killed on the night of July 5.

Authorities stated that the accused, Gudiya Devi, also known as Chaman (28), had been involved in a long-term extramarital relationship with 23-year-old Monu Vishwakarma. On the fateful night, Vijay unexpectedly returned home and found the two together, leading to a heated confrontation during which Vijay allegedly assaulted Chaman. Later, while Vijay was asleep, Chaman, driven by a combination of rage, fear of repercussions, and a desire to conceal her affair, allegedly strangled him to death.

Chaman did not act alone in the immediate aftermath. Vishwakarma allegedly assisted her in covering up the crime. The couple reportedly placed Vijay's body back on the bed and covered it with a sheet to avoid alerting Chaman's five-year-old child, who was present in the house. The following day, they allegedly hired laborers under the guise of installing a water tank, instructing them to dig a sixfoot-long, four-foot-deep pit inside the residence. They then buried the body in the pit and sealed the area.

As Vijay's family grew

suspicious of his sudden disappearance, Chaman reportedly turned off her phone and fled Nalasopara. Police indicated that However, her attempt to remain hidden failed when she inadvertently switched her phone on last week. Police successfully traced her location to the Hadapsar area in Pune. After meticulously searching over 3,000 homes in the MHADA colony, they located her at a medical shop

> She had reportedly been living in Pune after renting a room with the assistance of a local auto-rickshaw driver. Vishwakarma was subsequently arrested. Both accused appeared before the Vasai court on Wednesday and have been remanded to police custody until July 30.

and took her into custody.

Lodge Manager Booked for Failing to Submit Guest Details to Police

Mumbai: The manager of a lodge in Andheri West, Sampat Kalal, was booked on Saturday for failing to submit required guest details to the Mumbai police, according to a First Information Report (FIR) registered in Versova. The FIR was filed against Kalal for disobedience to orders duly promulgated by a public servant; however, he was released after being served a notice on Saturday.

The incident came to light when the Anti-Terrorist Cell (ATC) of the Versova police conducted inspections of hotels and lodges to monitor potentially anti-social elements. "During an inspection of the guest log book at the lodge, the team became suspicious upon noticing a scribble in the nationality column, where 'IND' was written.

Upon questioning, it was revealed that the guest in question is an Ethiopian national who had checked into the hotel two days prior," a Versova police station officer explained. Constable Ganesh Kondge stated in the complaint: "The team got suspicious while going through the guest log book. We gathered more information on noticing the nation column being scribbled and 'IND' written. Further inquiry, we found out that a woman from Ethiopia had checked into the lodge two days ago. They had collected a xerox of her passport which showed Bethelhemalumu, while there were no other documents provided for her admission to the lodge." Police confirmed that the lodge did not adhere to the Mumbai police instructions for registering tenant details with the authorities. The investigation is ongoing to determine the motive behind scribbling the country details in the log book.

Meanwhile, the State police have announced that tenants across Maharashtra will soon be spared the inconvenience of visiting police stations for verification when renting accommodations. This will be possible once the registration department integrates its data with the police network, which covers all 1,203 police stations statewide.

This initiative, already launched in 98 police stations across Mumbai city and its suburban areas, 64 stations in Pune city, and 34 in rural areas, represents a significant digital transformation in the tenant registration

SBI Manager's Thar Stolen in Wadala While She Was in Goa

Mumbai: The Matunga Police Station has initiated an investigation into the theft of a Mahindra Thar SUV belonging to a senior bank manager. The vehicle reportedly disappeared from outside her residential building in Wadala while she was on official duty in Goa. The complainant, Trupti Nandalal Sumani (46), is currently employed as a Manager with the State Bank of India in Panaji, Goa, and resides on Sewree-Wadala Road, Mumbai. Sumani reported that she purchased the black Mahindra Thar for personal use on December 31, 2021, and typically parked it outside her building premises. Before departing for her posting in Goa on July 7, 2025, she had entrusted a known

with the task of washing the vehicle once a week. However, upon her return to Mumbai on July 25, Aidola informed her that the SUV was missing when he went to wash it around 9 a.m. on July 15. He had attempted to contact her immediately but was unsuccessful. Upon her return, Sumani searched the surrounding area on July 25 and 26 but could not locate the vehicle. Subsequently, she approached the Matunga Police Station to file a formal complaint. The police have registered a case of motor vehicle theft against an unknown individual and have commenced their investigation. The theft is believed to have occurred sometime between July 15 and July 25. The case remains under

Woman Loses Arm in Mira-Bhayandar Bike Crash

truck, police confirmed. incident occurred around 5 p.m. on Saturday near the Samrat Hotel on the Western Express Highway, close to Mira-Bhayan-

The victim, identified as Varsha Joshi, was riding pillion with her husband, Hitesh Joshi, on a two-wheeler. The accident transpired when they attempted to overtake a truck, lost control, and fell off their scooter. The entire incident was captured on CCTV cameras in the vicinity. Following the accident, she was immediately rushed to the nearby Orbit Hospital. Despite the doctors' efforts, they were unable to reattach her arm due

to the extensive damage. A police officer ex-"While overplained, taking the truck from

an tragically lost her left an auto-rickshaw parked arm in a road accident af- on the road. Hitesh Joshi ter she was struck by a got stuck between the auto and the truck, which caused them to fall. Varsha Joshi fell under the moving truck, and her left hand was crushed under the rear

A doctor from Orbit Hospital informed mid-day, "We attempted to reattach the arm, but the damage was severe, and there was no sensation left. Due to this, we were unable to save

The woman has lost her arm. She is currently in the ICU, and her condition is stable."The Kashimira police have registered a First Information Report (FIR) against the truck driver and have commenced an investigation. "We registered an FIR against the truck driver and released him after serving a notice," a police officer

Ganpati Mandals Celebrate as High Court Permits Sea Immersion of Tall Idols

Mumbai : Ganpati mandals across Mumbai are celebrating Thursday's Bombay High Court order, which permits the immersion of plaster of Paris (PoP) idols taller than 6 feet in the sea. This ruling comes as a significant relief, as mandals had been hesitant to organize full-scale celebrations without clear permissions. With the restrictions lifted. they are now proceeding with their plans for their traditionally tall idols, elaborate decorations, and fundraising activities.

Ankur Lad, spokesperson for Khetwadi Cha Vighnaharta of Girgaum, argued that artificial tanks were unsuitable for larger idols. "PoP idols measuring 20-25 feet contain metal and iron rods and frames inside for support. In fact, even clay idols of that height, like Girgaon Cha Raja, have wood inside. Such idols won't dissolve at all.

make artificial ponds?" he

over PoP continued, some mandals voluntarily transitioned to eco-friendly raw materials. Rajendra Sawant, secretary of the 77-year-old Ambedkar Nagar mandal in Worli, stated, "Our 10-foot idol was usually made of PoP. But after the earlier ban and concerns over environment safety, we used a clay idol. This year, it is carved from tissue paper. The decision had to be made quickly as we were skeptical about waiting for the decision over PoP immersion."

Abhinay Hate of Kandivali Cha Vighnaharta mentioned that their idol is 14 feet tall. "We too were tense about the ban, even though we immerse our idol in a pond in any case. But this time there is no confirmation vet for the protocol to be followed at the pond where we

because how deep can you usually go. The HC order is

a big relief, though." The prominent Chan-Even as the debate danwadi Ganeshotsav mandal near Marine Lines hosts a 26-foot tall idol. Secretary Prathamesh Sakpal said, "Thousands of Ganpati idols are immersed every year amid processions that include lakhs of people. It would be problematic if there was an interruption.' In Andheri West, the Saat Bangla Cha Raja stands 22 feet tall. Vice president Amith Kadam said, "Immersion of tall idols beyond 6 feet would have been impossible to execute in artificial tanks. Thanks to the HC order, we can now continue our prepa-

> rations with ease.' Santosh Narkar, the newly elected chairman of Khetwadi Cha Raja in Girgaum, stated that their idol is 31 feet tall. "Our moortikar Aniket Shevale has carved an outstanding idol this year."

Authorities Crack Down on Violations in Yeoor Eco-Sensitive Zone

Authorities in Thane are ramping up efforts to protect the eco-sensitive Yeoor zone, launching a significant crackdown on prohibited activities. This initiative is a crucial part of a broader push to preserve the delicate environment of the area.

In recent weeks, these heightened enforcement measures have yielded substantial results. 188 individuals have received notices, and 18 separate cases have been registered against those found engaging in violations like bursting firecrackers and using loudspeakers within the protected zone. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 5) Prashant Kadam shared these updates during a recent review meeting. Chaired by Thane Municipal Commissioner Saurabh Rao, the meeting focused on

Thane: Crackdown assessing current enforce- materials will no longer be in Yeoor Eco-Sensitive ment and strategizing new permitted into Yeoor with-Zone: 188 Noticed, 18 measures aimed at curbing out prior verification from Cases Filed for Violations illegal construction, noise, the municipal town planning and light pollution within the eco-sensitive area. Commissioner Rao confirmed these stringent actions are a direct response to complaints from both the Indian Air Force and local residents, who highlighted disruptive use of high-powered lights, loudspeakers, and fireworks.

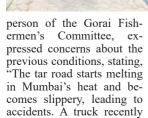
To bolster conservation efforts, officials revealed that nine illegal turf clubs and commercial units recently identified within the zone are currently being demolished. Additionally, bungalow owners have been explicitly told to avoid loud music and bright lighting after dusk, reinforcing the commitment to reducing disturbances and maintaining peace. To prevent further unauthorized development, Commissioner Rao announced a crucial new regulation: construction department. This aims to strictly control the influx of materials that could facilitate illegal construction. Furthermore, details of all vehicles and materials must now be logged at forest department check-posts, adding another layer of oversight. In a proactive move to foster greater collaboration and ensure comprehensive protection, environmental activist Rohit Joshi has proposed the establishment of a high-level coordination committee. This proposed committee, led by the Additional Municipal Commissioner, would include officials from various crucial bodies like the civic body, forest department, police, Air Force, FDA, MSEDCL, and local NGOs, aiming for a more unified and effective approach to

Borivli-Gorai Jetty Undergoing Long-Awaited Repairs

Mumbai: The Borivli-Gorai jetty, a crucial water transport link for residents of both areas, is finally undergoing much-needed repair work after years of neglect. Previously, residents had to navigate a narrow, deteriorating pathway connecting Gorai village to the Ro-Ro jetty

This road was originally constructed in 2009 for the inauguration of the Global Vipassana Pagoda but received minimal maintenance thereafter, gradually deteriorating with regular use. Following recent com-

plaints about the pathway's unsafe condition for pedestrians and vehicles, authorities have now laid a tarred walkway to improve access. Oldin Vasaikar, chair-



slid off the path. These inci-

dents show the urgent need

for a proper, safe road that

supports daily movement without the constant fear of This publication had

previously highlighted the struggles faced by residents on June 20, describing the dangerously narrow path, overgrown mangroves, and poor visibility, especially hazardous during rain and

at night. Since then, work on the road has visibly resumed, offering hope for safer travel.

Rossi D'Souza, a faculty member at Don Bosco School, Borivli, had previously identified the road as "too dangerous." Reacting to the ongoing development, he said, "We're very happy the work has started. On July 11, local MLA Sanjay Upadhyay and Fisheries Minister Nitesh Rane inaugurated the redevelopment project. The sooner it finishes, the safer it will be." Although roadworks are typically halted during the monsoon, work on this road has continued. mid-day reached out to the BMC for a comment but did not receive a response by

press time.

Zone" Due to Constant Secondhand Smoke turning the entire lane into Mumbai: Residents of a de facto "khau galli"

Indravadan Society in Dadar West have taken a stand against persistent cigarette smoke permeating their homes by declaring the area beyond their compound wall a no-smoking zone. With numerous nearby offices and a newly constructed mall, smokers frequently gather outside the society on Padmabai Thakkar Road, exposing residents to secondhand smoke, which they claim has led to health issues over the past two

The society, located on Padmabai Thakkar Road, comprises 150 flats and approximately 750 residents. Members reported that employees from the nearby mall and office spaces often

frequent the area specifi-

cally to smoke cigarettes,

(food street) and smoking hub.Archana Joshi, secretary of Indravadan Society, stated, "Due to the new mall in the area, people frequently smoke right outside our gate. We've requested many of them not to smoke here, but no one listens. We are fed up, so we painted our entire boundary wall 'no-smoking zone'

This is a serious issue, and we don't want to take any risks. We are asking people to refrain from smoking outside our prem-

Society member Ashish Bapat added, "The smell of cigarette smoke enters our homes daily, and we are forced to keep our windows shut. The situation is even

worse at night. Many children live in our society, and this is affecting their health and influencing their mindset negatively. Smoking is injurious to health. This must be stopped. The BMC [Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation] and police should step in and help us." Another resident, Amit

Dadar Residents Declare "No-Smoking

Bansode, mentioned, "People smoke outside the society from morning till late at We've instructed our

security guards not to allow anyone to loiter or smoke near the gates." Prasad Parasnis, a committee member, explained, "We were compelled to paint 'no-smoking zone' on our walls instead of decorative designs. Many residents here suffer from lung

disease and heart issues.

We don't want to take any risks. People should smoke only in designated smoking zones.

Satish Kotian, another

member, confirmed, "We will soon file a formal complaint with the BMC and police after conducting a society meeting. We want a permanent solution to this problem." Committee member

Ranjan Bagwe highlighted, "Smokers are blocking the entire footpath. They come here for tea and a cigarette. Just outside our society gate, there's a gas pipeline. People sit directly on

it and smoke, which is extremely dangerous. The BMC and police must take this seriously and start fining people smoking in the

>> EDITORIAL



Dhankhar's resignation: New controversy?

A shocking incident that has created a new twist in the country's politics is the sudden resignation of Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar. This resignation, given on the first day of the monsoon session, has spread unease in Parliament as well as in the ruling clique. While discussions of a leadership change are already underway in the BJP, this development has exposed the internal conflict in the party. Many questions have also been raised about the decision-making ability of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, who are at the center of power. Who will be the next Vice President now? There may be contradictory arguments on this. But Jagdeep Dhankhar has created another storm for politicians by resigning on the first day of the monsoon session of Parliament, which is expected to be stormy. At a time when there is a fierce tug-of-war over who should be the next BJP president, what is really going on in the ruling clique with the sudden emergence of the Dhankhar case? It would not be surprising if such doubts arise. Chandrababu Naidu had already put the Centre in trouble by raising his voice against the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision in Bihar with the justice of the thirteenth month of drought. There is a big conspiracy behind the haste with which Dhankhar resigned. Dhankhar was asked to resign and it seems that he had no choice but to give it. Since becoming the Vice President, Dhankhai has tried time and again to make it seem like he is Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Hanuman' in Parliament by making controversial statements and actions. It certainly benefited Modi, but Dhankhar has become famous in the world. The way the Prime Minister worried about Dhankhar's health on social media made it seem that he and the Vice President had been at loggerheads for a long time. No matter how much he boasted that he was the special one of the Sangh, it was not hidden from anyone's eyes that Dhankhar was the Prime Minister's special choice as the Vice President. Dhankhar had shown his devotion to his master by the way he made Mamata Banerjee do anything as the Governor of West Bengal.

There is talk in political circles that there will still be some resignations from the government. The opposition is happy. No one will cry over Dhankhar's departure. He had not made any friends even in the ruling circle. If the Prime Minister is with him, who do we care about? This was his belief. He considered Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to be his rival. It was not hidden from anyone that Dhankhar, who was very ambitious, had his eyes set on becoming the next President. It was evident from his overall behavior that Dhankhar used to dream day and night about when President Draupadi Murmu would retire and when he would take her place. He was looking at how to please his leader in any way. As Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, he also had the illustrious record of suspending almost all the opposition MPs.

Looking at the way decisions are taken between the BJP and the government, the Prime Minister himself takes the decision and Home Minister Amit Shah does the work of implementing it. If Modi himself has asked Dhankhar to resign, then something must have happened. It is unlikely that a leader like Dhankhar, who praises the Prime Minister, will suddenly exit in such a manner, when the overall experience is that even if the dead go to the crematorium, the leaders do not leave their chairs. Leaving the chair is not in Dhankhar's DNA. He had said last month that he will remain as the Vice President for two more years. The fact that the rulers are not even thinking of giving a simple farewell ceremony to Dhankhar clearly shows how much bitterness has arisen on both sides. The way the Dhankhar case has unfolded one message has definitely gone out that no one has trusted Modi-Shah. It was also hinted that the opposition parties will play a trick to bring another no-confidence motion against Dhankhar in this session. Dhankhar was the head of the Rajya Sabha of the channel Sansad TV. The employees there have recently gone to court against the treatment they received. There were reports that Dhankhar intended to replace 150 employees of this channel by giving coconuts to them and bringing in his own people. It is also said that Dhankhar incurred the displeasure of Amit Shah.

Some judges of the Supreme Court had complained to the government about Dhankhar's unbridled statements and requested him to rein them in. In that, he seemed very insistent on impeaching Justice Yashwant Verma. On the one hand, Dhankhar's resignation has put the rulers in trouble, while on the other hand, the opposition has become silver. On the one hand, Dhankhar, who had vowed not to allow non-BJP parties to speak in the House, has been blown away like a fly in the ointment and in the election to replace him, the opposition will fight the BJP. There is scope to believe that Dhankhar's successor could be a 'hoiba' like JP Nadda or Rajnath Singh. There has been talk in political circles that a new experiment is not possible in the current situation. Although the names of former Chief Justice Dhananjay Chandrachud and disgruntled Congress leader Shashi Tharoor are also being mentioned, the current situation is such that the ruling party, which has been scalded by milk, will drink buttermilk with gusto. Who should be the BJP president already? There is a tug-of-war between Modi-Shah and the Sangh on this issue when the Dhankhar case has come up. Even though high-ranking officials in the government have indicated that a new BJP president will be announced before the start of this session, nothing has happened, so there is a growing perception that something is amiss. Whispers are being heard in the party as to why Modi-Shah are so desperate about this. Parliament will be active next week because all the bitter and sweet things of the last two-three months will come to the fore in the discussion on Operation Sindoor It is a testing time for the government. As the curiosity about who will replace Dhankhar grows, the bitterness and distrust among the ruling elite has become more apparent. This will determine not only the direction of the Vice Presidential election, but also the direction of the upcoming political equations.

Editorial 🖊 🔳 Centre takes multiple initiatives to improve Health, Hygiene and Well-being of Women

taken several initiatives for improving the health, hygiene and well-being of women and for enhancing their status in the country. Schemes like Ujjwala Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan have helped reduce drudgery and time poverty of women and improved health outcomes. Under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, over 11.8 crore individual household latrines (IHHLs) have been constructed in the country. Similarly, the Jal Jeevan Mission has successfully provided tap water connections to around 15.6 crores households.To ensure easy access to sanitary napkins and good quality medicines at affordable price, Department of Pharmaceuticals under Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers implements the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janausadhi Pariyojna (PMBJP), an important step in ensuring the health security for women. Under the project, over 16000 Janaushidhi Kendras have been set up across the country, which besides affordable medicines, provide Oxo-biodegradable sanitary napkins named Suvidha at Rs. 1/- per

The Government also implements the 'Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene' among adolescent girls in the age group of 10-19 years. The Scheme is supported by National Health Mission through State Programme Imple-



mentation Plan (PIP) route based on the proposals received from the States/ UTs. One of the major objectives of the scheme is to increase awareness among adolescent girls on Menstrual Hygiene. Under the scheme, sanitary napkin packs are provided to adolescent girls by the Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) at subsidized rates. Government also provides budget to the States/ UTs for Orientation of field

level health workers and IEC activities for menstrual hygiene. In addition, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation under 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' has developed National Guidelines on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) for creating awareness on it in rural areas as part of its overall interventions related to behaviour change on sanitation and hygiene aspects. To further support working

women and girls students, the Ministry of Women and Child Development implements the Sakhi Niwas Scheme (Working Women Hostel) under the overarching Mission Shakti. It is a demand driven Centrally Sponsored Scheme, under which funds are released to the States and UTs for implementation of the scheme. The scheme aims to promote availability of safe and conveniently located accommoda-

tion for working women and other women pursuing higher education or training in urban, semi-urban and also in rural areas where employment opportunity for women exists. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is provided for running of Sakhi Niwas in rented premises for working women and for those women who are under training for job. Provision of Day Care Centre for children of the residents of the Sakhi Niwas is an important aspect

In addition, Ministry of Finance (MoF), Department of Expenditure (DoE) has allocated Rs.5,000/- crores to 28 States for construction of new Working Women Hostels under Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) Scheme. DoE has approved construction of 254 working women hostels with a total capacity of 52991 beds in 28 States at a total approved cost of Rs.4,826.31 crore. Out of this, 1st instalment of Rs.3,147.66 crore has already been released to the States during 2024-25. These initiatives align with the larger goal of ensuring safety, dignity, and opportunity for women across India and are major steps towards realising the idea of 'Women led Development'.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Women and Child Development Smt. Savitri Thakur in Rajya Sabha in reply

Steps taken for the welfare of Siddi Tribe

Replying to an unstarred question of Shri Govindbhai Laljibhai Dholakia , the Union Minister of State for Tribal Affairs Shri Durgadas Uikey stated in a written reply in Rajya Sabha that Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya MahaAbhiyaN (PM JANMAN) has been launched for socio-economic development of 75 PVTG communities residing in 18 states and one UT including Siddi community in Gujarat. The mission aims to provide basic facilities to improve their socio-economic conditions such as safe housing, clean drinking water and improved access to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, electrification of unelectrified households and sustainable livelihood opportunities in 3 years. These objectives are being met through 11 interventions implemented by 9-line Ministries. PM JANMAN has total budgetary outlay of ₹24,104 Cr (Central share: ₹15336 Cr and State share: ₹8768 Cr).

Prior to launch of PM-JANMAN, for development of PVTGs including Siddi community in Gujarat, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs was implementing scheme "Development of PVTGs" wherein funds were provided to the concerned State Government / UT on the basis of their proposals for Conservation cum Development (CCD) plans. These were to fill gaps in infrastructure and were demand driven. With the introduction of PMJANMAN Scheme the Development of PVTG Scheme has been discontinued and Ministry only provided committed liabilities till March 2025.

With reference to the Siddi community in Gujarat, the Siddi community is mostly settled in Talala taluka of Gir Somnath district of Gujarat state. Siddi community has been covered under Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) Adimjuth community. According to the survey of Siddi community in Gujarat, there is a total population of 12959. For the overall development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) Adimjuth community, "MukhyamantriAdimjuth Sarvangi Utkarsh Yojana" has been implemented by the Guiarat Government since 2013. The scheme provides basic facilities including individual and community development works. In which individual works include housing, employment and community development works like roads, Anconstruction, health, education, milk house, multipurpose utility

center, electrification, ecotourism.

The amount of funds allocated for this purpose in the last five years is Rs.1490.83 lacs by the state government of Gujarat under Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) MukhyamantriAdimjuth-Sarvangi Utkarsh Yojana.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India under the Centrally Sponsored scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)' extends financial support to 29 Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in States/Union Territories (UTs) based on the Annual Action Plan submitted by the States/UTs subject to the approval of the Apex Committee chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Under the Scheme, proposals relating to infrastructural needs, research & documentation activities and training & capacity building programmes, organization of tribal festivals, yatras for promotion of unique cultural heritage and tourism andorganisation of exchange visits by tribals are organised so that their cultural practices, languages and ritual are preserved and

disseminated. Tribal Research Institute (TRI), Gujarat and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, has undertaken significant initiatives to promote the traditional art and culture of the Siddi community.Traditional Tribal Handicraft Mela Scheme:- Launched in 2016-17 by the Government of Gujarat and implemented by the Tribal Research Institute (TRI), Gujarat. The scheme provides a platform for tribal artisans, including those from the Siddi community, to exhibit, promote, and market their handicrafts. Under this scheme, TRI organises five to six craft fairs annually in major urban centres across Gujarat to promote tribal culture and heritage. These fairs typically last between five and eight days and are held in major cities throughout the state.

Promotion of Siddi Dance (Dhamal) :- To promote the Siddi tribe's popular traditional dance form, Dhamal, TRI Gujarat has undertaken active measures to support its preservation and public recognition. The dance features prominently at Tribal Art and Craft Melas, thereby enhancing its visibility and appreciation. The Siddi troupe regularly performs at major government events, including Tribal Pride Day (9th August) and various cultural festivals. In the current year, the troupe was honoured to per-

form at the Statue of Unity

during tribal celebrations. In 2019, TRI Gujarat provided

of the then Hon'ble Chief Documentation and Research:- TRI Gujarat has documented a short documentary film depicting the social and cultural life of the Siddi community. Furthermore, TRI Gujarat has undertaken ethnographic research exploring the social, cultural, religious, and historical dimensions of the Siddi community, and has published books based on the findings of these studies.

prising musical instruments-

free charge, with the support

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) and part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 463 for 23.07.2025 by Shri GovindbhaiLaljibhai Dholakia regarding "Steps taken for the welfare of Siddi tribe"

Brief details of major schemes/programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the

DhartiAabaJanjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan: Hon'ble PM launched DhartiAabaJanjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan on 2nd October, 2024. The Abhiyan comprises of 25 interventions implemented by 17line Ministries and aims to saturate infrastructural gaps in 63,843 villages, improve access to health, education, Anganwadi facilities and providing livelihood opportunities benefiting more than 5 crore tribals in 549 districts and 2,911 blocks in 30 States/UTs in 5 years. The Abhiyan has total budgetary outlay of Rs.79,156 Cr (Central share: ₹56,333 Cr and State share: ₹22,823

Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN): Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) on 15th November 2023, which is celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas. The mission with financial outlay of around Rs.24,000 Crore aims to saturate PVTG households

and habitations with basic

ing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved ac-

facilities such as safe hous-



cess to education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, electrification of un-electrified households and sustainable livelihood opportunities in time bound manner in 3 years.

Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PM-JVM): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PM-JVM), which has been designed through the merger of two existing schemes for the promotion of tribal livelihood, i.e., "Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP" and "Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Pro-

The scheme envisages fixation and declaration of Minimum Support Price for the selected MFP. Procurement and Marketing operation at pre-fixed MSP will be undertaken by the designated State Agencies in the event of the prevailing market price of the particular MFP item falling below the stipulated MSP. Simultaneously other medium and long-term issues like sustainable collection, value addition, infrastructure development, knowledge base expansion of MFP and market intelligence development will also be addressed.

Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS): Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) was started in the year 2018-19 to provide quality education at par with Navodaya Vidyalaya to the tribal children in their own environment. Under the new scheme, Government decided to establish 440 EMRSs, one EMRS in every block having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons (as per census 2011). 288 EMRS schools were initially funded under Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution, which are be-

ing upgraded as per the new

model. Accordingly, Ministry has set the target to set up total of 728 EMRSs benefiting around 3.5 lakh ST students across the country. Grants under Article

275(1) of the Constitution: Under the Proviso to Article 275(1) of Constitution, Grants are released to States, having ST population for raising the level of administration in Scheduled Areas and for the welfare of tribal people. This is a Special Area Programme and 100% grants are provided to States. Funds are released to the State Governments depending on the felt needs of ST population to bridge the gap in infrastructure activities in the fields of education, health, skill development, livelihood, drinking water, sanitation, etc. Grant-in Aid to Volun-

tary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes: Under the scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, the Ministry funds projects in the fields of education and health, covering residential schools, non-residential schools, hostels, mobile dispensaries, ten or more bedded hospitals, livelihood, etc.Pre-Matric Scholarships to ST students: The scheme is applicable to students who are studying in Classes IX –X. Parental income from all sources should not be more than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Scholarship of Rs.225/-per month for day scholars and Rs.525/-per month for hostellers is given for a period of 10 months in a year. Scholarship is disbursed through the State Government/UT Administration. Funding ratio is 75:25 between Centre and States for all States except North East and Hills States/UT like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Post Matric Scholarship

Central share. to ST students: The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary levels to enable them to complete their education. Parental income from all sources should not be more than Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum. Compulsory fees charged by educational institutions are reimbursed subject to the limit fixed by the concerned State Fee fixation committee and scholarship amount of Rs.230 to Rs.1200 per month, depending upon the course of study is paid. The Scheme is implemented by the State Gov-

Administrations. Funding ratio is 75:25 between Centre and States for all States except NE and Hilly States/UT of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir where it is 90:10. For UTs without legislature sharing pattern is 100% Central share.

National Overseas Scholarships for ST Candidates: The Scheme provides for financial assistance to selected students to pursue Post Graduation, PhD & Post-Doctoral study abroad. A total of 20 awards are given every year. Of these, 17 awards are for STs and 3 awards for students belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). Parental/family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per an-

Fellowshir National &Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students:

National Scholarship-(Top class) Scheme [Graduate level]: The objective of the scheme is to encourage meritorious ST students for pursuing studies in prescribed courses in any of the 265 institutions of excellence across the country like IITs, AIIMS, IIMs, NIITs, etc. identified by the Ministry. Family income from all sources should not exceed Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum. Scholarship amount includes tuition fees, living expenses and allowances for books and computer.

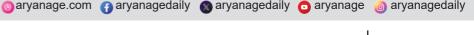
National Fellowship for ST students: 750 fellowships are provided to ST students each year for pursing higher studies in India for MPhil and PhD. Fellowship is granted as per UGC

Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs): Ministry extends support to the State Governments through the Scheme to set up new TRIs where it didn't exist and to strengthen functioning of existing TRIs to carry out its core responsibility towards Research & Documentations, Training and capacity building, promotion of rich tribal heritage etc. To preserve tribal art and culture, financial assistance is provided to TRI's to carry out various activities to preserve and promote tribal culture and heritage across the country through research and documentation, maintenance and preservation of art & artefacts, setting up of tribal museum, exchange visits for the tribals to other parts of the State, organizing tribal festivals etc. Funding under this Scheme is 100% grant-in-aid by the Ministry

of Tribal Affairs to the TRIs

on need basis with the ap-

proval of Apex Committee.



>> MAHARASHTRA

Maha Congress leader slams Dy CM Shinde for supporting Home Minister Kadam

shots at the Bharatiya Janata Party alliance government, the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee President Harshavardhan Sapkal called the Mahayuti administration a stain on Maharashtra, accusing it of having crossed all limits in its lust for power."It's not only the ruling party's MLAs, office bearers, and ministers who have lost all sense of propriety—Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, who once held the Chief Minister's post, has also lost his grip on

"He has openly supported the dance bar associated with Minister of State for Home Yogesh Kadam, which is the height of shamelessness. If not for public decency, at least have a sense of self-respect," said



Taking aim at the BJPled government and Deputy CM Eknath Shinde, the Congress state president said that a dance bar named 'Savli' was being operated in Kan-

divali, Mumbai, under the name of Home Minister Yogesh Kadam's mother.

The said bar was allegedly raided by the police and the FIR mentions that all

"Former minister Ramdas Kadam, father of Yogesh Kadam, admitted that the bar is registered in his wife's name. In such a scenario, how can Deputy CM Eknath Shinde justify and defend

"If Shinde claims to be a proponent of Hindutva values, how does running dance bars that exploit women fit into that ideology? What kind of development is this, and who is it really for?" asked Sapkal.He further said that those accusing others of "dancing" to the Congress's tune "shouldn't speak about dance bars themselves."

"Eknath Shinde is a mere puppet dancing to BJP's instructions," said Sapkal, adding "He should be aware that it was during the Congress-led coalition government under Vilasrao Deshmukh that then Home Minister R.R. Patil implemented a statewide ban on dance bars. Shinde should learn these facts before making accusations against the Congress."

US national arrested in Pune for attempted forced religious conversion

Aryan Age 05

pri-Chinchwad Police have arrested three individuals, including a United States citizen and a minor, following allegations of attempting forced religious conversion upon a local resident.

The arrests occurred late Sunday in Pimpri Camp after a formal complaint was lodged by Sunny Danani, aged 27 and residing in Pimpri. Those apprehended in-

clude Schaefer Javin Jacob (41), a California native currently staying at Mukai Chowk; Steven Kadam (46), a resident of Ajmera Colony; and a 16-year-old minor. Jacob and Kadam are currently in police cus-

tody.
Senior Police Inspector Ashok Kadlag of Pimpri Police Station stated that the accused allegedly pressured the complainant to convert to Christianity by



the police complaint. The case has been registered under multiple

'not follow other gods, only

Jesus," while also insulting

his religious beliefs during

the encounter, according to

Sanhita (BNS) Section 299 (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), BNS Section 3(5) (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention), and pertinent provisions of the Foreigners Act, 1946. Police Inspector (Crime) Vijay Anand Patil is overseeing the investigation.

Monsoon report shows mixed results across eight districts of Marathwada

Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar: The Marathwada region continues to witness varied monsoon performance across its eight districts, with the latest data released yesterday revealing disparities in the distribution of rainfall that could impact agricultural activities and water resources management for the season ahead.

The Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (formerly Aurangabad) division, encompassing the drought-prone districts of Marathwada, has recorded an overall rainfall of 94.29 per cent of the normal precipitation from June onwards, showing a marginally deficit monsoon pattern that has become characteristic of this agriculturally crucial region in the recent

Jalna district has come up as the frontrunner in monsoon performance, recording 120.72 per cent of normal rainfall from June onwards, making it the only district in the division to exceed the normal precipitation levels. The divisional headquarters of Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar follows as the second-best performer with 110.86 per cent of normal rainfall, highlighting relatively favorable monsoon conditions in the north-

ern parts of Marathwada. Hingoli district ranks third with 97.89 per cent of normal rainfall, performing close to normal levels and receiving 361.9 millimeters against a normal of 369.7 millimeters from June onwards. The rainfall data shows that these three districts have received adequate to above-adequate precipitation to support the agricultural activities, with Jalna recording 335 millimeters against a normal of 277.5 millimeters and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar receiving 285.8 millimeters against a normal of 257.8 millimeters

from June onwards. Dharashiv district also demonstrates near-normal monsoon performance with 97.4 per cent of normal rainfall, receiving 239.9 millimeters against a normal of 246.3 millimeters, indicating that four out of eight districts in the division are performing at or above satisfactory levels. However, the remain-



ing districts present a more challenging picture, with Latur emerging as the most affected district, recording only 70.86 percent of normal rainfall from June onwards, followed by Beed at 82.85 percent, both falling short of the precipitation required for optimal crop growth during the crucial monsoon months.

Parabhani district, with

89.83 per cent of normal rainfall, and Nanded with 91.44 per cent, also remain in moderate deficit categories, though their shortfall is less severe compared to Latur and Beed. The droughtprone nature of these districts, historically dependent on monsoon rains for agricultural sustenance, makes these deficit figures particularly concerning for farmers and agricultural planners who rely heavily on seasonal precipitation for crop cultivation and groundwater recharge. The daily rainfall recorded on July 27, 2025, shows Parabhani receiving the highest single-day precipitation at 53.4 millimeters, followed by Hingoli at 52.4 millimeters, while Dharashiv recorded the lowest at 16.9 millimeters, showing the continuing irregular distribution pattern that has characterized this monsoon

Jalna, despite being the best performer overall, received 47.1 millimeters on the reporting day, while the divisional headquarters recorded 39.2 millimeters, and Nanded received 39.8 millimeters, suggesting that recent rainfall activity has been more concentrated in the central and eastern parts of the region.

The cumulative monsoon season outlook from June to September seems

to be challenging, with the entire division recording only 41.1 percent of normal rainfall expected for the complete season, indicating that significant precipitation is still required in the remaining monsoon months to achieve normal seasonal totals.

This deficit becomes more pronounced when compared to the previous year's performance, where most districts had recorded substantially better rainfall percentages by the corresponding date, with Beed showing a dramatic contrast as it had received 159.22 per cent of normal rainfall by July 27, 2024, compared to the current year's 82.85 per cent performance.

Similarly, in the vious year, Dharashiv had recorded 162.97 per cent of normal rainfall compared to this year's 97.4 per cent, while Latur had achieved 148.63 per cent compared to the current 70.86 per cent. The monsoon's erratic behavior across Marathwada reflects the broader climatic challenges facing the region, where geographical factors, changing the weather patterns, and the semi-arid nature of the terrain contribute to uneven rainfall distribution that directly impacts agricultural productivity, water security, and rural

livelihoods Agricultural scientists and meteorologists continue to monitor the evolving situation closely, as the coming weeks of August and September remain critical for determining the overall success of the monsoon season and its implications for the upcoming rabi crop season and water availability for the following year.

Maha info panel rejects thousands of frivolous RTI pleas

jinagar : The Maharashtra State Information Commission has dismissed 7,567 second appeals filed under the Right to Information Act, ruling they constituted deliberate attempts to paralyze government systems through frivolous applications.

The Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar bench rejected 81 appeals filed by Janak Ram Rao Gaikwad of Nanded alongside thousands of petitions from 19 other appellants targeting various gram panchayat offices, with officials confirming Monday that all cases underwent detailed hearings before dismissal.

The commission determined the requested information was excessively broad, intricate, and

resource-intensive to compile, noting compliance would impose unsustainable strain on government manpower and finances in violation of Section 7(9) of the

It characterized the filings not as legitimate information-seeking efforts but as systematic attempts to disrupt administrative functions, observing appellants typically avoid in-person engagement while flooding offices with paperwork. This pattern included submitting numerous first appeals for trivial matters alongside applications, creating operational gridlock that hinders essential public services. Highlighting how such misuse squanders valuable resources and delays services for ordinary citizens, the

Commission found no public interest served through these applications.Among the dismissed appeals were 2,788 and 842 petitions filed by Keshavrao Nimbalkar on respective dates in 2024, alongside cases from Sharad Dabhade (159 appeals), Motiram Kale (463), Balasaheb Bansode (256), Anita Wankhede (116), Baburao Chavan (198), Jaibhim Son Kamble (176), Pratap Giri (296), Vinod Kumar Bharuka (236), Girish Yadav (206), Rathod (100), and Raibhan Kisan (216), plus additional batches of 156, 103, 125, 86 and 63 appeals from other individuals dismissed on various dates. Maintaining transparency, the commission has published complete rulings for all cases on its official portal.

Girish Mahajan inaugurated the memorial of Ahilyadevi Holkar Nashik: Water Resourced various temples. Built

es Minister Girish Mahajan inaugurated the memorial of Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar in the Durgadevi Temple area of Nashik Road today.

According to an official press note there is a memorial of Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar in the Durgadevi Temple area of Nashik Road. The Public Works Department renovated this memorial on the initiative of MLA Gopichand Padalkar. MLA Devyani Farande, MLA Mr. Padalkar, MLA Sadabhau Khot etc. were present on this occasion.

A large number of citizens were present on this occasion. Minister Mr. Mahajan said that Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar renovatghats on rivers. He did water conserva-

tion work by building baras Assistant Police Inspec-

tor Mahesh Ganpatrao Hire, who won the gold medal in the 10 meter air pistol shooting category at the World Police and Fire Championship 2025 held in the United States, was felicitated by Water Resources Minister Shri. Mahajan this afternoon. On this occasion, MLA Seema Hire, Special Inspector General of Police Dattatray Karale, Police Commissioner Sandeep Karnik, international runners Kavita Raut, Monica Atre, Dr. Aarti Hire, social activists Sunil Kedar, Ratan Lath etc. were present.

Water released from Ujani, Koyna and Kalammawadi dams

Kolhapur: Water was discharged from at least three dams in Solapur, Satara and Kolhapur districts on Sunday after heavy showers lashed the districts over the past few days. Hilly and ghat areas continued to receive rainfall on

While irrigation authorities released water at the rate of 50,000 cusec from Uiani dam into the Bhima River in Solapur district, in Satara, the gates of Koyna dam were lifted on Sunday afternoon to 6-ft 6-inches to increase the discharge of water at 30,000 cusec.

Following suit, in Kolhapur district, water was released at the rate of 2,000 cusec from the Kalammawadi dam into the Dudhganga River, one of the tributaries of Panchganga River.Mahabaleshwar received 202mm of rainfall in 24 hours till Sunday morning. Then until evening, the hill station received 59mm of rainfall. Ghat areas of Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara received nearly 30mm

of rainfall on average. Ujani dam is a major source of water for the Bhima basin. The catchment area for the dam is Pune. Incessant rain pushed Bhima River at Pandharpur to 438m height which is close to the warning level at 443m and danger mark at 445m.

In view of the situation, Solapur district administration has issued a warning to the villages and towns along the river, advising villagers to not go near the

Already, Radhanagari dam has a discharge of water going on in Bhogavati, and now Kalammawadi dam's discharge is pushing the water level of Panchganga up to the brim. On Sunday evening, Panchganga was flowing at 35-ft, just 3-ft away from the warning mark at Rajaram Barrage along Kolhapur city.

The discharge from Koyna dam led to an increase in the Krishna River water level which was at 17-ft at Irwin Bridge. The barrages at Bahe, Nagthane, Digraj, Sangli, Mhaisal, and Rajapur have submerged under Krishna's water.

Shantanu Patil, a weather enthusiast, said, "Given the synopsis of weather and winds at the surface to 1500m, a dry phase starts for the entire state. Cloudy weather may be seen; however, passing showers with heavy rains are possible at isolated locations.

Fadnavis Dismisses Political Speculation Surrounding Raj-Uddhav Meet, Addresses Mahayuti Rift, and Pune Drug Party

Nagpur: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Sunday sought to quell rising political speculation, downplaying the recent meeting between Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray and Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Uddhav Thackeray. He asserted that the interaction was a purely personal birthday visit and should not be viewed through a political

"Raj Thackeray met Uddhav on account of his birthday. I don't think one should see a political angle in everything," Fadnavis told reporters in Nagpur. His remarks come amid intensified talk of a potential political realignment following the meeting of the estranged cousins at Matoshree, Uddhav Thackeray's residence.

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut had fanned the flames of debate by stating, "whatever is in the mind of Maharashtra will ultimately happen." Responding to Raut, Fadnavis retorted, "I feel there is something only in the mind of certain leaders. Else, what's in the mind of Maharashtra we got to know during polls.'

Fadnavis also addressed recent reports of a rift within the ruling Mahayuti coali-



tion, which had been sparked by a public "letter war" between Shiv Sena (Shinde faction) minister Sanjay Shirsat and BJP's Minister of State (MoS) Madhuri Misal. Shirsat had objected to Misal holding meetings without his approval, to which Misal swiftly responded that she was well within her rights to conduct non-policy decision The Chief Minister ex-

pressed his displeasure over the public nature of the disagreement. "First and foremost, no minister should create a controversy like this by writing letters. Ministers must discuss it amongst themselves and resolve issues. And if ministers are facing some obstacles then they should tell me," Fadnavis stated, emphasizing the need for internal coordination.He clarified the roles within the administration: "Minister and MoS are both part of the administration,

with all powers resting with the minister. Whatever powers the minister delegates, that is within MoS jurisdiction. Hence, there is complete clarity on this." However, Fadnavis also acknowledged Misal's point, stating, "It's incorrect to say that MoS has no powers to hold meetings. However, if any policy decisions have to be taken, then for that minister's permission is needed. I believe both ministers and MoS must have coordination, and if there is still some issue they can speak with

Regarding the recent police action at a party in Pune, reportedly involving a relative of a former cabinet minister, Fadnavis stated he had limited information due to a day packed with meetings. "I haven't taken a briefing regarding it, but based on media reports it seems some drugs were found in the party," he said.

Mumbai's Traditional Bakeries Face Extinction as High Court Green Fuel Deadline Expires

Mumbai: The lifeline of Mumbai's cherished traditional bakeries hangs by a thread today as the extended deadline set by the Bombay High Court for a mandatory transition to green fuel alternatives expires. This directive, aimed at curbing pollution, has ignited a desperate struggle for survival among hundreds of establishments, threatening to extinguish a century-old culinary heritage amidst mounting financial strain, infrastructural bottlenecks, and bureaucrat-

ic hurdles. In the bylanes of Nag-

pada's Madanpura, Shaikh Sajid Ali watches workers dismantle the very heart of his Central Bakery: a domeshaped, wood-fired oven that for a century baked over 2,000 pavs a day. For a month, the 'bhatti' has remained cold. "We're buying pay from outside to sell, but the taste is different. Customers can tell," Ali laments, speaking to the loss of a tradition passed down through generations. The very "soul" of his pay, once imbued by the unique consistency of his firebrick and jaggery-fenugreek-mud paste-lined oven, is now outsourced. The prohibitive cost of a new setup—estimated at Rs 15-20 lakh—is a crippling blow.

The High Court's initial six-month directive for a "clean transition" saw the BMC issuing notices to hundreds of bakeries. However, this well-intentioned move quickly devolved into a courtroom battle, highlighting the deep-seated challenges faced by these small, often unregistered, business-

Mirza Gayas Baig, grandson of the founder of Indian Bakery, opened in

1939, is a petitioner in the High Court case. His bakery still operates with its woodfired oven, despite having booked a gas oven. He awaits a pipeline connection from Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL), a connection that remains elusive despite four survevs.

Baig vehemently argues that electric ovens are commercially and functionally unviable. "You need strong, steady heat to bake pav. Electric doesn't give that," he explains, adding that raising the price to Rs 8 per pav to cover electric costs would drive away customers. Safety is another critical concern, with the storage of 25 LPG cylinders in small, congested lanes posing significant

The transition's complexity is compounded by the sheer scale of the bakery ecosystem. While the BMC surveyed 573 bakeries as of October 2024, industry insiders estimate Mumbai is home to 1,500-2,000 bakeries, most operating unlicensed. A staggering 311 of those surveyed still rely on traditional fuels.

Infrastructure remains

a monumental bottleneck. MGL surveyed 500 bakeries but found only 97 suitable for pipelines, and merely 12 are actually using PNG, as revealed in a July 3 meeting between BMC and bakers' associations. "Some bakeries are in lanes where even an ambulance can't enter." states M. Yaqub, who heads one such association, questioning the feasibility of MGL digging in such areas.

Adding to the woes, a central scheme offering loans up to Rs 1 crore with a 35% subsidy (capped at Rs 10 lakh) remains largely



inaccessible. The application process is notoriously dense, demanding extensive documentation like rent agreements, PAN, Aadhaar, and FSSAI licenses. Crucially, the payment goes directly to GST-registered vendors, excluding most small, family-run bakeries that operate on paper-thin margins with

informal staffing and often lack GST registration. "Most of us don't even have GST," says Baig. While some bakeries, like Shesh Narayanan's 80-year-old Navsagar Hindu Bakery in Lower Parel, made the voluntary switch to gas two years ago due to local complaints about smoke, even they face challenges.

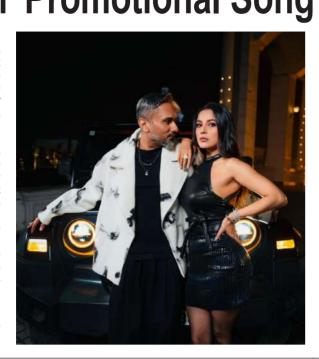
>> SHOW BIZ **Shehnaaz Gill Channels Inner Jamaican for** 'Ikk Kudi' Promotional Song with Honey Singh

naaz Gill went the Jamaican way for a promotional song with rapper-singer Yo Yo Honey Singh, whom she said has a "desi" humor, for the upcoming Punjabi film

Shehnaaz took to Instagram, where she shared a string of images from the shoot. In the first image, the two personalities are sitting on a bench and are seen laughing.

The other images showed the actress sporting cornrows hairstyle and a well-sculpted orange and black dress paired with knee-length boots.

She captioned the post: "@yoyohoneysingh's hu-mour is so desi." Honey Singh also shared a close-



up image of Shehnaaz and wrote: "We made this jatti looks jamaican Promotional song for movie Ekk kudi @

shehnaazgill."

'Ikk Kudi' is produced by Shehnaaz and directed by Amarjit Singh Saron.

Shehnaaz was last seen in Vicky Vidya Ka Woh Wala Video starring Rajkummar Rao and Triptii Dimri, making a special appearance for the song "Sajna Ve Sajna."The actress gained stardom after her stint in "Bigg Boss 13."

winner and late star Sidharth Shukla was loved by audiences, who fondly referred to them as "SidNaaz."

Her chemistry with the

It was in 2015 when Shehnaaz began her modeling career with a music vid2017, she marked her debut in the Punjabi film 'Sat Shri Akaal England'.

Her filmography also includes names such as 'Kala Shah Kala', 'Daaka', 'Honsla Rakh', 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan', and 'Thank You for Coming'.

Shehnaaz has appeared in several music videos, including 'Maar Kar Gayi', 'Pindaan Diyaan Kudiyaan', 'Je Haan Ni Karni', 'Putt Sardaran De', 'Lakh Laanhta', 'Viah Da Chaa', 'Jatt Jaan Vaarda', 'Gusse Ho Ke Nahiyo Sarna', 'Jatti Hadd Sekhdi', 'Gunday Ik Vaar Fer', 'Peg Paun Wele', 'Gedi Route', 'Shona Shona', and 'Habit'. She also has 'Sab First Class' in the

Prithviraj Sukumaran Reveals When He Switches Off the Director in Him

Mumbai: Malayalam superstar Prithviraj Sukumaran, who is receiving a lot of positive response for his recently released streaming movie 'Sarzameen', is adept at switching different aspects of his personality as an artist. While his acting per-

formances have been consistently praised, Prithviraj is also a good director. But the director in him is only at work when he is sitting on his chair and calling the shots as a director. When he works with a different director, Prithviraj completely switches off the director in him.Prithviraj recently spoke with IANS with regards to 'Sarzameen', and said, "I directed my first film in 2018. So now I've done this

long enough to have a clear compartmentalisation in my mind about being an actor

and then being a filmmaker.

And the greatest thing that's happened to me as an actor after becoming a filmmaker is that I'm now able to fully

vision as an actor, and not as a director. He told IANS, "I really like the process of landing up on a set and un-



switch off the technician in me when I'm on sets as an actor. And I really enjoy that as well".

'Sarzameen' marks the directorial debut of actor Kayoze Irani. Prithviraj said that he likes to follow a director and contribute to their

derstanding what the director wants from me and understanding his or her vision and being an instrument in facilitating that vision. That is my endeavor as an actor. You don't know if the audience will like the film, or will like your performance.

Shamita Shetty tries partner workout, shares hilarious outcome: 'My tiny feet gave up'



Bollywood actress Shamita Shetty took to social media to share a fun glimpse of her latest partner workout challenge. Highlighting the importance of trust and strength, the actress posted a candid video where she hilariously admits that while she trusted her partner, her "tiny feet" couldn't quite hold on to the "giant shoulders." Taking to her Instagram handle, the 'Mohabbatein' actress shared a video where she is seen performing a set of exercises with her gym partner. For the caption, Shamita wrote, "Partner challenge! Trust plays a big hand when it comes to partner workouts/ challenges along with strength ofcourse. This time around I trusted but my tiny feet could not grip those giant shoulders swipe to see my version! #mondaymotivation #gymmotivation #workout #partnerchallenge #gymgirl.

Mumbai: In one of the clips, the actress is seen doing a handstand with her partner's legs on her shoulders. In another, she is holding a rope and stretching her legs, which are placed on her partner's shoulders. Shamita Shetty often shares glimpses from her workout routine, giving a peek into her fitness journey. Earlier, Shamita had dropped a video of her do-

ing a cardio workout and captioned the post, "When cardio meets coordination Shuffle across, stack like a pro! Let's see how many rounds you can survive."

On the work front,

Shamita Shetty, the younger sibling of actress Shilpa Shetty, made her acting debut in 2000 with romantic drama "Mohabbatein." The film, helmed by Aditya Chopra and produced under Yash Raj Films featured an ensemble cast including Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan, and Aishwarya Rai, along with debutants Uday Chopra, Jugal Hansraj, Kim Sharma, Jimmy Sheirgill, and Preeti Jhang-

She later made a memorable appearance in the popular dance number "Sharara Sharara" from the 2002 rom-com "Mere Yaar

Ki Shaadi Hai," directed by Sanjay Gadhvi. Shamita was also featured in the song "Chori Pe Chori" in the romantic film "Saathiya," directed by Shaad Ali and produced by Mani Ratnam alongside Yash Chopra. The movie starred Vivek Oberoi and Rani Mukerji in lead

Her filmography includes movies such as "Agnipankh," "Wajahh: A Reason to Kill", "Fareb," "Zeher," "Bewafaa," and "Cash." In addition to films, Shamita gained attention for her participation in reality shows like "Bigg Boss OTT 1" and "Bigg Boss 15."

Big B Shares 'Preserved' 'Sholay' Ticket, Reveals Rs. 20 Price!

Mumbai: Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has shared a nostalgic glimpse into the past by posting a picture of an old cinema hall ticket for his 1975 blockbuster "Sholay." The most astonishing detail? The cost of the ticket was just Rs. 20. Amitabh took to his blog, where he shared a string of images from his weekly meet and greet with fans outside his Mumbai mansion. Alongside these, he posted a picture of the "preserved" 'Sholay' tick-

He wrote on his blog: "The SHOLAY

ticket... kept and preserved, just defeated whatever has been expressed a few lines above .. Rs 20 !! the price .. !!!!!?? (sic)." The veteran actor expressed his dis-

belief, noting that Rs. 20 is now comparable to the price of an "aerated drink" in theatres today."I am told that is the price of an aerated drink in Theatre Halls nowadays .. is that a fact ?? So much to say, but say not... affection and love (sic),"

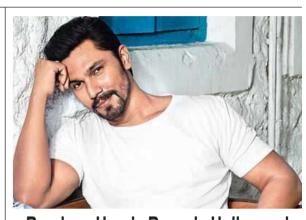
'Sholay', an epic action-adventure film, was directed by Ramesh Sippy. The film tells the story of two criminals, Veeru and Jai, hired by a retired police officer to capture the ruthless dacoit Gabbar Singh.

The megastar also delved into his philosophical thoughts, discussing the mysterious power of late-night hours for creativity and introspection. He noted that amidst noise and solitude, the mind often finds its sharpest "It be the silence of the hour when the

awakening occurs mysterious is it not . the waken be the ideal for the late hour .. Many theories exist on this and two that stand out is - the ability to hear what you write; and the isolation in the presence of noise .. seemingly unendorsed opinion or express but strangely in the midst of cacophony the creative or the mind that thinks, excels .. at times the best .. (sic).'

He added: "Excess is a cess that is desired to be seized, else it absorbs the activities of mind and body and the senses .. disposed utilities has been a leaning for some .. storing of utilities has been the learning from some .. which some to be accepted and executed is the excess that cesses the

mind and and body .. and the regret in the other is the pain of not doing the 'do'



Randeep Hooda Reveals Hollywood Icons That Sparked His Acting Journey is more to acting than just

Mumbai: Bollywood star and filmmaker Randeep Hooda has shared how Hollywood icons like Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sylvester Stallone, Tom Cruise, and Clint Eastwood initially drew him to acting.

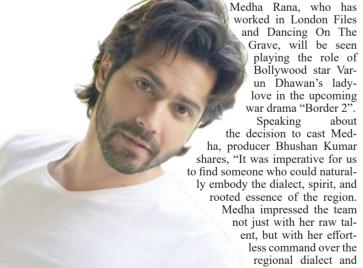
Recalling the start of his connection with cinema, Randeep told IANS: "I think like anybody in my room in a small town called Rohtak at that time, it's not small anymore. But, I had posters of Arnold Schwarzenegger, Sylvester Stallone, Tom Cruise, Clint Eastwood and all these people. And it took me, and that's what I imagined, you know."

He added that his understanding of acting evolved beyond those initial inspirations. "And then slowly, I started acting on stage and started realizing that there those posters or those mov-ies." The actor mentioned he began to read more and expose himself to different kinds of acting, work, and cinema."And then slowly something got formed. And I'm not really sure what it is yet. I'm still trying to discover it," said Randeep, who recently walked the ramp for 'Blenders Pride Four Elements' On the big screen, Ran-

deep's next appearance will be in "Matchbox," an upcoming American action-adventure comedy film directed by Sam Hargrave. "Matchbox" is based on

the toy brand of the same name and also stars John Cena, Jessica Biel, Sam Richardson, Arturo Castro, Teyonah Parris, Danai Gurira, and Corey Stoll.

Varun Dhawan's ladylove in 'Border 2' revealed



her emotional range as an actor. We truly believe she will bring depth and realism to the role."The film marks a pivotal moment for Medha, who comes from an Army family. Producer Nidhi Dutta shared that Border 2 is not just a film; it's an emotiTalking about casting Medha, she said: "Every choice we've made, from the director to the cast, is driven by our vision to tell a story that feels honest, powerful, and relevant. Medha Rana opposite actor Varun Dhawan will bring freshness and sincerity that aligns beautifully

Border 2 is helmed by director Anurag Singh and is set to hit screens on January 23, 2026.

Set against the backdrop of valour, sacrifice, and national pride, Border 2 is the sequel to the 1997 film "Border", an epic war film, based on the events of Battle of Longewala (1971). Directed by J. P. Dutta, the film is set during the Indo-Pakistani

It stars Sunny Deol, Suniel Shetty, Jackie Shroff, Akshaye Khanna, Sudesh Berry, Puneet Issar, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Tabu, Raakhee, Pooja Bhatt and Sharbani Mukherjee.

Backed by a powerful production team including Bhushan Kumar, Krishan Kumar, J.P. Dutta, and Nidhi Dutta, and directed by Anurag Singh, Border 2 is presented by Gulshan Kumar & T-Series, in association with J.P. Dutta's J.P. Films.

Karan Johar celebrates two years of Alia, Ranveer's 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani'

haani" turned two in Hindi cinema on Monday, filmmaker Karan Johar celebrated the moment. Sharing the old trailer

on Instagram, in a collaborative post with his Dharma Productions, KJo wrote in the caption: " ONLY ALL WALA PYAAR THIS SIDE! Celebrating a story filled with love, laughter, family and emotions! #2YearsOfRockyAurRaniKii-PremKahaani."He also shared the same video on his Instagram stories and captioned it: "2 years already #RRKPK." Re-

leased in 2023, Rocky

Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani, is a romantic comedy family drama film directed by Karan and written by Ishita Moitra, Shashank Khaitan, and Sumit Roy. The film is bankrolled by Dharma Productions and Viacom18 Studios.It stars Ranveer and Alia as a couple with contrasting personalities who decide to live with each other's families for three months prior to marriage. The supporting cast includes Dharmendra,

Mumbai: As his film "Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Ka- Jaya Bachchan, Shabana Azmi, Tota Roy Chowdhury, Churni Ganguly, Aamir Bashir, and Kshitee Jog. The film marked Karan's return to direction following Ae Dil Hai Mushkil,



tion, they

decide to live with each other's relatives for three months before getting married.In other news, Karan has recently made his debut in the audio space with his Audible podcast "Live Your Best Life with Karan Johar." Released just ahead of his birthday, the 10-episode series explores different facets of navigating modern life in today's fast-paced world.

Shweta Tripathi: "I Never Felt Like an Outsider" Mumbai: Actor and producer Shweta Tripathi has spoken about the launch of her own production house and shared her experience of never

feeling

tion behind this new chapter in her career, Shweta shared, "Why wait for others to make it happen? There are so many stories and there are so many talented people. I am very blessed to know such people, and if I have the resources, then at least I will be able to provide them an opportunity."She explained that she meets many people on her an outsider iourney and deeply relates to certain stories. in the film industry. 'And I want the world to feel them.""That's When the reason I started my production house. dis-It's very easy to point fingers at others for not supporting such talents, but we first need to ask ourselves: what am I doing for i n g them? That was the original thought behind launching this venture," said Shweta.Shweta's production house, 'Bandarful', aims to be a collaborative space where storytelling is not restricted by stereotypes, commercial pressures, or social labels."Î am very happy people took a chance on me. I feel glad that filmmakers saw beyond stereotypes – they saw the talent, they saw the passion in me.







Pant ruled out of **England series: Gambhir**

pects, star wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant has been officially ruled out of the remainder of the ongoing Test series against England. India's head coach Gautam Gambhir confirmed the news today, while effusively praising Pant's exceptional courage and character displayed during the campaign, especially his heroic act of batting with a fractured foot. "Rishabh has already been ruled out of

the series," Gambhir stated, putting an end to speculation regarding his potential return for the final Test. However, the former Indian opener re-

served his highest commendation for the injured cricketer, recalling the unforgettable moment when Pant continued to bat despite suffering a foot fracture. "What he's done for the team, and for the country, is something generations will speak of. Batting with a broken foot isn't something many have done. Any amount of praise won't do justice to that courage." Gambhir emphasized that

Pant's remarkable contribution has deeply ingrained a strong emotional and cultural foundation within the cur-



felt, the Indian camp received a major positive update on the fitness front. Gambhir confirmed that all fast bowlers are currently fit and available for selection. "There are no injury cases among the quicks. Everyone is match-fit," he affirmed. With India trailing England 1-2 in

the five-match series, and only one Test remaining, the team will head into the crucial Oval Test with renewed momentum stemming from their gritty fourth-Test draw at Old Trafford. The assurance of a full-strength pace

attack provides a significant boost, even as

one of their biggest match-winners will be

watching from the sidelines. The final Test is scheduled to begin on July 31, 2025, at That game also saw her The Oval in London.

England defender Bronze hides her broken leg to help team win Euro 2025

England defender Lucy Bronze revealed that she had been playing the 2025 UEFA Women's European Championship with a broken leg after helping her

side retain the title on Sunday night following a nail-biting penalty shootout win against Spain.

The 33-year-old played 598 minutes in the tournament, and will be remembered for slamming home the decisive penalty in the quarterfinal win against Sweden after she had got her team back into the game with 79th-minute goal, with England two goals down and seemingly heading out.

tightly pulling strapping

around her upper thigh during a break in play in the closing minutes, but she was still able to play in the semifinal win over Italy.

Bronze also played 105 minutes of Sunday's final before suffering a knee injury that forced her off in tears. After Chloe Kelly scored the decisive goal in the shootout, Bronze made a shock admission that she had been playing with a broken leg.

"I actually played the whole tournament with a fractured tibia, but no one knew," said Bronze in a postgame interview.

"That is why I got a lot of praise from the girls after the Sweden game because I have been in a lot of pain," she continued, showing her in-

credible commitment.

"If that's what it takes to play for England, that's what I'll do - they know that. We inspire each other by playing through things like that and it got us to the end," said

England coach Sarina Wiegman confirmed Bronze had played with a broken

"The whole team has a great mentality but she has a crazy mentality, it's unbe-

Uganda wins Pearl of Africa Cricket T20 Series 2025

Uganda: Host Uganda won the Pearl of Africa Cricket T20 Series 2025 after beating the United Arab Emirates (UAE) by eight runs in the final at the Entebbe Cricket Oval on Sunday. Going into the match, Uganda was comfortably leading the standings with five wins.

The hosts batted first and scored 170/7 in 20 overs. The UAE side attempted the chase but collapsed to

The pairing of Alpesh Ramjani and Raghav Dhawan was instrumental for Uganda, with scores of 61 and 56 runs respectively

For the UAE, Ethan D'Souza topscored with 32 runs, while Muhammad Zohaib and Muhammad Wassem contributed 30 and 5 runs, respectively. "We tried to play tight and only lost out in the later stages of the match. The Series have helped us get a lot of match practice," said UAE's Ethan D'Souza. Uganda's head coach Abhay Shar-



ma said that he was very proud of his players who won all the six matches. We played well, and the Series have helped us a lot," said Sharma. Uganda's second team only lost to Namibia's second team in a match that did not

carry world ranking points. In an earlier fixture, Kenya defeat-

ed Nigeria by 6 wickets. Kenya, led by Sachin Gill, chased Nigeria's 113/9 in 20 overs and scored 116/4 in 19.1 overs. Gill scored 35 runs off 42 balls, while Rakep Patel contributed 33. Nigeria's captain, Systever Okpe, scored a team-high 35 runs, and Abdulmumuni Mohammed added 26.

Uganda finished the series with 12 points, followed by the UAE in second place with 6 points. Kenya was third with 4 points, and Nigeria finished with no points. Uganda's and Namibia's second teams did not score any

pare for the upcoming ICC T20 Men's World Cup Qualifier in September.

The teams used this series to pre-

India Finishes Strong at World **University Games with 12 Medals**

Germany: India concluded its 2025 FISU World University Games campaign in Rhine-Ruhr, Germany, with a commendable 12-medal haul, comprising two golds, five silvers, and five bronzes.

The final day saw India add three more medals to its tally, including a silver for Ankita Dhyani in the women's 3000m steeplechase and bronze medals in the men's 4x100m relay and women's race walk. Ankita Dhyani, who only began steeplechase late last year after competing in the 5000m at the Paris 2024 Olympics, delivered a stellar performance, clocking a personal best of 9:31.99 to secure silver. Finland's Ilona Mononen took gold (9:31.86), while Germany's Adia Budde earned bronze (9:33.34).

The women's 20km race walk team, composed of Sejal Singh, Munita Prajapati, and Mansi Negi, collectively earned a bronze with a time of 4:56:06. China claimed



silver (4:31:20) in this event.

In the men's 4x100m relay, the quartet of Lalu Prasad Bhoi, Animesh Kujur, Manikanta Hoblidhar. and Dondapati Mrutyum Jayaram secured bronze with a time of 38.89. The Repub-

lic of Korea won gold

(38.50), and South Africa

took silver (38.80). These Sunday medals brought India's athletics tally to five, adding to the silver medals won by Praveen Chithravel (men's triple jump) and Seema (women's

5000m) on Saturday. Beyond athletics, India

gold (4:28:51) and Australia shone in compound archery, with Sahil Rajesh Jadhay winning individual gold and Parneet Kaur taking individual silver. India also secured mixed team gold, men's team silver, and women's team bronze in compound archery.

> The Rhine-Ruhr 2025 Games also saw India make history in other sports. A bronze in mixed team badminton marked the country's first-ever medal in the sport at the World University Games. In tennis, Vaishnavi Adkar's women's singles bronze made her the first Indian woman to medal in ten

team in Indian football: Deepak Tangri

Giant midfielder Deepak Tangri highlighted the Kolkata giants' rich legacy over the years and believed it was a dream come true for him to represent the Mariners.Tangri joined MBSG in 2021, and he has been a crucial player for the club. He has featured in 66 Indian Super League (ISL) games and won two League Shields and two ISL Cups during his four-year stint with the club.

The 26-year-old, born in Punjab, began his football career at Chandigarh FA and then joined the MBSG youth academy. Tangri shed light on his journey from the youth setup to the senior

"Earlier, I was at the academy in Durgapur, and then we used to come to the MBSG ground. I'd look at the dressing room, the jerseys, and see the fans at the MBSG ground; it gave me

I wanted to play here as well," Tangri said.

"I was at Chennaiyin FC, and when I got an offer from MBSG, my parents and I were happy. It was also my dream to wear that jersey and to represent it, because football has a whole different passion here in Kolkata. MBSG are the best team in Indian football, the fans are the best, and the atmosphere is amazing," he told MBSG

From donning the green and maroon jersey to experiencing consistent success with Mohun Bagan Super Giant, Tangri has experienced the ultimate high for a boyhood fan-turned professional, the highlight of which came last season when the Mariners did the double.

Jose Molina, took charge of the team ahead of the 2024-25 season and Tangri underscored how the Spaniard's key tweaks made so



much difference.

"Our coach has been a top-level player and coach, so he always tells us what's right and what's wrong. And when it comes to discipline, he always emphasises it," he shared."During the preseason under the coach, we had really good training with the ball. There was a lot of improvement, especially in midfield, with more passing, through balls, and long balls. For that, the coach made all midfielders train on how to look back before receiving the ball and improve their vi-

Mohun Bagan Super Giant are the best

sion and passing. That helped a lot throughout the season," he added.

Tangri highlighted MB-SG's strong bench strength and individual bonding between the players as a key factor in their historic double-winning 2024-25 campaign. Speaking in context, the midfielder remarked, "Even if some people are just sitting on the bench and others are playing, it's all the same. Like, the coach knows if one player is out, someone else will step up and do the same job. That's why we win "Every player knows

what to do and what not to do. Even if you get a card, you still have someone on the bench ready to play. That's the best part about our team and the environment we have, both on and off the field, which is great. We just stay like brothers, and the vibe in the dressing room is always top-notch," he added.The midfielder also expressed his gratitude to the Mariners' faithful who always stood by the team.

"Our fans, whether we're going through tough times or good times, are always there for us. They motivate us and are always cheering for us, doing everything for us, so that itself is a big motivation," Tangri said."We take that to heart and want to give something back to them, too, since the club shares such a strong bond with them. Those things matter a lot," he

Pakistan eager to keep momentum rolling ahead of World Cup

Karachi: Pakistan captain Fatima Sana has urged her side to keep the winning momentum going as they get set to embark on a tour of Ireland next month ahead of the upcoming ICC Women's Cricket World Cup.

The Asian team will be looking to continue their unbeaten run in 2025 when they travel to Europe later this week for a three-match T20I series against Ireland which commences in Dublin on August 6.

The series will provide Pakistan some much needed match practice ahead of the 50-over World Cup in India and Sri Lanka from the start of October as the side attempts to add to their current winning streak courtesy of their unbeaten run at the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup Qualifier tournament earlier this

Pakistan won all five of their matches at the Qualifier event on home soil - including an impressive 38run over Ireland - to book their place in the 50-over showcase with Sana leading the way with a total of 12 wickets across the tourna-

The conditions Pakistan will face in Dublin will likely be different to what they experienced in Lahore, but Sana wants her side to attack the matches against Ireland with the same amount of vigour to ensure they maintain their winning streak."Despite the difference in conditions, batters are confident and since our Qualifiers went well, we are going into the series with confidence," Sana said.

'We are looking to continue that momentum and looking forward to do well - along with developing the T20I side as well," she

Opener Muneeba Ali was one of Pakistan's star performers during the Qualifier event in April, with the talented left-hander hitting a pair of half-centuries on the way to amassing a total of 223 runs across the tour-



nament at an average of 44.60. That run of with the bat at the Qualifier saw Muneeha rise to a careerhigh rating on the current ICC Women's ODI Batter Rankings and the 27-yearold is hoping to continue added. that rich vein of form in Ireland and at the World Cup later this year, an ICC report

said."Despite the difference

in formats between the Irish

tour and the World Cup, we

are looking to focus on T20Is and work on 50-over

format game alongside as

well," Muneeba said.

"We have identified here we were lacking in the Qualifiers tournament, and have tried to overcome that (during the training camp) and build upon the positives from that tournament," she

Pakistan squad to face Ireland: Fatima Sana (c), Aliya Riaz, Diana Baig, Eyman Fatima, Gull Feroza, Muneeba Ali, Najiha Alvi, Nashra Sundhu, Natalia Parvaiz, Rameen Shamim, Sadaf Shamas, Sadia Iqbal, Sidra Amin, Tuba Hassan and Waheeda Akhtar

Sangita Basfore to assist AFC Women's Asian **Cup Australia 2026 Final Draw in Sydney**

New Delhi: The draw for the AFC Women's Asian Cup Australia 2026 will be conducted at the Sydney Town Hall on Tuesday at 14:30 IST.

India will be represented by coach Crispin Chettri and midfielder Sangita Basfore in the draw ceremony. Sangita, who scored a sensational brace against Thailand in the final Qualifier, will have the privilege of being one of the three draw assistants alongside Australia's Tameka Yallop and Korea Republic's Jeon Yu-gyeong. For the 21st edition of Asia's biggest women's national team event, twelve teams will be divided into three groups of four each. India were one of the eight teams that secured their place in the tournament via the qualifiers, joining hosts Australia, and the top three finishers from the AFC Women's Asian Cup India 2022 — China PR, Korea Republic, and Japan.

Scheduled to take place from March 1 to 21, 2026, the AFC Women's Asian Cup Australia 2026 will be staged across Sydney, Perth, and the Gold Coast, including in stadiums that witnessed the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023, as the tournament returns Down Under for the first time since 2006.

Runners-up in 1980 and 1983, India will make their first appearance in the tournament since 2003 after a historic qualification campaign saw the Blue Tigresses emerge as toppers of Group B of



the Qualifiers, defeating Thailand, Iraq, Timor-Leste, and Mongolia earlier this

For the pot allocations for the Final Draw, the seeding is based on the latest FIFA Women's World Ranking (as of June 12). India, ranked 70th, are placed in Pot 4, and will be drawn against either Australia, Japan, or DPR Korea from Pot 1, China, Korea Republic, or Vietnam from Pot 2, and Philippines, Chinese Taipei, or Uzbekistan from Pot 3.

Pot allocations for the Final Draw (FIFA Rankings in brackets):

Pot 1: Australia (15), Japan (2), DPR Korea (9) Pot 2: China PR (17), Korea Republic (21), Vietnam (37) Pot 3: Philippines (41), Chinese Taipei (42), Uzbekistan (51) Pot 4: IR Iran (68), India (70), Bangladesh (128)

The draw will be streamed live on the AFC Asian Cup YouTube Channel.

BUSINESS

BSE Sensex	
Close 80,891.02	Percent chenge -0.70%
Previous close 81,463.09	Open 81,299.97
High 81,557.41	Low 80,776.44

N	Nifty 50	
Close 24,680.90	Percent chenge -0.63%	
Previous close 24,837.00	Open 24,782.45	
High 24,889.20	Low 24,646.60	

N	Nifty 500	
Close 22,846.95	Percent chenge -0.73%	
Previous close 23,014.80	Open 22,967.40	
23,094.85	Low 22,818.15	

Close	Percent chenge
66,768.90	-0.56%
Previous close	Open
67,146.65	67,023.00
High	Low
67,566.65	66,678.30

Nifty Next 50

All A	iity i oo
Close 25,285.00	Percent chenge -0.62%
Previous close 25,442.10	Open 25,387.75
High 25,510.10	Low 25,251.40

Niftv 100

	Nifty Bank	
	Close	Percent chenge
56,0	84.90	-0.79%
Previo	us close	Open
56,5	28.90	56,215.10
	High	Low
56,5	78.40	55,997.45
1		

Nifty Midcap 100		
Close 57,519.35	Percent chenge -0.84%	
Previous close 58,009.45	Open 57,912.90	
High 58,446.90	Low 57,409.65	

Top Gainers

Company	Current	% Gain
Shriram Finance	633.45	2.86
Cipla	1,572.00	2.58
Hero Motocorp	4,291.10	1.43
HUL	2,441.60	1.08
SBI Life Insura	1,850.50	1.00

Top Losers

Company	Current	%Loss
Kotak Mahindra	1,966.60	-7.44
Bajaj Finance	880.50	-3.64
Wipro	250.05	-3.53
IndusInd Bank	802.05	-2.63
Bharti Airtel	1,890.30	-2.46

Commodities

Commodity	Price	Change (%)
Gold Aug 05	97,890.00	71.00 0.07
Silver Sep 05	112,947.00	-105.00 -0.09
Crudeoil Aug 19	5,771.00	123.00 2.18
Naturalgas Aug 26	274.60	1.20 0.44

Indian Stock Market Closes Lower as Trade Deal Delays and FII Outflows Weigh Heavy

stock market experienced another day of downward momentum, settling in negative territory on Monday. Concerns surrounding a potential delay in the crucial India-US trade agreement and persistent outflows from Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) significantly impacted market sentiment.

The Sensex concluded the session at 80,891.02, marking a decline of 572.07 points or 0.70 per cent. It commenced the day in the red at 81,299.97, compared to its previous close of 81,463.09, and further slumped to an intraday low of 80,776.44 due to widespread selling pressure, particularly in the IT sec-

Similarly, the Nifty ended lower at 24,680.90, shedding 156.10 points or 0.63 per cent. Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Investments Limited, attributed the cautious domestic market sentiment to a disappointing set of Q1 earnings, the



ongoing delays in the India-US trade agreement, and continued FII outflows.

In stark contrast, global markets largely maintained a positive stance, buoyed by favorable US-EU trade developments that were perceived as less concerning than initially anticipated, Nair added.

Looking ahead, upcoming monetary policy decisions from the US Federal Reserve and the Bank of Japan, alongside the trajectory of domestic quarterly

earnings, are expected to be pivotal in determining the nearterm market direction.

Among the Sensex constituents, Kotak Bank, Bajaj Finance, Bharti Airtel, Titan, TCS, HCL Tech, SBI, Tata Steel, Eternal, Axis Bank, and Mahindra and Mahindra were the prominent losers. Conversely, Hindustan Unilever, Asian Paints, and ICICI Bank managed to close the session in the green.

Broader market indices

also felt the selling pressure, with Nifty 100 falling 157 points (0.62 per cent), Nifty Midcap 100 dropping 490 points (0.84 per cent), and Nifty Smallcap 100 settling 229 points lower (1.26 per cent).

Sectoral indices mirrored the overall market downturn. Bank Nifty declined by 444 points, Nifty Fin Service closed 192 points down, Nifty IT dropped 253 points, and Nifty Auto ended the session 88 points lower.

The Indian Rupee also reflected the subdued market sentiment, trading weaker by 0.10 per cent at 86.65 against the US

Jateen Trivedi of LKP Securities highlighted that the week ahead is anticipated to remain volatile, with key global triggers including the August 1st trade deal deadline with the U.S. and significant U.S. data releases. He expects the rupee to trade within a range of 86.25–

State Governments Step Up to Boost **India's Rare Earth Exploration Amid** China's Export Ban: SBI Report

New Delhi: In response to China's recent ban on rare earth magnet exports, active participation from Indian state governments in encouraging rare earth exploration and processing is poised to significantly contribute to regional economic development and self-sufficiency in critical mineral value chains. according to a report released by SBI Research on Monday. The report highlights In-

dia's vulnerability in this sector, noting that imports of rare earth magnets have averaged \$249 million over the last four years, with FY25 recording the highest at \$291 million. Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief Economic Advisor at State Bank of India, stated, "Our analysis indicates sectors impacted by ban are - Transport Equipment, Basic Metals, Machinery, Construction and Electrical and Electronics. Both domestic production and exports will be impacted."To address this critical dependency, the Indian government launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) in 2025, allocating a total of Rs 18,000 crore for the period 2025-31. This mission aims to establish a robust framework for self-reliance in the critical mineral sector.

The SBI report emphasizes that creating domestic value chains for critical minerals necessitates strong state government involvement. Many states have already initiated this by issuing Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) for the auction of Exploration Licenses (EL).

Odisha has emerged as a

frontrunner in this regard. Its Industrial Policy Resolution 2022 specifically recognizes rare earth minerals-based value-added products as a priority sector. Furthermore, the Odisha Government has approved an Rs 8,000 crore titanium facility in Ganjam, signaling a push to boost high-tech manufacturing.

Critical mineral value chains are seen as a potential source of regional economic development, particularly given the expanding digital and green economies. The Indian government has identified approximately 30 minerals as critical for the nation's economic security.

The SBI report also points out the business opportunity for banks in this evolving landscape. "India will invest in exploring and acquiring critical mineral assets in resource-rich countries. PSUs and private firms will be supported through funding, guidelines, and inter-ministerial coordination. Accordingly, critical minerals are an important business opportunity for banks that requires exclusive policy focus and strategic direction within banks," the report stated.

that disruptions in rare earth supply could impact the financial exposure of banks to affected sectors, the report also offers a nuanced perspective: "However, it should be kept in mind vulnerability is also a function of available inventory of rare earth and disruption is not immediate uniformly across sectors.'

While acknowledging

More clarity, pro-investor rules boost MF trust as retirement vehicle: ICRA Analytics

Kolkata: Enhanced transparency and investor protection regulations have boosted investors' confidence in mutual funds as a retirement vehicle, ICRA Analytics said today. The Assets under Management (AUM) of Retirement Mutual Funds has increased by 226.25 per cent in the last five years to touch Rs 31,973 crore in June 2025, up from Rs 9,800 crore in June 2020.

Increasing awareness about the importance of financial planning among people and the need to build a corpus for retirement coupled with higher life expectancy and the surge in healthcare costs seems to be encouraging the aging populations in India to increasingly look for retirement-focused investment products, including mutual funds. retirement mu

fund is a specialised solution-oriented mutual fund whose objective is to ensure that the investor has a comfortable and secured post-retirement life. Such funds have exposure to both equity and debt where the equity

segment fosters wealth appreciation while the debt segment ensures wealth preservation and stability



A retirement mutual fund helps provide a regular stream of income when one monthly income and comes with a lock in period of 5 years or till retirement, the report said.

"Equity mutual funds have captured significant inflows due to optimism about market recovery and growth,

which is appealing for longterm retirement portfolios. This apart, enhanced transparency and investor protection regulations have boosted investor confidence in mutual funds as a retirement vehicle," Ashwini Kumar, senior vice president and Head Market Data, ICRA Analytics, said.

The total number of folios under such schemes has increased by 18.21 per cent at 30.09 lakh in June 2025, up from 25.46 lakh in June 2020. The number of schemes, which stood at 24 in June 2020, has increased to 29 in June 2025. The average compound annualized returns on these funds stood at 6.79 pc, 15.72 pc and 14.64 pc for a 1-year, 3-year and 5-year period respectively. The rise of userfriendly digital platforms ias made retirement investing more accessible. "These tools offer personalized portfolio recommendations based on age, risk tolerance, and retirement goals, encouraging more participation," Kumar

Jio platforms deploy 10 active network slices to boost performance

New Delhi: Aayush Bhatnagar (chief technology development officer, Jio Platforms Limited) announced on his LinkedIn post that Jio Platforms Limited (JPL) deployed 10 active network slices on its 5G network. Bhatnagar posted "Network slicing is no longer just a concept-it's live nationwide, powering real-world applications.'

"With Jio platforms' robust 5G SA(Standalone) Core and Network Slicing Platform (NSP), now 10 active networks are in production, optimized for scale, performance, and reliability," Bhatnagar added in his LinkedIn post.

The post also stated that these network

slices are purpose-driven and specially designed for the industries, including Internet of Things (IoT), gaming, Airfiber (Fixed Wireless Access), and mission-critical services.Bhatnagar stressed the capabilities of network slices and stated in his post about the

He highlighted that every slice is carrying real-world traffic, and these are powered up by the Jio Network Slicing Platform.

Network slicing refers to the fundamental capability powered by 5G SA architecture. It allows service providers to build endto-end networks fulfilling specific requirements

TCS to lay off about 2 per cent of its workforce

New Delhi: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India's prominent IT service provider, has revealed plans to cut about 2 percent of its global workforce over the next year.Almost 12,000 employees working in different capacities will be impacted by this restructuring decision. The IT giant cited this layoff move as part of its effort to become a "Future-Readv" organisation.Reportedly, the cuts are underway and might affect people, including the non-client-facing managers, project leads, and legacy tech specialists. Moreover, those who are unable to evolve their skill could also be impacted. The IT giant has taken such a decision with an aim to transform its operations for future technologies to meet the requirements of next-gen.TCS said in a statement, "TCS is currently on a journey of becoming a future-ready organization. The process needs shifts on major fronts, in-



cluding investment in newtech areas, entering new markets, building new partnerships, and adopting a next-gen working approach."The technology

Samsung Secures Record-Breaking \$16.4

reskilling and redeployment initiatives and pointed out that only those employees will be shown the door whose deployment may not be feasible. TCS also highlighted that the decision to lay off is not taken due to the productivity gains from AI.Industry analysts are of the view that job cutting by TCS reflects the transition of the Indian IT industry in which some roles will be controlled by AI adoption.

Adani Green's energy sales surge 42 pc in Q1, operational RE capacity reaches 15.8 GW

Ahmedabad: Green Energy Ltd's (AGEL) energy sales surged 42 per cent (year-on-year) in the April-June quarter (Q1 FY26) to 10,479 million units, as operational renewable energy (RE) capacity grew 45 per cent to 15.8 GW which continues to be India's largest, the company said on Monday.

While revenue growth increased by 31 per cent (onyear) to Rs 3,312 crore, EBITDA also went up by 31 per cent to Rs 3,108 crore.

According to the Adani Group company, cash profit surged by 25 per cent (onyear) to Rs 1,744 crore in the quarter. "During Q1 FY26,

Google on Monday said that

it has launched the (GNI) AI

Skills Academy, in collabo-

ration with the Indian Insti-



we added 1.6 GW of greenfield renewable energy capacity, bringing our total increase to 4.9 GW over the past year — an achievement unmatched in India's transition toward clean energy," said Ashish Khanna, CEO of Adani Green Energy.

Indian newsrooms with the

"Our investments in the massive RE development at Khavda in Gujarat as well as other resource-rich sites are delivering results both in terms of superior operational performance and industrybest EBITDA margins," he said, adding that the company is on track to achieve its 2030 target of 50 GW RE capacity -- with at least 5 GW of hydro pumped storage along with battery storage. Strong revenue, EBIT-

DA, and cash profit growth are primarily backed by robust greenfield capacity addition, deployment of advanced RE technologies, superior plant performance and deployment of new capacities in resource-rich sites in Khavda (Gujarat) and Rajasthan."Further, battery storage is also a key part of our future strategy. We remain committed to supporting national energy transition and security ambitions as well as maintaining our

ESG leadership, highlighted by our top rankings in the FTSE Russel ESG assessment and recognition at the Reuters Global Energy Transition Awards 2025," Khanna noted.

AGEL has consistently generated electricity exceeding the overall annual commitment under the power purchase agreements (PPA). In Q1 FY26, AGEL's PPAbased electricity generation was 31 per cent of the annual commitment. The company is developing a massive 30 GW renewable energy plant at Khavda in Gujarat. This is spread over an area of 538 sq km, almost 5 times the city of

of the deal in its regulatory filing, Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla, later confirmed on his social media platform X that Samsung will manufacture Tesla's next-generation AI6 chip at its new semiconductor plant in Texas. Musk also indicated that the stated \$16.4 billion is a "bare minimum" and that the actual output could be "several times higher," and that Samsung

tech giant.

This massive contract accounts for 7.6 percent of Samsung's total revenue of 300.9 trillion won last year and is expected to provide a much-needed boost to its foundry division. The foundry business has been striving to narrow the gap with global

has agreed to allow Tesla to

assist in maximizing manu-

facturing efficiency.



industry leader Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC).

Samsung's foundry division has faced challenges, with its operating profit failing to meet market expectations in the second quarter due to sluggish performance. Earlier this month, Samsung Electronics estimated an operating profit of 4.59 trillion won and sales of 74 trillion won for the second quarter. The significant order, especially for advanced AI chips, is seen as a crucial step in the division's recovery and a signal that Samsung's 2-nanometer process technology, poised for mass production, is achieving viable yields.

Following the

nouncement and the subsequent revelation of Tesla as the likely client, shares of Samsung Electronics surged. The stock rose significantly, outperforming the broader KOSPI's decline. In related news, South

Korean President Lee Jae Myung met with Samsung Electronics Chairman Lee Jae-yong last year to discuss trade and investment issues. particularly amidst ongoing trade negotiations between Seoul and Washington. This meeting highlights the broader context of South Korea's efforts to reach a trade agreement with the United States to reduce reciprocal tariffs before the August 1

Google introduces Al Skill Academy in India knowledge and tools they Skills Academy in collabora-

(IIMC) here.According to the company, the new initiative is aimed at equipping

need to thrive in an AI-powtion with the (IIMC), Departered future."Continuing our ment of New Media," the commitment to collaborate tech giant said in a statement. news organisations This will be a 10-week, hyacross India and bring them brid training series, which is Google's best-in-class techdesigned to equip newsnology, we're excited to anrooms and media educators nounce the launch of the with foundational AI under-Google News Initiative AI standing and practical skills.

Participants will learn to leverage Google's AI tools like NotebookLM, Gemini, AI Studio and Pinpoint to streamline workflows, boost efficiency, and free up valuable time for deeper and more creative research and in-depth, diverse storytell-

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