

IRREGULAR by MANJUL



Rajya Sabha election process is simple. EC notifies, parties declare candidates, they file papers, MLAs go into hiding...

HSC EXAM RESULTS BY JUNE END: MIN

Bhubaneswar: The results of the High School Certificate (HSC) Examinations are likely to be announced by June end, said School and Mass Education Minister Samir Ranjan Dash Saturday. The minister said the evaluation of answer sheets has been completed and subsequent works have begun for the publication of the results. "The process for publication of the results has already begun and we are planning to announce the matriculation exam results by this month-end," Dash added. The HSC examination was conducted between April 29 and May 7, 2022. The evaluation process had started May 21 at 58 centres across the state.

WEATHER		BHUB	CTK
TEMP	MAX	35.7°C	35.6°C
	MIN	28.5°C	28.5°C
Humidity		78%	75%
Rainfall		Nil	Nil
Forecast: Partly cloudy sky			

NAVEEN RESHUFFLES TEAM

It is for the first time that Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik asked his entire council of ministers to resign before taking up the reshuffle. 21 MLAs including five women are all set to take oath today

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: A day after winning the Brajarajnagar bypoll with a thumping majority, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Saturday, made a complete revamp of his Cabinet.

Before the reshuffle, for the first time in his 22-year tenure, Naveen asked all the ministers to resign from their positions with immediate effect. There were 20 ministers in the state Council of Ministers, of which nine were given Minister of State (MoS) status.

The Chief Minister is likely to have 21 members in his new Council of Ministers of which 13 will be in the Cabinet while eight others will be given Minister of State (MoS) status.

Nine ministers including Ranendra Pratap Swain, Naba Kishore Das, Samir Ranjan Dash, Tukuni Sahu, Ashok Chandra Panda, Niranjana Pujari, Prafulla Mallik, Tusharkanti Behra and Jagannath Saraka have been retained in the new team of Naveen. These leaders have resigned from their posts and will again be sworn-in along with other MLAs Sunday.

Senior BJD MLAs Pratap Keshari Deb, Pramila Mallik, Atanu Sabyasachi Nayak, Usha Devi and Pradip Kumar Amat are

also likely to take oath Sunday. These leaders have already served as ministers during different tenures of Naveen.

Similarly, seven legislators – Rajendra Dholakia, Aswini Kumar Patra, Rohit Pujari, Srikanta Sahu, Pritiranjan Gharai, Basanti Hembram and Rita Sahu – are all set to take oath as ministers for the first time in their political career.

As many as 11 ministers have been dropped from the new council of ministers. They are: Bikram Keshari Arukha, Padmanabha Behera, Pratap Jena, Arun Kumar Sahoo, Sudam Marndi, Susanta Singh, Dibya Shankar Mishra, Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi, Premananda Nayak, Raghunandan Das and Padmini Dian.

However, no official confirmation has been made by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) of Raj Bhawan about the reshuffle till the paper goes for print.

On the other hand, Assembly Speaker Surya Narayan Patro has also resigned from his chair. The Speaker has submitted his resignation to deputy speaker Rajani Kanta Singh. He has denied taking any further assignment in government due to his health problems, family members claimed.

PROBABLE MINISTERS

			MINISTERS DROPPED		

Bikram Arukha
Padmanabha Behera
Pratap Jena
Arun Kumar Sahoo
Sudam Marndi
Susanta Singh

Dibya Shankar Mishra
Jyoti Prakash Panigrahi
Premananda Nayak
Raghunandan Das
Padmini Dian
(Report till 12am)

BAN SINGLE USE PLASTIC: CENTRE

AGENCIES

New Delhi, June 4: Of the 4,700-odd urban local bodies (ULBs) across India, only some 2,500 have notified the ban on single use plastic (SUP) from July 1, prompting the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) to ask them to phase out SUP and contribute to the overarching clean and green mandate.

A total of 2,591 out of 4,704 ULBs have already reported notification of SUP ban as per the directions of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), therefore, the states/UTs will need to ensure that the remaining 2,100-plus ULBs notify the same by June 30, the ministry said Saturday on the eve of World Environment Day.

Under the Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban 2.0, plastic waste management, including elimination of SUP, is a crucial area of focus.

The ministry has also issued a detailed advisory to the states and UTs wherein it appeals to take up a range of activities including large-scale cleaning and plogging drives, with special emphasis on plastic waste collection, as well as large-scale plantation drives, with participation of all citizens.

As per the Plastic Waste Management (Amended) Rules, 2021, the manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic less than 75 microns (i.e. 0.075 mm in thickness) has been banned with effect from September 30, 2021 as opposed 50 microns recommended earlier under PWM Rules, 2016.

A range of complementary initiatives will also be taken up to strengthen enforcement.

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SHAKIRA AND FOOTBALLER HUSBAND GERARD PIQUE CONFIRM SEPARATION

After 12 years of togetherness, Shakira and footballer Gerard Pique have decided to call it quits. The announcement comes just days after a report by Barcelona-based El Periodic that Shakira found out that Gerard Pique was cheating on her with another woman. Rumors also suggested that the two were no longer living in the same house.

LILLY SINGH RECALLS BEING DISAPPOINTED WITH PARENTS

YouTube star Lilly Singh professionally known as Superwoman, recently opened up on her parents' reaction when she came out of the closet with regards to her sexual orientation. Lily came out to her parents at the age of 30 as a bisexual. She recollects the incident as filled with anxiety and disappointment.



FORTUNE FORECAST

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ARIES

Today you will feel mushy and forlorn. Ganesh says you will make special efforts to strengthen your relationships. You look upon commitment as a security for the future. As a result, you will develop strong, long-term bondings.

TAURUS

You are likely to confront a turning point in relationships today, foresees Ganesh. Because you are in need of some compassion and support, you will feel the need to spend time with friends and relatives. Your beloved or better half may bring a change in mood by helping you shed your negative frame of mind, says Ganesh.

GEMINI

You will spend your day fulfilling the demands made upon you by your family members and colleagues. You will need to devote time to matters at home. Pay attention to the needs of your relatives for they will be helpful to you in the near future, says Ganesh.

CANCER

The day shall find you in buoyant spirits, indicates Ganesh. As you are feeling lively and full of beans, you will not mind slogging it out, even if in some mindless activities or chores. It is a perfect day for activities like gardening, cooking, baking and even for a nice house warming get-together. Evening stars encourage you to go all out and splurge - emotion-wise, money-wise or time-wise - on your sweetheart!

LEO

Financial gains in shares and stocks are indicated. If you are an investor, your investments will yield substantial profits. Long-standing debts are also likely to be cleared, and pending dues will be settled. Expenses for the purposes of entertainment are a possibility, says Ganesh.

VIRGO

Meticulous as you are, hopefully you won't grudge the extra quota of domestic responsibilities that comes your way today. But then, since the work is in a more than satisfactory state, some added issues on the home front won't hurt either. Your subordinates will offer the best of their support, and you shall feel contented at the end of the day. Just remember to not nitpick unnecessarily, as is your habit, warns Ganesh.

LIBRA

Ganesh says today is a good day to renovate your home. You will be able to decorate your home artistically because of your designing skills. The atmosphere at your home will be a happy one with the arrival of guests. You will make plans to go for a picnic with close friends or relatives. Ganesh wishes you all the very best for your future.

SCORPIO

Just another mundane day in store for you. At work, pressure may mount and lead to a hectic and tedious day. You may even feel irritated at times. Thus, feeling the need to unwind, you may invite your sweetheart for the cup of coffee and spend quality time together.

SAGITTARIUS

Variety is the spice of life. Add variety of activities to your daily schedule and nothing would seem boring any more, foretells Ganesh. Indulge in creative activities like writing, cooking, gardening or even reading. Catch up with friends and memories of old times; have a blast!

CAPRICORN

Often, sentiments take over your mind. Making you impractical, at times, this tendency proves to be harmful for you. Don't show it on your face as others may take advantage of your weakness, advises Ganesh. If you don't control your emotions, it may become an obstacle in your path to success. Be strong and give a tough fight to those who want to go ahead of you.

AQUARIUS

If you are an astrologer, doctor or a spiritual leader, today is a favourable day for you. Those who may want to challenge you must reconsider the thought of testing your strengths, says Ganesh. Doing charity work, helping the needy, and working for humanitarian causes give you a feeling of contentment. Today, it will be one of those extremely fulfilling days.

PISCES

Today your intellectual streak comes to the fore. You will indulge your curiosity and take interest in natural phenomenon. Your faith will help you complete all your pending tasks with ease. You will leave things to destiny. You will be more inclined to intellectual pursuits rather than professional, however, do not neglect your responsibilities, says Ganesh.

IIFA AWARDS 2022

Vicky's 'Sardar Udham' scores big



ABU DHABI: IIFA 2022 took on an electrifying note Thursday night with a star-spangled concert featuring some of the best musical talents of the country. Hosted by Farah Khan and Aparshakti Khurana, the concert saw a power-packed performance by Devi Sri Prasad, followed by virtuoso performances by Guru Randhawa, Honey Singh, Tanishq Bagchi, Neha Kakkar, Asees Kaur, Ash King and Zahrah S. Khan. The fashion show saw Jacqueline and Ananya dazzle on the ramp, even as the host of the IIFA Awards night, Salman Khan, chilled out

Jacqueline, Ananya and Sara ooze oomph

with Sara Ali Khan and Dhvani Bhanushali in the audience.

The much-anticipated high point of the evening, though, was the announcement of nine technical awards, three of which went to Shoojit Sircar's

'Sardar Udham' (for best cinematography, Avik Mukhopadhyay; editing, Chandrashekar Prajapati; and VFX). Anand L. Rai's 'Atrangi Re' got two awards (best choreography for the 'Chaka Chak' number; Vijay Ganguly; and background score, A.R. Rahman. 'Shershaah' got the award for best screenplay, Anubhav Sinha's 'Thappad' for best dialogue, Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior' for sound design, and Kabir Khan's World Cup cricket drama, '83' for sound mixing. IANS

STAR KIRAN to premiere June 6

The channel will bring an exciting content bouquet that will offer shows ranging from mythology to popular fiction and fantasy thrillers



an ode to celebrate love that runs thicker than blood. **Shanti** (Mon-Sat, 8:00PM) A tale of a homemaker rediscovering herself in her own family that she has nurtured so long with her relentless love, care and hard work. Shanti is a simple housewife, in her mid-forties, who has dedicated her entire life to look after her family that consists of her husband, three grown-up children and her in-laws. But in the world that she has made with so much love and affection, where does she fit in? **Suhaga Sindura** (Mon-Sat, 8:30 PM)

BHUBANESWAR: Disney Star's dedicated Odia general entertainment channel, Star Kiran will premiere 6 pm onwards on 6th June 2022. The channel will provide Odia viewers with content that is deeply entrenched in the values and culture of the land with stories of inspiration, hope and progress. The channel will have a variety of shows ranging from mythology to popular fiction and fantasy thrillers. **Radha Krushna** (Mon-Sat, 6:00 PM) Radha & Krushna are the epitome of eternal love and sacrifice, transcending eras and emotions. Here is a never seen before retelling of this supreme romance. **Maa** (Mon-Sat, 6:30 PM)

It is a story of a little girl who yearns to meet her mother. A roller-coaster ride of emotions follows as the little girl sets on her journey to find her mother. **Tu Kahibu Na Mu** (Mon-Sat, 7:00 PM) A fresh love story of two people who are poles apart. An unconventional love story where love is always shielded by clash of ego and pain. **Kiye Para Kiye Apanara** (Mon-Sat, 7:30 PM) The journey of Jai, a simple girl from being a house help to being a suitable daughter-in-law who holds the family together. The show is

A fascinating journey of a tribal girl who creates her identity in a big city. The story traces the journey of Hema who accidentally gets married to Aditya. After marriage she comes to the city with Aditya only to discover that he was already promised to another girl Malini, who happens to be her estranged sister. **Mahadev** (Mon-Sun, 9:00 PM) He is the supreme being and the destroyer of evil. Witness Lord Shiva's story, his avatars, and a union that shaped the universe - his marriage to Parvati. **Nazar** (Mon-Sun, 10:00 PM) Story of a Daayan, who sustains her parasitic existence by draining the life force from her victims. Star Kiran is already available across all major DTH and local Cable platforms. PNN

Narira Kankala takes storytelling to new level

BHUBANESWAR: Uttar Purusha, one of the oldest theatre troupes of this city, presented Odia play *Narira Kankala* here at Rabindra Mandap, Saturday. Adapted to Odia by Saqti Mohanty from the original English play *The Skeleton Woman* jointly written by Kalki Koehlin and Prashant Prakash, the play was directed by troupe's secretary Debaddutta Pati. The protagonist of the play is a writer who can't finish any of his writings and leaves a series of half-written poems, novellas and short stories. While he wants to live through the stories that he writes, his pragmatic wife helps him come out of his fanciful flights into the world's reality to complete the stories.



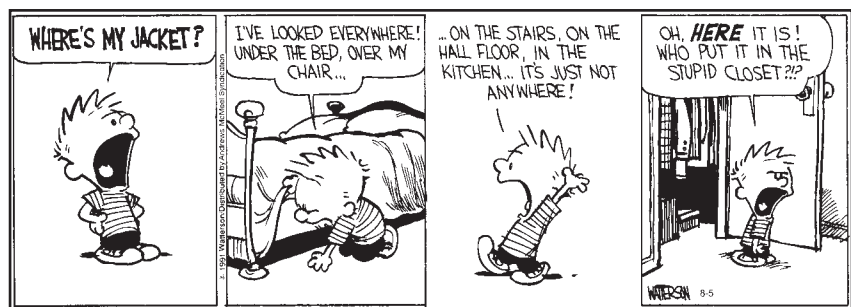
The twist comes towards the end when it is revealed that his wife is not alive. But the writer refuses to believe that his wife is

dead and continues to live with her in his imagination. It was a different kind of love story that managed to hold audience interest till the last scene. "I have tried to show the eccentricity of a creative human being and his unique bonding with his wife to the viewers and I hope they have enjoyed the narrative," said director Pati who played the central role of the writer. Others who performed on stage included Arabinda, Chakradhar and Pratima. Earlier, eminent film director Himanshu Khatua, storyteller Saqti Mohanty and former principal of Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalay Nabin Parida lit the lamp to open the event. PNN

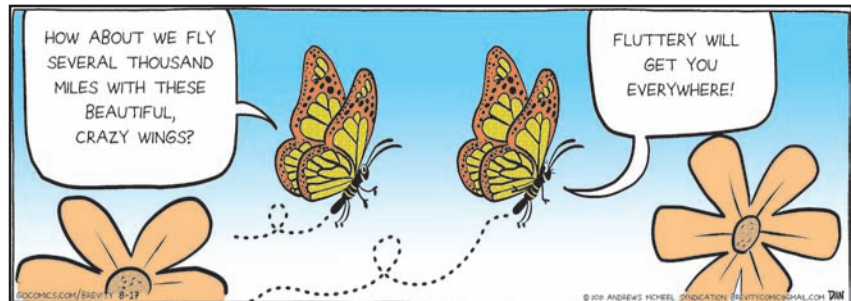
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS

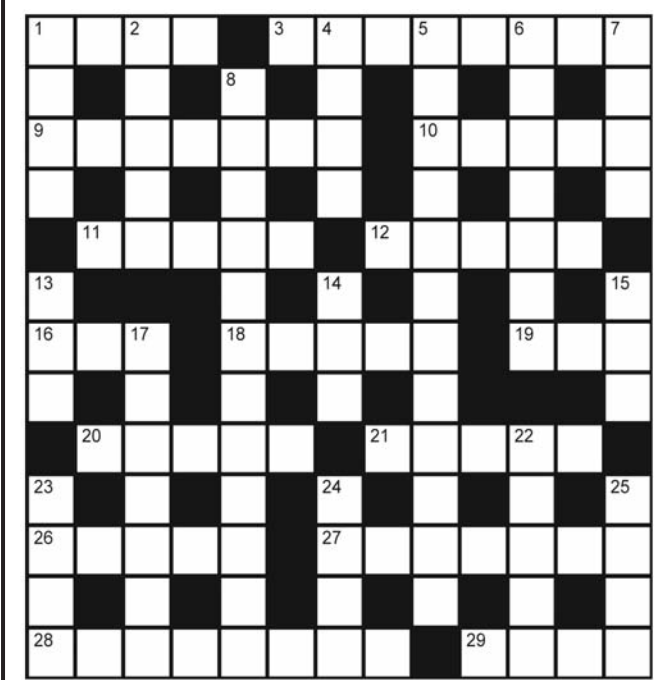


BREVITY



FUN post

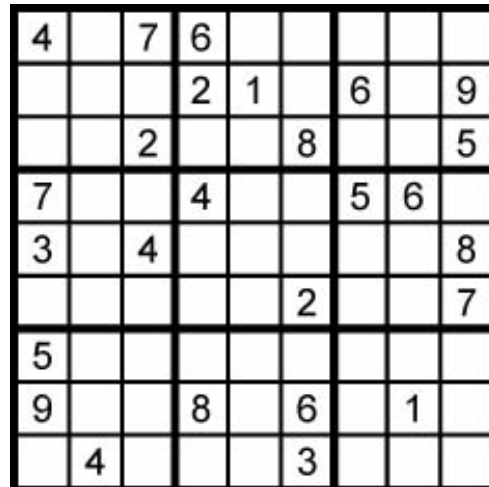
CROSSWORD



- Across**
1 Punch
3 Pollywogs
9 Beryl variety
10 Nero, for one
11 Theme
12 Monster with nine heads
16 New Zealand parrot
18 Leg bone
19 Longing
20 Sheik's bevy
21 Spurs on
- Down**
26 Port-au-Prince's land
27 Lightning bug
28 Kind of chest or map
29 Youngster
1 Prophet
2 Doctrine
4 Contributes
5 Souvenirs from a celebration (5,7)
6 Primitive eel
- 7 Hourglass fill**
8 Workout exercise
13 Island strings
14 Abate
15 Serengeti grazer
17 Extreme greed
22 Around the bend
23 Chew the fat
24 Not close
25 Instrument for Orpheus

SUDOKU

To solve the Sudoku puzzle, fill in the boxes in such a manner that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



SOLUTIONS



downtown



SERVICE TO THE LORD

Carpenters busy constructing chariots for this year's Rath Yatra in Puri, Saturday

Excise sleuths raid City bar

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: A team of Excise department officials carried out a raid on a bar in the city here late Friday night on allegation of violation of various guidelines.

The surprise checking was conducted at the bar of Hotel Sungreen in Satyanagar area under Kharavela police station, sources said.

On a tip-off, the Excise department sleuths carried out the raid and found that the bar was

running after midnight. This apart, more than fifty customers were present at the bar during the raid. The officials also found that the bar staff were serving liquor to the customers, sources said.

The Excise department has reportedly served a show-cause notice on the owner of the hotel for operating the bar in violation of the norms.

With improvement in the Covid-19 situation in state, the Excise department has allowed 14 bars in the city here to resume

their business in May this year in accordance with the guidelines set by the Commissionerate of Police.

The bars which have been allowed to run their business are Rain the Club, Swagat Bar, Live it Up Bar & Restaurant, Urmee Hotel Bar & Restaurant, Green Field, Deepali International, Ashoka Bar & Restaurant, Rewind, Alishan Bar & Restaurant, Barbie Bar & Restaurant, Mohanty Bar & Restaurant, Pentagon, Prince and Ekamra Bar.

45°C at Bolangir as heatwave singes state

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 4: A searing heatwave roasted parts of western Odisha Saturday even as overcast skies gave some respite to the coastal region from the blazing sun, the weather office said.

At least 13 weather stations recorded a maximum temperature of over 40°C, out of which eight saw the temperature climbing to 43°C or above, the Bhubaneswar Meteorological Centre said.

Heatwave conditions prevailed over Bolangir, Boudh, Subarnapur, Bargarh, Sambalpur and Jharsuguda districts, according to a bulletin.

The blistering heat baked Bolangir as the maximum temperature rose to 45°C in the district headquarters, the highest in the state, and 44.8°C in Titilagarh, a bulletin stated.

Sambalpur recorded 44.7°C, followed by 44.5°C in Subarnapur. The mercury climbed by two notches above average to settle at 43.6°C in Jharsuguda, while it was 43°C each in Nuapada and Bargarh.

The temperature in the twin cities of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack was 35.7°C and 35.6°C respectively, two levels below normal, the department said.

The weather office issued a yellow warning of heatwave in Bolangir, Boudh, Subarnapur and Bargarh for the next two days. It denotes that the heat is tolerable, but there is a slight health concern for vulnerable sections like the elderly and infants.

Man arrested over bid to implicate father in false case

The Baliana police Saturday arrested accused Biswajit Dash of Pahala area and his friend Avinaya Mohapatra, 34, of Ranihaat in Cuttack in connection with the incident

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: A 34-year-old man was reportedly caught in his own trap while trying to implicate his father in a false case on the outskirts of the capital city here.

The Baliana police Saturday arrested accused Biswajit Dash of Pahala area and his friend Avinaya Mohapatra, 34, of Ranihaat in Cuttack in connection with the incident, sources said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Prateek Singh said Biswajit Friday informed Baliana police that his father had close links with several criminals and the elderly man had kept a gun in his vehicle.

Biswajit also told police that his father was involved in various criminal activities, Singh said.

Soon, a joint team of the Special Task Force (STF) and Baliana police carried out a raid at the residence of Biswajit's father Surendra Kumar Dash in Rangabazar area of Baliana. The cops seized a country-made pistol with empty magazine and two mobile phones



Accused Biswajit and his friend Avinaya Mohapatra in custody



The seized gun and mobile phones

DCP PRATEEK SINGH SAID ACCUSED BISWAJIT FRIDAY INFORMED BALIANA POLICE THAT HIS FATHER HAD CLOSE LINKS WITH SEVERAL CRIMINALS AND THE ELDERLY MAN HAD KEPT A GUN IN HIS VEHICLE

SOON, A JOINT TEAM OF THE STF AND BALIANA POLICE CARRIED OUT A RAID AT THE RESIDENCE OF BISWAJIT'S FATHER SURENDRA KUMAR DASH IN RANGABAZAR AREA OF BALIANA

THE COPS SEIZED A COUNTRY-MADE PISTOL WITH EMPTY MAGAZINE AND TWO MOBILE PHONES DURING THE RAID

BISWAJIT CONFESSED BEFORE THE POLICE THAT HE HAD KEPT THE GUN IN HIS FATHER'S VEHICLE TO IMPLICATE THE LATTER IN A FALSE CASE

"Biswajit confessed before us that he had kept the gun in his father's vehicle to implicate the latter in a false case," said a police officer.

The police later arrested Biswajit and his friend Avinaya by registering a case (222/22) under various sections of IPC and Arms Act.

Biswajit reportedly admitted that he was trying to teach his father a lesson as the latter was not helping him financially. Sources claimed that the father-son duo has been at loggerheads over property-related issues.

INTERSTATE ROBBERY GANG BUSTED, FIVE ARRESTED

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 4: A gang that allegedly committed several robberies in the Odisha-Jharkhand border areas was busted with the arrest of five people, police said Saturday.

The armed men robbed Rs 11 lakh in cash from a man at a market in Rairangpur Rural police station area in Mayurbhanj district last week. The victim was shot dead when he resisted. The accused also fired a few rounds to create panic among the people while escaping, police said.

In a joint operation, the Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar police arrested the five suspects -- four from Jharkhand in cooperation with the West Singhbhum police and one from Odisha.

An Insas Excalibur rifle, live ammunition and Rs 50,000 in cash were among the items seized from them. They were involved in at least eight



cases of robbery in Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts, police said.

The gang operated from Chaibasa and surrounding areas of West Singhbhum district in Jharkhand, according to police.

They used to get in touch with the local criminals with whom they had come in contact during their previous stints in jail. These locals gathered information about the potential targets and conveyed it to the gang, they said.

Some also mix up with the general public in order to tackle any untoward situation during the robbery, following which they escape through various routes along the Odisha bor-

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der on motorcycles.

An investigation is on and steps are being taken to nab the other members of the gang, police said.

'DREAMS' reforms 50 addicts in City



Dignitaries at the valedictory ceremony of DREAMS in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

OP PHOTO

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: As many as 50 youths, who have recovered from the clutches of drug menace under the Commissionerate Police's pilot project DREAMS, Saturday returned home to live a normal life.

The Commissionerate Police organised a special valedictory ceremony at its headquarters in the city here to mark the culmination of its pilot project De-addiction, Reformation and Entrepreneurial Assistance for Making a Safe Society' (DREAMS) to save the youths from the drug menace.

Speaking on the occasion, Director General of Police (DGP) Sunil Kumar Bansal said, "I am extremely happy to participate in the valedictory ceremony of the pilot project which was launched by Commissionerate

The cops had found that drug menace is one of the biggest reasons behind the rise in criminal activities in the city

So, the Commissionerate Police launched DREAMS in collaboration with Indian Institute of Education and Care (IIEC) February 2 this year

State-owned Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) provided financial support to the pilot project

Police four months ago. The results of the pilot project are outstanding. The youths who have shunned drugs and returned to their families are true heroes for today."

He also said crimes could not be controlled completely without

taking unique and innovative steps like DREAMS. The cops had found that drug menace is one of the biggest reasons behind the rise in criminal activities in the city. So, the Commissionerate Police launched DREAMS in collaboration with Indian Institute of Education and Care (IIEC) February 2 this year. State-owned Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) provided financial support to the pilot project.

Under the project, the police selected 50 drug addicts and lodged them at the de-addiction centre. The youths were imparted with training in different activities like yoga and dance. They were also provided with skill development training for proper rehabilitation.

The family members of the youths thanked the Commissionerate Police for the unique initiative.

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Dignitaries at the valedictory ceremony of DREAMS in Bhubaneswar, Saturday

OP PHOTO

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CM ceases appointment of dept advisors, board chiefs

POST NEWS NETWORK
Bhubaneswar, June 4: A day before the oath taking ceremony of his new council of ministers, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik Saturday ordered a cease of appointment of several advisors and chairpersons posted to departments, corporations and boards effective from June 5.

As per the order issued by the CM, the appointments ceased are of Debasis Mohanty - Chairperson, Odisha Agro Industries Corporation; Iswar Panigrahi, Chairperson, Odisha State Seeds Corporation; Pravatiditya Mishra, Chairperson, APICOL; Asit Patnaik, Chairperson, Odisha Pisciculture Development Corporation; Amarendra Das, Chairperson, Odisha State Cashew Development Corporation; Minaketana Amant, Chairperson,

Soon after the completion of the process of appointment of new ministers, several BJD leaders will be appointed in the positions, BJD sources said

Odisha Rural Housing Corporation; Chinmay Sahoo, Chairperson, OSIC. Similarly, the appointments of Srimayee Mishra, Chairperson, OTDC; Amaresh Patri, Chairperson, Odisha Lift Irrigation Corporation; Satyabrata Tripathy, Chairperson, Odisha State Film Development Corporation; Bijaya Nayak, Head, Odisha State Youth Welfare Board; Priyadarshi Mishra, Chairperson, Odisha State Housing

Board; Sangram Keshari Paikray, Chairperson, Odisha Khadi & village Industries Board; Anubhab Pattnaik, Advisor, ET & IT Department have been cancelled. Also, the appointments of Krutibas Patra, Advisor, Agriculture & Farmer Department; Utkal Keshari Parida, Advisor, Chilika Development Authority; Debasis Mallick, Advisor, Odisha Forest Development Corporation; Janmejaya Lenka, Advisor, Odia Language, Literature & Culture Department; Ramachandra Panda, Advisor, Odisha State Agriculture Marketing Board; Sanjay Kumar Das Burma, Deputy Chairman, State Planning Board; Lopamudra Buxipatra, Advisor, Mission Shakti; Puspendra Singh Deo, Member, WODC and Sudhir Das, Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY) have been ceased by the CM.

CLEAN UP DRIVE



ODRAF personnel cutting a snag near the Barabati Stadium in Cuttack, Saturday, ahead of the India VS South Africa T-20 series

OP PHOTO

BMC's coordination meet to implement DFT

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) Saturday conducted a coordination meeting with other authorities in a bid to successfully expedite and implement the 'Drink From Tap' initiative in the state Capital.

Under the chairmanship of Minister for Science and Technology Ashok Chandra Panda, the BMC officials held discussions stressing on the project activities in the heritage and Old Town area. Initiated by the Bhubaneswar Smart City Limited (BSCL), the project aims to help people avail clean drinking water round the clock, emulating the similar 'Drink From Tap' initiative as in Puri.



"Steps must be taken to ensure smooth implementation of the project in the Old Town and adjoining areas as these are not only tourist points but also hold global importance. This 24x7 Drink from Tap is conceived ahead of the Atal

Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0. There should not be any delay to carry forward the project and co-ordination of different departments is essential to quicken the pace of DFT," Panda said.

We have different kinds of activities in the same area by line departments like the Water Corporation of Odisha (WATCO), BMC, BSCL and so on. The WATCO must prepare a road map for timely completion of the project, and achieving this inter-departmental coordination is essential. Such a strategy will be helpful in saving time and completing DFT along with other projects. Let no project be a hindrance to other project activity

SANJAY KUMAR SINGH | BMC COMMISSIONER

It can be mentioned that the entire area in and around the Lingaraj Temple is divided into five District

Group clash in Capital leaves several injured

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: The Capital city witnessed a violent clash between two groups from Falikia and Gautam Nagar slums under the Capital police limits here Saturday afternoon.

According to reports, at least four individuals have sustained serious injuries in the clash.

Sources claimed that some youths of Falikia slum attacked one Rama from Gautam Nagar slum Saturday morning over dispute related to a love affair. Rama sustained minor injuries and was rushed to the Capital Hospital here.

In retaliation, the relatives of Rama went to the Falikia slum and assaulted some residents in-

According to reports, four individuals have sustained serious injuries in the clash, including a woman whose right hand was chopped off

cluding a woman with sharp weapons in the afternoon.

The woman identified as Laxmi Rout sustained serious injuries as her right hand was chopped into several pieces by the miscreants.

Badagada and Capital police have started probe into the matter after registering separate cases in this regard.

Odisha's active nCoV tally at 79

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, Jun 4: Odisha reported 12 new Covid cases Saturday, taking the tally to 12,98,465, the state Health department said in a bulletin.

The toll remained at 9,126 with no fresh deaths reported in the last 24 hours. Odisha now has 79 active Covid cases, while 12,79,227 people have recovered from the disease, including 13 Friday. The daily TPR was 0.11 per cent as the new cases were detected after testing 10,127 samples.



CM reshuffles team

Continued from P1

Senior BJD legislator Arukha is likely to be appointed as new Speaker while Prasanta Kumar Muduli and Saroj Meher will be the government chief whip and deputy chief whip respectively.

The new ministers are scheduled to take oath at Lok Seba Bhawan convention hall at 11:45 am Sunday. Political analysts feel that such a move has been taken to ensure that there is no conflict or indifference among the outgoing ministers. BJD insiders said that some of the senior leaders, who were dropped from the cabinet, will be given key role in the organisation aiming at the 2024 general elections.

Patnaik has started his fifth innings May 29, 2019. So, three years have been left to the government. The reshuffle was delayed for a few months in view of the panchayat and urban elections, and then the Brajarajnagar byelection. Notably, the ruling party has registered landslide victory in both panchayat and urban polls.

ODM group unveils ₹2 crore sports scholarship fund for child athletes



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 4: Aiming to promote young sports talents in the state, the ODM Educational Group Saturday announced ₹2 crore sports scholarship fund for the next five years in which aspiring sportspersons will receive scholarship for the best sports programmes and schooling till Class 12 at ODM Global School here.

At an event held at ODM Global School, ODM Educational Group COO Swoyan Satyendu said that athletes will be selected based on their sporting talent from across Odisha. The ODM Global School has partnered with the Bhubaneswar

based Ardor Football Academy (AFA) and other celebrity brands like NBA Basketball School, Rohit Sharma Cricket Academy and Mahesh Bhupathi Tennis Academies to initiate the program with intent to actively search for budding sports talent from state. Furthermore, the program also saw eight-year-old Kuldeep Hembran, a resident of Salia Sahi slum and 16-year-old Prithviraj Dash receiving the first scholarship under the initiative.

"ODM has constantly been contributing to the needs of deserving students through various initiatives and programmes. With ODM Sports Scholarship Fund, we aim to provide foundational support to young sportspersons present around the state and recognise their achievements at state, national, and international levels. Along with the financial support, the scholarship will also focus on encouraging the talents by proper mentorship as and when required," Swoyan said.

Honoured to represent country: Sriya Lenka

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 4: After months of arduous training and auditions, 18-year-old Sriya Lenka has made history by becoming the fifth member of the popular South Korean band Blackswan, a dream come true feeling that the young artist describes as "priceless".

Lenka, who hails from the steel city of Rourkela in Sundargarh district of western Odisha, was selected for the band last week alongside Gabriela Dalcin from Brazil. They both will join original band members Youngheun, Fatou, Judy and Leia.

Lenka and Dalcin were selected for the band after participating in a six-month-long global audition process, which was announced by DR Music last year after band member Hyeme left the girl group. The duo never expected that they would get to be in the band together as there was only one spot initially.

"At first, we only knew that it was only one spot, so we needed

INDIA'S 1ST K-POP ARTISTE

I never imagined that my dream would come true so soon. It was so precious to be selected because that moment changed the course of my life. I feel so proud and honoured to represent my country on such a big global platform



SRIYA LENKA

to work really hard," Lenka said. She acknowledged that it was hard to compete with Dalcin as they became best friends. "We live together, we eat together and we practice together. She is like my family member because we only had each other at that time."

A trained dancer, Lenka was introduced to K-pop by a friend a few years ago and found herself getting intrigued by the choreography in the music videos. She was instantly hooked to K-pop's "unique style" of singing and dancing.

In 2020, when she saw K-pop record labels open online audi-

tions due to the Covid pandemic, she decided to give it a shot. "But I never imagined I would make it so big. Never expected that so many celebrities will post about me, I'll become most searched on Google in 24 hours and get covered by so many media organisations," the young artiste said.

Lenka and Dalcin's training started in December in Seoul, but staying away from friends and family in a different culture was not easy initially.

A lot has changed in the months that followed. She now considers Gimhap, which is made of rice, vegetables and meat, rolled into dried sea weed sheet, among her favourite dishes. Lenka is also struck by the K-drama fever and counts "Mr Queen", a time travelling historical drama, as one of her favourite shows.

Becoming a K-pop member entails long training in every aspect and Lenka had to learn the Korean language, dance, singing, rapping and develop a strong core strength.

New e-Skin that can feel pain may help create touch-sensitive robots

A team of researchers, led by one of Indian origin, has developed an electronic skin which can learn from feeling "pain" and could help create a new generation of smart robots with human-like sensitivity. The team from the University of Glasgow developed the artificial skin with a new type of processing system based on synaptic transistors, which mimics the brain's neural pathways in order to learn. In earlier generations of electronic skin, that input data would be sent to a computer to be processed. In the new e-skin, described in the journal Science Robotics, a circuit built into the skin acts as an artificial synapse instead, reducing the input down into a simple spike of voltage whose

frequency varies according to the level of pressure applied to the skin, speeding up the process of reaction. The team used the varying output of that voltage spike to teach the skin appropriate responses to simulated pain, which would trigger the robot hand to react. By setting a threshold of input voltage to cause a reaction, the team could make the robot hand recoil from a sharp jab in the centre of its palm.

"What we've been able to create through this process is an electronic skin capable of distributed learning at the hardware level, which doesn't need to send messages back and forth to a central processor before taking action. Instead, it greatly accelerates the process of responding to touch by cutting

down the amount of computation required," said Professor Ravinder Dahiya, of the University's James Watt School of Engineering. "We believe that this is a real step forward in our work towards



creating large-scale neuromorphic printed electronic skin capable of responding appropriately to stimuli," he added. To build an electronic skin capable of a computationally efficient, synapse-like response, the researchers printed a grid of 168 synaptic transistors made from zinc-oxide nanowires directly onto the surface of a flexible plastic surface

When the sensor is touched, it registers a change in its electrical resistance - a small change corresponds to a light touch, and harder touch creates a larger change in resistance

HOW THEY DID IT

To build an electronic skin capable of a computationally efficient, synapse-like response, the researchers printed a grid of 168 synaptic transistors made from zinc-oxide nanowires directly onto the surface of a flexible plastic surface

When the sensor is touched, it registers a change in its electrical resistance - a small change corresponds to a light touch, and harder touch creates a larger change in resistance

In other words, it learned to move away from a source of simulated discomfort through a process of onboard information processing that mimics how the human nervous system works

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researchers printed a grid of 168 synaptic transistors made from zinc-oxide nanowires directly onto the surface of a flexible plastic surface. Then, they connected the synaptic transistor with the skin sensor present over the palm of a fully-articulated, human-shaped robot hand.

When the sensor is touched, it registers a change in its electrical resistance - a small change corresponds to a light touch, and harder touch creates a larger change in resistance. This input is designed to mimic the way sensory neurons work in the human body.

In other words, it learned to move away from a source of simulated discomfort through a process of onboard information processing that mimics how the human nervous system works.

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Youth killed over biz rivalry in Balasore

Balasore, June 4: A youth was killed by miscreants over alleged business rivalry at Gachhamalia Square under Chandipur police limits in Balasore district, Friday night. The deceased was identified as Satyabrata Das, 28, of Sunhat area. Miscreants dumped his

body on roadside. DSP(Crime) Amulya Dhar, Sadar SDPO Padarbinda Tripathy and Chandipur IIC Ajay Murmu rushed to the spot and recovered the body lying in a pool of blood. The body was later handed over to the bereaved family after post-mortem. A bike sans any registration number plate, a

sharp-edged weapon and its sheath were recovered from the spot. A scientific team was also pressed into service. Following a complaint, the Chandipur police registered a case and launched an investigation. Meanwhile, police have picked up some history-sheeters and questioned them in this connection.

3,480 trees cut down for slurry pipeline



POST NEWS NETWORK

Keonjhar, June 4: Forests and environment in the mineral-rich Keonjhar district have been taking a heavy toll due to rampant mining, industries and developmental projects like dams and roads. To add to the problem, a slurry pipeline project is being executed by felling trees. It is dealing another blow to the ecology in the district. Reports said, a slurry pipeline work has started to transport minerals from the district. Big pipes are being laid underground and trees coming their way are being removed from the Joda mining area along the NH-20 upto Jajpur district. Till date, 3480 trees have been felled in Keonjhar. In fact, scores of medium and small plants felled have not been taken into account. This has caused a grave concern for the environmentalists. Social activist Pradip Mohanty said that the number of trees cut down will be more than what is officially stated. An investigation can only detect how many trees in fact have been felled, he added. The district has already lost thousands of sal, neem, jamun and mango trees due to expansion of NH-215 and NH-49. Moreover, due to mining, scores of trees are being cleared on a daily basis. However, compensatory plantation along the NHs have not been carried out, it was alleged. Besides, trees are chopped off in the name of development and beautification works in different areas without planning to compensate the damage done to the greenery. DFO Dhanraj HD said that action is being taken in cases of trees being cut down without permission. Lakhs of saplings are planted in the district every year, he added.

Minors beat father to death in Sundargarh

Bonai, June 4: In a shocking incident, two minor boys have beaten their father to death over family feud at Raniberna under Panposh police limits in Sundargarh district,

Friday night. The deceased was identified as Mangara Bhumija. After his first wife died, he married second time. Two sons of Mangara's first wife used to quarrel with him. Friday night, the quarrel took an ugly turn when his

two sons in a fit of rage attacked Mangara with a wooden plank. Mangara died on the spot. On being informed, police rushed to the spot and started an investigation into the matter. The two minors were detained.

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of the day **QUOTE**

The Goa government is committed to providing a conducive eco-system to boost startups in the state

PRAMOD SAWANT | GOA CM

Why should we be afraid of the AAP? They contested 403 seats in Uttar Pradesh and lost deposits on all seats. They could not open their account in four states ... we will not allow them to open their account in Himachal as well

ANURAG THAKUR | INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING MINISTER

K'taka mosque row: VHP stages protest



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

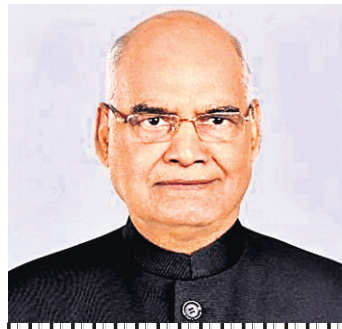
Mandya (Karnataka), June 4: Amid heightened security arrangements, Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) activists staged a demonstration in Srirangapatna town of the district here, demanding the Jamia mosque be returned to Hindus claiming that it was a Hanuman temple razed by the 18th century ruler Tipu Sultan.

Defying prohibitory orders imposed in the temple town under Section 144 of the CrPc to prevent any untoward incident, large number of Hindu activists took out a motorcycle rally heeding the call of VHP's 'Srirangapatna Chalo' campaign. Wearing saffron scarves, turbans and saffron flags, the activists raised 'Jai Sri Ram' slogans. The activists recited 'Hanuman Chalisa' and 'Ram Bhajan' at a nearby temple.

According to the police, the protesters were barred from marching towards the mosque. No untoward incidents were reported in the town. Earlier in the day, Sriram Sena chief Pramod Muthalik condemned the ruling BJP government for imposing the restrictions in the town.

A Bajrang Dal activist from here, Manjunath, who was part of the agitation, said that the mosque was a Hanuman temple with its gopuram (temple tower) razed by Tipu Sultan and it got converted into Jamia Masjid in Srirangapatna, which was the capital of the ruler of Mysore Kingdom.

"The mosque is an Archaeological Survey of India protected monument where no one should stay as per rule. However, nearly 100 people including some Bangladeshis reside there and a madrasa (Islamic seminary) also operates there, which is against the law," the activist claimed.



Any business organisation's objective should not just be the benefit of its members, but it should also participate in the development of society and the country

RAM NATH KOVIND | PRESIDENT

CORBEVAX CLEARED AS BOOSTER DOSE

Hyderabad-based Pharmaceuticals firm Biological E Ltd (BE) announced that its Covid-19 vaccine Corbevax has been cleared by the Drugs Controller General of India as a heterologous Covid-19 booster for 18 plus population after their primary vaccination with two doses of Covishield and Covaxin



Sisodia targets Assam CM for PPE kit deal; Sarma denies

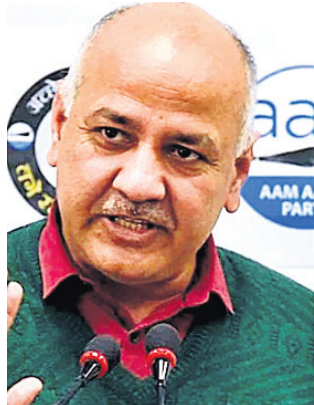
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 4: AAP leader Manish Sisodia Saturday alleged that Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma gave contracts to companies of his wife and son's business partners to supply PPE kits at "exorbitant rates" in 2020, a charge rebutted by the BJP leader who threatened to file a criminal defamation suit against him.

At a press conference in the national capital, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Sisodia said two websites had collaborated on the story on the alleged "scam" and published it two days ago. Assam government spokesman Pijush Hazarika said the allegations against the Sarma family were "false, imaginary and malicious". He said there was no scam and asked why are the two media organisations not going to the court if they have evidence.

Sisodia claimed that while the Assam government procured PPE kits at Rs 600 apiece from other companies, Sarma, who was then the state health minister, gave urgent supply orders to his "wife's firm, JCB Industries, and Meditime Healthcare, which belonged to a close associate," at Rs 900 apiece "taking advantage of the COVID-19 emergency".

"It is a major scam by the chief minister of Assam and his close as-



sociates. It is a solid corruption case and the ED is after (Satyendar) Jain who is working hard to provide quality healthcare to the residents of Delhi," Sisodia said. The ED had arrested Jain, Delhi's health minister and AAP leader, on May 30 in a money laundering case after hours of questioning.

Sarma refuted the allegations, saying his wife's company gifted the PPE kits to the government and that Sisodia was "cherry-picking from half the documents". The BJP leader said his wife managed to bring in a few kits to save precious lives at a time when Assam did not have a single PPE kit.

"Although the NHM issued order, the company raised no bill and the kits were gifted to the government...

Not a single penny was transacted, where is the corruption (sic)," he tweeted. "Due to acute shortage then, every government including yours waived the tender process for PPE kits and went for direct purchase... Don't cherry-pick from half the documents. Have the courage to put all the facts," he added.

The chief minister also attached a letter of appreciation from the then National Health Mission director Dr Lakshmanan for providing the PPE kits as corporate social responsibility during COVID-19 by JCB Industries, of which Sarma's wife Rinki Sarma Bhuyan is a partner. "Stop sermonising. I will see you in Guwahati as you (Sisodia) will face criminal defamation," Sarma said.

Hyd gangrape case: 2 arrested

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad, June 4: Hyderabad police Saturday arrested two juveniles in the sensational gang rape case, taking the total number to three. Now, the police teams are on the lookout for the remaining two accused.

On Friday, the police made the first arrest in the May 28 gang rape of the 17-year-old girl. Of the two juveniles, the police confirmed that one of them is the son of a VIP but declined to reveal the latter's name as this would lead to identification of the accused thus violating the rules. Deputy Commissioner of Police Joel Davis said two CCLs (Child in Conflict with Law) were arrested by Jubilee Hills police.

He said they were being produced before the Juvenile Court for their safe custody. "So far out of five accused persons identified, three are juveniles while one accused and two juveniles have been apprehended and efforts are on to arrest the remaining accused who are absconding," he said.

Though traced on Friday, one of the minors could not be apprehended as police clarified that rules didn't permit them to apprehend him during night hours. The DCP had told reporters on Friday night that five accused including two juveniles aged 16-17 have been identified. One of the major accused Saaduddin Malik (18) was arrested on Friday while the police teams were searching for Omair Khan (18). Since the accused were not known to the victim and the crime was reported three days later, the accused escaped to other places.

LeT terrorist, two associates held

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu, June 4: The Jammu and Kashmir Police has arrested a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist and his two associates in connection with the low-intensity IED explosion outside a court complex in Udhampur district in March in which one person was killed and 14 were injured, officials said on Saturday.

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Mukesh Singh told reporters here that a num-

ber of suspects were questioned before the investigators zeroed in on and arrested Mohammad Ramzan Sohil, a resident of Halla Bohar Dhar in Ramban district.

The other two arrested accused were identified as Khurshed Ahmed of Motla Dossa in Doda and Nisar Ahmed Khan of Bhaderwah. Sohil confessed to planting the IED on the directions of his handler Mohammad Amin, a resident of Kathawa Thathri in Doda who is based in PoK, the police officer said.

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- Estimated Cost: Rs. 12,49,218/-
- Period of Completion: 30(Thirty) calendar days
- Date & time of availability of bid documents: From dt.06.05.2022 (10.00 AM) to dt.16.06.2022 (5.30 PM) in the Portal
- Last date/ time for receipt of bid in the Portal: Dt. 16.06.2022 (up to 5.30 PM)
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Twitter, YouTube told to remove perfume ad

The I&B Ministry says the videos are 'detrimental to the portrayal of women in the interest of decency and morality'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 4: The Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Ministry Saturday asked Twitter and YouTube to remove from their social media platforms the videos of advertisement of a perfume brand that triggered outrage for "promoting gangrape culture".

In letters to Twitter and YouTube, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting said that the videos were "detrimental to the portrayal of women in the interest of decency and morality" and in violation of Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media) Ethics Code.

The videos of the perfume brand Layer'r Shot sparked outrage among a large section of social media users, who claimed the advertisement sought to promote sexual violence against women.

"It has come to the notice of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting that an inappropriate and derogatory advertisement of a deodorant is circulating on social media. The Ministry has asked Twitter

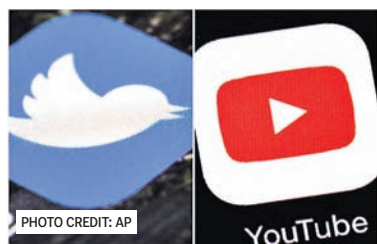


PHOTO CREDIT: AP

and YouTube to immediately pull down all instances of this advertisement," an official spokesperson said.

The ministry, in the letters to Twitter and YouTube, said that the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) too has found the videos in violation of its guidelines and asked the advertiser to suspend the advertisement on an immediate basis. "Fuming at cringe worthy ads of the perfume 'Shot'. They show toxic masculinity in its worst form and clearly promote gang rape culture! The company owners must be held accountable. Have issued notice to Delhi Police and written letter to I&B Minister seeking FIR and strong action." Swati Maliwal, Chairperson on the Delhi Commission for Women said. "How does this kind of ads get approved, sick and outright disgusting. Is @layer'r: shot full of perverts? Second ad with such disgusting content from Shot," said Rishita, who described herself as a social media influencer; on Twitter.

Tripura bypolls: BJP, Cong name candidates

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Agartala, June 4: The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party Saturday announced candidates for the June 23 bypolls to four Tripura Assembly seats nominating Chief Minister Manik Saha from the Town Bordowali constituency.

BJP spokesman Nabendu Bhattacharjee said here that the party's Parliamentary Board announced the names of the four candidates in Delhi also fielding state BJP Vice-President Ashok Sinha in the prestigious Agartala seat.

It also nominated two women candidates - Swapna Das Paul and Malina Deb Nath - for the Surma (SC) and Jubarajnar Assembly constituencies respectively.

Opposition Congress also announced two candidates - Sudip Roy Barman in Agartala seat and Ashish Kumar Saha in Town Bordowali constituency respectively. According to party sources, the Congress is likely to announce its candidate for the Jubarajnar seat Sunday.

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Registration is compulsory.
The registration time will be from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.
It is mandatory to follow the COVID safety guidelines during the event.
No walk-ins will be allowed.

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1 in every 36 infants dies before first b'day: Data

In 2020, the maximum IMR has been reported from Madhya Pradesh (43) and the minimum from Mizoram (3)

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 4: Despite the decline in infant mortality rate (IMR) over the past few decades, one in every 36 infants still dies within the first year of his/her life in India, according to official data.

The IMR, which is widely accepted as a crude indicator of overall health scenario of a country or a region, is defined as the infant deaths (less than one year) per 1,000 live births in a given time period and for a given region. According to the new data released by the Registrar General of India, the present level of IMR i.e. 28, for 2020, is less than one-fourth as compared to 129 in 1971.

In the last 10 years, the IMR has witnessed a decline of about 36 per cent and the



IMR at the all-India level has declined from 44 to 28 in the last decade.

"The corresponding decline in rural areas is 48 to 31, and for urban areas it is from 29 to 19, thereby exhibiting about 35 per cent and 34 per cent decadal decline respectively," it said.

However, the bulletin said that "despite the decline in IMR over the last decades, one in every 36 infants die within first year of their life at the national level (irrespective of rural-urban)".

In 2020, the maximum IMR has been reported from

Madhya Pradesh (43) and the minimum from Mizoram (3). The birth rate at the all-India level has declined drastically over the last five decades from 36.9 in 1971 to 19.5 in 2020, it said.

The rural-urban differential has also narrowed over these years. However, the birth rate has continued to be higher in rural areas compared to urban areas in the last five decades.

Birth rate has declined by about 11 per cent in the last decade, from 21.8 in 2011 to 19.5 in 2020. The corresponding decline in rural areas is 23.3 to 21.1 (about 9 per cent decline), and for urban areas it is from 17.6 to 16.1 (about 9 per cent decline). Birth rate is a crude measure of fertility of a population and is a crucial determinant of population growth.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank
(Together for the better)

CIRCLE SASTRA CENTRE, CIRCLE OFFICE BERHAMPUR
TATA BENZ SQUARE, BERHAMPUR, ODISHA - 761002

[Rule-8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Movable/ Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the **Authorised Officer of the Punjab National Bank** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices calling upon the following Borrowers/Guarantor/Mortgagor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with interest, charges & expenses. The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to Borrowers/Guarantor/Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned below. The Borrowers/Guarantor/Mortgagor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the **Punjab National Bank** for an amount detailed below with interest, charges & expenses thereon.

BRANCH Name & Address of the Borrowers / Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Demand/ Possession Notice Date	Total dues as per Demand Notice	Description of the Movable/ Immovable Properties
KORAPUT BRANCH/ Borrowers/Guarantors/ Mortgagors: Sri Sarata Gouda & Smt. Sumitra Gouda Near Kalyan Mandap, Pujaripur, Koraput, Dist.: Koraput, Odisha- 764020	16.03.2022 / 30.05.2022	₹41,03,204/- + Interest from 01.03.2022	EM of residential Land & Building at Khata No.: 125/1496, Plot No.: 102/2779, at: Pujaripur, Koraput, Area: Ac 0.150 Dec. in the name of Sri Sarata Gouda & Smt. Sumitra Gouda , Bounded by East: Malaria Tank, West: NAC Road, North: House of Dharendra Patnaik, South: House of Mr. Soneja
NABARANGAPUR (677400) / Borrower: M/s Shree Shyam Foods, Prop.: Mr Jyoti Ranjan Kanso, S/o: Bramhananda Kanso, At: Dharanabeda, P.O.: Mantriguda, Dist.: Nabarangpur Odisha	17.11.2021 / 30.05.2022	₹18,31,737.78 + Interest from 01.10.2021	1) Hypothecated Plant & Machinery and Stock financed out of Bank Finance 2) Residential Land & Building situated at Mouza/Village: Dharanabeda, PO.: Mantriguda under SRO: Nabarangpur, Odisha vide Khata No.: 257/32, Plot No.: 419/953, KISSAM: Gharabari having Area: Ac0.35 Dec., standing in the name of Jyoti Ranjan Kanso . Bounded by East: Road, West: Land of Balajinanda Dolie, North: Ashamati Garada, South: Gurubandhu Bhatarata

Place: Berhampur
Date: 04.06.2022

Sd/-Authorised Officer
Punjab National Bank

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank
(Together for the better)

CIRCLE OFFICE: CUTTACK, HRD SECTION, A/32, KHARVEL NAGAR, UNIT-III, BHUBANESWAR - 751001

RECRUITMENT OF PEONS IN SUBORDINATE CADRE

Applications are invited from eligible Indian Citizens who are domicile of the following Districts where vacancies have been identified, for recruitment of **Peons** in the Bank in **Cuttack Circle**.

1. District Wise Vacancies:

Sl No.	District	Total No. of vacancies	Reservation out of total vacancies
1.	CUTTACK	05	01 SC, 03 UR, 01 EWS
2.	JAGATSINGHPUR	03	01 SC, 01 OBC, 01 UR
3.	ANGUL	03	03 ST
TOTAL		11	11

Horizontal Reservation:- Out of the above, 02 vacancies for Ex-servicemen candidates

2. Pay Scale: Scale of Pay (Rs.14,500/- - Rs.28,145/-) + other allowances.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:-

a. Qualifications on 01.01.2022: Should have passed Xlth standard or its equivalent and not studied beyond 12th class, with basic reading/writing/knowledge of English and Odia. Copy of School leaving certificate/college leaving certificate along with copy of last education certificate is required as a proof. The candidates having higher qualification/s (graduates are not eligible).

b. Age as on 01.01.2022: Minimum 18 Years and Maximum 24 Years with applicable relaxations as per govt. guidelines. OBC/SC/ST candidates applying in general category are not eligible for age relaxation.

RELAXATION OF UPPER AGE LIMIT: SC/ST CANDIDATES - 5 YEARS; OBC - 3 YEARS; Ex-servicemen candidates by 03 years in addition to the length of military service and for children/family members of those who died in the 1984 riots by 3 years. The maximum age limit of all relaxations combined not to exceed 45 years unless it is so provided in Govt. Directives. Candidates seeking age relaxation will be required to submit copies of necessary Caste Certificate along with the application.

c. Domicile: The eligible candidates should be the domicile of that District for which vacancies have been notified/published. **The eligible candidates to furnish proof of permanent residence certificate or registration with District Employment Exchange.**

4. Documents to be Enclosed - The Self-Attested Xerox copies of following documents should be attached along with the application form.

- Certificate in support of DOB.
- Qualification Certificate/ School Leaving Certificate(X and XII Std.).
- Caste Certificate and latest OBC Certificate with non-creamy layer clause for OBC candidates.
- Address Proof & ID Proof and any other relevant documents.
- Residence Certificate 6. Aadhar Card 7. PAN Card, 8. Passport Size Photo (1 Copy) duly affixed on the top right corner of the application
- Employment Exchange registration card (if registered)
- Copy of Income and Asset Certificate if applying under EWS (Economically Weaker section) issued by the competent authority.
- Copy of discharge book (All pages), if applying under ex-servicemen category.
- Copy of disability certificate, if applicable, issued by the competent authority.
- Copy of any other certificates, if any.

The Application is to be submitted along with self-attested photocopies of above mentioned supporting documents and be sent through **Registered Post/ Speed Post only to The Chief Manager, HRD Department, Punjab National Bank, Circle Office, Cuttack, A/32, Kharvel Nagar, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751001 in a closed enveloped super scribing in bold letter as: Application for the Post of PEON for District :**

LAST DATE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS 22.06.2022 (5.00 PM)

Please Note: Applications received after 22.06.2022 (5 PM)/incomplete applications or without required documents/applications other than domicile of district for which vacancies have been notified will not be considered. No communication will be sent to those candidates whose applications are not being considered. The decision of the Bank regarding selection shall be final and binding and no further correspondence would be entertained. Further, the Bank reserves the right to cancel/postpone/increase/decrease of number of vacancies without assigning any reason whatsoever.

N.B.: No interview will be conducted. The selection of Peons will be made on the basis of percentage of marks obtained by the candidates in 10th standard and 12th standard. The decision of the Bank as regards selection shall be final.

Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 04.06.2022

CHIEF MANAGER

Application for the post of PEON (TYPED IN A4 SIZE PAPER)

- Name:-
- Father/Husband's Name:-
- Permanent Address and Dist:-
- Present Address:
- Date of Birth:-
- Max. Qualification as on ...
- Name of School last attended
- Category(SC/ST/OBC/UR/EWS)
- Whether Ex-Servicemen- Yes/ No
- Whether PWD (Auth)- Yes/ No
- Mob No.: 12. Employment Exchange No (if any)
- PAN No.: 14. Adhar Card No.: 15. Applied for the District:

I hereby declare that the above furnished information is true to the best of my knowledge and If the above information found false in future, my candidature may be cancelled at any time without any information.

PLACE:----- **SIGNATURE:-----**
DATE:----- **NAME:-----**

GANGS OF PUNJAB

Militants, drug dealers, gangs work in tandem

It is suspected that the assassination of Sidhu Moosewala was carried out by an alliance of gangsters and terrorists

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, June 4: As Mirzapur meets Mansa, the Gangs of Punjab have now hit national and international headlines, probably the biggest blowback of high profile gangland killings in a while similar to the erstwhile Bombay underworld attacks many years ago. As per media reports, now the terrorists' angle is coming into the stunning hit job on Punjabi singing superstar Sidhu Moosewala's murder. Sidhu Moosewala was said to have been shot dead by gangsters May 29 in Jawaharke village in a gruesome daylight assassination. Canada-based gangster Goldy Brar from the Lawrence Bishnoi gang claimed responsibility for the murder.

According to reports, it is also being revealed that the murder was carried out by Lawrence Bishnoi along with Harinder Singh Rinda, a Khalistani terrorist of Babbar Khalsa. It is suspected that the assassination of Sidhu Moosewala was carried out by an alliance of gangsters and terrorists, True Scoop reported. The SIT set up by Punjab DGP VK Bhavra has also been asked to look into this aspect of the alliance of terrorists and gangsters. According to sources, the Babbar Khalsa militants may have helped the gangsters in providing the weapons used to carry out the anti-social activities. Babbar Khalsa is already trying to terrorise Punjab for a long time. The recent incidents in the state, terror activities, and



the smuggling of arms are being done because they want to terrorise the people of Punjab. Terrorists, smugglers, and gangsters are working together to create an atmosphere of terror, the report said.

Harinder Singh Rinda is considered to be a key man of Babbar Khalsa and a new face of terrorism has emerged shortly. He was also named in the recent attack on the Mohali Intelligence Headquarters. Rinda was a gangster who later turned into a terrorist. His name has been associated with many terrorists and gangsters in the past. When it comes to the alliance of these gangsters and terrorists, it first came to knowledge in November 2016 when the terrorists and gangsters escaped from Nabha Jail.

When it comes to weapons, the gangsters nowadays have the latest technology weapons that are not easily available. It is noted that these weapons are being given to these gangsters only by terrorists. The gangster had also used the latest technology Russian weapon AN-94 in the murder of Sidhu

Moosewala. It has revealed that terrorists and gangsters had been doing surveillance together for several months of Moosewala, the report said.

According to Central agencies, arms shipments have reached Punjab to such an extent that it is not easy for the police to deal with them. Terrorists and gangsters are currently using AN-94, Assault Rifle, C-30 Pistol, Beretta Pistol, GLOCK 17, and Rocket Propelled Grenade weapons. The Punjab Police also has some modern weapons but not enough to make them available to every police officer. In addition to AK-47, 303, ALR, and LMG, the Punjab Police has American Made Roger 38 bore. However, the force has 1.25 lakh weapons on 82,000 counts which has not changed much. For the last few months, gang wars are increasing in Punjab. Their numbers surged and there was a spurt in extortion and loot, striking fear in the hearts of residents. After the killing of Kabaddi player Sandeep Nangal Ambiya Punjabi, singer Mankirat Aulakh received death threats.

Punjab CM reviews law and order

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chandigarh, June 4: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann Saturday reviewed the law-and-order situation in the state ahead of the Operation Blue Star anniversary on June 6 and said the police have been put on high alert for maintaining peace.

Operation Blue Star was carried out by the Indian Army in June 1984 to flush out militants hiding in the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar.

Chairing a meeting with senior officers of the police and civil administration, Mann asked them to ensure elaborate security arrangements before June 6 across the state.

The chief minister said no one should be allowed to disturb the hard-earned peace of state at any cost. Asserting that his government is committed to making Punjab a peaceful and frontrunner state in the country, he said anybody trying to disrupt peace will be dealt with sternly.

Some forces inimical to the progress and prosperity of the state are making constant attempts to derail the peace in the state. But the AAP government will not allow any such nefarious move to succeed, Mann said.

OPERATION BLUE STAR ANNIV



Sikh priests show the Sikh holy book that is said to have been hit by a bullet during Operation Blue Star of 1984, in Amritsar, Saturday. Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee President Harjinder Singh Dhani is also seen.

The Punjab Police has been put on high alert and central paramilitary forces have been deployed to assist them in maintaining peace

in the state, the chief minister said. Exhorting the Punjabis to uphold the ethos of peace, communal harmony and brotherhood in the state,

Mann urged them "to teach anti-Punjab forces a lesson by foiling all their conspiracies aimed at pushing Punjab back to the black days".

90% of Raj population has health cover: Gehlot

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, June 4: Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot Saturday expressed happiness over a news report which stated that almost 90 per cent of the state's population has health insurance.

"It is a matter of great happiness that almost 90% of the population of Rajasthan has health insurance. On an average, 4 out of every 10 people in the country have health insurance, but in Rajasthan, 9 out of every 10 people have health insurance. This is the result of the success of 'Chiranjeevi Yojana,'" he tweeted in Hindi citing the report.



Gehlot said the facility of health insurance of Rs 10 lakh is available for all citizens of Rajasthan under Chiranjeevi Yojana.

Families associated with Chiranjeevi Yojana and Rajasthan Government Health Service (RGHS) are now free from the

worry of expensive treatment. The government is trying to provide free treatment to every citizen of the state, he added.

Top Cong leaders join BJP in Punjab



INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chandigarh, June 4: In a setback to the Opposition Congress in Punjab, four former ministers and an ex-MLA switched loyalties and joined the BJP in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

Former ministers Gurpreet Singh Kangar, Balbir Singh Sidhu, Raj Kumar Verka and Sunder Sham Arora and ex-MLA Kewal Singh Dhillon were inducted into the BJP at a function here in the presence of BJP leader and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

While Verka was the Dalit face of the Congress, Arora was the working president of the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee. Sidhu and Kangar are Jat-Sikh leaders.

Kewal Dhillon, a former Congress MLA from Barnala, also joined

the BJP. Former MLA Sarup Chand Singla, who quit the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) in March, also joined the saffron party.

Except for Dhillon, all the Congress leaders who joined the BJP had lost the February 20 elections.

Earlier, former Punjab chief Sunil Jakhar, a prominent state's Hindu face, joined the saffron party.

He shared a video of the rebel Congress sitting with him in Panchkula before their joining to the BJP.

Responding to mass exodus of leaders, state Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring said the switchover was a "blessing in disguise."

He said the BJP had taken "trash" into its fold and would realise in the next elections what gift Shah was taking with him.

RAJYA SABHA ELECTIONS 4 BSP TURNCOATS SPELL TROUBLE FOR RAJ CONG

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Udaipur, June 4: As the Rajya Sabha (RS) polls near, the resort politics has yet again started and pictures of Congress MLAs living a lavish life in Udaipur-based five star hotel are going viral.

This is the same hotel which hosted Congress' Chintan Shivir, however, Congress concerns seem to be escalating as six Congress MLAs are yet to join the political fencing and have missed their Friday deadline.

It needs to be mentioned here that the BJP has supported Subhas Chandra as its second candidate for the RS seat which has heightened the worries of the Congress and thus it has taken its MLAs for political fencing to Udaipur.

The trouble makers in Gehlot's nest are ex-BSP MLAs who were seen enjoying safari in Sariska while the Congress MLAs were going for camping and their pictures were going viral. In fact, they are openly speaking about their annoyance with the Congress government.

Friday Rajendra Gudha, Rajasthan Minister of State for Sainik Kalyan attacked Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, saying that

the later talks a lot but it will be better for him if he sits down and get "anxious" instead.

He alleged that the Congress did not fulfill the promise made to them. Expressing his displeasure, he said, "It is a fact that the respect that should have been given to us was not given. I don't know what was their compulsion. Gehlot sahib speaks a lot in the media. Ajay Maken promised us but he did not fulfill it."

In his statement to media, he said, "Gehlot saheb bolte bahut hain, bolte toh hain he, ke ye kiya, media mein bolte hain. Kabhi baith ke chinta karte toh zyada theek hota (Gehlot sahib talks a lot, he does talk a lot, that he has done this, he says so in the media. But it would have been better had he sat down and get anxious)."

Another BSP turned Congress MLA Wajib Ali raised question on the stance of the bureaucracy and the lack of action against complaints sent to the Chief Minister. He has also taunted Gehlot.

Ali was neither made a minister nor given a political appointment despite coming from BSP to Congress. This is considered as the main reason for his "displeasure". Apart from Gudha and Ali,

two other BSP-turned-Congress leaders including Lakhani Singh (Karauli MLA) and Sandeep Kumar (Tijara, Alwar) are yet to reach Udaipur. Also missing are Girraj Singh (Bari, Dholpur) and Khiladi Lal Bairwa (Baseri, Dholpur).

Sources said that Chief Minister Gehlot has taken the charge to bring all MLAs to Udaipur.

Ali further has left the Chief Minister red-faced by denying his claim. Gehlot a day earlier had told the media that the Central government has issued notice to Congress MLA Ali and is threatening the MLAs during the Rajya Sabha elections. However, Ali refuted Gehlot's claim. He said that till now he has not received any notice from the Central agencies. Even he gets so (the notice), he is ready for investigation.

Meanwhile, former deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot has left for Delhi Friday evening. He reached the airport directly from Taj Aravali Resort in Udaipur.

Earlier, Pilot with other MLAs including Ramila Khadia (who too was angry with Gehlot), went to Udaipur in a plane. Former state Congress chief said that the party shall win on all three seats. He will return to Udaipur Monday.

1.25 crore farmers, domestic consumers get power subsidy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, June 4: Over 1.25 crore farmers and domestic electricity consumers have been benefitted by various schemes under which the Rajasthan government has provided subsidies of Rs 1,044 crore, chief minister Ashok Gehlot said Saturday.

Electricity bills of about 43 lakh consumers have now become zero. Power supply in the state has become smooth due to proactive and efficient management of the state government, according to an official statement.

Gehlot Saturday held a review meeting of the energy department at his residence, the statement said.

He said that the power supply remained normal despite scorching heat and the state has sufficient power to meet the demand during June and July.

The chief minister said that under the Mukhyamantri Kisan Mitra Yojana, a subsidy of Rs 291.54 crore has been given to over 12.66 lakh farmers on agricultural electricity connections.

To give relief in electricity bills to more than 1.15 crore domestic consumers of the state, a subsidy of Rs 752.58 crore has been given under the Chief Minister's Household Electricity Grant Scheme. Due to this, the electricity bills of about 36 lakh domestic consumers and 7 lakh farmers



have become zero.

Expressing concern over the problems being faced in coal supply, Gehlot said that the state government is making every effort to resolve it at the earliest in consultation with the Centre.

The chief minister said that at present irrigation of crops is going on in many parts of the state. Therefore, adequate supply of electricity should be ensured to the farmers.

Gehlot said that by 2024, 4.88 lakh farmers in the state would be given new agricultural electricity connections in a phased manner.

Governor returns third Bill presented by Gehlot govt

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Jaipur, June 4: Rajasthan Governor Kalraj Mishra has returned a Bill which was presented in the Assembly to change the qualification requirements for the Vice Chancellor's post at the Haridev Joshi Journalism and Mass Communication University here.

According to information received, the Raj Bhavan has sent back the Bill saying that it needs to be re-examined keeping in mind the provisions of different regulatory bodies and the minimum

experience required.

This was the third Bill of the government which was returned by the Raj Bhavan. The government had introduced the Journalism University Bill during the Assembly session. Under this Bill, a person having experience of 20 years in journalism in the public or private sector is allowed to become the Vice Chancellor of a journalism university. Till now, to become the Vice Chancellor in all universities, it was necessary to have a professor's experience of 10 years, but the government wanted to amend it.

'Khalistan' returns to spook Punjab again

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, June 4: Khalistan had become a thing of the past after India trudged on from the grisly period of peaking insurgency in Punjab, the assassination of a powerful Prime Minister, and the anti-Sikh riots that followed.

But certain occurrences in the past few months hint at the unearthing of a buried hatchet.

It was reported in February this year that pro-Khalistan groups like the proscribed Sikhs for Justice have been trying to rake up sentiments and revive the movement in Punjab.

Expressions of anti-India sentiments from Canada are no secret, but India's big security concern lately has been this outfit which has a strong virtual presence and is able to radicalise a good number people to rebel against the government of India.

An NIA team reached Canada last November, to probe the funding channels of pro-Khalistan groups which can contribute to unrest in India. Reportedly, over one lakh USD was collected in the name of farmers' protests, as cited by officials. May 5, Haryana Police apprehended four people at a toll plaza in Karnal carrying three



IEDs weighing 2.5 kg each.

May 8, flags of Khalistan were found affixed to the main entrance of the Himachal Pradesh Assembly

complex in Dharamsala. Himachal Pradesh Police booked SFJ leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun under UAPA and sealed the state's borders

and beefed up security in the state citing pro-Khalistan activities.

The outfit's announcement of a Khalistan referendum day on June 6 has also been banned.

May 9, a Pakistan-made rocket-propelled grenade explosion was reported from the Punjab Police Intelligence headquarters in Mohali, just a day after the state police seized an IED loaded with RDX from Punjab's Tarn Taran district.

These developments gravely point to efforts of Khalistani elements to sow seeds of distrusts in India, and this is a concern niggling at India's security.



India has a difficult relationship with China but it is perfectly capable of managing it
S JAISHANKAR | EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

AIR QUALITY TO DETERIORATE

Continuing its spell of 'bad air' days, the air quality in Delhi is likely to remain in 'poor' quality but will deteriorate further from Sunday to Monday



of the day quote

India considers healthcare a "Seva" and the country is ready to take a leading global role in providing healthcare services to the world through its trained and competent manpower
MANSUKH MANDAVIYA | UNION HEALTH MINISTER

The killing of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala is unfortunate but politics should not be done around it
ARVIND KEJRIWAL | DELHI CM

National interests were compromised under the previous Congress-led UPA government which was always wary of annoying China
RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD | BJP LEADER

Kanpur violence: Over 800 booked, 24 held

Properties of those involved in the violence will be seized or demolished, said Additional Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kanpur/Lucknow, June 4: The Uttar Pradesh Police has booked over 800 people, arrested 24 and detained 12 for questioning in connection with rioting and violence in Kanpur, officials said Saturday. Kanpur Police Commissioner V S Meena said the accused will be booked under the stringent National Security Act and the Gangster Act while the possible role of groups like Popular Front of India (PFI) and others is being looked into.

Properties of those involved in the violence will be seized or demolished, said Additional Director General (Law and Order) Prashant Kumar. "We have identified 36 people who were involved in the violence with help of CCTV footage and other video recordings of the incidents. A total of 24 people have been arrested so far of which 18 were held on Friday," the Kanpur police commissioner said.

Among those arrested is Hayat Zafar Hashmi, the chief of Maulana Mohammed Ali (MMA) Jauhar Fans Association which is a local social group.

Hashmi, who is suspected to be the mastermind behind the violence, was arrested along with

We have identified 36 people who were involved in the violence with help of CCTV footage and other video recordings of the incidents. A total of 24 people have been arrested so far of which 18 were held Friday
KANPUR POLICE COMMISSIONER

three others from the Hazratganj area of Lucknow.

"The arrested accused will be produced in court and we will seek 14 days of police remand to interrogate them about the conspiracy behind the incident," the officer said. "We are probing the incident from various angles and looking into the involvement of groups like PFI and others. Anyone who is found guilty will not be spared." Meena said the police are also looking into lapses on the part of the force in preventing the violence.

"The area is peaceful and we are maintaining a round-the-clock vigil," Additional Commissioner of Police (law and order) Anand Prakash Tiwari said, adding three FIRs for rioting and violence have been lodged at Beckonganj police station.

'Govt wants to get me killed'

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Meerut, June 4: Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) national spokesperson Rakesh Tikait has alleged that the government "wants to get him killed" and that the attacks on him in Karnataka and Delhi are proof enough.

He was addressing the farmers and union members at "Kisan Panchayat" in Meerut's Kanker Khara Friday.

Termining the recent black paint attack on him in Karnataka a "well-planned" conspiracy, he alleged that there was also a plot to kill him when he visited General Bipin Rawat's residence in Delhi to pay homage to him after he passed away in a helicopter accident last December.

It is a crucial time which cannot be wasted in infighting as the government is playing "sabotage" politics to disband the farmers' union, he stated. "The Tikait family has always raised the farmers' voice strongly and will continue doing it.



It is a crucial time which cannot be wasted in infighting as the government is playing "sabotage" politics to disband the farmers' union
RAKESH TIKAIT | BKU NATIONAL SPOKESPERSON

After Baba Mahendra Singh Tikait, Naresh Tikait has now dedicated himself to the cause. The Tikait family will not succumb to the pressure," he asserted.

Before the elections, he said that the Uttar Pradesh government had promised free electricity for irri-

gation but now farmers are being "harassed by installing meters on tube wells", which will not be tolerated. Tractors more than 10 years are being stopped. BKU is fighting against such harassments. Tikait added.

Appealing to farmers to get maximum number of people under the union's fold, the farmer leader said that only a strong and united fight against the government will fetch results. "The fight is on will continue until the government comes to the negotiating table. Till then, there will be no solution," he concluded.

SHORT TAKES

Rly officer arrested

New Delhi: The Central Bureau of Investigation on Friday arrested a senior Indian railway officer and two other persons in a bribery case of ₹80,000, an official said. The accused official was identified as Alok Mishra posted as Deputy Chief Material Manager, C&W, Lucknow Division, Northern Railway and two private persons -- Avanish Mishra and Manjit Singh. According to the probe agency, it was alleged that the official was demanding and accepting illegal gratification from contractors for awarding of contracts, clearing of bills etc.

Terrorist killed

Srinagar: Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist commander has been killed in an encounter that started on Friday between terrorists and security forces at Rishipora area in South Kashmir's Anantnag district, officials said Saturday. Police said in the initial exchange of fire, three army personnel and one civilian got injured. All the injured were immediately airlifted to 92 base hospital Srinagar for treatment and are stated to be stable. There have been a series of anti-terror operations in Kashmir over the last few months in which many terrorists and their commanders have been eliminated.

Girl raped in Delhi

New Delhi: A minor girl was raped in Sultanpuri area of Delhi, an official said on Saturday. According to the official, the victim girl came to Sultanpuri police station on May 17 following which her statement was recorded and her medical test was conducted. Based on her complaint, the police registered a case under section 376 and 506 of the Indian Penal Code and section 6 of the POCSO Act at the Sultanpuri police station. Meanwhile, the police have identified the accused as Yash, a civil defence volunteer. However, the accused is absconding after the incident.

Murder in Punjab

Chandigarh: A 28-year-old man was killed in full public view by five to six assailants in a market in Badhni Kalan in Punjab's Moga district, police said Saturday. The incident took place on Friday, they said. Police said Desh Raj was attacked with sharp-edged weapons, including swords. He bore cuts near his ear and neck, and also suffered injuries on one of his legs. He was declared brought dead at the civil hospital, they said. According to police, the victim had an altercation with the accused some days ago over some issue. In a video which surfaced on social media, Raj can be seen being brutally attacked by the assailants.

K'taka man kills mother

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Bangalore, June 4: Police in Karnataka Saturday arrested a 26-year-old man on charges of killing his mother for not buying him a mobile phone.

The arrested person has been identified as Deepak, a resident of Lucas Layout in Myslasandra.

According to the police, Deepak had allegedly strangled his mother Fathima Mary (50) to death on June 1. The accused's sister Joyce Mary had lodged a complaint regarding her mother's disappearance. Fathima Mary sold greens and eked out a living for the family. She had gone to the farm to collect greens for selling as usual on the fateful day Joyce Mary had asked her brother to get her mother back from the farm. Deepak had called his father and told him that his mother had collapsed on the roadside. However, Deepak had accepted that he had killed his mother in the interrogation.

Moosewala's parents meet Shah

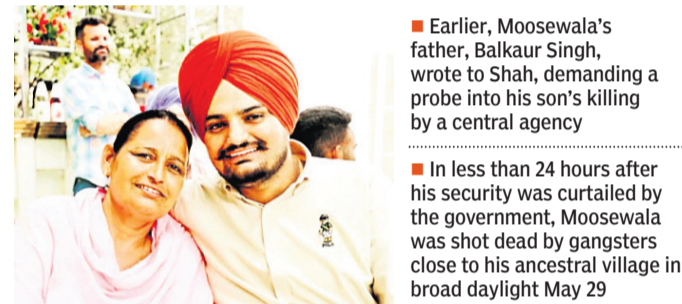
INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chandigarh, June 4: Parents of slain singer-turned-politician Shubhadeep Singh, alias Sidhu Moosewala, met Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Chandigarh on Saturday and demanded a CBI probe into their son's murder.

Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit, Union Minister Gajendra Shekhawat, who had gone to the residence of Moosewala to express condolences to his parents, and Chandigarh MP Kirron Kher were present at the meeting that lasted for 15 to 20 minutes.

The meeting was held at the Chandigarh airport.

A day earlier, Moosewala's father, Balkaur Singh, wrote to Shah, demanding a probe into his son's killing by a central agency Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Friday pledged to put the killers be-



hind bars at the earliest.

"Police have got vital clues regarding the murder of Sidhu Moosewala and the day is not far when we will nab the perpetrators of this heinous crime," he assured the aggrieved family during his visit to their native home in Mansa district.

The Chief Minister said Moosewala was a multi-talented artist who was blessed with mes-

merising voice and creativity. He said his untimely and tragic death has given a major blow to the music industry in general and millions of his fans in particular.

In less than 24 hours after his security was curtailed by the government, Moosewala was shot dead by gangsters close to his ancestral village in broad daylight on May 29



A man takes a selfie with a monkey eating an ice cream in New Delhi

PICTURE PERFECT

PTI PHOTO

12 killed, 21 injured in boiler explosion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hapur (UP), June 4: At least 12 workers died and 21 were injured when a boiler exploded at a factory in western Uttar Pradesh's Hapur district Saturday afternoon, officials said.

There were around 30 people in the affected area at the factory in the UPSIDC industrial area in Dholana, around 80 km from the national capital, when the incident occurred, they said.

The impact of the explosion was so intense that the roofs of some of the factories located in the vicinity were damaged.

It took three hours for fire tenders to douse the blaze. Superintendent of Police of Hapur Deepak Bhuker said 12 people had died and 21 were injured and undergoing treatment.

"The factory was given the licence to manufacture electronic

items. And now, it is a matter of probe what exactly was going on here. This is a sad incident. Forensic teams have reached here and are collecting samples," District Magistrate of Hapur Medha Roopam said.

"Our efforts are to ensure that the injured persons get the best medical treatment. Some of them have been referred to Safdarjung Hospital," she added.

Other factories in the area will be inspected, the district magistrate said, adding that action would also be taken against officials concerned if it was found in the probe that the incident took place due to their laxity. The factory is located adjacent to a CNG pump. Rescue and relief measures were taken up at the site, according to officials.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed grief over the loss of lives.

FROM AK-47 TO AN-94

Gangs across India upgrade their deadly arsenal

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

New Delhi, June 4: The murder of acclaimed Punjabi singer Shubhdeep Singh Sidhu, popularly known as Sidhu Moosewala, has shocked probe agencies as the weapon used was an AN-94 Russian Assault rifle. This is the first time that the AN-94 has been used in a gang war as criminals would earlier carry out killings and encounters with AK-47s.

Sources said that the sophisticated assault rifles were being smuggled through Nepal, but the neighbouring nation had no clue about the AN-94 deliveries to India. The AN-94 is a Russian-made assault rifle, whose initials stand for 'Avtomat Nikonova' 1994 model.

The name Nikonova is homage to its chief designer, Gennadiy Nikonov, who had previously worked on the Nikonov machine gun.

Intelligence agencies and police are of the view that such sophisticated weapons are also being supplied to other state-based gangsters. They also doubt the involvement of an international racket. "Through the sea route in Mumbai, AK-47s were supplied many times, through Nepal border it were smuggled into other part of India. Even the security staff of Moosewala had the AK-47. But now we have to focus on the AN-94, its buyers and sellers in the underworld," the sources said, adding that such sophisticated



weapons can be procured only after making their payments via hawala channel. The AK-47 culture started with Mumbai's notorious D-Company led by underworld don Dawood

Ibrahim in 1988. The Mumbai underworld had the AK-47 which they used in extortion, land grabbing and other criminal activities. In 1991, a shootout took place between

the police and criminals of the Maya Dolas gang at the Lokhandwala Complex in which the latter were armed with the AK-47.

Several years later, the AK-47 culture reached Uttar Pradesh. Shri Prakash Shukla, an Indian gangster and contract killer active during the 1990s, used the AK-47. Shukla had threatened to kill BJP leader Kalyan Singh. Shukla, apart from land grabbing and extortion, murder, used to get railway contracts to earn money.

The Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force, which was first formed in 1998 to kill Shukla, ultimately gunned him down on September 22 of that year. In 1997, BJP leader Brahm Dutt Dwivedi was killed by gangster Sanjeev Maheshwari

using an AK-47.

On November 29, 2005, BJP MLA from Ghazipur Krishnanand Rai was killed by Munna Bajrangji, who also used an AK-47. In 2016, BJP leader Brijpal Tewatia was shot dead by car borne assailants using an AK-47. In Western Uttar Pradesh, a number of gangsters are using AK-47. The gangs who used to have this sophisticated weapons are Sundar Bhati and Randeep Bhati gang of Noida; Anil Dujana Gang; Vicky Tyagi of Muzaffarnagar; Sunil Rathi of Baghpat-Uttrakhand; and the Narendar Fauji Gang. In Delhi, an AK-47 was recovered from former MLA Rambir Shokeen who was allegedly supporting his nephew Neeraj Bawana, a dreaded gangster.

international



Of course, we are now seeing attempts to shift the responsibility for what is happening on the world food market, the emerging problems in this market, onto Russia. I must say that this is an attempt, as our people say, to shift these problems from a sick to a healthy head
VLADIMIR PUTIN | PRESIDENT, RUSSIA

WORLD'S OLDEST MAN TO SAIL SOLO ACROSS PACIFIC

Kenichi Horie, an 83-year-old Japanese adventurer, returned home after successfully completing his solo voyage across the Pacific, becoming the oldest person to do so.



of the day quote

Look, we're getting way ahead of ourselves here. What I want to do is see to it that we diminish the likelihood that there's a continuation of this, some of the senseless wars between Israel and the Arab nations, and that's what I'm focused on
JOE BIDEN | PRESIDENT, US

We must not humiliate Russia so that the day when the fighting stops we can build an exit ramp through diplomatic means. I am convinced that it is France's role to be a mediating power
EMMANUEL MACRON | PRESIDENT, FRANCE

Today, the enemies' most important hope for striking a blow at the country is based on popular protests. But the enemies' calculation is as wrong as many earlier ones
AYATOLLAH ALI KHAMENI | IRANIAN SUPREME LEADER

BIDEN PRIDE TWEET DRAWS FLAK IN KUWAIT

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, June 4: A US Embassy tweet of a rainbow-flag-festooned message by President Joe Biden in support of Pride Month has drawn a face-to-face diplomatic protest from Kuwait and sparked a rare Twitter fight between the two close allies. On Friday, US diplomats were doubling down with rainbow flag postings and statements in support of LGBTQ rights on social media. The messages appeared in response to the Kuwaiti govern-

ment's official objection the day before to what Kuwait's state news agency called the "pro-gay rights post" of the US Embassy there. "The United States stands with the LGBTQI+ community everywhere around the world," State Department spokesman Ned Price said in a pointed retweet Friday of the embassy's original offending Pride Month message. The dispute began after the US Embassy in Kuwait posted a tweet Thursday that called Biden a champion of LGBTQ rights. "All human beings should be treated

RAINBOW FLAP



with respect and dignity and should be able to live without fear no matter who they are or whom they love, it said. Late that night, according to the

account on Kuwait's state news agency, Kuwait's Foreign Ministry summoned acting embassy charge d'affaires James Holtsnider to "express its rejection of the post." A Foreign Ministry official, Nawaf al Ahmad, handed Holtsnider a written objection "as well as stressing necessity for the embassy to respect the country's laws and regulations," according to the Kuwaiti news agency. Kuwait law punishes consensual same-sex relations between men by up to seven years in prison, according to Human Rights Watch.

A court ruling this year threw out another law that made "imitating the opposite sex" a crime punishable by prison. Some conservative Kuwaitis spoke out in support of their government's action. The US Embassy was "attempting to impose modes of abnormal behavior rejected by the Muslim Kuwaiti society," tweeted one, Hamad al Matar. Asked for comment, the State Department said in a statement Friday, "The United States proudly advances efforts around the globe to protect all individuals."

Pak confirms peace talks with TTP



AGENCIES

Islamabad, June 4: Pakistan has welcomed the ceasefire announced by the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), as the federal government for the first time publicly acknowledged it was negotiating a peace deal with the outlawed outfit, the media reported. The confirmation from the government came a day after the TTP extended the ceasefire for an indefinite period after the Pakistani tribal jirga visited Kabul and held talks with the TTP leadership, Express Tribune reported. Both sides have been holding talks for the last several weeks but the Pakistani side until now remained tight-lipped.

Questions were asked about whether the current government was on board with talks with the TTP as military officials held a series of meetings with the militant outfit in recent days in the Afghan capital. Pakistan Federal Information Minister Mairiyum Aurangzeb in a statement said the talks with the TTP were taking place at the government level. The minister also confirmed that the Afghan Taliban government was acting as a mediator between the two sides. She said civil and military representatives were part of the Pakistani side holding talks with the TTP.

She said the government welcomed the ceasefire announced by the TTP. The truce was to expire May 30 but the TTP extended it now for an indefinite period as both sides were trying to reach a peace deal.

Biden wishes Musk 'luck' on moon trip after job cut plans

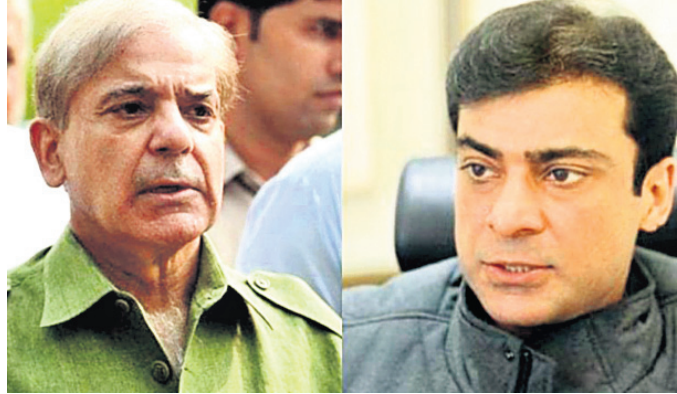
REUTERS

Washington, June 4: US President Joe Biden compared Tesla unfavorably to Ford Friday, while sarcastically wishing Chief Executive Elon Musk lots of luck on his trip to the moon after the billionaire expressed reservations about the economy. Musk wrote in an email to executives that he has a super bad feeling about the US economy and needed to cut about 10% of jobs at the electric carmaker, Reuters reported earlier Friday.

Asked by Reuters about Musk's comments, Biden suggested maybe the issue was with Tesla. While Elon Musk is talking about that, Ford is increasing their investment overwhelmingly, Biden said. Ford is increasing investment and building new electric vehicles. Six thousand new employees, union employees I might add, in the Midwest. So, you know, lots of luck on his trip to the moon, he added. Musk replied on Twitter "Thanks Mr President!" with a link referencing NASA's April 2021 award of a \$2.9 billion contract to Musk's SpaceX to build a spacecraft to bring astronauts to the moon.

MONEY-LAUNDERING CASE

FIA seeks arrests of Shehbaz & son; court extends bail



AGENCIES

Lahore, June 4: Pakistan's Federal Investigation Agency, which is probing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his son and Punjab Chief Minister Hamza Shehbaz in a multi-billion rupees money laundering case, Saturday requested the court to allow their arrest for further investigation. The court, however, extended their pre-arrest bail until June 11.

He further said that this case has been politically motivated which was instituted by the previous government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf with only one aim to send them behind bars. In the hearing last week, Shehbaz had told the court what to talk about money laundering allegations against me, I never received salary and other perks when I was chief minister of Punjab for 10 years or so. God has made me the prime minister of this country. This case of money laundering has been instituted against me and my sons on political grounds as money laundering charges against us have no basis and evidence.

The FIA also filed an interim investigation report against the premier and other suspects in the Rs 14 billion (USD 75 million) money laundering case against them. Shehbaz and Hamza appeared before the Special Court amidst high security. An FIA prosecutor submitted an interim investigation report in the court and sought arrest of prime suspects - Prime Minister Shehbaz and Punjab Chief Minister Hamza - arguing that their custody is needed for further probe in the case as they have not joined the investigation and cooperated with investigators, a court official told PTI. The prime minister's counsel Advocate Amjad Pervez strongly objected to the FIA's plea and termed it a false assertion of the agency. He said that the FIA had already investigated the father and the son when they were in jail in Lahore. He said that his clients had not only joined the investigation when they were in jail but also appeared before the investigators at the FIA office. The case is pending for the last one-and-a-half-year and investigation against Shehbaz and Hamza by the FIA has been completed, Pervez argued.

Presiding judge Ijaz Awan reissued the arrest warrant for the premier's other son Suleman Shehbaz in the case and adjourned the hearing till June 11. Suleman has been absconding in the UK since 2019. Ousted prime minister Imran Khan had questioned the presence of Suleman in the delegation of Shehbaz that called on the Turkish president this week in Ankara. Shehbaz and his sons - Hamza and Suleman - were booked by the FIA in November 2020 under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act and Anti Money Laundering Act. The FIA investigation has said that it has detected 28 benami accounts, allegedly of the Shehbaz family, through which an amount of 14 billion Pakistani Rupees was laundered from 2008 to 2018. The FIA examined the money trail of 17,000 credit transactions. The amount was kept in "hidden accounts" and given to Shehbaz in his personal capacity, according to the charges.

Police patrol Hong Kong park to enforce vigil ban

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hong Kong, June 4: Heavy police force patrolled Hong Kong's Victoria Park on Saturday after authorities for a third consecutive year banned public commemoration of the anniversary of the deadly Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989, with vigils overseas the only place marking the event. For decades, Hong Kong and nearby Macao were the only places in China allowed to commemorate the violent suppression by army troops of student protesters demanding greater democracy in Beijing's Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989. Hundreds, if not thousands, were killed. The ban is seen as part of a move to snuff out political dissent and a sign that Hong Kong is losing its freedoms as Beijing tightens its grip over the semi-autonomous Chinese city.

TIANANMEN MASSACRE ANNIV



Authorities have cited risks from the coronavirus for banning the public commemoration over the past three years. Critics say the pandemic is used as an excuse to infringe on the right to assemble. A government statement Friday said that parts of Victoria Park, which traditionally served as the venue for the candlelight vigil, will be closed as it may be used for "illegal activities."

The move was to "prevent any unauthorised assemblies" in the park and to reduce the possibility of COVID-19 spread. Earlier in the week, a police superintendent warned that any-

racy protests in 2019. Authorities have cited risks from the coronavirus for banning the public commemoration over the past three years. Critics say the pandemic is used as an excuse to infringe on the right to assemble. A government statement Friday said that parts of Victoria Park, which traditionally served as the venue for the candlelight vigil, will be closed as it may be used for "illegal activities."



2 future kings set to honour Elizabeth II

London: Two future monarchs will pay tribute to Queen Elizabeth II at a special concert in front of Buckingham Palace Saturday, the third day of the Platinum Jubilee extravaganza marking her 70 years on the throne. Prince Charles and Prince William, the queen's son and grandson, are to address a live audience of 22,000 and millions more watching on television. The event featuring Alicia Keys and Queen + Adam Lambert will take place in a temporary amphitheatre built around the Victoria Memorial outside the palace. David Beckham and tennis player Emma Raducanu will also attend, while Diana Ross will close the show with her first UK live performance in 15 years. The concert is also expected to feature a pre-recorded performance by Elton John. The 96-year-old monarch is expected to miss the evening outdoor event, which may also be hit with some rain. The queen has had problems moving around lately, which the palace describes as "episodic mobility issues," limiting her public appearances in recent months.

China plans to wrap up space station with latest mission

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing/Jiuquan, June 4: China will launch three astronauts on a spacecraft Sunday on a six-month mission to complete the construction of the country's space station currently orbiting the earth. China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) announced Saturday. Astronauts Chen Dong, Liu Yang and Cai Xuzhe will travel on the Shenzhou-14 spaceflight which will dock with the Tiangong space station, currently under construction. The Shenzhou-14 will be launched Sunday from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the northwestern province of Gansu, sending three astronauts to its space station. The mission will build the space station into a national space laboratory, said Lin Xiqiang, the deputy director of the CMSA.

The Shenzhou-14 crew will work with the ground team to complete the rendezvous, docking and transportation of the two lab modules with the core module, Lin said at a press conference. They will enter the two lab modules for the first time and help make the environment suitable for their stay, he said, adding that they will unlock and install a dozen of scientific experiment cabinets in the two modules, Lin told the media in Jiuquan. This is the 2nd set of six astronauts China will be sending to build its space station. Earlier, a three-member Chinese astronaut crew, which included a woman, returned to the earth in April after spending a record six months building vital parts of the space station which was expected to be ready by this year. They had completed the verifi-



cation of key technologies of its space station, according to the CMSA. Once ready, China will be the only country to own a space station. The International Space Station (ISS) of Russia is a collaborative project of several countries. China Space Station, (CSS) is also expected to be a competitor to

the ISS built by Russia. Observers say CSS may become the sole space station to remain in orbit once the ISS retires in the coming years. In February, China unveiled an ambitious plan for its burgeoning space industry which included

over 50 space launches and six manned space flights to complete the building of its space station. The China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) said China will carry out more than 50 space launches in 2022, sending over 140 spacecraft into space. Chen who will be the commander of the new mission participated in the Shenzhou-11 crewed spaceflight mission, Liu was part of the Shenzhou-9 mission and Cai is a newcomer to space, Lin Xiqiang, deputy director of the CMSA, said at the press conference at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre.

Observers say CSS may become the sole space station to remain in orbit once the ISS retires in the coming years

The trio will stay in orbit for six months, Lin said. The Shenzhou-14 mission will complete the construction of the Tiangong space station, with a basic three-module structure consisting of the core module Tianhe and the lab modules Wentian and Mengtian. During their stay in orbit, the Shenzhou-14 crew will witness the two lab modules, Tianzhou-5 cargo craft and Shenzhou-15 crewed spaceship dock with the core module Tianhe. They will rotate with the Shenzhou-15 crew in orbit, and return to the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region in December, Lin said. China began constructing its three-module space station in April 2021 with the launch of Tianhe - the first and biggest of the station's three modules.



While the expected electricity generation by 2040 would be approximately 3000 billion units, India's energy demand was set to double by 2040. To cater to this demand, thermal coal demand by 2040 would increase to approximately 1500 million tonnes
PRALHAD JOSHI | COAL MINISTER

VIETJET LAUNCHES DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM MUMBAI

South-east carrier Vietjet Saturday announced the launch of its direct flight services to the financial capital from Hanoi, the capital city of Vietnam, and Ho Chi Minh City



of the day quote

On a positive note, we are in the staples business and hence relatively better positioned to ride out these speed bumps. We also have a plethora of initiatives to drive growth and create efficiencies that can enable cost optimizations

SUNIL D'SOUZA | MD & CEO, TCPL

The Gol has come up with many initiatives for increasing spending on infrastructure projects and other investments to revive the economy. The banking industry of course would be benefited due to increase in the demand for bank credit and Bank of Baroda would be a key beneficiary of these developments

HASMUKH ADHIA | CHAIRMAN, BOB

Primary copper production is critical for India to be an export hub...We need to focus on value-added products and these products can be made only if we have a PLI scheme for the copper sector

VK SARASWAT | NITI AAYOG MEMBER

SHORT TAKES

India to contest for ITU Council

New Delhi: India will contest for re-election to International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council, Ministry of Communications said in a statement Saturday. New Delhi has also underlined its firm commitment to the UN telecom body's goals and vision for a connected society, and enabling ICTs to achieve Sustainable Development Goals-2030, the statement quoted Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan as saying.

NY: Bill passed to limit cryptomining

Albany (US): New York lawmakers have passed a milestone environmental measure designed to tap the brakes on the spread of cryptocurrency mining operations that burn fossil fuels. Both supporters and opponents say that the closely watched bill, approved early Friday by the state Senate, is the first of its kind in the US. If it becomes law, it would establish a two-year moratorium on new and renewed air permits for fossil fuel power plants used for energy-intensive "proof-of-work" cryptocurrency mining.

TVS Motor mulls robust EV plans

New Delhi: TVS Motor Company aims to build a "sustained dominant play" in the electric vehicle segment by leveraging various government initiatives like production-linked incentive scheme, among others. As per its annual report for 2021-22, the company has robust plans to scale up its play in the electric segment. "The PLI (Production-Linked Incentive) and FAME II (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles) initiatives of the government will be fully leveraged by the company and strategically build a sustained dominant play in this segment," it said.

L&T Infotech CEO & MD gives up office

New Delhi: Larsen and Toubro Infotech Saturday said its Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director Sanjay Jalona has relinquished office. Jalona had resigned May 6 after announcing the merger of Mindtree with Larsen and Toubro Infotech (LTI), citing personal reasons.

BATTERY FIRES

8 EV makers adopt US govt recommendation

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Washington, June 4: Eight electric vehicle manufacturers have adopted a recommendation by the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on improving their emergency response guidelines and incorporating vehicle-specific information for fighting high-voltage lithium-ion battery fires.

Honda, Hyundai, Mitsubishi, Porsche, Proterra, Van Hool, Volkswagen and Volvo have successfully completed the actions asked for in the NTSB recommendation, the agency said in a statement.

NTSB issued the recommendation in January 2021 to 22 electronic car manufacturers.

Twelve manufacturers (BMW, BYD, Stellantis, formerly Fiat Chrysler Automobiles US, Ford, General Motors, Gillig, Kia, Mercedes-Benz, Nissan, Subaru, Tesla and Toyota) are making progress on the steps identified in the recommendation.

Two manufacturers, Nova Bus Corporation and Karma Automotive, have not yet responded.

"First responders deserve to have the information they need to stay safe when providing post-



crash care -- and that includes knowing how to suppress a high-voltage lithium-ion battery fire," said Chair Jennifer Homendy.

"Our recommendation is a simple but powerful action that can save the lives of first responders and crash victims alike. I congratulate the eight electric vehicle manufacturers that have stepped up and call on the remaining 14 companies to implement our recommendation immediately," Jennifer added.

The recommendation was issued over two main safety issues.

The first issue is the inadequacy of vehicle manufacturers' emergency response guides and the second is gaps in safety standards and

research related to high-voltage lithium-ion batteries involved in high-speed, high-severity crashes.

Fires in electric vehicles powered by high-voltage lithium-ion batteries pose the risk of electric shock to emergency responders from exposure to the high-voltage components of a damaged lithium-ion battery.

"A further risk is that damaged cells in the battery can experience thermal runaway -- uncontrolled increases in temperature and pressure -- which can lead to battery reignition," said the US agency.

The risks of electric shock and battery reignition/fire arise from the "stranded" energy that remains in a damaged battery.

Amazon retail CEO resigns after 23 yrs

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

San Francisco, June 4: Amazon has announced that Dave Clark, its CEO of worldwide consumer business, is leaving the company after 23 years.

Clark played a key role in developing Amazon's expansive and speedy supply chain.

After 23 years with Amazon, Dave Clark has decided to leave the company to pursue other opportunities. His last day in the office will be July 1, Amazon CEO Andy Jassy said in a statement late Friday.

The company also declared the move in a filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Clark will be resigning to pursue other opportunities.

Clark joined Amazon's Operations Pathways Programme in May 1999 -- just a day after graduating from his MBA programme -- and helped the company build and scale the consumer operations.



He's led teams who've designed several generations of FCs, built out Amazon's transportation network from scratch, and has developed significant talent throughout the organisation, said Jassy.

Clark said that 23 years ago, he took what felt like a big personal bet when he joined Amazon out of grad school. We were a small company with only six fulfillment centres that year, but growing fast. I was drawn to the opportunity at Amazon because of the people I met when I came to Seattle, he said.

We have a great leadership team across the Consumer business that is ready to take on more as the company evolves past the customer experience challenges we took on during the COVID-19 pandemic, he added.

Ford India workers protest for better compensation

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Chennai, June 4: About 2,600 workers of Ford India Pvt Ltd's plant at Maraimalainagar continue their protest demanding better compensation as the company has decided to shut down its Maraimalainagar plant near here, said a union official.

The management has offered 85 days pay for every completed year of service. Also, a fixed sum of ₹42,500 for every completed year of service. Earlier they had offered 75 days of salary and the fixed sum at ₹20,000 for every completed year of service, a worker union official told IANS preferring anonymity.

However, the Ford India workers citing another car maker's compensation scheme are demanding about 135 days of salary for every completed year of service and also taking care of the income tax burden.

The official said the workers who were protesting inside the factory since Monday have come out and are protesting outside the factory gates.

The labour department official who had come to the plant had told us to negotiate with the management. It is between the workers and the management and the state government has no role in the issue, the labour department official who had come earlier had told us, the union official said.

This will be the final job for most of the workers as age is against us. Further the employment scenario is also not good, a senior worker told IANS.

According to him, the management is playing its electric vehicle (EV) cards close to its chest.

BIZ BUZZ



Care Hospital, Bhubaneswar, famous in eastern India for its speciality in treating cardiac problems, initiated its campaign for treating cardiac ailments in newborn babies in state. Clinical Director and HOD of Cardiology at the hospital Mahendra Prasad Tripathy, Paediatric Cardiothoracic Surgery Chief Tapan Kumar Dash, and Interventional Paediatric Cardiologist Prashant Prakashrao Patil graced the launching event.



World Environment Day was observed in Group Centre, CRPF, Bhubaneswar June 4 (Saturday). Sector Central Wives' Association Head Sharmisha Mohanty was the chief guest on the occasion and addressed the Officers/SOs and Jawans about the importance of the day and planted 56 coconut saplings in Group Centre, CRPF Campus. On this occasion, SK Mohanty, IG, Odisha Sector HQ; Md. Rafique Hossain, IG Range Bhubaneswar; Rajeev Rai, DIGP, GC Bhubaneswar; SR Behura, Commandant, GC Bhubaneswar and other senior officers of CRPF, Bhubaneswar were also present.

ITC boosts interventions towards a 'Greener Earth'

AGENCIES

New Delhi, June 4: On this World Environment Day, ITC reaffirmed its commitment towards a 'Greener Earth' through its bold Sustainability 2.0 agenda.

Building on its sustainability journey of over two decades, ITC, under the leadership of its Chairman Sanjiv Puri, has articulated an ambitious Vision to scale up its efforts in fighting climate change, whilst supporting large scale sustainable livelihoods.

Commenting on ITC's multidimensional sustainability initiatives, S Sivakumar, Group Head, Agri, IT and Sustainability, ITC Ltd, said: "ITC has, over the years, implemented innovative business models which synergise the building of economic, environmental, and social capital as a unified strategy. Today, our ambitious Sustainability 2.0 agenda aims to further strengthen ITC's efforts to

Cotton price rally may lift planting to record high



REUTERS

Mumbai/ Ahmedabad, June 4: Cotton planting in India, the world's biggest producer of the fibre, could jump as much as 15% in 2022 to an all-time high, as strong prices prompt farmers to switch away from other crops, an industry association said.

Higher output could help cool the rally in global and local cotton prices, which is hurting Asian apparel makers.

Area planted to cotton in India could rise as much as 15% from last year because the crop is providing far better returns than alternatives, said Atul Ganatra, president of the Cotton Association of India. Local prices have more than doubled over the past year, because heavy rainfall during harvesting slashed 2021's crop to the lowest level in a decade.

India cotton prices

A 15% rise in India's cotton crop area would lift it to around 13.8 million hectares in 2022 from 12 million hectares last year.

The association expects the largest expansions in cotton area to be in the western states of Gujarat and Maharashtra, which together account for nearly half of the country's production.

"Last year I grew cotton on 21 acres land, and groundnut on my remaining 10 acres. Since cotton prices are high, I will plant only cotton this year on all my land," said Jagdish Magan, a farmer from Morbi, Gujarat.

Most Indian farmers begin planting cotton at the onset of monsoon rains in June, although some with irrigated fields start as early as May.

India cotton area, production and exports

Oilseeds and pulses compete with the fibre in key cotton-producing states, such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, Telangana and Rajasthan.

Pulses have given farmers relatively poor returns over the past few years, and this could encourage growers to shift towards cotton, said a Mumbai-based dealer with a global trading firm.

"Ideally, with higher area, production should go up. But cotton is a rain-fed crop in many regions, so monsoon rainfall distribution will determine the crop size," he said.

The dealer also expected a rise of up to 15% in area planted to cotton. India is likely to receive average monsoon rainfall in 2022, while cotton-producing western states could get above-average rains, the weather department said this week.



wards decarbonisation, building green infrastructure, promoting climate-smart and regenerative agriculture, ensuring water security for all, restoring biodiversity through nature-based solutions, creating an effective circular economy, creating sustainable packaging solutions and enabling the transition to a net zero economy. We believe this will go a long way in combating the climate crisis and supporting meaningful livelihood opportunities."

ITC is today the only Company of comparable dimensions to be

water, carbon, and solid waste recycling positive for over a decade and a half.

In recognition of its superior Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) models, the Company has been rated 'A' at the Leadership Level for both Climate Change and Water Security by CDP, 'AA' by MSCI-ESG (the highest amongst peers) and was also included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Emerging Markets Index. As a part of its efforts to transition towards Net Zero, ITC has made significant investments in renewable energy. Currently, clean energy powers 24 factories, 14 hotels, and five office buildings across 14 states.

Last year, ITC set a target to meet 100 per cent of its grid electricity requirements from renewable sources by 2030. Currently, it meets around 42.100 per cent of all its electrical energy requirements through renewable means.

'CANARY IN THE COAL MINE'

Musk's warning signals a recession in auto industry: Report

REUTERS

Washington, June 4: Tesla CEO Elon Musk's super bad feeling about the economy could be the auto industry's canary in the coalmine moment, signaling a recession for an industry whose bosses have shown no signs of concern.

Musk said the electric carmaker needed to cut about 10% of its workforce in an email to executives seen by Reuters. He later told staff that white-collar ranks were bloated and he would keep hiring workers to make cars and batteries.

Musk's warning is the first loud

and public dissent in a united stance by the auto industry that underlying demand for cars and trucks remains strong despite two years of global pandemic. One executive this week called demand sky high.

"Tesla's not your average canary in the coal mine. It's more like a whale in the lithium mine," Morgan Stanley analyst Adam Jonas said in a research note, referring to the metal used in EV batteries.

If the world's largest EV company warns on jobs and the economy, investors should reconsider their forecasts on margins and top-line growth, he added. Tesla stock



fell 9%. The auto sector was hit two years ago by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, which forced the clo-

sure of factories. That shutdown subsequently played a role in the semiconductor chip shortage that further

hobbled vehicle production.

Now supply-chain snarls, exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, have dragged down sales. US new-car sales in May finished at a weak annualized rate of 12.68 million, according to Wards Intelligence. That's a far cry from the glory days of 17 million a year pre-Covid.

Those issues mostly affect supply, however, while inflation is a threat to demand.

Risk of recession is high, so what he is saying certainly isn't extreme, Jeff Schuster, president of global forecasting at LMC Automotive, said of Musk.

Ride-hailing companies Uber Technologies Inc and Lyft Inc said last month they would scale back hiring and curtail spending, while online used-car retailer Carvana (CVNA.N) said it would cut 12% of its workforce.

Other companies are watching closely.

We are not as pessimistic as Elon Musk, but are being cautious about our hiring and expenditures, said John Dunn, Americas CEO for Clean Energy Systems, a Plastic Omnium unit that makes fuel and emissions-reduction systems.

Industry officials worry about a possible recession.

DENMARK UPSET FRANCE

THE NETHERLANDS THRASH BELGIUM IN ANOTHER MATCH OF UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE



MEMORABLE NIGHT: Denmark players celebrate a goal against France, Friday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brussels, June 4: Denmark stunned titleholder France 2-1 in their opening Nations League match at the Stade de France, ending the World Champions' seven-match winning streak.

After Karim Benzema put the hosts in front, substitute Andreas Cornelius scored twice to earn Denmark their first win over France since the 2002 World Cup. Cornelius levelled with a fine volley then hit the winner in the 88th minute.

France were unbeaten in their past 20 matches. It will next travel to Croatia, which lost to Austria 3-0 at home in Group A1.

Meanwhile, Memphis Depay scored twice as the Netherlands produced its first win against bitter rival Belgium in 25 years by 4-1 in Brussels, in another group of the top-tier League A.

A week after the Champions League final was marred by crowd chaos, there were no reported incidents at the Stade de France this time.

France was under pressure in the opening 10 minutes but gradually found the right balance and created its first good chance in the 13th minute through Benzema, back at the Stade de France a week after he claimed the Champions League trophy for Real Madrid.



STUNNING DISPLAY: Memphis Depay reacts after scoring against Belgium during their Nations League match

The move signaled a good spell of dominance for France, with Benzema and Kylian Mbappé combining well to unsettle Denmark's defense. Denmark managed to keep the hosts at bay by closing down space.

Mbappé, who appeared to pick up an injury, was replaced by Christopher Nkunku after the

break. He had an immediate impact and in the 51st minute set up Benzema, who dribbled his way past defenders and shot low for his 37th international goal.

But Cornelius beat the offside trap and volleyed into the net in the 68th. Christian Eriksen came close in the closing stages but France keeper Hugo Lloris made a decisive

reflex save to deny his low strike. Cornelius then gave Denmark the win after connecting with a lofted ball. He resisted defender William Saliba's challenge and fired into the top corner.

In Brussels, Belgium started well but quickly faded as its preparations for the World Cup began with a worrying defensive display

in the absence of their first-choice goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois.

"Mostly we were really distracted," Leandro Trossard said. "We gave them way too much space. When we got the ball we immediately lost it. The Netherlands have shown that they are a very strong team that can hurt everyone."

The Oranje had 11 attempts on goal in the first half and broke the deadlock five minutes before the interval. After collecting a pass from Frenkie De Jong with his back to the goal, Steven Bergwijn quickly turned and unleashed a 25-meter strike into the net.

Romelu Lukaku endured a frustrating night, leaving the pitch after 27 minutes after getting a knock, having touched only a few balls.

Depay doubled the Netherlands' lead after a poor pass from Dedryck Boyata was intercepted in midfield. Steven Berghuis launched the counter with a deep pass for Depay, who beat Simon Mignolet with a powerful strike.

Denzel Dumfries made it 3-0 in the 61st, and Depay completed his brace soon after from Daley Blind. Michy Batshuayi scored a consolation goal in stoppage time.

The four group winners in League A will qualify for the final four in June next year. The group winners in the lower leagues will gain promotion.

ASIAN CUP QUALIFYING GAME

Match tickets sold out in 10 minutes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Kolkata, June 4: Tickets for India's upcoming Asian Cup qualifying round match against Cambodia at the Salt Lake Stadium June 8 were sold out within 10 minutes, forcing the AIFF to issue more.

Chhetri had Friday urged the state government authorities to allow more people than the mere 12,000 tickets allowed for the Asian Cup qualifiers final round matches.

While the All India Football Federation has made all the tickets "complimentary", the state government has "allowed just 12,000 tickets" in the 70,000-capacity Salt Lake Stadium to avoid any law and order problem.

"They (opposition teams) should feel it. If in a stadium of almost 90,000 people if only 10-15,000 what's the point of having a home advantage?" Chhetri had asked. "I hope they (state government) will allow it, otherwise it will be a chaos and they will barge in."

Back at the football-crazy Kolkata for their Asian Cup qualifiers, Chhetri, who will complete 17 years of International football June 12, said the fans can make a "massive difference" at the 70,000-capacity Salt Lake Stadium. "I mean I genuinely love you guys. With you guys behind us, it's a different level," the star Indian forward said in his message posted on the Indian Football Team's Twitter handle.

"Let the three teams that are going to play against us, play against us plus you, because that will be a massive difference. So, if you're free, please come. We will try to make it a good experience for you guys," he had added. "Last time, when we played here we played

against Bangladesh, there were 50,000+ of you in the stadium. I cannot tell you how happy we were."

Apologising for their result, Chhetri promised that the Blue Tigers would make up for the disappointment last time. "We couldn't get a result as good as the support you gave. Apologies, because we didn't do well. But please come again this time. We'll try our best to put in the best effort that we can," he concluded.

After Chhetri's reaction made headlines, there was a meeting between the state government and the AIFF this morning and it was "decided to open up the stadium as long as there's demand".

"Whoever quoted the number 12,000, spoke out of his hat, it's all rubbish. There was never any restriction from the West Bengal government. The whole stadium was open to the public," a reliable source, who attended the meeting, told this agency.

"But, the AIFF initially decided to issue 20,000 tickets to assess the interest. Each ticket costs Rs 5 and since it's complimentary, the AIFF will have to incur the loss. The AIFF will never deprive any fan to watch the match. We will keep issuing tickets till the last seat is available in the stadium. More the merrier," added the source.

During India's 2018 Intercontinental Cup campaign in Mumbai, Chhetri also had made a passionate appeal in the social media to come and support the national team at the stadium. India's second and third matches are slated against Afghanistan (June 11) and Hong Kong (June 14) and tickets for which would be available from June 8 and 11 respectively.



Sunil Chhetri goes through his drills during India's training session and his teammates watch him from behind

Anand in joint lead despite loss

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Stavanger (Norway), June 4: India legend Viswanathan Anand's winning run in the Classical event of the Norway Chess tournament came to an end after suffering a loss against American Wesley So in the fourth round here Saturday.

The 52-year-old former world champion now shares the lead with Magnus Carlsen on 8.5 points each. The regular Classical game be-

tween Anand and So ended in a draw in 28 moves. The American then beat the Indian GM in 46 moves via the Armageddon (sudden death) game.

The Indian ace had posted wins over France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave, Vasselin Topalov of Bulgaria and China's Hao Wang in the first three rounds.

Meanwhile, Carlsen defeated Dutchman Anish Giri in the Classical game to pick up three points and join Anand in the lead.

In another decisive game in round four, Azerbaijan's Shakhriyar Mamedyarov defeated Hao Wang, while Teimour Radjabov and the experienced Topalov won via the Armageddon against Vachier-Lagrave and Aryan Tari (Norway) respectively.

In the ongoing Norway Chess tournament, the players take part in an Armageddon (sudden death) in case of a draw in the classical game. So had won the Blitz event ahead of the Classical event.

Ruud sets up title date with Rafa

Norwegian becomes first man from his country to reach a Grand Slam singles final, beating Cilic in the second semifinal, which was interrupted by environmental activist



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris, June 4: Casper Ruud has become the first Norwegian man to reach a Grand Slam singles final by eliminating 2014 US Open champion Marin Cilic 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 at Roland Garros.

The eighth-seeded Ruud is 23 and never had been past the fourth round at any major tournament until now. His father, Christian, was a professional tennis player from 1991 to 2001.

Ruud has shown that he can play well on clay, with four highs of seven titles and 66 match wins on the surface since the start of 2020.

He now faces the toughest test there ever has been on clay, going up against 13-time French Open champion Rafael Nadal in the final on Sunday. Ruud has trained at Nadal's tennis academy in Spain and refers to the 36-year-old Spaniard as his idol.

Ruud returned Cilic's big serve

well enough to break him five times and even hit more aces, 16-10. Cilic had 33 aces in the quarterfinals Wednesday.

In a stunning incident, an environmental activist wearing a T-shirt with the message "We have 1028 days left" interrupted the match by attaching herself to the net with metal wires and glue and kneeling on the court.

Play was delayed for 13 minutes during a game with Ruud serving in the third set while leading 3-6, 6-4, 4-1, 15-all at Court Philippe Chatrier.

"The young woman, of French nationality, entered the grounds with a valid ticket early in the day," the French Tennis Federation said in a statement issued after Ruud finished off his victory in four sets to reach his first Grand Slam final.

The protester remained on the court for several minutes before four security guards approached her, detached her from the net

and eventually carried her away. "The security team needed to formally identify the objects she used to get onto the court before they could remove her," the fed-

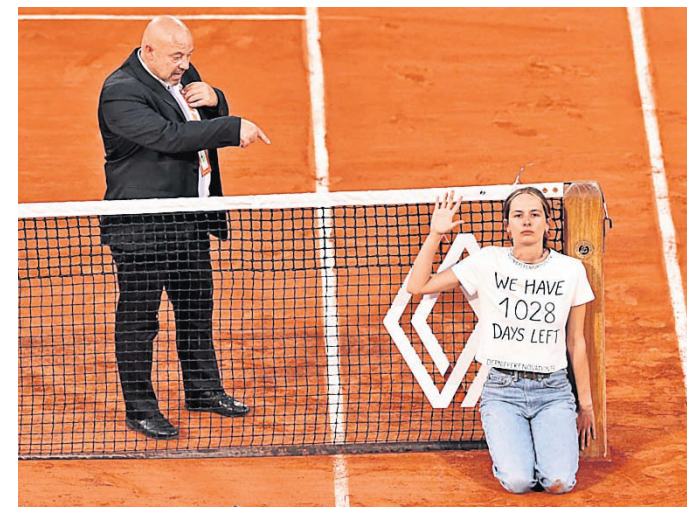
eration said, adding that she was "handed over to the police."

Tournament director Amelie Mauresmo looked on from near the entrance to the court and both players were escorted to the locker room during the episode.

"I didn't really know how to react to it, and... I didn't know if she was holding anything," Ruud said. "I didn't get to see too much. So it was a little bit (of a) tricky and difficult situation. Never happened to me before."

Eventually, Ruud and Cilic returned and were given three minutes to warm-up before resuming their semifinal. Cilic said the disruption did not affect his level of play.

There have been other episodes involving people interrupting matches at Court Philippe Chatrier over the years. During the 2013 men's final, a topless man carrying a fiery flare jumped onto the court. In the 2009 final, a man went up to Roger Federer and tried to put a hat on his head. In the 2003 final, a male stalker hurdled the net.



A security person asks for help to get the activist out of the court during the match between Casper Ruud and Marin Cilic, Friday

Contrasting fortunes for India



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lausanne, June 4: The Indian men's team began its campaign in the inaugural FIH Hockey 5s with a 4-3 win over hosts Switzerland before playing out a pulsating 2-2 draw against arch-rivals Pakistan here Saturday.

The Indian women's team, however, had a bad day in office, losing both its matches against Uruguay (3-4) and Poland (1-3).

The men's team, led by Gurinder Singh, dished out an impressive show of fitness, skill and speed in the opening match with Raheel Mohammed scoring two field goals in the second and 10th minutes.

Moirangthem Rabichandra score a 'challenge goal' in the first minute while captain Gurinder struck in the 19th minute for India at the Place de la Navigation Stadium.

For Switzerland, Winkler Jonas (6th minute), Reinhard Fabio (11th) and

Kruesi Patrick (16th) were the goal scorers. India led 3-1 at the halftime.

A Hockey 5s match is of 20 minutes divide into two halves of 10 minutes each. In its second match of the day, the Indian men's team led twice but conceded a last minute goal to play out a 2-2 draw against the arch-rivals.

Raheel Mohammed gave India the lead in the very first minute through a field goal before Laiqat Arshad restored parity six minutes later.

