



Manushi's journey

Actor Manushi Chhillar celebrates a full-circle moment, from Miss World winner to judge on the iconic stage

LEISURE | **P2**



Ends of talks

Ukraine-Russian talks in Istanbul ended within an hour Monday, following a major Ukrainian drone strike on several Russian fighter jets

INTERNATIONAL | **P10**



Boost to EV sector

New EV policy's lower import tax regime for foreign automakers to strengthen local manufacturing

BUSINESS | **P11**



IPL final today

The IPL will have a new champion as PBKS will clash with RCB Tuesday. Neither team has won the IPL before

SPORTS | **P12**

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BHUBANESWAR | TUESDAY | JUNE 3, 2025

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Tiger cub dies in NZP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 2: A seven-month-old white tiger cub died at Nandankanan Zoo in Bhubaneswar, officials said Monday.

The white tiger cub, born to Melanistic tiger Krishna and white tigress Rupa November 2 last year, showed signs of lameness in March and was under regular veterinary care, including diagnostic imaging, medication, and nutritional supplementation, a zoo officer said.

Experts from the Centre for Wildlife Health (CWH) have also examined the tiger cub, and blood tests showed no major abnormalities. Despite initial recovery, the cub exhibited some degree of lameness, he said.

On the night of May 31, the cub ate normally and showed no signs of distress. However, on the next day (June 1), it was seen struggling and passed away in the evening, he said.

The officer said that the cause of death will be ascertained after a post-mortem examination.

NEET PG postponed

AGENCIES

New Delhi, June 2: The NEET PG 2025 examination has been postponed following a directive from the Supreme Court. The move comes after the court ordered that the postgraduate medical entrance test must be held in a single shift to maintain transparency and fairness.

Earlier, the NEET PG 2025 exam was scheduled for 15 June and was to be held in two shifts. However, NBEMS has now confirmed that it will reorganise the test so that all candidates can take the exam at the same time, in one shift. The SC was responding to a petition filed by Aditi and Others against NBEMS.

JEE (Adv) results out

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 2: Delhi zone's Rajit Gupta bagged the top rank in IIT entrance JEE advanced, results of which were announced Monday.

According to officials at IIT Kanpur, which was the conducting institute this time for Joint Entrance Exam (JEE)-Advanced, a total of 1,80,422 candidates appeared in both papers 1 and 2 of the exam held on May 18.

"In the exam, 54,378 candidates have qualified, out of which 9,404 are female candidates," an official said. Kota resident Rajit Gupta, who scored 332 out of 360 marks, is the top ranker in the Common Rank List (CRL). Devdutta Majhi of IIT Kharagpur zone is the top-ranked female candidate with CRL 16. She obtained 312 marks. JEE-Main, which is the admission test for engineering colleges across the country, is the qualifying exam for JEE-Advanced.

Hans Daruka Odisha topper | P4

IRREGULAR by MANJUL

INTENSE ERUPTION: Smoke billows from Mount Etna volcano, Italy, Monday

PTI PHOTO

2.5 tonnes of looted explosives recovered

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Security forces Monday recovered over 2.5 tonnes of explosive materials looted by Maoists in Sundargarh district, a senior police officer said.

The security personnel of the state's SOG, CRPF, Jharkhand's elite Jaguar force and Sundargarh's DVF during a joint operation in Odisha-Jharkhand border, recovered more than 2.5 tonnes of explosives which was looted by Maoists from K Balang area of the district May 27, the officer told this agency.

"While some of the explosives were buried under the earth, others could be located from underneath rocks," the officer engaged in the operation said, adding that the search operation was continuing since May 28, a day after the Maoists looted the explosives when they were being transported to a stone quarry for blasting purpose.

Ragging: ₹25K fine on 2 house surgeons

POST NEWS NETWORK

Berhampur, June 2: Authorities at Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati (MKCG) Medical College and Hospital in Berhampur Monday slapped a penalty of ₹25,000 on two house surgeons on charge of subjecting a fourth year medical student to mental harassment.

According to the anti-ragging cell, two house surgeons allegedly subjected a fourth-year medical student to mental harassment May 12. Following the complaint, the medical college authorities convened a meeting of the anti-ragging committee Monday.

Sources said the incident stemmed from junior students allegedly not showing 'due respect' to their seniors. During the meeting, it was emphasized that such behavior is unacceptable, especially among medical professionals and students.

As a disciplinary measure, the anti-ragging committee decided to impose a fine of ₹25,000 each on the two house surgeons involved, according to MKCG Principal and Dean Dr Suchitra Dash.

Meanwhile, a compromise statement was submitted to the local police station May 16 by both the complainant and the accused students, indicating a mutual resolution of the matter. Berhampur Town Police Inspector Suchitra Parida confirmed that a general diary entry has been made in this regard.

The meeting was attended by Principal-cum-Dean Dr Dash, Registrar Sangram Sekhar Panda, heads of all departments, several committee members, and officers from the Baidyanathpur Police Station.

CM LAUNCHES ₹275CR PROJECTS IN BHADRAK

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for 13 development projects worth around ₹275 crore at Balia Pada in Bhadrak district Monday.

Among the 13 initiatives, nine were inaugurated, while foundation stones were laid for four new projects.

During the event, the Chief Minister made several major announcements for Bhadrak, including the establishment of a government university and the much-anticipated medical college, for which the foundation stone will be laid soon.

Highlighting industrial development in the district, Majhi announced that Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) will invest ₹4,377 crore to set up a Technical Textile Complex in Bhadrak.

MORE P3

Yet, despite their benefits, many are hostage to the phones and slaves to the endless scroll, unable to fully disconnect. Phone users are paying the price with a lack of sleep, weaker offline relationships and mood disorders.

The human-smartphone association began as a mutualism. The technology proved useful to humans for staying in touch, navigating via maps and finding useful information. From these benign origins, however, the relationship has become parasitic. Such a change is not uncommon in nature; a mutualist can evolve to become a

Monsoon stalls after early onset

TWO EXTREMES

34 DEAD IN NORTHEAST FLOODS

Bhubaneswar: At least 34 people have died in northeastern region after heavy floods caused landslides over the last four days, authorities and media said on Monday, and the weather department predicted more heavy rain. More than a thousand tourists trapped in the Himalayan state of Sikkim were being evacuated Monday, a government statement said, and army rescue teams were pressed into service in Meghalaya state to rescue more than 500 people stranded in flooded areas.

BHUBANESWAR 2ND HOTTEST IN STATE

Bhubaneswar: With the monsoon likely to be stalled for over a week, the day's temperature is on the rise with state capital Bhubaneswar recording the second highest temperature in the state at 39.6 degrees Celsius. The IMD has issued a yellow warning for multiple coastal districts in Odisha, cautioning residents about the prevailing hot and humid weather conditions. People are advised to avoid prolonged outdoor activities during peak hours and follow safety measures to counter the effects of intense humidity.

water farms and replenish aquifers and reservoirs.

However, it will be subdued in the next few days, but from June 11-12, the monsoon will strengthen and start covering the remaining parts of the country, said SD Sanap, scientist with the India Meteorological Department's (IMD) Pune office.

Monsoon onset over Kerala occurred May 24 and quickly covered southern, northeastern and some parts of western In-

dia ahead of its usual schedule, but its progress has stalled for the past few days, according to an IMD chart that tracked the monsoon's progress.

A weather system is likely to develop in the Bay of Bengal around June 11 that will strengthen the monsoon and create favourable conditions for its progress in the northern parts of the country, said another weather department official.

Close shave for 175 after IndiGo flight hit by vulture

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ranchi, June 2: Around 175 passengers had a narrow escape after an IndiGo flight suffered a bird hit and made an emergency landing here at Birsa Munda Airport Monday, an official said.

All the passengers and crew members are safe while the aircraft Airbus 320 suffered damage, he said.

"An IndiGo flight suffered a bird hit near Ranchi. It was approximately 10 to 12 nautical miles away from here, at about 3,000 to 4,000 feet altitude, when the incident occurred. The flight was coming from Patna to Ranchi, and the pilot had to make an emergency landing here," Birsa Munda Airport, Ranchi, Director RR Maurya told PTI.

He said all the passengers are safe, but the "aircraft suffered

a dent after being hit by a vulture. Engineers are assessing the damage," he said. The incident occurred at 1.14 pm.

Another official said that the aircraft, which was coming to Ranchi, was scheduled to go to Kolkata.

Smartphones greatest parasite of modern age!

AGENCIES

Canberra/Sydney, June 2: Head lice, fleas and tapeworms have been humanity's companions throughout the evolutionary history. Yet, the greatest parasite of the modern age is no blood-sucking invertebrate. It is sleek, glass-fronted and addictive by design. Its host? Every human on Earth with a wifi signal.

Far from being benign tools, smartphones parasitise people's time, their attention and the personal information, all in the interests of technology companies and their advertisers.

Smartphones have radically changed human lives. From navigating cities to managing chronic health diseases such

as diabetes, these pocket-sized bits of tech make people's lives easier. So much so that most of are rarely without them.

Yet, despite their benefits, many are hostage to the phones and slaves to the endless scroll, unable to fully disconnect. Phone users are paying the price with a lack of sleep, weaker offline relationships and mood disorders.

parasite, or vice versa.

As smartphones have become near-indispensable, some of the most popular apps they offer have come to serve the interests of the app-making companies and their advertisers more faithfully than those of their human users. These apps are designed to nudge users' behaviour to keep them scrolling, clicking on advertising and simmering in perpetual outrage.

Significantly, the users can't easily detect the exploitation. Tech companies that design the various features and algorithms to keep you picking up your phone aren't advertising this

behaviour. But even if one is aware of the exploitative nature of smartphone apps, responding is also more difficult than simply putting the phone down.

How then can users redress the imbalanced relationship with their phones, turning the parasitic relationship back to a mutualistic one? The Australian government's under-age social media ban is an example of the kind of collective action required to limit what these parasites can legally do. To win the battle, there's a need of restrictions on app features known to be addictive, and on the collection and sale of our personal data.

leisure

FORTUNE FORECAST

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FOR ASTROLOGY DIAL 55181*

ARIES
You are ever eager to socialise, and today especially, you may want to mix business with pleasure. You will be welcomed to join in group activities because you can work and play with equal enthusiasm. In fact, you may learn a lot from such a healthy exchange of ideas, says Ganesha.

TAURUS

Light bulbs will flash relentlessly today, as you ideate in the fervour of a creative mood. Your business acumen will help you negotiate problems with ease. The Leo charms will ring out loud in your laughter as you deal with bosses and colleagues at the workplace, says Ganesha.

GEMINI

You will let your personal likes and dislikes cloud your judgement today. Don't let that happen, or you may lose a worthy friend. You are likely to have a chance meeting with your soul mate or maybe even your ex-sweetheart. A romantic evening is on the

CANCER

Today may not be a productive day for you. Though there may not be any major loss, you may feel a little lost and would like to be left alone. If you have kids, you may suffer from the empty nest syndrome with your kids not at home.

LEO

You may wear the trendiest suit, drive the swankiest car and dine at the costliest restaurant, but if luck is not on your side, you can forget becoming a business tycoon. Fortunately, that is not the case with you today. With a favourable alignment of the cosmos, you are set for a day where your business proposals will be the hardest thing to overlook.

VIRGO

Family matters. And matters of family matter more. Your negotiation skills are supreme and you shall bring harmonious ends to disputes today. Life has taught you to be balanced and level-headed, and you strongly believe that there is progression in opposition.

LIBRA

It's a full platter today, and you have to manage it all somehow. The day promises to be full of activities, especially those that involve writing letters and reviving old contacts. Expect a call to appear for an interview for a better job.

SCORPIO

In all probability, you are set to shine out as a man of care and kindness. Ganesha advises you to shut the doors on worries and open the windows to let merrymaking and happiness sweep you off your feet today. The social bug will bite you hard, says Ganesha.

SAGITTARIUS

Providence smiles upon you today, predicts Ganesha. Catching a film with your beloved today is a very good idea. Chances are you may have a nice outing along with your friends or family. In either case, the load in your wallet is likely to lessen, steadily if not dramatically.

CAPRICORN

Not many can match you when it comes to living a healthy lifestyle, and as Ganesha says, health won't be an issue today either. On the work front, you are likely to complete pending projects successfully and your boss, who may be furious because of the delay caused, will reluctantly admit that you did justice to the work and that it was worth the wait.

AQUARIUS

Today, you will wish there were two of you! You are deluged with pending work, and even doubling up efforts will not seem enough. You may even cancel your movie date, deciding to deal with your sweetheart's tantrums later. It's your boss you are worried about, says Ganesha.

PISCES

Bright prospects will greet whatever new ventures you decide to focus on today, says Ganesha. It is a good time to implement your plans. Apart from short-term monetary gains, you may also find yourself pursuing activities which bring you intangible rewards, like goodwill for example.



MARK HAMILL RETIRES FROM THE STAR WARS UNIVERSE

Actor Mark Hamill has shared that he won't make his return to the *Star Wars* universe. Hamill has played Luke Skywalker in the first three franchise-spawning *Star Wars* films. He recently discussed his future in the immortal sci-fi universe, reports *Variety*.

FOR ANDERSON, INTIMATE SCENES ARE NEVER A JOY

Hollywood actress Gillian Anderson has shared that intimate scenes are a tricky territory to walk through during the process of acting. For her, such scenes are 'never a joy'. The actress shares an intimate scene in a tent with co-star Jason Isaacs in her new movie *The Salt Path*, reports *Female UK*.



Nimrat recalls financial hardship

Mumbai: Actor Nimrat Kaur may be a known face today, but her path to stardom was paved with uncertainty and perseverance. In a recent interview, Nimrat recalled her early days in Mumbai, juggling theater and ad films while wondering if she'd ever land a breakthrough role. "There were moments I questioned everything—my talent, my future, my survival in the city," she said.

Before her acclaimed lead role in *The Lunchbox*, Nimrat starred in music videos, ad films, and spent nearly five years on stage. She spoke of the emotional and financial toll during those years. "My bank balance was so low, I didn't know how I'd manage. There were days of loneliness, tears, and fear of returning home in failure," she shared. Yet, a persistent inner voice kept her going.

Her breakthrough came with *The Lunchbox*, co-starring Irrfan Khan and Nawazuddin Siddiqui, which won accolades at Cannes. Since then, she's appeared in *Airlift*, *Dasvi*, and international hits like *Homeland* and *Foundation*. Most recently, she starred in *Kull: The Legacy of the Raisingghs* and *Sky Force*, and is now gearing up for *Section 84*.

Her story remains a testament to quiet grit and unwavering hope.

AGENCIES



Manushi's full circle moment

Mumbai: Manushi Chhillar, the celebrated Miss World 2017, opened up about her incredible journey from being crowned the titleholder to now serving as a judge on the iconic Miss World stage.

Reflecting on her experiences, Manushi shared insights into how the pageant transformed her life and the meaningful role she now plays in shaping and inspiring the next generation of contestants. Her transition from winner to mentor marks a full-circle moment, highlighting her continued commitment to the values and purpose behind the Miss World platform.

Reflecting on her journey, Chhillar told, "Beauty with a purpose" is the soul of Miss World. And I remember, during my year I was a 20-year-old who had this vision. I had a project and I took it to the Miss World competition as a contestant."

The actress took to Instagram to share glimpses of her experience while judging the show. For the caption, she wrote, "From once being crowned to now judging the competition, honoured to return to the Miss World stage. It's tough being on either side but felt so nervous and excited for the contestants! Reminded me of my days An unforgettable night of beauty, purpose, and power. @missworld #MissWorld2025 #FullCircleMoment #BeautyWithAPurpose."

IAN S

Radhika on challenges for new mothers in showbiz

Mumbai: Radhika Apte, who revealed her pregnancy at last year's BAFTAs, has opened up about the tough realities new mothers face in the film industry. Now a mother to a six-month-old daughter, Apte had a brief maternity leave, returning to work just a week after giving birth. Last December, she posted a photo of herself breastfeeding during a virtual work call, sparking conversations about postpartum pressures.

In a recent interview, Apte admitted the film industry isn't particularly supportive of new mothers. "I don't think they are. I don't know how I'm going to navigate that going ahead," she shared. While some actors are reportedly requesting eight-hour shifts

post-pregnancy, Apte stressed the emotional toll of long working hours and separation from her child. Balancing life between India and London only adds to the complexity.

Even before motherhood, Apte had started shifting focus due to dissatisfaction with repetitive acting roles. Her frustration led her to writing, eventually directing the short film *The Sleepwalkers*. "I'm tired of doing things just for the sake of it," she said, adding that writing gave her creative freedom. Apte will soon be seen in Netflix India's *Akka and Justin Lin's Last Days*, which premiered at Sundance.

AGENCIES



Umrao Jaan to re-release in restored version

New Delhi: *Umrao Jaan*, the cult classic 1981 film starring Rekha in the lead role, is set to re-release across PVR INOX theatres in a restored 4K version June 27.

Rekha essayed the role of Amiran, a courtesan-poetess in the film, which was directed by Muzaffar Ali. The period musical drama also earned the actor a National Award for Best Actress in 1982.

The film has been restored by NFDC-NFAI. It will be screened as a part of PVR INOX's Timeless Classics initiative, which curates landmark films that have shaped Indian cinema's artistic legacy, according to a press release

In a statement, Rekha said the character remains a part of her.

"*Umrao Jaan* is not just a film I acted in, she lives within me, breathes through me, even now," she said in a statement. "At the time, none of us could have imagined the timelessness of the film, the way it would gently etch itself into the soul of Indian cinema. To see it return to the big screen is like watching an old love letter being opened by a new generation. My heart is full," she added.

PTI

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.

			6	7	5			
	1						4	
		5	2					
	9				8	2		1
				9				
		8		2	6	7		
	3		7		5			
5		1		4		8		
		4				3		7

SOLUTIONS

Q	U	A	P	E	R	I	T	I	F
U	T	A	A	E	A	A	A	A	A
I	N	T	E	R	I	M	A	D	M
X	I	T	P	C	A	E	A	E	A
O	N	C	E	I	N	A	W	H	I
T	S	S							
I	G	N	I	T	E	A	M	U	S
C	E	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
A	S	S	E	M	B	L	E	L	I
M	T	L	B	H	R	R	R	R	R
U	P	E	N	D	O	R	E	G	A
S	G	E	T	M	T	I	I	I	I
H	I	G	H	R	I	S	K	T	E

CROSSWORD

SUDOKU

1	8	6	7	5	3	2	4	9
4	5	9	2	6	8	1	7	3
7	2	3	1	4	9	5	6	8
3	4	7	5	1	2	8	9	6
5	1	8	9	7	6	3	2	4
6	9	2	8	3	4	7	5	1
2	6	4	3	8	7	9	1	5
9	3	5	6	2	1	4	8	7
8	7	1	4	9	5	6	3	2

PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



BREVITY



FUN post

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6
7				8	
9				10	
12	13			14	
16		17		18	19
22		20	21		24
25			23		26

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Across

- 7 Singing voice
- 8 Camera setting
- 9 Storms
- 10 Resting places
- 11 Greek vowel
- 12 Dreamlike
- 14 Peru's capital
- 16 Celestial bear
- 18 Olive family shrub
- 20 Swedish shag rug

Down

- 22 With, in Nantes
- 23 Tame, in a way
- 25 Pleased
- 26 Scatter
- 1 Relative of a rabbit
- 2 Smoked herring
- 3 German city
- 4 Honkers

Across

- 5 Beauty treatment
- 6 Star's stand-in (5,3)
- 13 Comes apart
- 15 Crop picking time
- 17 Gaming area
- 19 Xylophone striker
- 21 Litmus reddeners
- 24 Insolence

CHECK FOR SOLUTIONS OF THE PUZZLES TOMORROW

downtown

CM launches ₹275cr projects in Bhadrak

Livelihood and employment are vital for growth: Majhi



AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for 13 development projects worth around ₹275 crore at Balia Pada in Bhadrak district Monday.

Among the 13 initiatives, nine were inaugurated, while foundation stones were laid for four new projects.

During the event, the Chief Minister made several major announcements for Bhadrak, including the establishment of a government university and the much-anticipated medical college, for which the foundation stone will be laid soon.

Highlighting industrial development in the district, Majhi announced that Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) will invest ₹4,377 crore to set up a Technical Textile Complex in Bhadrak.

Additionally, MCPI Private Limited will establish an HMLS polyester manufacturing unit with an investment of around ₹2,224 crore.

He also announced the beautification of all martyr memori-

al sites in Bhadrak, adding cultural and heritage significance to the region.

“Since our government came to power, we have fast-tracked Bhadrak’s development, a land known for revolutionaries. We are committed to fulfilling every promise made to the people without wasting a single moment,” he said during his address.

He also highlighted major decisions taken by the state government in the last 12 months, which include the launching of Subhadra Yojana, providing farmers ₹800 more per quintal of paddy, opening all four gates of the Jagannath Temple, and allocation of ₹500 crore corpus fund for rituals and services at the Jagannath Temple.

The Chief Minister announced that a detailed report on the government’s one-year achievements will be presented to the public June 12.

Speaking on the state’s development vision, Majhi said, “Livelihood and employment are vital for growth. We are continuously working to improve citizens’ financial well-being through agricul-

ture, allied activities, and industrial development.”

He criticised the previous government for spending 24 years ‘only painting pictures of development’ under the guise of providing world-class education and healthcare, without delivering concrete outcomes.

“True development has just begun,” he asserted.

“In the next few years, Odisha’s primary education landscape will be completely transformed—not with flashy slogans, but with real outcomes,” he said, targeting the earlier regime’s 5T (Technology, Teamwork, Transparency, Time, and Transformation) campaign.

Highlighting the government’s industrial momentum, he said, “In just 120 days, under the ‘Utkarsa Odisha’ initiative, projects worth over ₹80,000 crore have been launched. On May 22 alone, 10 projects worth ₹1.65 lakh crore received approvals. This marks the beginning of an industrial revolution in Odisha, with every district, including Bhadrak, being part of this transformative journey.”

Guv visits My Son temple complex in Vietnam



POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Governor Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati, who is now in Vietnam to bring back the holy relics of Lord Buddha to India, visited the famous My Son temple complex in Quang Nam province Sunday. The UNESCO World Heritage Site is being restored with help from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

My Son is one of Vietnam’s most valued cultural sites, with some of its Hindu temples dating back to 4th century. These old temples were built by the

Champa kingdom and are seen as key symbols of Southeast Asia’s shared cultural past.

During his visit, the Governor reviewed the progress of the ongoing restoration being carried out with Indian support, and was briefed by the officials on the special techniques used to protect the site’s ancient structures. The temple complex is located in a scenic valley, surrounded by lush mountains and a flowing spring. It served as an important spiritual and cultural center for the Champa civilisation between the 7th and 13th centuries.

Today, about 70 temple structures still stand at My Son. Built with a unique method that hides the mortar lines, the temples have stayed strong through centuries and continue to attract interest from historians and architects.

PEDAL YOUR WAY TO A HEALTHIER HEART & MIND

MANOJ KUMAR JENA, OP

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Bicycles are environment-friendly and great for exercise. Regular cycle riding can improve heart health and help build muscle strength. Riding bikes also boost energy level and mood. Moreover, it is one of the most sustainable mode of transports without leaving any carbon footprints, and an excellent way to get around while exercising.

Every year, the World Bicycle Day is celebrated June 3 to promote the benefits of cycling and raise awareness about its sustainable importance to society. In 2018, the United Nations General Assembly dedicated this day to the highly

eco-friendly mode of transport (bicycle), and the current year’s theme to celebrate the day is ‘Cycling for a Sustainable Future’.

Apart from contributing to sustainability, cycling plays a key role in enhancing both heart health and mental well-being.

“Not just for fitness, cycling is also recommended for patients suffering from chronic neurological conditions like Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease,” said Subhranshu Shekar Jena, Neurologist with Apollo Hospital, Bhubaneswar. “It helps the patients to improve their memory, reasoning and planning skills,” he added.

Jena said cycling exercise secretes hormones like endor-

phins, dopamine, serotonin and others, which are also known to be pain relievers or happy hormones. “These hormones result in the reduction of stress, anxiety, tiredness and mood enhancement. Cycling also helps in curing anxiety disorders, depression and sleep disturbances,” he said.

He also recommended regular 15-20 minutes of cycling for students, saying it helps relax the mind and release stress to increase focus.

According to Rusheekanta Mohanta - cardiologist with Heartmate Institute of Cardiovascular Science & Research in Cuttack - cycling is the best form of cardio exercise. “We advice blood pressure and heart disease patients to exercise for

150 minutes, five days a week. We recommend cycling as it helps them travel to nearby

WORLD BICYCLE DAY TODAY

places for their daily work. It eventually adds up to their workout target and daily work simultaneously,” he said.

As cycling helps to improve venous return process, it aids the smooth flow of blood from the lower body to the heart. “This allows the heart to pump blood through the body smoothly,” Mohanta said.

Environmentalist Gyana Ranjan Biswal said cycling is one of the versatile methods when it comes to environmen-

tal conservation and health. “Cycle releases zero emissions, as it does not use fuel; therefore, it also saves money,” Biswal said.

“Now-a-days, the youth are more into sports and fancy bikes. I urge them to adapt to cycling, as it will not only keep them fit, but it will also keep the environment clean,” he suggested.

Biswal said apart from various health benefits, cycling keeps mind and heart healthy. “Cycling is considered one of the best forms of exercise, as it utilises every body part, which reduces body fat. Besides, riding helps stay alert and feel the environment, which helps to release stress,” he said.

Piyush Ranjan Rout, urban

planner, bicycle mayor and founder of We All Ride Bicycle, remembered how people switched to cycling as a shield to fight the virus during Covid-19 pandemic surge.

“It was then I suggested people to cycle. They joined me in droves. I clearly remember, those who were regular never tested positive for Covid; rather, they got into a healthier lifestyle,” Rout said.

However, he expressed disappointment that the City lacks cycling infrastructure which, he said, the government must look into.

“The government should create separate lanes dedicated to cycling all over the City as often roads are not safe for them,” he said.



(VIA JANSATTA)

CITY SHOW

Artistes perform during play ‘Meli’ organised by Nityadhara at Bhanjakala Mandap in Bhubaneswar, Monday



BJP plans to reach out to lcr families

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, June 2: The BJP has planned to reach out to one crore families in Odisha to highlight the benefits of the ‘double-engine’ government among people, a party leader said Monday.

During the day, Odisha BJP held a high-level meeting to launch simultaneous celebrations for the completion of 11 years of the Narendra Modi government at the Centre and the first anniversary of the Mohan Charan Majhi dispensation in the state.

The party decided to commence a public outreach programme June 9, before the completion of the first year of the BJP government in Odisha June 12.

“The party plans to go to around one crore families in the state and inform people

about the BJP’s services, good governance and welfare programmes for the poor,” the party’s former state president and its anniversary programme chief Samir Mohanty told reporters here.

The state government has planned to organise various programmes across Odisha, highlighting its welfare schemes.

The high-level meeting, held at the BJP state headquarters here, was attended by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, BJP state president Manmohan Samal, the party’s state in-charge Vijay Pal Singh Tomar, co-in-charge Lata Usendi, state office bearers, spokespersons, Morcha presidents, district presidents and others.

Mohanty said programmes have been chalked out from booth level to mandal, district and state levels, where many

During the day, Odisha BJP held a high-level meeting to launch simultaneous celebrations for the completion of 11 years of the Narendra Modi government at the Centre and the first anniversary of the Mohan Charan Majhi dispensation in the state

Central leaders will address press conferences to make people aware of the ‘double-engine’ government.

The term ‘double-engine’ is used by BJP leaders to refer to the party being in power at the Centre as well as in a state.

In addition, people will also be informed about the ‘poor governance’ of the Congress and the BJD, Mohanty said.

BJP spokesperson Surath Biswal claimed that the party had made 21 promises to the

people of Odisha before the elections, and of them, 11 have already been met.

The remaining promises will be met soon, he said.

Biswal said the people in villages and towns will be informed about the BJP’s flagship women empowerment programme like Subhadra, financial assistance to farmers, expansion of Ayushman Yojana and others. The benefits of a ‘double-engine’ government in the state will also be highlighted, he said.

Another BJP leader said that the party workers will make publicity on how the country is secured under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The party aims to use the anniversary celebrations as an opportunity to strengthen its grassroots connections, he added.

Sikkim mishap: No trace of BJP leader, 3 of family

Itishree Jena’s sisters & two nieces reach Jaipur Monday

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Odisha BJP leader Itishree Jena and three other members of her family remained missing after an accident in Sikkim Thursday, while four other relatives of her returned home in Jaipur district Monday.

On May 29 evening, a tourist vehicle carrying 11 people – six members of Itishree’s family, four others and the driver – plunged nearly 1,000 feet into the Teesta River in Sikkim while returning from Gangtok. The accident occurred between Chungthang and Munshithang when the vehicle skidded off a hilly road.

While four people, including Itishree – the Odisha BJP Mahila Morcha state secretary – remained missing, her son and nephew were among those rescued by Sikkim Police and they are undergoing treatment at a hospital in Gangtok, with her nephew being in critical

condition, BJP MLA Akash Das Nayak said.

Four others, who reached Jaipur Road railway station Monday, were in another vehicle which did not meet with the accident. They were identified as Itishree’s two sisters Manjulata Deo and Jharana Mahapatra, and two nieces Jani and Guni, Das Nayak, the local MLA, said.

Das Nayak, who has been monitoring the accident since Day 1, said, “There is no trace of Itishree and three other members of her family even as her hand bag and mobile phone have been recovered. The rescue operation in the Himalayan state has been affected due to rain and rise in water level in Teesta River.”

Narrating the ordeal, Itishree’s elder sister Manjulata said, “Eleven people of our family were travelling in two cars. While I was in a car with four others, Itishree and five others of our family were in the sec-

ond vehicle, which met with the accident.”

Manjulata, 65, said they did not know that the second vehicle had skidded off the road.

“Suddenly, our driver said the headlights of the second vehicle could not be seen. We returned to locate them but could not find them. Later, the police rescued the two youths by tracking the mobile phones,” she said.

She said they were still hopeful of Itishree and the other missing persons’ survival. She hoped they might have been swept away in the river and remained alive.

Das Nayak said Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi has called up his Sikkim counterpart Prem Singh Tamang and sent a team of officials to monitor the rescue operation.

“Puri MP Sambit Patra, who is also the BJP’s in-charge of Sikkim, is also monitoring the rescue operation,” Das Nayak added.



AT LORD’S SERVICE: Chitrakar servitors prepare a canvas for ‘Patti Dian’ ahead of the Rath Yatra festivities in Puri, Monday

OP PHOTO



REGALING POSE: Artistes perform Odissi at the 35th annual day celebration of Lingaraj Kalanikatan at Town Hall in Puri

OP PHOTO

CLASSIFIED

AFFIDAVIT

I, Manoranjan Biswal, S/o- Kishor Chandra Biswal, resident of At- Akhuadakhini, P.O- Odanga, P.S- Patkura, Dist.- Kendrapara- 754228, Odisha declare by this affidavit dtd.02.06.2025 that, my actual name is **MANORANJAN BISWAL** but in my HSC Certificate & Mark Sheet my name has been mentioned as **MANARANJAN BISWAL**. Hence **MANORANJAN BISWAL** and **MANARANJAN BISWAL** is one and same person belongs to my name.

I, Snigdha Rani Mohanty, W/o - Ashis Mohanty, residenty, resident of HIG -30, Phase -2, Gopabandhu Nagar, Po/ Ps - Chhend, Rourkela, Dist. - Sundergarh, PIN - 769015, Odisha declare by this Affidavit No. - 72AA 002332 dtd. - 27.05.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as Snigdha Mohanty for all future purposes.

I, Karttik Dasamahapatra S/o Late Gangadhar Daitapati Resident of Matimanadap Sahi, Nabatakhana gali, P.S.- Puri Town, P.O./ Dist.- Puri, Odisha, PIN- 752001, declare by this affidavit No.- 04, dtd- 27.02.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as **KARTIK KUMAR DASMOHAPATRA** for all future purposes.

I, Biswajit Sahoo, S/o- Subash Chandra Sahu, resident of Vill/P.O.- Habaspur, P.S.-Junagarh, Dist.- Kalahandi, (Odisha), PIN-766023 declare by this affidavit No.-350, dt. 14.05.2025 that now onwards I shall be known as **BISWAJIT SAHU** for all future purposes.

Sahaj-Techno India to skill 1 lakh youth

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 2: Sahaj Retail Ltd, a Kanoria Foundation initiative, Monday said it has tied up with Techno India Group to launch a blue-collar skilling initiative aimed at training 1 lakh youth in rural and semi-urban areas. In the first phase, the skill training initiative would be conducted across five states – Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha and Assam.

Ravenshaw UG results out; pass rate 84.10%

AGENCIES

Bhubaneswar, June 2: The results of the undergraduate (UG) examinations at Ravenshaw University in Cuttack were declared Monday, with a success rate of 84.10 per cent. A total of 1,384 students had appeared the UG (Final Degree) examinations this year and 1,164 of them have cleared the tests, university officials said. The success rate was 85.97 per cent in Arts, 77.17 per cent in Science, 83.20 per cent in Commerce and 90.24 per cent in professional courses. Altogether 549 students appeared the examinations in various Arts subjects. Of them, 472 have been declared successful. In Science subjects, 333 students appeared the tests and 257 of them have cleared the examinations. Similarly, 256 students appeared the examination in Commerce subjects. Out of them, 213 have been declared successful.

Rath Yard turns into ‘gurukul’ for little artisans

POST NEWS NETWORK

Puri, June 2: With the Rath Yatra approaching fast, construction of the chariots for the Trinity is in full swing at the temporary Rath Yard near Srimandir. The rhythmic sounds of chisels and mallets from the skilled hands of Vishwakarma Maharana servitors fill the air, creating a devotional ambience. Amidst the hectic works, one scenario that catches the attention is the tiny Rupakar servitors being mentored by the senior servitors at the Rath Yard, which resembles a traditional ‘gurukul’.

Undeterred by the scorching sun or even sudden showers, every artisan—young and old—is deeply immersed in the sacred task of building the Lord’s chariots.

According to Rath Samhita, servitors known as Rupakars (sculptor-artisans) traditionally enter the Rath Yard on Nrus-

Sahaj provides access to essential services including government schemes, financial inclusion, utility payments, and digital literacy through its network, it said in a statement. The initiative, titled Sahaj-Techno Blue Collar Jobs, is focused on equipping rural and semi-urban youth with vocational skills aligned with industry needs, it said. In the initial ramp-up, the programme will train 50,000 individuals, with the first phase

expanding to 1 lakh candidates, it said, adding, the target demography includes youth in 18-35 age group, with a particular focus on unemployed, under-employed, and school dropout populations. Women will also be actively included, especially in tailoring and flexible digital roles, it said. Sahaj Retail CEO Biswajit Chatterjee said the initiative is designed to address the chronic underemployment in rural India.

CM congratulates successful candidates

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 2: Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi congratulated successful candidates of JEE (Advanced) 2025, the results of which were announced Monday. Taking to X, Majhi said, “My best wishes and congratulations to all who have succeeded in the JEE (Advanced) 2025. This result is a reflection of your hard work and dedication. Regardless of the exam result, everyone should move forward with confidence and strong morale. I wish all the students great success in every field and a bright future in the coming days.”

The results brought joy to Odisha as City students delivered an impressive performance. Celebrations erupted at ALLEN Bhubaneswar as faculty members welcomed and felicitated the achievers.

ALLEN Odisha-WB Vice President and Zonal Head Rajneesh Kumar Srivastav said as many as 34 students from ALLEN’s classroom programme in Bhubaneswar ranked within the top 5000. “Hans Daruka

JEE (ADVANCED) 2025

Daruka state topper

Bhubaneswar: Hans Daruka of KIIT International School has emerged as the top scorer in the state in JEE (Advanced) examination, securing an All-India Rank (AIR) of 39. His achievement showcases a remarkable performance by the school, with 13 students qualifying for admission to India’s premier Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), a statement issued by KIIT International School said.

secured an All India Rank (AIR) 39, Nabaneet Priyadarshi (AIR 97), Saman Poddar (AIR 711) and Shreyas Samantray (AIR 1000),” Srivastav said.

Tight security for Rath Yatra

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 2: With the world-famous Rath Yatra all set begin in Puri June 27, the police administration has prepared a blueprint for elaborate security arrangements in the Pilgrim City to ensure smooth conduct of the annual festival, which witnesses massive influx of devotees from across the globe.

This was revealed during a high-level security meeting chaired by Director General of Police (DGP) YB Khurania at the State Police Headquarters in Cuttack Monday.

The meeting focused on ensuring a well-organised and secure environment for the grand chariot festival, which witnesses lakhs of devotees every year. Senior police officials were directed by the DGP to remain alert and proactive throughout the festival period to manage crowd control, traffic, and law and order effectively.

According to the traditional rituals of the Srimandir, several key events will be observed leading up to and following the Rath Yatra. They are: Snana Purnima June 11, Nabajouban Darshan June 26, Rath Yatra June 27, Hera Panchami July 1, Sandhya Darshan July 4, Bahuda Yatra July 5, Suna Besha July 6, Adharapana July 7 and Niladri Bije July 8.

In view of the massive turnout, the Police department is implementing comprehensive security strategies which include installation of CCTVs at



Comprehensive security strategies, including installation of CCTVs at key locations in Puri, deployment of road dividers, delineators, and creation of dedicated traffic zones, have been planned

key locations in Puri, deployment of road dividers, delineators, and creation of dedicated traffic zones. These apart, provision for ample parking facilities, setting up of temporary police outposts and enhanced patrolling along the Puri beach, Railway station security upgrades in Puri, Bhubaneswar, Khurda, and Jatani, in coordination with the Railway Protection Force (RPF), will also be ensured.

To curb potential criminal activities, all police stations in the Holy city have been instructed to conduct special drives against anti-social elements, apart from regular checks at hotels and lodges.

Patrol vehicles, K-9 squads and quick response teams will also be deployed. Additional plans include arrangements for VIP helipads, temporary accommodation for police personnel, smooth chariot pulling management, and coordination with the district administration for timely resolution of public issues.

The meeting also discussed emergency response planning for any unforeseen situations during the event.

With less than a month to go, Odisha Police is pulling out all the stops to ensure that 2025 Rath Yatra proceeds smoothly and securely, preserving both tradition and public safety.

Plus III application deadline June 4

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bhubaneswar, June 2: State Higher Education department has extended the deadline for submitting the Common Application Form (CAF) for Plus III (Undergraduate) admissions through Student Academic Management System (SAMS) portal till June 4.

The decision comes in response to demands from students, parents, and guardians who needed more time to complete the application process. The extension provides a much-needed breather for those facing challenges in meeting the original deadline.

As per the notification issued by the HE department, students can now apply until June 4, 11:45 pm, thanks to a three-day extension from the original

deadline of June 1. This move aims to alleviate time constraints faced by students due to pending exam results and document uploads.

The department has shared the information on its X, formerly Twitter, handle.

“On the demand of several students, parents and guardians, the Higher Education department has decided to extend the last date for submission of UG Common Application Form (CAF) till 4th June, 2025, 11:45 PM,” read the post.

MARKET WATCH					
CURRENCY		BOURSES		COMMODITIES	
INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION	INDEX	VARIATION
DOLLAR	85.51 ▼ 0.18	SENSEX	81373.75 ▼ 77.26	GOLD	₹96,959 ▲ ₹2315
EURO	97.85 ▲ 0.63	NIFTY	4716.60 ▼ 34.10	SILVER	₹100,856 ▲ ₹3841

WEATHER

	BBSR	CTC	FORECAST
Max Temp	39.6°	39.4°	Partly cloudy sky
Min Temp	27.6°	26.4°	
Humidity	77%	65%	
Rainfall	NII	NII	

FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS CONTACT OUR BOOKING STATIONS

Acharya Vihar-DayalAgency-9437135727, A.P. Tours and Travel, Maitri Vihar, C.S. Pur- 9861301598, Aurobindo Market-Sai Audio & Electronics-9438304668, Airport Road-Sai Baba Variety Store-9090071530, Anish Infotech- Tankapani Road-9861341488, Bapuji Nagar- Dreamland Studio- 9777517314, Baramunda Rental Colony-Maa Ramchandi Communication-9658821469, Baramunda Housing Board Colony-Pappu Variety Store-9040500106, Cuttack Road-Alishan Snacks-8984236754, District Center (Chandrasekharpur)-Sai Google Mart-9776056507, Forest Park-DTDC Couriers & Services (HB Services)-7381024156, IRC Village-Bapi Xerox-9090090404, Gift Hut(Antriksh Gifts & Decors Pvt. Ltd.)-9954781084, Pruthvi Medicine-9853314816, Janpath-Krupajal Book Store-7978646669, Jaydev Vihar-AK Enterprises-7978116618, Subam Sai Books Store-8895550649, Swain Graphics- 9337121249, Jagannath Mobile Point- Janpath Road, Ram Mandir- 9938475415, Kanan Vihar-Auro Electronics-8260697560, Khandagiri- Swosti Mobile Centre- 7992914045, World Solution- 9938317559, KIIT Road-Jugad Jn-9338545031, Laxmi Sagar-Aditya Mobile-9438191836, Lewis Road-Spider Web-7809186415, Metro Satellite City-Arogya Mitra Medicine Store-9853621640, Madhusudan Nagar-Mohapatra Communication-9124446664, Maa Santoshi travels- Gajapati Nagar- 9777675867, Nayapalli- The Cake Room- 7873660137, Near Mayfair Lagoon-Cookiemann-9439491273, Nigamananda-Omm Sai Travels-9668284823, Nr Cosmopolis Main Gate- Shreeram Medical Store- 8763711714, Net Square- Niladri Vihar (C.S. Pur)- 7205634821, Priyadarshini Market-Astro Point-9938134346, R.N. General Store-Nilakantha Nagar-94388642501, Sahid Nagar- Maa Communication- 9437353424, Sahini General Store- Near Patia Railway Station, Mahavir Vihar- 9937586626, Satya Nagar-Baishnavi Mixture & Sweets-7894821764, Samantapur- Download Point-7504557743, Sailashree Vihar-Harsha Book Store-8093449515, Saheed Nagar-Jagannath Graphics-7978652670, Photo World-7978468191, Sainath Photo Studio-8984436129, Shanti & Co-9937071063, Siripur-Omm Maa Sarala Communication-9777682449, Sushree fashion- Jagmara-9938714347, Shree Vision- Sailashree Vihar-9861476678, Unit-3-LIC of India Premium Point-9337787080, Unit-7- LIC Premium Point- 9338227422, VSS Nagar-Friends Cake & Bake-8658200930, Jeet Infoworld-7205195782, XIMB Square-LD Books-9658061373.



MYRIAD HUES OF SITAL SASTHI

Artistes perform various unique and traditional dance forms to the beat of percussion and other instruments during the Nagar Parikrama procession of Lord Shiva and his consort Goddess Parvati on the occasion of famous Sital Sasthi Jatra in Sambalpur, Monday

OP PHOTOS

CRIMINAL NEXUS UNCOVERED

Koraput cannabis for foreign-made pistols

POST NEWS NETWORK

Nandapur, June 2: Despite multiple seizures of foreign-made pistols in Koraput district—particularly within the Nandapur sub-division—police have failed to trace the origin of these weapons.

Sources said that the fire-arms are making their way into Koraput district as local traffickers are bartering ganja (cannabis) in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in exchange for foreign-manufactured pistols, which they later keep illegally with them.

Although several accused individuals have been interrogated following these seizures, law enforcement authorities have yet to identify or locate the main suppliers. Their failure to act decisively has triggered public discontent, especially among the educated class.

Concerns are growing that access to such lethal weapons among local youth could lead to a surge in criminal activities and antisocial behaviour in the area.

According to police sources, officers from Padua police station under Nandapur sub-division seized an Italian-made pistol from a smuggler during a routine ganja bust, May 29. During questioning, the suspect revealed that he had trafficked ganja to the UP-Bihar region and received the pistol in return from local mafia.

A case (62/2025) was registered along with seizure of the weapon and the accused was sent to court, Inspector in-Charge Ashok Bisoi said, adding that investigations were ongoing.

In a separate incident under Case No. 144/2024, local youths allegedly discharged blank rounds from an unlicensed pistol recently in Gumaguda area to incite fear—another



Although all seized pistols are foreign-made and linked to the ganja smuggling network, police have consistently failed to trace the original sellers or trafficking channels

case that remains under investigation.

Similarly, under Case No. 50/2024, Nandapur police arrested another suspect in possession of a foreign-made pistol, who has since been remanded to judicial custody. Comparable incidents have also been reported at Machkund police station, where weapons were seized in connection with the drug trade.

Although all seized pistols are foreign-made and linked to the ganja smuggling network, police have consistently failed to trace the original sellers or trafficking channels.

The proliferation of such weapons is causing anxiety among residents, who fear an escalation in violence and social unrest.

Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Debendra Mallik confirmed that investigations into all cases are underway. The seized firearms have been sent to a forensic laboratory for examination.

He added that further action would be taken in coordination with the Superintendent of Police (SP).

Wife, son held for killing forester

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Bhubaneswar/Nayagarh, June 2: Police have arrested a woman and her son for allegedly killing her husband in Nayagarh district, an officer said.

The deceased was identified as Sishir Sahu, a forester in Sarankul Pancharida range of Nayagarh district.

A day after recovering the half-burnt body of Sishir, the police arrested the deceased's wife and son after conducting a crime scene recreation, said Nayagarh SDPO Jyoti Ranjan Samantaray, Sunday. The deceased's wife Namita also sustained minor burn injuries while their son Abhishek was unharmed in the incident at their house in Baramasidanda area of the district Friday night, he said.

Namita with the help of Abhishek poured petrol on her husband and set him on fire following a heated argument, Samantaray said. The police said fire services personnel doused the flame. They recovered the half-charred body of Sahu who was trapped inside the house and started an investigation by detaining his wife and son. "During interrogation, Sahu's wife and son confessed to the crime. As per preliminary investigation, the reason behind the crime is family dispute.

The forester was not visiting home regularly and not staying for much time at home," the police officer said.

EAST COAST RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. ST-SBP-TENDER-2025-14 Dt: 28.05.2025

Name of the Work: PROVISION OF CABLE ROUTE MARKER FOR TELECOM CABLE COVER SAMBALPUR DIVISION.

Tender Value: ₹ 8,44,90,205/-, **Bid Security:** ₹ 5,72,500/-

Tender closing date & time: at 1100 hrs. of 19.06.2025.

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website www.ireps.gov.in

Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (S&T)/PR-190/Q/25-26 Sambalpur



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NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that w.e.f 30th August, 2025, **Aditya Birla Capital Limited, Dhenkanal Branch** shall permanently close the following premises.

Closing Premises Address:

Plot No. 74/7069,
1st Floor, Shivam Tower,
Station Bazar,
Dhenkanal,
Orissa - 759013

Place : Dhenkanal
DOP : 03rd June, 2025

For Aditya Birla Capital Ltd. Sd/-
Authorized Signatory



CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF INDIAN LANGUAGES

(Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education, Govt. of India)
Manasagangotri, Mysuru-570 006

DIPLOMA IN LANGUAGE TRAINING (July 2025 – April 2026)

(The last date for receipt of duly filled-in application at Central Institute of Indian Languages, Manasagangotri, Mysuru is 30th June 2025)

Applications are invited for admission to Diploma in Language Training in any one of the Modern Indian Languages viz Assamese, Bengali, Bodo, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Santali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu at the Seven Regional Language Centres situated at Mysuru, Bhubaneswar, Pune, Patiala, Solan, Lucknow and Guwahati.

In-service teachers, prospective teachers, research scholars and general public may submit their applications to the Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Manasagangotri, Mysuru-570006 on or before the date mentioned above. Please visit www.ciiil.org/langtraining.php for further details.

Application may be filled and submitted either **Online** or **Offline** at <https://ciiil.org/admission>. Applicant who applies **Online** has to send the hard copy of the application also and if applicant wants to submit application through **Offline** may download the Application from website and submit by post to the **Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Manasagangotri, Mysuru-570 006** without fail before the due date. Application fee may be remitted either through **QR Code** or through a **Nationalised Bank Demand Draft**.

Sd./- Director
Central Institute of Indian Languages
Manasagangotri, Mysuru
cbc 21248/12/0001/2526

Nat'l conference on research trends in mathematics at FMU

Balasore: The Postgraduate Department of Mathematics at Fakir Mohan University (FMU) recently hosted a two-day national conference on recent trends in research in mathematical sciences. The academic event drew enthusiastic participation from scholars, researchers and students across the country. Vice Chancellor Prof Santosh Kumar Tripathy inaugurated the event as the chief patron, while Prof Bhaskar Behera served as the patron. Prof Gauranga Charan Samanta, head of the Department of Mathematics, and organising secretary Abhaya Naik spoke about hosting the event. The conference was graced by Prof Biswaranjan Behera of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, who served as the chief guest and highlighted the evolving frontiers of mathematical research during his address. Distinguished academicians and scholars including Prof Dilip Kumar Maiti of Vidyasagar University; Prof Bappaditya Bhowmik, IIT Kharagpur; Prof Sunil Kumar Prajapati, IIT Bhubaneswar; Prof Subhabrata Paul, IIT Patna, Prof Shibesh Kumar Jac Pacifi, PICS Institute, Sambalpur, Prof Nabhin Kumar Sahu, DA-ICT, Gandhinagar, and Prof Sunil Kumar Tripathy, IGIT Sarang shared their expertise and delivered thought-provoking talks on cutting-edge topics in mathematical sciences.

Maoist dump unearthed

POST NEWS NETWORK

Bargarh, June 2: A team of the District Voluntary Force (DVF) of Bargarh police has seized a cache of Maoist materials hidden in the Gandhamardan reserve forest near Durgeikhola, within the jurisdiction of Paikmal police station.

According to Bargarh Superintendent of Police PS Meena, the seized items include various explosive materials, Maoist literature, clothing, umbrellas, torches, and other essentials reportedly used by the Maoists. The operation was based on intelligence received from four Maoist cadres who had laid down arms before the Bargarh police August 30, last year.

Speaking at a press conference at the district police headquarters Monday evening, SP Meena stated that multiple operations have been ongoing at various locations using information provided



by the surrendered cadres. One such operation May 30 in the Gandhamardan forest led to this successful seizure.

The confiscated materials include 50 detonators, one gelatin stick, a pressure cooker (suspected to be used in IED-making), torches, tarpaulin sheets, umbrellas, a radio set, walkie-talkie charger, mobile charger, Maoist pamphlets and literature, cooking

utensils, medicines, clothing, and a red banner cloth typically associated with Maoist propaganda.

Meena added that the Director General of Police has consistently appealed to Maoists to surrender and return to the mainstream. He noted that with growing public rejection of their ideology, Maoist influence in the region is steadily declining.

Aided by dad, woman stabs hubby to death

POST NEWS NETWORK

Kabisuryanagar, June 2: A man was stabbed to death during sleep late Sunday night allegedly by his wife and father-in-law at Gobindpur village under Kabisuryanagar police limits in Ganjam district, reportedly owing to disputes over her extramarital affair.

The deceased was identified as Kalia Sethy. His wife, Pooja, and father-in-law, Mochiram Sethy, allegedly entered the house and stabbed him to death with a knife, before fleeing the scene, the deceased's father Abhimanyu Sethy has stated in his complaint.

Kabisuryanagar police arrived at the scene and sent the body for post-mortem. A case (395/25) under Section 103 of the BNS (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita) was registered and an investigation launched.

Purushottampur SDPO also visited the scene for further inquiry. The incident has shocked the local community, especially after it emerged that the father of the accused woman wiped off the vermilion from her forehead, by assisting in the murder of his son-in-law. The deceased is survived by a 10-year-old son.

Police said that Abhimanyu has filed a complaint alleging that the duo killed his son due to ongoing domestic disputes arising from Pooja's extra-marital affair. He claimed Pooja frequently spoke to another man on the phone while Kalia was at work, leading to repeated arguments between the couple. The matter had reportedly reached the local panchayat authorities on two previous occasions and was temporarily resolved.

Odisha Police STF seizes 2 elephant tusks worth ₹50L

PNN & AGENCIES

Boudh, June 2: The Special Task Force (STF) of Odisha Police has seized two elephant tusks worth a total of Rs 50 lakh and detained one person on the charge of smuggling wildlife body parts, an official statement said.

The suspect was identified as Pramod Parida, a resident of Charada village in Boudh district. He was nabbed along with the tusks near Telibandha Chhak in Boudh police station area in Boudh district around 7pm Sunday, the statement said.

The STF team, with help from Boudh forest range officers, conducted a raid along Boudh-Sonepur Road (NH-57) near Telibandha Chhak and nabbed Parida and seized the ivory pieces, the statement said.

The seized ivory pieces were handed over to the Assistant




Conservator of Forests (ACF), Boudh, along with the accused, for further action under the Wildlife Protection Act, it said, adding further investigation is underway. Speaking to the mediapersons Monday, STF DIG Pinak Mishra said, "The STF team dealing with wildlife crime received reliable information regarding the smuggling of a pair of elephant tusks in the Boudh forest division. On the basis of this information, a team of STF

carried out a raid on the spot and seized two elephant tusks. The STF has been questioning the person from whom the wildlife products were seized. Our officers are in contact with the Forest department. We are investigating to ascertain the source of the confiscated tusks and to whom the accused was planning to sell them."

As per reports, 6,960 poachers have been arrested in Odisha in the last 10 years in connection with 1,869 wildlife crimes. The state government has set up anti-depredation and anti-poaching squads, anti-poaching camps and bird conservation camps.

The government has also constituted a joint task force to analyse wildlife crimes and take necessary action. However, reports also suggest that the conviction rate in wildlife criminal cases is less than 5 per cent.

He who chooses the infinite has been chosen by the infinite.



SRI AUROBINDO

Trumpeting Claims

The borderline between truth and propaganda gets blurred during war. That is only natural since two warring groups or countries are supposedly propelled by the sole aim of defeating the enemy by hook or by crook. Pure propaganda, half-truth or even falsehood is a potent arsenal in the armory of warring sides. As the Bard said “everything is fair in love and war.” But, when a third party starts staking claims of playing a key role in a war between two countries in such a manner that confusion is created between truth and falsehood, it poses a grave problem. This is what is currently happening in the case of India-Pakistan conflict in the wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack that nearly developed into a full-blown war but luckily stopped short. The claims and counterclaims made by both countries regarding the damage caused by the one on the other are obviously part of war games that rest on falsehood. In this case, all sides are claiming victory. Indian leaders, both civil and military, have openly admitted that the respective Directors General Military Operations (DGMOs) of both nations were in constant touch with each other and a ‘rational’ war was fought. Pakistan has not refuted this claim. While India has claimed it has struck deep inside Pakistan territory and successfully destroyed terror infra in selected places in a measured aggression, Pakistan has also promoted its Army chief Syed Asim Munir claiming that he could give India a befitting military reply in the 4 day conflict. The third party is China which stated, in its now banned in India news sources Global Times, that the missiles and fighter jets it had supplied Pakistan performed effectively in combating western supplied aircraft such as the French Rafale and Mirage. But the fourth party in this fray is US President Donald Trump who not only claimed credit for effecting the ceasefire between the two nuclear armed countries a couple of hours before the declaration of truce, but still keeps repeating it despite denial by India. He did it again making people, especially in India, wonder who is telling the truth – Trump or India?

In the last few weeks, Trump repeatedly claimed that he told India and Pakistan that the US would stop trade with the two nations if they did not stop the conflict. The Indian government kept insisting that trade was not even discussed by Trump. In his latest boast, Trump has gone even further to claim that the “deal” he is most proud of is that he was able to stop “potentially a nuclear war” between India and Pakistan through trade instead of “bullets.” In his typical swagger he said, “Normally, they do it through bullets. We do it through trade.” Even as an all-party delegation from India is touring the US as part of India’s outreach programme to explain the “gains” of India’s Operation Sindoor directed at Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack, Trump has revealed Pakistani representatives too are coming to Washington in the next few days.

India’s dogged denial that Trump’s mediation was responsible for the ceasefire falls flat as the US President made his claim twice on the same day a couple of days back at Joint Base and in the Oval Office with the words that he would not have any interest in making a deal with either India or Pakistan, “if they were going to be at war with each other.”

At the same time he gave a backhanded compliment to the leadership of both the countries saying he talked about trade with them and told them he cannot trade with “people that are shooting at each other and potentially using nuclear weapons.”

This claim of Trump is something that should not be allowed to go unchallenged if there is no truth in it as the Indian government is claiming. This has put the credibility of Indian leadership in danger. People are wondering which one of these two is speaking the truth. If the truth is on the side of the US President, then it becomes a serious matter for India as the latter’s stand in the international forums has, for decades, been that it will not brook third party involvement in the Kashmir issue. Trump’s claim has compromised India’s position on the most sensitive issue. India’s response mainly through occasional denials by the External Affairs Minister and foreign ministry officials appears rather lame. Since Trump keeps repeating his claim, it is time India should take the matter up at the highest level with the Prime Minister denying it or it should stop any kind of disowning it.

The all-party delegation of Indian Parliamentarians, led by Congress MP Sashi Tharoor, is scheduled to visit Washington DC on 3 June after completing their visits to Guyana, Panama, Colombia, and Brazil, conveying India’s resolve against terrorism and emphasising Pakistan’s links to terrorism. It needs to get a clarification from the US administration as to why Trump is still continuing with his claim which the Indian government has stated to be false. Tharoor as the delegation head should use his known verbal skills to find out who is telling the truth. This is no less important than his diplomatic offensive in defence of Operation Sindoor. Otherwise he too will be exposed as a pompous and ornamental English speaker who has very little substance and understanding.



Chris Bradley & Jan Mischke

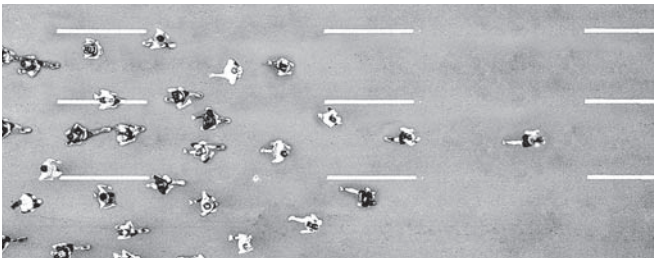
RATHER THAN A THOUSAND OR A MILLION FIRMS MOVING AN INCH, THE REAL GAINS COME FROM JUST A FEW EXTRAORDINARY FIRMS MOVING THOUSANDS OF MILES

Few doubt that productivity growth is good for society. It generally translates into higher wages, consumer surplus (prices below what you are willing to pay), larger profits, and greater shareholder value. Less understood, however, is how productivity growth is created. New research from the McKinsey Global Institute shows that the lion’s share comes from just a few firms making audacious moves.

While the conventional wisdom holds that productivity growth stems from gradual, collective improvements to efficiency across many companies, our analysis suggests otherwise. A tiny number of firms are driving potent bursts of progress, because they have made bold, idiosyncratic strategic moves that force competitors to respond. Rather than a thousand or a million firms moving an inch, the real gains come from just a few extraordinary firms moving thousands of miles.

We based our analysis on 8,300 companies in Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States, focusing especially on four sectors: retail, automotive and aerospace, travel and logistics, and computers and electronics. We used these companies to create a “lab economy,” tracking precisely who was creating value and contributing to national productivity growth, and who was destroying value by dragging productivity down. Although we looked at the relatively stable period between 2011 and 2019 – after the global financial crisis but before the COVID-19 pandemic – we found similar patterns in the data from 2019 to 2023.

In our lab economy, we found that fewer than 100 productivity “standouts” account



Real productivity growth doesn’t come from playing it safe. It comes from creating the conditions for bold bets to pay off

for two-thirds of the sample’s growth. These are firms that added at least one basis point to their respective national sample’s productivity growth in 2011-19. At the same time, an even smaller number of “stragglers” made negative contributions of at least one basis point. This is a much more extreme concentration than the prevailing view of productivity would suggest.

What sets standouts apart? In our sample, they pursued five strategic plays – often in combination – to power ahead: scaling more productive business models or technologies (such as e-commerce or low-cost carrier models); shifting regional and product portfolios toward the most productive businesses or even adjacent opportunities; reshaping customer value propositions in both mass and niche markets; building scale and network effects; and transforming operations to boost labor efficiency and reduce cost. Thus, our case studies highlight Apple’s strategic expansion into services, EasyJet shaping the discount airline trend, and Zalando pioneering apparel e-commerce.

This lens on productivity helps us see more clearly why some countries pull ahead

while others stall. While we already knew that the US leads major European economies in terms of productivity growth, a closer look at the firms in our lab economy confirms why. Between 2011 and 2019, US productivity grew by 2.1% per year within our sample, compared to 0.2% in Germany and a flat zero in the United Kingdom, because the 44 US standouts outnumbered the 14 stragglers by a factor of three. By contrast, the UK had a more even distribution, with 30 standouts and 25 stragglers, whereas Germany had 13 standouts and 16 stragglers.

But it’s not just about having standouts; resources must be shifted toward them. The US was itself a standout in this respect, with half its productivity growth coming from reallocating labor away from stragglers and toward the vanguard of productivity growth. In Europe, job mobility was more subdued, and the stragglers dragged down productivity growth.

This insight has major implications for policymaking. Many current policies aim to boost welfare by supporting small firms and spreading best practices. But if a handful of firms drive most of the gains, we need

asymmetric strategies to match the pattern we observe. That means enabling faster reallocation of capital and labor, and building ecosystems that help winners scale up. Consider: If Germany could have counted 19 more standouts like the retailer REWE in the period analyzed, its private-sector productivity growth would have more than doubled. Encouraging bold moves could be even more consequential in emerging economies, where standout firms have the potential to leapfrog some of the technologies and business models deployed in advanced economies. Moreover, if the kind of firms that can become standouts are fewer and further between, fast productivity growth may be difficult to achieve without deliberately nurturing potential standouts’ emergence and success.

Business leaders, for their part, should stop treating productivity as a byproduct of operations and start managing it as a strategic outcome. That means tracking it, investing in it, and making gutsy calls – accompanied by resource shifts – on where to grow and where to pull back.

Amid today’s economic uncertainty, companies around the world are delaying investment decisions, cutting costs, and otherwise trying to husband their limited resources. Yet the lesson from our research is that they should be doing the opposite. Real productivity growth doesn’t come from playing it safe. It comes from creating the conditions for bold bets to pay off.

Chris Bradley is a director of the McKinsey Global Institute in Sydney. Jan Mischke is a partner at the McKinsey Global Institute in Zurich.

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SPECTRUM SUSTAINABILITY

Scaling investment for blue economy



Marisa Drew

GIVEN INVESTORS’ APPETITE FOR SUSTAINABLE, SCALABLE RETURNS, THE OPPORTUNITY IS HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT, AND GOVERNMENTS ARE WAKING UP TO IT

Despite carrying 80% of the world’s trade, absorbing 30% of its carbon-dioxide emissions, and providing food security for almost three billion people, the global blue economy (oceans and waterways) is suffering from acute underinvestment, and nowhere more so than in Africa. In the face of heightened economic volatility and tightening financial constraints, the transition to a more sustainable blue economy represents a major, largely underappreciated opportunity for the continent.

This is not just some abstract idea. Given investors’ appetite for sustainable, scalable returns, the opportunity is hiding in plain sight, and governments are waking up to it. Spanning more than 30,000 km of coastline, Africa’s blue economy does \$300 billion worth of business each year, and it is uniquely positioned to benefit from the broader shift to more sustainable models. The African Union projects that the blue economy will increase to \$405 billion in 2030, and to as much as \$576 billion by 2063. As these sectors expand, employment levels could increase from 49 million jobs in 2019 to 78 million by 2063.

Highlighting the sectors

with the most potential helps to put these numbers into context. Consider food, where the development of sustainable aquaculture and fishing practices could help meet the growing demand for protein in Africa and beyond. Our calculations suggest that sustainable aquaculture-based fish production could grow eightfold in Africa, reaching approximately 19 million metric tons per year by 2050.

The energy sector is similarly promising. According to research from the World Bank, South Africa could reach 900 gigawatts of offshore wind capacity, and it is not unique. All told, offshore wind alone could boost Africa’s electricity generation 45-fold.

The sustainable blue economy also has an important role to play in climate adaptation. With sea levels around much of Africa’s coastline rising faster than the global level average, marine restoration and conservation can build natural resilience while also delivering benefits to food systems, biodiversity, and other sectors such as tourism.

But to make the blue economy truly sustainable, Africa and the Middle East will need approximately \$70 billion in annual investment from now

to 2030. To reach that target, governments should leverage innovative financial mechanisms to bring more capital into the blue economy and advance sustainable, scalable projects. Fortunately, demand for such solutions is growing, and over 80% of African countries have already embedded the blue economy into their national development plans or climate strategies.

Decision-makers across many markets are beginning to treat the ocean as a strategic asset that needs to be protected and sustainably managed. But while solutions like blue debt instruments hold much potential, many issuers have yet to capitalize on the opportunity presented by the sustainable debt market. Greater use of blue bonds, sustainability-linked loans, and social bonds could channel capital where it is needed most.

Similarly, debt conversions for nature – often referred to as “debt-for-climate swaps,” whereby financing or debt relief is explicitly earmarked for sustainable projects – represent attractive options for sovereign issuers, depending on their financial characteristics. Such transactions can reduce debt-service payments and free up capital to support a country’s sustainability goals.

Moreover, efforts to develop sustainable blue economy strategies and practices are increasingly supported by regulatory reforms, marine spatial planning programs, and regional cooperation models like the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s Great Blue Wall Initiative. These are laying the foundation for a wave of investible projects supported by real assets, local ownership, and measurable returns.

The momentum will keep building this year. In June, the Blue Economy and Finance Forum and the UN Ocean Conference offer opportunities to bring bankable projects to global investors and accelerate the African sustainable blue economy’s growth. The risks – ranging from regulatory bottlenecks to insufficient capacity to develop projects – are manageable with the right partnerships.

Making Africa’s blue economy sustainable is no longer an untested idea. Our own latest research, Harnessing Africa’s Blue Economy, shows this is a growing investible market – one that banks, asset managers, and governments cannot afford to ignore.

The writer is Chief Sustainability Officer at Standard Chartered.

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WISDOM CORNER

- If you want something you have never had, you must be willing to do something you have never done.

THOMAS JEFFERSON
- Life begins at the end of your comfort zone.

NEALE DONALD WALSCHE
- The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.

WALTER BAGEHOT

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

- **1492:** Martin Behaim presents the world’s first globe. The German geographer called his terrestrial globe Erdapfel, or Earth Apple. It is kept in a darkened room at the Germanisches Nationalmuseum in Nuremberg, Germany.

■ **1844:** Great auks became extinct as the last two known specimens were killed by fishermen on Eldey island, Iceland (some sources give July 3, 1844, as the date of extinction).

■ **1937:** Some six months after abdicating the British throne, Prince Edward, duke of Windsor (formerly Edward VIII), married American socialite Wallis Simpson (who became duchess of Windsor).

■ **1965:** Ed White emerged from the orbital spacecraft Gemini 4 and became the first American astronaut to walk in space.

■ **1973:** The world’s first supersonic airliner crashes. The Soviet Tupolev Tu-144, sometimes referred to as Concoriski, disintegrated in mid-air during the 1973 Paris Air Show. 14 people died.

■ **1989:** Pro-democracy protest in Tiananmen Square crushed by Chinese military. On this day in 1989, the Chinese government called in the military to put down a pro-democracy demonstration carried out by more than 100,000 people in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, resulting in hundreds of deaths.
- ## Letters TO THE EDITOR
- Readers of Orissa Post are most welcome to contribute letters (100 words), articles and columns (between 600-1000 words). Contributors are requested to send their contact numbers and full postal address/email ID. They may also send in their valuable comments, opinion and suggestions, preferably by email, to: edit@orissapost.com
- OrissaPOST**
B-15, Rasulgarih Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010
- ## Provocative comment
- Sir, Film actor Kamal Hassan’s comment that Kannada language descended from Tamil provoked an outrage across Karnataka, especially in the Kannada film sector. The actor’s comment and subsequent hullabaloo bring to the fore several aspects of this issue. A very important thing celebrities or public figures must keep in mind is that they must refrain from making comments about sensitive issues. They need to ensure that there is factual accuracy in what they say. Kannada language did not descend from Tamil as Kamal Hassan opined. In fact, all South Indian languages originated from a common ancestral language called proto-Dravidian. This explains the close connection between these languages. The actor has moved to the Karnataka High Court requesting the release of his film “Thug Life” in Karnataka following the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce’s suspension of the film’s release in the state until the actor apologised. Those who are criticizing the actor must understand that it is only the actor’s personal opinion and not a general opinion.

Venu GS, KOLLAM
- ## Asymmetrical warfare
- Sir, In a striking demonstration of asymmetrical warfare, Ukraine’s recent airstrikes on Russian airbases have underscored a pivotal truth of modern conflict: even nations with relatively modest technological arsenals can deliver crippling blows through ingenuity and unconventional tactics. This evolving face of warfare highlights the ascendancy of strategy over sheer firepower, and signals a significant shift in the global security paradigm. According to Ukraine’s official statements, more than 40 Russian fighter jets were decimated, a loss that speaks volumes about the effectiveness of innovative military planning. For a nation like India, with its complex geopolitical landscape and varied security concerns, this event offers vital lessons—particularly concerning the protection and surveillance of critical military infrastructure. It stands as a clarion call to reexamine and fortify the layers of our internal defence mechanisms. This audacious assault, aptly named Operation Spiderweb by Ukraine’s Security Service, was not the product of impulse but the culmination of an 18-month clandestine campaign—marked by precision, patience, and profound coordination.

Amarjeet Kumar, HAZARIBAGH

Beekeeping changing lives

Unemployed youths in Himachal transforming their lives with beekeeping

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Hamirpur/Una, June 2: Starting his humble beekeeping vocation with a meagre Rs 1 lakh, Anubhav Sood from Una is now a proud business owner with an annual income of Rs 30 lakh.

His story mirrors that of many unemployed young men across Himachal Pradesh who are embracing beekeeping under the Mukhyamantri Madhu Vikas Yojana, yielding positive results, officials said Monday.

The scheme has proven beneficial for both the unemployed and those engaged in farming and fruit cultivation, as it aids in pollination while generating additional income.

Anubhav, who hails from Ambota Village, is also responsible for 10 people to whom he provides direct employment.

Inspired by his mother Nisha Sood, who is associated with food processing, Anubhav took a month's training at Naini University, Solan, followed by a week's training at the Sher-e-Kashmir Agricultural University, Katra and started beekeeping with 25 boxes.

Later, he expanded his business by taking a loan of Rs 10 lakh from the Canara Bank under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Program and launched his product Pahadi Honey in the market offering varieties like Black Forest,



The beekeeping business is also beneficial in terms of health benefits, as honey contains anti-bacterial and anti-allergic elements and its consumption increases immunity

DR ASHOK CHAUDHARY | DISTRICT AYURVEDIC DEPARTMENT MEDICINE SPECIALIST, HAMIRPUR, HP

Black Diamond, Multi Flora, Kesar, Acacia which fetch 500 to Rs 1200 per kilogram, depending on the variety.

Currently, he has 300 bee boxes and produces about 10,000 kg of honey in a year.

Anubhav says he migrates

bees to parts of Himachal, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan for honey production in different seasons and with this technique, he is producing higher quality and diverse honey varieties. The products are certified by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

Rs 1.60 lakh, including 50 boxes of bee species, is provided for beekeeping under the scheme besides financial assistance of Rs 10,000 for transporting bees, Deputy Director Horticulture Una KK Bhardwaj said.

The department also provides an 80 per cent subsidy or financial assistance of Rs 16,000 on the purchase of beekeeping equipment, he added.

Davinder Thakur, a resident of Neri village in Kullu district also has a story similar to that of Anubhav's.

He started beekeeping five years ago and is also earning in high figures now. "Beekeeping has double benefits. It helps apple orchards by ensuring proper pollination which is essential for fruit production, he says, adding that his apple crop has also increased by 30 per cent.

Thakur started with two boxes of hill bees which can even survive snowy conditions and now, he has 60 boxes producing 200 kgs of honey annually sold for Rs 2000 per kg. There are 20 to 25000 bees in one box.

Gopal Kapoor (84) from Gwalpathar village in Hamirpur is another success story. Although he was not unemployed, he was in dire straits financially which made him turn to beekeeping.

Earning Rs 3 to 4 lakh annually now, Gopal started with five boxes and at present has 50 boxes of Italian and Indica species.

All these men are also imparting training in beekeeping to other farmers.

This scheme gives youth and others as well the freedom to be self-employed, and the beekeeping training being free is another bonus, Deputy Commissioner Una Jatin Lal said.

Women volunteers to mitigate impact of disasters in U'khand

CM Dhama launches 'Aapada Sakhi Yojana'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Dehradun, June 2: Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama Saturday announced the launch of "Aapada Sakhi Yojana" and said the women volunteers will be trained under this scheme in pre-disaster warnings, first aid, relief and rescue operations and psychological support.

Presiding over the Monsoon and 2025 Preparedness Workshop organised by the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority (USDMA) here, Dhama said the "Aapada Sakhi Yojana", modeled after the existing Aapada Mitra scheme, will help empower women volunteers in disaster preparedness and response.

The chief minister underscored Uttarakhand's vulnerability to natural disasters and said there is a need to "learn from past calamities".

"Natural disasters cannot be avoided, but their impact can certainly be mitigated through preparedness and vigilance," he added.

Describing the USDMA's work as the collective responsibility of all departments, Dhama said that public participation is also very important in this.

The chief minister said the result of any government effort will be limited unless the soci-



The local people are the first to reach the spot during a disaster. So, it is also necessary to train disaster management committees, women and youth groups, voluntary organisations and organisations like Red Cross at the rural level

PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMA | CM, UTTARAKHAND

ety is aware, trained and alert.

"The local people are the first to reach the spot during a disaster. So, it is also necessary to train disaster management committees, women and youth groups, voluntary organisations and organisations like Red Cross at the rural level," he added.

Dhama cited examples from last year's Gaurikund cloud-burst and the landslide in Toli village of Tehri Garhwal

district, where prompt action saved hundreds of lives.

The chief minister further said that technological tools such as GIS mapping, drone surveillance and satellite monitoring are being deployed to identify high-risk zones.

The government is ensuring proper deployment of rescue equipments like JCBs, cranes and Bailey bridges along with stockpiling essentials like food grains, fuel and medicines in vulnerable districts, he added.

National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) member Rajendra Singh, who was also present at the workshop, said the Meteorological Department has predicted more than normal rainfall for Uttarakhand this monsoon and added that the time from June 15 till September is crucial for the state from the disaster point of view.

Nearly 2,23,000 growers in HP adopt natural farming

In a first-of-its-kind decision, the government has promoted natural farming by providing a minimum support price for various crops grown through this method

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Shimla, June 2: Nearly 2,23,000 farmers and horticulturists in Himachal Pradesh have adopted natural farming, either partially or fully, in almost all panchayats, the government said recently.

The government focuses on exploring options for additional income generation for farmers, ensuring fair prices for their produce, providing quality seeds and expanding and strengthening irrigation facilities, besides providing crop insurance and promoting agricultural research.

In a first-of-its-kind decision, the government has promoted natural farming by providing a minimum support price (MSP) for various crops grown through this method.

Last year, an MSP of Rs 30 per kg was fixed for maize. This decision brought cheers to the faces of farmers and motivated them towards adopting chemical-free farming on a large scale. The government further increased the MSP for maize from Rs 30 to Rs 40 per kg in 2025-26. So far, the government has procured around 400 metric tonnes of maize from 1,509 farmers at the MSP.

Similarly, the procurement process for wheat is ongoing in the state, and it is being procured at an MSP of Rs 60 per kg.

Seeing the response of the farmer for opting for natural farming, the government has further announced an MSP of

Rs 90 on raw turmeric. From this fiscal, the government has decided to provide an MSP for raw turmeric that will be processed and marketed under the brand name 'Himachal Haldi'.

The government has set a target to connect 9.61 lakh farmers with natural farming in phases.

To facilitate the sale of produce from natural farming, designated spaces are being developed in 10 market yards with the necessary infrastructure. Under the Prakritik Kheti Khushal Yojana, in 2023-24 and 2024-25, an expenditure of Rs 27.60 crore has been incurred, and for the current financial year, a Budget of Rs 7.28 crore has been allocated.

A high-level committee at the state level, under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, has been formed to provide valuable guidance under the scheme.

The implementation and monitoring are being done by a special task force headed by the Chief Secretary.

To further encourage farmers to adopt natural farming, the government is providing various types of subsidies, including Rs 750 per drum up to a maximum of Rs 2,250 for the purchase of drums.

An assistance of Rs 8,000 is being given for the construction of a concrete floor in cowsheds and for building a pit to collect cow urine.

A subsidy of 50 per cent up to a maximum of Rs 25,000 is being provided for the purchase of indigenous cows, with an additional provision of Rs 5,000 for their transportation.

Another advantage of natural farming is zero-budget farming. The minimal input costs increase farmers' income, leading to a significant improvement in their standard of living.

Crops grown using natural methods are more nutritious, and the absence of chemicals helps preserve the soil's fertility and quality as well.



Women dance during the Shimla Summer Festival

PTI PHOTO

HP to develop 77 new eco-tourism sites

Eco-tourism means travelling to natural places without harming the environment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Shimla, June 2: The Himachal Pradesh government will develop as many as 77 eco-tourism sites in different forest circles across the state under the Eco Tourism Policy-2024 in the next five years, an official said here Sunday.

The new eco-tourism policy 2024 has been specially made to support this idea, keeping both tourism and nature safe. The goal is to attract tourists in a way that protects nature, creates local jobs, and helps the economy grow in a clean and sustainable manner, a statement issued here said.



With its snow-covered mountains, thick forests, clean rivers and rich wildlife, Himachal Pradesh has always been a favourite place for nature lovers. Now, the new eco-tourism policy aims to use this natural beauty in a responsible way.

Under this policy, 77 eco-tourism sites are being developed in

different parts of the state, including Shimla, Kullu, Mandi, Bilaspur, Rampur, Solan, Nahan, Hamirpur, Nalagarh, Dharamshala, Palampur, Chamba, Dalhousie, Nurpur and Reckong Peo.

Out of these, eco-tourism operators have already been selected for Potter Hill and Shoghi in Shimla, Solang Nallah in Kullu and Kasol in Parvati Valley. The rest of the sites are being developed in phases, the spokesperson added.

Visitors will be able to enjoy eco-friendly activities like trekking, bird watching, forest camping, jungle walks, homestays and nature interpretation trails.

An important part of this eco-tourism push is involving the local people and eco-tourism committees have been formed in each forest circle to take care of these projects.

Local youth are being trained as nature guides and workers. So far, more than 70 guides and 135 Multi-Purpose Workers (MPWs) have been trained by Himachal Pradesh Ecotourism Society (HPECOSOC).

To make travel and bookings easier for tourists, the government has made eco-tourism services available online. Over 100 forest rest houses and camping sites can now be booked through the HPECOSOC website.

Valley of Flowers in Chamoli opens for tourists

The Valley of Flowers, known for its meadows of endemic alpine flowers and variety of flora, was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2005

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gopeshwar, June 2: The Valley of Flowers in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district opened to tourists for this year Sunday, an official said.

Forest Range Officer Chetna Kandpal of the Valley of Flowers Range said that the first group of 83 tourists from Ghangaria were given permission by issuing permit for the national park.

Four tourists had taken permission online and 79 tourists had taken permission in a normal way, he added

Thousands of tourists from India and abroad come here every year. The Valley of Flowers opens for tourists in June every year and is closed after snowfall begins in October.

With the onset of monsoon, flowers start blooming in the



valley which reaches its peak by September.

During this time, hundreds of species of flowers like Brahma

Kamal, Blue Poppy and Cobra Lily bloom here due to which the entire valley looks like a colourful carpet.

Reaching the Valley of Flowers is an exciting experience. After climbing about 13 kilometers from Govindghat -- the main base camp and starting point for the trek to the Valley of Flowers -- one reaches the Ghangaria base camp from where the entrance to this national park is at a distance of about three kilometers.

The entry in the Valley of Flowers is allowed only during daytime and tourists have to come out before sunset.

of the day

quote

Today, it has become even clearer that for decades, children and parents have been affected and harmed in the context of international adoption

CAMILLA WALTERSSON GRONVALL | SOCIAL SERVICES MINISTER, SWEDEN

It signals that the country's economy is beginning to recover and that the stock exchange will operate as a private company and serve as a genuine hub for Syria's economic development, with a strong focus on digital

MOHAMMED YISR BARNIEH | SYRIAN FINANCE MINISTER, SYRIA

The United States has unilaterally provoked new economic and trade frictions, exacerbating the uncertainty and instability of bilateral economic and trade relations

WANG WENTAO | CHINESE MINISTER OF COMMERCE

SHORT TAKES

Philippines, EU to set up security, defence dialogue

Manila: The Philippines and the European Union have agreed to start a dialogue on security and defence in order to tackle emerging threats like cyber attacks and foreign interference, Foreign Minister Enrique Manalo said Monday. The announcement came during the visit to Manila of EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas for meetings with Manalo as well as a courtesy call with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Gilgit-Baltistan reports first polio case in 2025

Islamabad: Gilgit-Baltistan has reported its first polio case of the year, even as a vaccination team escaped unhurt in an armed attack in the region in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, an official said Monday. The Regional Reference Laboratory for Polio Eradication at the National Institute of Health in Islamabad confirmed the new case of wild poliovirus in Gilgit-Baltistan's Diamer district. A 23-month-old child was diagnosed with poliovirus in the Tangir area of the district, the region's Health Secretary Asifullah Khan said.

Two PIOs charged for aiding scam syndicates

Singapore: Two Indian-origin men were among nine people charged in Singapore Monday for allegedly acting as money mules, enabling scam syndicates to use their bank accounts. Yuvan Thirumaran, 24, and Amarjit Singh Jugindar Singh, 50, were among six men and three women charged with scam-related offences, facing between one and 19 counts each, The Straits Times newspaper reported.

3 dead, 7 missing in Tibet landslide

Beijing: Three people were killed and seven others went missing in a landslide in Tibet, officials said Monday. Two people were injured in the landslide that displaced about 200,000 cubic metres of mud and rocks in Muta township of Qamdo city in Tibet Sunday night, experts from water and natural resources departments said. The injured people are in stable condition in the hospital, an official said. About 500 rescuers, medical workers and firefighters, as well as sniffer dogs, are involved in the search and rescue operation, supported by ambulances, excavators and telecommunication and electricity supply facilities, state-run Xinhua news agency quoted officials as saying.



We have to recognise the world has changed. With greater instability than there has been for many, many years, and greater threats

KEIR STARMER | PRIME MINISTER, UNITED KINGDOM

SWEDEN TO END INT'L ADOPTIONS

Sweden should phase out international adoptions, a government-appointed commission said Monday, after an inquiry prompted by concerns that children had been taken from their biological parents without permission. The commission identified irregularities including illegal adoptions and other unethical practices



RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

Peace talks end in an hour

Ukraine attack on Russian nuclear bombers overshadows peace talks in Turkey

REUTERS

Istanbul, June 2: Peace talks between Russia and Ukraine in Istanbul ended barely an hour after they began Monday, a day after a massive Ukrainian drone attack on Russia's nuclear-capable strategic bombers.

The talks - the second such direct contacts between the sides since 2022 - had already begun nearly two hours later than scheduled with no explanation of the delay.

Although the atmosphere was subdued and dialogue brief, the talks did yield an agreement to conduct a new prisoner exchange and Ukraine said another round of talks was on the agenda.

In Russia, before the talks began, angry war bloggers had called on Moscow to deliver a fearsome retaliatory blow against Kyiv after Ukraine Sunday launched one of its most ambitious attacks of the war, targeting Russian nuclear-capable long-range bombers in Siberia and elsewhere.

Ukraine and Russia have issued starkly different assessments of the damage done to Russia's fleet of strategic bombers - a key element in its nuclear arsenal - but it was clear from publicly available satellite imagery that Mos-



SECOND ROUND OF DIRECT TALKS HELD IN TURKEY

RUSSIA AND UKRAINE STANCES STILL FAR APART

BOTH SIDES AGREE TO NEW PRISONER SWAP

cow had suffered some serious equipment losses.

"The eyes of the whole world are focused on the contacts here," Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan had told the Russian and Ukrainian delegations at the start of talks as they faced off against each other on

opposite sides of the room in the sumptuous Ciragan Palace by the Bosphorus.

He said the aim of the meeting was to evaluate the conditions for a ceasefire, to discuss a possible meeting between the Russian and Ukrainian presidents, and to look at more prisoner exchange opportunities.

Ukrainian Defence Minister Rustem Umerov, who headed Kyiv's delegation, announced after the talks that a new prisoner exchange had been agreed to follow up on the biggest prisoner swap of the war brokered at the last round of talks.

He said the new exchange

MAN ATTACKS COLORADO CROWD WITH FIREBOMBS

REUTERS

Boulder, Colorado, June 2: Eight people were injured Sunday when a 45-year-old man yelled "Free Palestine" and threw incendiary devices into a crowd in Boulder, Colorado where a demonstration to remember the Israeli hostages who remain in Gaza was taking place, authorities said.

Four women and four men between 52 and 88 years old were transported to hospitals, Boulder police said. Authorities had earlier put the count of the injured at six and said at least one of them was in a critical condition.

"As a result of these preliminary facts, it is clear that this is a targeted act of violence and the FBI is investigating this as an act of terrorism," the FBI special agent in charge of the Denver Field Office, Mark Michalek, said.Michalek named the suspect as Mohamed Soliman, who was hospitalized shortly after the attack. Reuters could not immediately locate contact information for him or his family.

FBI Director Kash Patel also described the incident as a "targeted terror attack," and Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser said it appeared to be "a



hate crime given the group that was targeted." Boulder Police Chief Stephen Redfearn said he did not believe anyone else was involved. "We're fairly confident we have the lone suspect in custody," he said.

The attack took place on the Pearl Street Mall, a popular pedestrian shopping district in the shadow of the University of Colorado, during an event organized by Run for Their Lives, an organization devoted to drawing attention to the hostages seized in the aftermath of Hamas's 2023 attack on Israel.

In a statement, the group said the walks have been held every week since then for the hostages, "without any violent incidents until today."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement that the victims were attacked "simply because they were Jews" and that he trusted US authorities would prosecute "the cold blood perpetrator to the fullest extent of the law".

Nationalist Karol Nawrocki wins Polish presidential poll

REUTERS

Warsaw, June 2: Nationalist opposition candidate Karol Nawrocki narrowly won Poland's presidential election, results showed Monday, delivering a big blow to the centrist government's efforts to cement Warsaw's pro-European orientation.

In a victory for European conservatives inspired by US President Donald Trump, Nawrocki secured 50.89% of the vote, election commission data showed. The outcome presages more political gridlock as he is likely to use his presidential veto to thwart Prime Minister Donald Tusk's liberal policy agenda. Tusk's government has been seeking to reverse judicial reforms made by the nationalist Law and Justice (PiS) government that lost power 18 months ago but President Andrzej Duda, a PiS ally, has blocked those efforts. Nawrocki is likely to continue that pattern as president.

The judicial reforms helped sour relations with Brussels under the PiS government. The European Union's top court ruled that a new procedure for appointing judges did not



guarantee their impartiality, opening the way for rulings to be questioned, and Brussels sued Poland after its Constitutional Tribunal questioned the primacy of EU law.

Nawrocki's rival, Rafal Trzaskowski, Tusk's ruling Civic Coalition (KO) candidate, had declared victory immediately after the publication of an exit poll late Sunday that showed the result would be very close.

"I'm sorry that I didn't manage to convince the majority of citizens of my vision of Poland," Trzaskowski said on X. "I congratulate Karol Nawrocki on winning the presidential election."

Nawrocki, a conservative historian and amateur boxer who was backed by PiS, had presented the vote as a referendum on Tusk's 18-month-old

Nationalist Nawrocki wins presidential election

Result is major blow for pro-EU government

Central European conservatives congratulate Nawrocki

PM Tusk expected to comment on the election at 1800 GMT

government.

"The referendum on the dismissal of the Tusk government has been won," PiS lawmaker Jacek Sasin wrote on X.

Tusk did not immediately comment on the election outcome. Public and private broadcasters said he would give a televised address at 8.00 pm Monday.

Poland's blue-chip stock index had shed around 2% by early afternoon Monday as investors anticipated more political paralysis. The zloty currency also fell versus the euro.

"Everything was on a knife edge," said 32-year-old IT specialist Patryk Marek. "Feelings are for sure mixed for this moment. But how small this margin was, it tells us how divided we are almost in half as voters."

Peshawar pre-partition ‘Picture House’ cinema razed for plaza

The theatre at once-vibrant "Cinema Road" near the historic Qissa Khwani Bazaar in Peshawar was established in 1931, before the partition of India and Pakistan, by Sikh trader Daswat Singh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Peshawar, Jun 2: The historic 'Picture House' cinema, once a cultural landmark of Peshawar, has been demolished, marking the symbolic end of once-thriving movie culture in this city of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The theatre at once-vibrant "Cinema Road" near the historic Qissa Khwani Bazaar in Peshawar was established in 1931, before the partition of India and Pakistan, by Sikh trader Das-

wat Singh.

The grandfather of Tayyab Raza, the current owner of the cinema, acquired it in 1947 from Singh. The 'Picture House', demolished to make way for a commercial plaza, remained a key cultural and entertainment hub in Peshawar for over eight decades and regularly hosted three shows a day.

The cinema, which showcased films in Pashto, Urdu, and Punjabi, gained immense popularity in the 1940s with the screening of Sohrab Modi's film Pukar in 1940 and Sikandar in 1941.

The 'Picture House', a part of the once bustling, famous entertainment city, drew audiences from across Peshawar and its surrounding areas.

The city also had Novelty Cinema and Tasveer Mahal on the same lane, earning the area the nickname "Cinema Road".

These cinemas kept the Qissa Khwani Bazaar alive late into the night, with the final shows ending as late as 2 am.



Crowds made way to the bazaar afterwards, where stalls selling tikka, lassi, and other traditional foods catered to filmgoers.

However, in the past five months, thirteen cinemas in Peshawar have been permanently closed, with most making way

for commercial plazas.

The closures have left dozens of employees jobless and raised concerns among artists and film enthusiasts alike.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Heritage Council General Secretary Shakil Waheedullah lamented the lack of government at-

tention towards preserving such historic institutions and warned that Peshawar's rich cultural identity was steadily fading into obscurity.

He expressed concern over the negligence of the archaeological and culture department for their failure to protect the demolition of historic structures of the pre-partition era.

Due to deteriorating economic conditions, cinema culture is declining across the province, he said, adding that employees were left unemployed because of the closures.

Waheedullah said that although the covid-19 pandemic played a role in reducing public gatherings, the growing popularity of Indian films and streaming applications lured audiences away from traditional cinema houses.

Picture House Cinema manager Wasim Khan said the cinema industry had suffered a huge loss due to movie-goers moving away from theatres.

Iran poised to dismiss US nuclear proposal

REUTERS

Dubai, June 2: Iran is poised to reject a US proposal to end a decades-old nuclear dispute, an Iranian diplomat said Monday, dismissing it as a "non-starter" that fails to address Tehran's interests or soften Washington's stance on uranium enrichment.

"Iran is drafting a negative response to the US proposal, which could be interpreted as a rejection of the US offer," the senior diplomat, who is close to Iran's negotiating team, told Reuters.

The US proposal for a new nuclear deal was presented to Iran Saturday by Omani Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Albusaidi, who was on a short visit to Tehran and has been mediating talks between Tehran and Washington.

After five rounds of discussions between Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Aragchi and President Donald Trump's Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, several obstacles remain.

Among them are Iran's rejection of a US demand that it commit to scrapping uranium enrichment and its refusal to ship abroad its entire existing stockpile of highly enriched uranium - possible raw material for nuclear bombs.

Tehran says it wants to master nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and has long denied accusations by Western powers that it is seeking to de-



Iran set to reject US proposal as failing to address its interests

US demands Iran scrap uranium enrichment and ship stockpile abroad

Iran seeks right to enrichment and guarantee US will not tear up future accord

velop nuclear weapons.

"In this proposal, the US stance on enrichment on Iranian soil remains unchanged, and there is no clear explanation regarding the lifting of sanctions," said the diplomat, who declined to be identified due to the sensitivity of the matter.

Aragchi said Tehran would formally respond to the proposal soon. Tehran demands the immediate removal of all US-imposed curbs that impair its oil-based economy. But the US says nuclear-related sanctions should be removed in phases.

The stakes are high for both sides. Trump wants to curtail Tehran's potential to produce a nuclear weapon that could trigger a regional nuclear arms race and perhaps threaten Israel. Iran's clerical establishment, for its part, wants to be rid of the devastating sanctions.

INDIA-PAK CONFLICT

Pakistan despatches teams to US, Russia to present its perspective

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Islamabad, Jun 2: A high-level Pakistani delegation, comprising three former foreign ministers, is travelling to the US as part of Islamabad's global diplomatic push to seek support following its recent conflict with India.

The Pakistani team will be in the US around the same time an Indian parliamentary delegation led by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor is visiting the US to highlight India's policy of zero-tolerance to terrorism and expose Pakistan's support to terrorist groups.

"On Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's directive, a high-level multi-party delegation will visit New York, Washington DC, London and Brussels from June 2," the Foreign Office (FO) said Monday.

The nine-member delegation is led by the Pakistan People's Party Chairman and former Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

The move comes after India sent seven multi-party delegations to 33 global capitals as part of its diplomatic outreach following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam that claimed 26 lives.

The others members of the Pakistani delegation to the US include federal minister Musadik Malik, former foreign ministers Hina Rabbani Khar and Khurram Dastgir Khan, former ministers Syed Faisal Ali Subzwari and Sherry Rehman, Senator Bushra Anjum Butt. It also includes two ex-foreign secretaries - Jailal Abbas Jilani and Tehmina Janjua.

The delegation will meet the UN Secretary-General, the president of the UN General Assembly, the ambassadors of the 14 countries of the 15-member UN Security Council, including the Chinese and Russian UN envoys, Geo News reported.



of the day

quote

For decades, India's real estate narrative revolved around the top 7-8 metro cities. But that story is being rewritten. What we're witnessing is not just spillover from saturated metros; it's a fundamental reshaping of the growth landscape. Cities once considered peripheral are now emerging as vibrant hubs for housing, employment, infrastructure, and investment

By removing inefficiencies, aggregating demand, and leveraging technology, we're not just making e-commerce accessible to Bharat; we're making it the most affordable way to shop for daily essentials

India is a very strategic market for L'Oreal. We intend to more than double our business in the next couple of years, expand our factories which are today manufacturing 95 per cent of what we sell in India and also exporting to rest of the region

SHORT TAKES

Dairy cos to record almost 13% growth
Mumbai: Dairy companies are likely to witness 11-13 per cent revenue growth this financial year on strong demand, increasing share of value-added products (VAP) and higher milk prices, a report said Monday. The profitability will improve by 20-30 basis points (bps), aided by better realisations, healthy milk supply keeping procurement prices in check and a favourable shift towards VAP, which fetches higher margins, Crisil Ratings said in a report. Despite the higher capex, credit profiles of dairy companies are expected to remain stable because of improving cash flows and strong balance sheets, the report said. According to Crisil Ratings, profitability will benefit from improving realisations and a modest increase in procurement prices, resulting in a 20-30 bps improvement in operating margin to 5.3 per cent, supporting the overall cash generation. Debt protection metrics are also expected to remain comfortable this fiscal, and the capital structure will remain steady, it stated.

HCLTech, UiPath to drive agentic automation
New Delhi: IT major HCLTech Monday said it has partnered with US software firm UiPath to drive agentic automation for the latter's customers globally. The partnership will drive large-scale transformation for businesses across various sectors, facilitating intelligent and more autonomous business process operations that need minimal human intervention, a company statement said. HCLTech will leverage its artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities to deploy the UiPath platform, enabling autonomous operations in finance, supply chain, procurement, customer service, marketing, and human resources. Additionally, HCLTech will set up an AI Lab with UiPath in India to develop Industry Focused Repeatable Solutions (IFRS) and MVPs for the full automation lifecycle. "Partnering with HCLTech allows UiPath to extend the power of its AI-powered automation to enterprises globally, accelerating intelligent transformation at scale," said Ashim Gupta, CFO at UiPath.

India unveils new EV policy to lure global manufacturers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jun 2: India's new Electric Vehicle (EV) policy outlook seems brighter for India as the government has decided to lower import tax for foreign automakers that pledge to invest in domestic EV production, as it looks to strengthen local manufacturing and draw in global industry leaders. Automakers will be permitted to import up to 8,000 electric vehicles at a reduced duty rate of 15 per cent, compared to the current 70-100 per cent, provided they commit to investing ₹4,150 crore in local EV manufacturing, according to the new EV policy notified by the government. They will be required to begin operations at their manufacturing facilities in India within three years of receiving approval and must meet specified local content requirements, according to the notified guidelines under the scheme to promote manufacturing of E-Passenger cars in India. The government Monday notified guidelines to give effect to the Scheme, paving the way for electric car makers to apply once the application window opens. Officials said the application window may open in a couple of weeks for at least 120 days. "To encourage the global manufacturers to invest under the Scheme, the approved applicants will be allowed to import Completely Built Units (CBUs) of e-4W with a minimum CIF value of \$35,000 at reduced customs duty of 15 per cent for a period of 5 years from the application approval date. Approved applicants



'We do', say global automakers, but for Tesla

Global auto giants including Mercedes Benz, Skoda-Volkswagen, Hyundai, and Kia have shown interest in manufacturing electric cars in India. The said companies have expressed interest during the stakeholder discussions between the government and the industry regarding the 'scheme to promote manufacturing of E-Passenger Cars in India', the detailed guidelines for which were unveiled by Union Heavy Industries Minister H D Kumaraswamy. However, Tesla is not interested in manufacturing cars in India but keen on establishing showrooms in the country, the minister said. US President Donald Trump has said that if Tesla were to build a factory in India to circumvent that country's tariffs, it would be "unfair" to their national interest. It is to be noted that Tesla CEO Elon Musk had said in April last year that his visit to India has been delayed due to the company's heavy obligations.

would be required to make a minimum investment of ₹4,150 cr in line with the provisions of the scheme," an official statement said. The maximum duty foregone per applicant has been capped at ₹6,484 crore on the investment made under the Scheme. Expenditure incurred on new plant, machinery, equipment and associated utilities, engineering research and development (ER&D) would be eligible for availing investment-linked benefits under the scheme. However, expenditure on land will not be considered. The window for receiving applications through the notice

inviting applications will be for a period of 120 days (or more). Further, the Ministry of Heavy Industries shall have the right to open the application window, as and when required till March 15, 2026 with a non-refundable application fee of ₹5,00,000. To qualify and receive benefits under the scheme, an applicant is required to have global group revenue from automotive manufacturing of a minimum ₹10,000 crores. Moreover, the global investment of a company or its group companies in fixed assets must be at least ₹3,000 crore, based on the latest audited annual financial statements.

Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai witness dip in PV sales

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jun 2: Maruti Suzuki and Hyundai Motor India Monday reported a dip in passenger vehicle dispatches to dealers in the domestic market last month. Maruti's domestic passenger vehicle dispatches to dealers stood at 1,35,962 units last month compared with 1,44,002 units in the year-ago period, a decline of 6 per cent. Sales of mini segment cars Alto and S-Presso declined to 6,776 units against 9,902 units in the same month last year. Similarly, sales of compact cars, including Baleno, Celerio, Dzire, Ignis, Swift, and WagonR, also fell to 61,502 units compared to 68,206 units in May 2024. Utility vehicles Grand Vitara, Brezza, Ertiga, XL6, and Jimny clocked sales of 54,899 units last month, from 54,204 units earlier. MSI Senior Executive Officer (Marketing & Sales) Partho Banerjee said the dip in overall sales in the entry-level segment is impacting the overall performance of the company. Whereas, Hyundai India said its dispatches to dealers in the domestic market declined 11

per cent to 43,861 units in May compared with 49,151 units in the year-ago period. Sunday, Tata Motors reported an 11 per cent year-on-year drop in total passenger vehicle sales to 42,040 units in May. Mahindra & Mahindra said its passenger vehicle dispatches rose to 52,431 vehicles last month, a growth of 21 per cent, as compared to 43,218 units in May last year. Kia India reported a 14 per cent year-on-year increase in dispatches to dealers in the domestic market in May. The company billed 22,315 units last month against 19,500 units in May 2024. Toyota Kirloskar Motor Sunday said its sales increased 22 per cent year-on-year to 30,864 units in May. The company's wholesale to dealers in the domestic market stood at 29,280 units last month, while exports were at 1,584 units. In May 2024, TKM had sold a total of 25,273 units. In the two-wheelers space, Hero Moto Corp said its domestic dispatches to dealers rose to 4,88,997 units last month, compared to 4,79,450 units in the year-ago period.

AI & Machine Learning sector pleasing employers

Real estate 5% and insurance 6% growth emerged as relatively bright spots

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jun 2: While hiring in the Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI/ML) sector posted 25 per cent year-on-year growth in May 2025, the broader Information Technology sector saw a decline in job opportunities. According to the Naukri (an online job portal) JobSpeak May 2025 report, overall hiring in the IT sector fell by 5 per cent compared to the corresponding



period in the previous year. "In an otherwise stable job market, what stood out in May was the continued momentum in AI/ML hiring across metros alongside steady demand for senior professionals, a trend

that's held firm over the past year," Naukri Chief Business Officer Pawan Goyal said. In May 2025, overall hiring remained stable, except industries like real estate (5 per cent growth) and insurance (6 per

Capital market dips amid global stress

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai, Jun 2: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty Monday ended marginally lower, following sluggish trends in global markets amid renewed global trade concerns. After tumbling 796.75 points or 0.97 per cent to 80,654.26 in intra-day trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex witnessed volatile trends and later ended 77.26 points or 0.09 per cent lower at 81,373.75. The NSE Nifty dipped 34.10 points or 0.14 per cent to settle at 24,716.60. During the day, it dropped 224.55 points or 0.90 per cent to 24,526.15. From the Sensex firms, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel, Tata Motors, Titan, HDFC Bank, IndusInd Bank, Infosys and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the biggest laggards. On the other hand, Adani Ports, Mahindra & Mahindra, Power Grid, Eternal and Hindustan Unilever were among the gainers.

The BSE midcap gauge jumped 0.58 per cent and small cap index went up by 0.36 per cent. Among sectoral indices, BSE Focused IT dropped 0.70 per cent, metal (0.58 per cent), teck (0.45 per cent), consumer durables (0.40 per cent), commodities (0.18 per cent) and oil & gas (0.13 per cent). Realty surged 2.38 per cent, services (1.20 per cent), FMCG (0.65 per cent), utilities (0.57 per cent) and power (0.35 per cent). In Asian markets, Japan's Nikkei and Hong Kong's Hang Seng settled lower, while South Korea's Kospi ended in positive territory. European markets were trading lower in mid-session deals. US markets ended on a mixed note Friday.

Clearances obtained for different coal blocks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jun 2: The government Monday said during the month of May three important clearances were obtained, including forest clearances and mining lease execution for different coal blocks. According to a coal ministry statement, during May three important clearances were obtained, including Stage-I and Stage-II forest clearances and mining lease execution for different coal blocks. Forest clearance for coal mining projects is a mandatory process, required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, when a project involves the diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes. This process ensures that the

project proponent compensates for the loss of forest cover through compensatory afforestation and other measures. While, mining lease is a legal agreement that grants a company the right to extract minerals from a specific land area, typically in exchange for rent or royalties. It's a contract between a landowner (often the government) and a mining company, allowing them to explore and mine the land for a set period. The ministry further said that coal production from captive and commercial mines for the month of May was at 16.432 million tonnes (MT), representing a year-on-year growth of 24.57 per cent compared to May 2024.

OMFED announces incentive, launches new milk products



Bhubaneswar, June 2: OMFED announced ₹3 per litre incentive for dairy farmers Monday, following a directive from Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on the occasion of World Milk Day 2025. Addressing a press conference at OMFED Head Office, MD Vijay Amruta Kulange said, "Starting June 1, dairy farmers across Odisha will receive an additional ₹3 per litre of milk. Of this, ₹2 per litre will be borne by the state government and ₹1 per litre by OMFED." Kulange added that cooperative societies and milk federations would also receive ₹1 per litre of milk. He said, "The consumer price of milk remains unchanged for now. A decision on price adjustments will be taken after the committee meeting in 15 to 20 days." The initiative is expected to benefit nearly 2.5 lakh dairy farmers in the state. Additionally, OMFED introduced three new products includes 1 kg plain curd in bucket packaging, 175 ml and 350 ml pouches of Binjharपुरी desi Cow A2 Ghee, and 500 ml glass bottles of Binjharपुरी desi Cow A2 Milk with 90 day shelf life. Thanking the Chief Minister for the initiative, Kulange said, "This decision reaffirms the government's commitment to Odisha's dairy farmers and the rural economy."

COAI slams TRAI satcom advocacy

TRAI would surely be fully aware that with the advent of next-generation non-geostationary satellite orbit (NGSO) broadband services including low Earth orbit (LEO) and medium Earth orbit (MEO) constellations satellite services are now capable of directly substituting and competing with terrestrial fixed and mobile broadband networks, said COAI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jun 2: Cellular Operators Associations of India (COAI) has approached the telecom department to raise concerns over Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommendations on the satcom spectrum, saying "incorrect assumptions" have led to unjustifiably low spectrum charges for satellite services relative to terrestrial networks. In a letter dated May 29, COAI claimed that Trai's recommendations are based on incorrect assumptions and that their implementation will hit the sustainability of terrestrial services, which form the foundation of India's digital infrastructure. COAI argued that the recommendations provide a regulatory advantage to commercial NGSO satellites against terrestrial broadband service providers and, if accepted by the DoT in their present form, will undermine competition and create a non-level playing field.



The association also highlights the flaws in TRAI's recommendations that it lacks the most fundamental and contentious issue of a level playing field between terrestrial service providers and satellite operators serving the same market. "Use of accurate capacity data from both terrestrial and satellite operators would have yielded a more transparent and reliable assessment of respective capacities of satellite and terrestrial networks," it said. The "fundamental flaw" in the capacity assumptions ex-

ercise undermines the DoT's clear mandate to ensure competitive parity between satellite and terrestrial services. COAI further said that the regulator was expected to recommend a pricing structure that ensures a level playing field between satellite-based and terrestrial operators after doing a complete techno-economic analysis, but has instead, surprisingly, based its recommendations on the ad-hoc spectrum charges set on an administrative basis for non-competing VSAT services using Geo-Stationary

(GSO) satellites. This comes after the telecom regulator last month recommended that satellite communication companies like Starlink pay four per cent of their adjusted gross revenue (AGR) as spectrum charges to the government. COAI further argued that the additional proposal to subsidise user terminals or satellite operators through the Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) fund further tilts the level playing field against the terrestrial operator. The association said that limited consideration of stakeholder inputs coupled with the absence of comprehensive consultation on key issues, such as ensuring a level playing field, evaluating network capacity, determining assignment methods, and establishing fair spectrum valuation, along with reliance on flawed assumptions, has culminated in recommendations that are not only inequitable but may also contravene the principles embodied in the Telecommunications Act, 2023.

NMDC targets 55MT iron ore production in FY26

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, Jun 2: NMDC aims to increase iron ore production by 22 per cent to 55 million tonnes in FY26, as part of its aggressive 100 million tonnes expansion plan by 2030. The company had produced 45 million tonnes of iron ore in the financial year ended March 31, 2025. As per a regulatory filing, NMDC has reported a 45 per cent rise in iron ore output to 8.43 MT in April-May period of FY26. Tata Steel has initiated discussions with NMDC and Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) to secure future iron ore supplies, said Tata Steel's VP, DB Sundara Ramam.

GUKESH TURNS TABLES

Carlsen slams table after Indian teen prodigy scores first Classical Win over the World No 1 in Norway Chess showdown

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Stavanger, June 2: World champion D Gukesh got his revenge on Magnus Carlsen as he pounced on a blunder by the World No 1 to defeat him for the first time in a classical game, leaving the Norwegian superstar so frustrated that he banged his fist on the board after Round 6 of Norway Chess Tournament here.

The win Sunday propelled 19-year-old Gukesh to third position with 8.5 points and he is just one point shy of joint leaders Carlsen and American Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana.

Five-time world champion Carlsen seemed to have the upper-hand almost throughout the four-hour-long contest but a critical mistake allowed Gukesh to turn the tables on the Norwegian and secure a remarkable win.

Carlsen realised his mistake but by then it was too late. The Norwegian superstar vented his frustration by banging his fist on the table, causing the chess board to be dishevelled.

Disbelief and frustration was writ large on his face as he shook hands with Gukesh before placing all the pieces back on the board and walking away patting the winner on the back.

Gukesh was calm personified amid all this. He closed



There wasn't much I could do. It was just clearly lost (his position)...luckily he (Carlsen) got into a time scramble. First Classical win over Magnus, not the way I expected (or) wanted it to be but I will take it. I was just trying to make moves (today) which kind of were tricky for him. 99 out of 100 times I would lose... just a lucky day

D GUKESH | WORLD CHAMPION

his eyes for a moment after the rather tense handshake with a clearly upset Carlsen.

The victory had come after a crushing Round 1 loss to iconic player which had cast a shadow on whether Gukesh would be able to overcome Carlsen's challenge in the reverse game.

Arjun Erigaisi, following an Armageddon tie-break win against China's Wei Yi, is tied fourth with Hikaru Nakamura on 7.5 points in a tournament where virtually all the six players have a chance of winning the prestigious title.

Carlsen's time scramble gone wrong

Carlsen, playing with black pieces, had earlier outplayed Gukesh with a near-perfect game. But the Indian kept prolonging the proceedings

by finding the right moves to survive.

Eventually, Carlsen dropped his knight, and Gukesh pounced on his opponent's error to go for the kill.

"One thing I learned from this tournament was time scrambles can go out of control," said Gukesh.

On his loss in Round 1 despite being in an advantageous position, Gukesh said, "I don't know, I'm still kind of shaken from that game. I don't know what happened, basically."

"There wasn't much I could do; it was clearly lost," he added.

Gukesh's Polish coach Grzegorz Gajewski said the win was

a huge confidence booster for the world champion.

"It's going to give him a bump of confidence. Because once you've done it, you know you can do it again. And that's the plan," said Gajewski.

"After the first game (which Gukesh lost to Carlsen), we saw that the main problem was time management, and because of the time trouble, he managed to lose the position that he should not have lost.

"So, we decided that we had to correct this time management, and already in the game with Hikaru (Nakamura), we could witness this improvement and progress," he added.

The tournament saw another intense day in the women's section with R Vaishali getting the better of Koneru Humpy in the Armageddon tie-break.

RESULTS (ROUND 6):

(Open) D Gukesh (Ind – 8.5) beat Magnus Carlsen (Nor – 9.5); Arjun Erigaisi (Ind – 7.5) beat Wei Yi (Chn – 6.5) in Armageddon tie-break; Fabiano Caruana (USA – 9.5) beat Hikaru Nakamura (USA – 7.5) in Armageddon tie-break. (Women) R Vaishali (Ind – 8) beat Koneru Humpy (Ind – 9.5) in Armageddon tie-break; Ju Wenjun (Chn – 8.5) beat Lei Tingjie (Chn – 6) in Armageddon tie-break; Anna Myzzychuk (Ukr – 9.5) beat Sara Khadem (Esp – 6) in Armageddon tie-break.

French Open: Djoko clinches 100th win

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Paris, June 2: Novak Djokovic etched another chapter in his storied career Monday, becoming just the second player in history to register 100 career wins at Roland Garros.

The 38-year-old Serbian achieved the milestone in dominant fashion, cruising past Britain's Cameron Norrie 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 to advance to the quarterfinals for a record-extending 16th consecutive year at the clay-court major.

"It's a very pretty number, but 101 victories sounds better," Djokovic quipped after the match. "I will continue to search for another victory, it's clearly not finished for me here. I'm very honoured to make history in this sport, which has given me everything in my life."

With Monday's triumph, the three-time French Open champion joined Rafael Nadal, who has 112 wins at the event, as the only two players to record 100 victories at Roland Garros. Djokovic's win-loss record in Paris now stands at an impressive 100-16.

The 24-time Grand Slam winner wrapped up the match in just two hours and 14 minutes, becoming the oldest men's singles quarterfinalist at Roland Garros since Istvan Gulyas in 1971. "I feel good. I always have high expectations," Djokovic said.

the peloton passed through the Vatican and was blessed by Pope Leo XIV.

The 143-kilometer (89-mile) final stage concluded with a circuit of eight laps through downtown Rome and finished next to the Circus Maximus — the ancient Roman chariot-racing stadium.

At age 32, Yates already acknowledged that this victory is "the peak" of his career. His best finish in the Tour de France was fourth in 2023.



It's a defining moment of my career, there's no doubt about that. I'm still in shock of what I've done. It's something that I've been working toward for a long time

SIMON YATES

tive neutralized period just before the mostly ceremonial final stage actually began,

Shukla set to become acting BCCI president as Binny hits age cap

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 2: Veteran cricket administrator Rajeev Shukla is set to replace Roger Binny as BCCI president in an interim capacity after the latter turns 70 next month, BCCI sources told PTI Monday.

Binny, who had replaced Sourav Ganguly as the Board president in 2022, turns 70 July 19, crossing the age-limit threshold for a BCCI office-bearer. Shukla, 65, is currently serving as the BCCI vice-president, a post he has held since 2020. He would be the active BCCI chief until fresh elections are held during the body's AGM in September.

"As per convention, the senior most office-bearer takes charge in a such a scenario. He (Shukla) will perform that role until fresh elections are held in September," said a BCCI source. The Rajya Sabha MP from the Congress party has previously also served as the chairman of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

Most recently, CK Khanna had served as the acting BCCI president from 2017 to 2019 during the tenure of the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators that governed the board for 33 months. Binny was the president of the Karnataka State Cricket Association before taking charge of the world's richest cricket board three years ago.

Counted among the greats of the game, the former all-rounder was a member of the 1983 World Cup-winning team under Kapil Dev. He later went on to coach the India Under-19 team that won the 2000 edition of ICC World Cup for that age group.

India continues to be second in AIU's doping offenders' list

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi, June 2: India continued to occupy the second spot in the latest global list of track-and-field athletes ineligible to compete due to doping offences, the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) has revealed.

India has 128 athletes in the list released by AIU May 31, with Kenya (134) on top. The list also includes athletes serving a period of ineligibility as a result of national level cases and decisions. The AIU has jurisdiction over international-level athletes and their support persons.

For many years, India has been among the countries with highest number of dope offend-



ers, and top officials of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) have voiced concern that the country could be banned if the trend continues. In May, the AIU handed sanctions to 14 athletes, out of which five were Kenyans

and three were from India.

Alarmed by the rising doping cases among Indian track and field athletes, the AFI had last year set up a high-powered committee headed by Delhi Police Special Cell Commissioner

EPIC SHOWDOWN ON CARDS IPL set to crown new winner

CLASH OF TITANS AS RCB, PBKS EYE MAIDEN TITLE TO END LONG TROPHY DROUGHT



We are not looking on the stage that we are in the finals. We will try to play our best cricket. We are not playing here for the stage. I always like to keep things simple

RAJAT PATIDAR | CAPTAIN, RCB

The job is only half done. It's not yet finished. We have another match tomorrow. From that mindset, my approach was that my job is half done. I have to come back tomorrow

SHREYAS IYER | CAPTAIN, PBKS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahmedabad, June 2: Virat Kohli's nearly two-decade long agonising wait to lay hands on an IPL Trophy with Royal Challengers Bengaluru will be up against Shreyas Iyer's resolve to make first-time winners out of the tenacious Punjab Kings when the 18th season finale of the world's biggest T20 league unfolds here Tuesday.

The summit clash here at the Narendra Modi Stadium could witness a thousands of fans donning jersey No 18 to support Kohli, who is in an IPL final for a fourth time overall.

The sentiments of the fans would indeed run high given it will be Kohli's last appearance on the cricket field for a while, having recently retired from Test cricket and India's next ODI assignment a few months away.

Parting ways with issues that plagued their previous campaigns, RCB have been clinical all the way through, coming into the final with an eight-wicket hammering of Punjab in a one-sided Qualifier 1.

Kohli (614 runs) has gone about his business like every other year, piling up runs at the top and continuing to lay platforms but where it has made the difference for RCB is that there's a lot more substance to their batting beyond the superstar.

Kohli has not been the only one to carry the focus and attention this year, rather he has quietly gone about his business in fortifying for RCB. Phil Salt is a perfect foil for the Indian superstar who goes all-out in his attack, while Mayank Agarwal, skipper Rajat Patidar and Jitesh Sharma are the trusted lieutenants of that batting line-up.

Like Kohli in their batting, the calm and composed Josh Hazlewood (21 wickets) has been at the helm of RCB's rise

FAREWELL FOLKS!

KLAASEN RETIRES FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

Cape Town: South African power-hitter Heinrich Klaasen Monday announced his retirement from all forms of international cricket with immediate effect as he aims to strike a work-life balance, prioritising his commitments in franchise leagues across the globe. The 33-year-old Klaasen had announced his retirement from Test cricket in January last year and has now also decided to quit the white ball formats having represented the Proteas in 4 Tests, 60 ODIs and 58 T20Is in which he scored 2764 runs. "It is a sad day for me as I announce that I have decided to step away from international cricket. It took me a long time to decide what's best for me and my family for the future. It was truly a very difficult decision but also one that I have absolute peace with," Klaasen announced on his Instagram. One of the most sought after batters in the T20 leagues, Klaasen had recently represented Sunrisers Hyderabad in the IPL and scored a ton in the concluding league game. His next assignment will be Major League Cricket in the United States for Seattle Orcas later this month.

MAXWELL QUILTS ODIS TO FOCUS ON T20 FORMAT

Melbourne: Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell Monday retired from ODIs to focus on next year's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka, saying that he did not want to "play for selfish reasons" given how his body has been struggling to hold up. The 36-year-old explosive batter and often underestimated off-spin bowler played 149 ODI matches for Australia including what many the greatest one-day innings of all-time. Maxwell Afghanistan at the 2023 World Cup with his side reeling In a high-pressure situation and battling severe cramps heat, he smashed 201 off just 128 balls to snatch victory from Australia went on to win the World Cup, beating favourites India in I was letting the team down a little bit with how body was reacting good chat with (Chair of Selectors) George Bailey and I asked him what forward," he told the 'Final Word Podcast'. "We talked about the 2027 him I don't think I am going to make that, it's time to start planning for have a crack at it and make the position their own."

