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"We are all born so beautiful. The greatest tragedy is being convinced we are not." — Rupi Kaur









INSIDE



Sabarmati Express derails in U.P.; no casualties

s many as 20 coaches of the Sabarmati Express (train no. 19168) from Varanasi to Ahmedabad derailed between stations in Uttar Pradesh early on Saturday morning after its engine struck an object on the tracks. No casualties or injuries have been reported. () PAGE 3



Nadda monitors monkeypox

NEW DELHI With the World Health

Organization declaring monkeypox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, a detailed review of

NIA chargesheets four in organ trade racket case

Agency on Saturday chargesheeted four accused in an international organ trade racket which was busted by the Kerala Police after a man returning from Iran was detained at the Cochin

year 'n PAGE 3

Governor gives nod to prosecute Karnataka CM

Emergency meet of State Cabinet says it is 'illegal, unconstitutional, against spirit of democracy'; Siddaramaiah rules out resignation, thanks Cabinet colleagues for 'complete solidarity: Gehlot cites in his communication a 2004 ruling by a five-judge Supreme Court Bench related to Madhya Pradesh, seeks neutral, objective, and non-partisan probe

arnataka Gover-nor Thaawar-chand Gehlot on Saturday sanctioned the investigation and prosecution of Chief Minister Sidtion of Chief Minister Sid-daramaiah in a case of alleged corruption in the allotment of land to his wife by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

The sanction has been given based on petitions submitted by two Bengalusarian submitted by two Bengalusarian submitted by two Bengalusarian submitted by two Bengalusarian submitted by the submi nor's Secretariat on Satur-day said that sanction has been given under Section 17A [for investigation] of the Prevention of Corrup218 [for prosecution] of the Bharatiya Nagarika Su-raksha Samhitha, 2023, "for the commission of the alleged offences men-tioned in the petitions". Later on Saturday, Mr.

Later on Saturday, Mr. Siddaramaiah chaired an emergency meeting of the State Cabinet, which un-animously condemned Mr. Gehlot's decision, terming it "libeal, understand it in the condemned of the mocracy and federalism" and decided to fight the case legally.

and decided to fight the case legally.

The Chief Minister ruled out his resignation and thanked his Cabinet col-leagues for expressing complete solidarity with him.

Ukraine used U.S.-made rockets to strike Kursk: Russia

m. In his communication, the Governor cited a 2004 ruling by a five-judge Bench of the Supreme Court related to Madhya Pradesh. He said that the



of overwhelming material showing that a prime facie "Upon perusal of the pe-tition along with the mate-

op court had held that if covernors did not have their discretion based on facts and circumstances, it would lead to a "complete massmuch as it would then be open for governments to refuse sanction in spite to refuse sanction in spite the same set of facts," the

Governor said.

"It is very necessary that
a neutral, objective and non-partisan investigation should be conducted. I am

BJP demands Siddaramaiah's resignation

NEW DELHI
The Bharatiya Janata Party on
Saturday sought the
resignation of Karmataka Chief
Minister Siddaramaiah to
ensure an "impartial and independent" probe into his alleged role in the MUDA site Motment scam. » PAGE 4

prima facie satisfied that the allegations and the supporting materials dis-close commission of of-fences... I am satisfied that sanction can be accorded against Chief Minister Sid-daramaiah on the allega-tions," he added.

State Ministers and oth-er Congress leaders ac-cused the Governor of acting at the behest of the BJP leadership, accusing the Bhavan to destabilise the Congress government in Karnataka. The Opposition BJP and Janata Dal(S) the Council of Ministers. hailed the Governor's decision, and reiterated their demand for Mr. Siddaramaiah to step down.

How events panned out How events panned out
The Governor rejected
show-cause notice to Mr.
Mr. Siddaramatish has
Mr. Siddaramatish h

Cabinet "strongly advised" Mr. Gehlot to reject the pe-tition and withdraw the show-cause notice. The Chief Minister had recused

The Deputy CM accused the Union government of attempting to destabilise a democratically elected go vernment in Karnataka. The Governor rejected

hours after the complaint was filed, asking why pro-secution should not be per-mitted in the case of al-distribution of sites in MU-DA. On August 3, the Chief Minister replied, denying the allegations and the sites of "illegally" taking over distribution of sites in MU-distribution of sites in MU-distribution of sites in MU-distribution of sites in MU-tion of the sites of the sites of the sites of the manufacture allotted the al-ternative sites in 2021, at a time when the BJP was in time when the BJP was in Children and the sites of the sites of the sites of the sites of the complete of the sites of ternative sites in 2021, at a time when the BJP was in power in Karnataka. The CM denied any role in the

People's champion



plan for safety of doctors tindu Shajan Perappadan EW DELHI The Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry on Saturday requested agitat-ing doctors to resume their duties "in the larger public

Russia's Foreign Ministry said Ukraine had used Western rockets, likely U.S.-made HIMARS, to destroy a bridge over the Seym river in the Kursk region,

killing volunteers trying to evacuate civilians. "For the first time, the Kursk region was hit by Western-made rocket launchers, probably Amer-ican HIMARS," Maria Zakapp.
"As a result of the attack
on the bridge over the

Seym River in the Glushko-vo district, it was com-pletely destroyed, and vo-lunteers who were assisting the evacuated ci-support of the couraging Ukraine's first ground offensive on Rus-

sian territory and said Ky-iv's "terrorist invasion" would not change the course of the war. The United States, which has said it cannot al-

low Russian President Vladimir Putin to win the war he launched in February he launched in February 2022, so far deems the sur-prise incursion a protec-tive move that justifies the use of U.S. weaponry, offi-cials in Washington said.

cials in Washington said. Russia kept up its assault on Ukraine on Saturday even as Ukrainian forces pushed into Russia's Kursk border region.

A Russian missile sparked a blaze in the city of Sumy

Russian attack

and also damaged cars and nearby buildings, said Uk-raine's State Emergency Service. It said that the hit cruise missile and an aerial

Ukraine's air force also said it had shot down 14 Russian drones overnight, including over the Kyiv

Kursk on edge Meanwhile, fighting conti-nued in Russia's Kursk re-gion, where Ukrainian troops have been deployed since Aug. 6 in a bid to div-ert the Kremlin's military focus away from the front line in Ukraine.

IMA strike affects patients: association weighs Centre's

interest", and assured them that a committee would be formed to "suggest all possible measures" for ensuring the safety of healthcare professionals

healthcare professionals.

Doctors across the country participated in a mean country participated in middle in the country of the country

and several groups, includ-ing the nursing association, extending support for the strike. Hospital services in

Hospital services in most States including Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Chattisgarh, Rajasthan, Tana, Uttar Pradesh and those in the Northeast, were adversely hit. Vaokan said it was studying the Ministry's statement. He random issued by the Ministry's statement. He random issued by the Ministry's according to th

aspects," he said. The IMA has written to Prime Minister Narendra

The IMA has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that doctors, espe-cially women, are vulnera-ble to violence because of the nature of the profes-sion, "It is for the authori-ties to provide for the safe-ty of doctors inside boostitals and camuses." hospitals and campuses," it said while listing out de-mands including assured security and restricted duty hours. "We appeal to you for your intervention. This will give confidence to not only women doctors but also to every woman in the workplace. Sixty per cent of Indian doctors are women. All healthcare professionals deserve

peaceful ambience and sa-fety at the workplace," the IMA said. Earlier, the Ministry an-nounced that "a commit-tee will be formed to sug-gest all possible measures for ensuring the safety of healthcare professionals. Representatives of all stapeaceful ambience and sa

careful consideration of all keholders will be invited to

Federation of Resident Doctors Association (FOR-DA), IMA, and resident doctors' associations of go-wernmental medical colleg-met Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda in the aftermath of the incident and put forth their demands re-garding the security of healthcare workers.

"The Ministry has heard the demands of the representatives and assured them of all possible efforts to ensure the security of healthcare professionals The representatives were informed that the govern ment is well aware of the situation. It was observed that 26 States have already that 26 States have already passed legislation for the protection of healthcare workers," said a senior offi-cial in the Ministry.



Cancer medicines trigger radioactive alarm at airport

The Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport in Lucknow on Saturday afternoon faced a brief scare and panic after a radioactive alarm went off in the cargo area of Terminal 3. The airport authorities called the National Disaster airport authorities called the National Disaster Response Force and the State Disaster Response Force teams, and an area of roughly one kilometre radhas was evacuated as a precautionary measure. Later, the shipment in question, which contained cancer medicines, vas declared safe. The incident did not impact flight operations. "There were no casualt operations continued without disruption," said a statement from the Lucknow airport.

Air India cabin crew member assaulted at London hotel

An Air India cabin crew member was sexually as a constant of the constant of t Mumbai, said airline sources. "We are providing all possible support to our colleague, including professional counselling," the airline said. The matter is also being pursued with the local police

Bring back Netaji's remains to India, demands his daughter

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's daughter Anita Netaji Subbas Chandra Bose's daughter Anita Bose Pfaff has Joined other members of the Netaji family demanding that the mortal remains of the national hero be brought to the country. Ms. Bose Pfaff, in a statement shared during the 78th Pfaff, in a statement shared during the 78th Independence Day, stated that it was time that the Independence Day, stated that it was time that the freedom struggle be brought home. "For 79 years, Japan, especially three generations of head priests of Renkoll Temple in Tokyo, have order, and the state of the priests of the shared scale;" she said, noting that many Indians continue to remember Netaji with gratitude and affection after all these years.

VHP plans nationwide Dharm Sammelans in SC/ST clusters

In an attempt to strengthen its outreach to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe scheduled Caste and scheduled Tribe communities and to counter the Opposition's claims that the BJP wants to make changes to the Constitution, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) is set to organise 'Dharm Sammelans' (religious ices) in SC/ST clusters and villages across conterences) in SC/ST clusters and villages across the country. Many seers will visit and east at Dalit homes as part of the campaign which is scheduled to start a month before Deepavali. A senior VHP leader told The Hindu that heads of various religious sects have been urged to visit slum areas. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh will also join the campaign at several places.

SUDOKU



Nadda monitors India's monkeypox preparedness

While there have been no reported cases of monkeypox in the country, the World Health Organization has declared the disease a Public Health Emergency of International Concern



Precautionary steps
"In the meeting chaired by
the Union Health Minister,
it was decided that as a
matter of abundant caution, certain measures including sensitising the
health units at all the airports, seaports, am
get the testing labour control of the
testing labour control (32,
in number), seaports un
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At a meeting chaired by the Health Minister, it was decided to put in place precautionary measures immediately. ANI

ing, isolating and manag-ing any case, etc., be im-mediately put in place," the Ministry said in a press

tease. The Health Ministry said The Health Ministry said that monkeypox infections are usually self-limiting, lasting two to four weeks, and patients generally re-cover with supportive management. The trans-mission requires pro-longed close contact with an infected person, and is

generally through the sex-ual route, direct contact with body/lesion fluid, or

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Union Service Public The Union Service Public Commission (UPSC) on Sa-turday issued an advertise-ment to recruit 45 joint se-cretarles, directors, and deputy secretaries across 24 Central Ministries

contaminated clothing and linen. en. The WHO had declared monkeypox as a PHEIC in July 2022, and subsequent-ly revoked it in May 2023.

total of 30 monkeypox cases have been detected in India, with the last case report of the last case case control of the last case control, WHO, Indian Council of Medical Record of the National Centre for Disease Control, WHO, Indian Council of Medical Revector Borne Disease Control Disease Con Vector Borne Disease Con trol Programme, Directo rate General of Health Ser vices, Central government hospitals, and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

Sciences.

"Although the possibility of a few imported cases being detected in the coming weeks is not entirely ruled out, it was assessed ruled out, it was assessed the season of the

Opposition targets U.P. govt. on teacher recruitment 'scam'

The Hindu Bureau

Opposition parties in Uttar Pradesh on Saturday tar-geted the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BP), and ac-"scam, fraud and corrup-tion" over the recent Alla-habad High Court order to prepare a fresh selection list for the appointment of 65,000 assistant teachers

in the State.

The court set aside the selection lists issued on June 1, 2020, and January 5, 2022, and directed the State government to pre-pare a new list within three months in accordance with the rules. "Ultimately, the 69,000-

"Ultimately, the 69,000-teacher recruitment also proved to be a victim of Bip's scam, fraud and cor-figured to the control of the made, so that transparent and fair appointments can the control of the control of the made, so that transparent and fair appointments can the control of the control of the the control of the control of the made, and the control of the made and the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the control of the control of the control of the made and the control of the contro

Akhliesh Yadav. "We will keep a constant watch on the new list and will stand shoulder to shoulder with the standard of the st Akhilesh Yaday, "We will

"The High Court's decilist of 69,000 teacher can-didates selected in 2019 in U.P. and order to prepare a new list within three months proves that the government has not done its work fairly and honestly. In this case, the victims, espe cially those from the reser vation category, should get justice," Ms. Mayawati wrote on X.

wrote on X.

A High Court Bench of Justice A.R. Masoodi and Justice Brijraj Singh delivered the judgment while hearing 90 special appeals filed by candidates, challenging the decision of a single-judge Bench dated March 13, 2023.

Lok Sabha Speaker constitutes six new parliamentary panels

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla constituted six new parliamentary committees, in-cluding the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which keeps a close

(PAC), which keeps a close eye on government expenditure, to be headed by sentence of the control of the contro Congress leader Adnir Ranjan Chowdhury head-ed the PAC for five years. Before him, Congress pre-sident Mallikarjun Kharge headed the PAC.

Two other financial committees – the Esticommittees — the Esti-mates Committee and the Public Undertakings Com-mittee — will be chaired by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders. In a bulletin issued on

In a bulletin issued on Friday, Sanjay Jaiswal was appointed Chairperson of the Committee on Esti-mates, and Baijayant Pan-

da made Chairperson of the Committee on Publi

Undertakings.
The Speaker has ap-pointed Ganesh Singh Chairperson of the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes, the bul-

letin said.
Faggan Singh Kulaste
has been appointed Chairperson of the Committee
on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

One-year tenure All the above formed com-mittees have a tenure of one year, and have mem-bers from both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya

Sabha. The Lok Sabha Speaker is yet to constitute the 24 departmentally related Standing Committees, co-vering under their jurisdic-tion all the Ministries and Departments of the Go-vernment of India.

Unlike the previous Lok Sabha, the committees in the 18th Lok Sabha, formed after the General formed after the General Election in June 2024, have taken shape mostly through consensus instead of election.

in Ministries; Opposition cries foul

UPSC advertises lateral entry posts

making such recruitments so that can be kept away

24 Central Ministries through lateral entry on a contract basis or deputation, triggering allegations from Opposition leaders to bypass reservation policies.

The advertisement is for the posts of 10 joint secretaries and 35 directors/detaries and 35 directors/deputy secretaries. The posts are required to be filled by

September 17. September 17.
Responding to the deve-lopment, Congress presi-dent Mallikarjun Kharge accused the BJP, which had "ripped apart the Constitu-tion", of launching a "dou-ble attack on reservation". he asked if there was any reservation for the Sche-duled Castes (SCs), Sche-duled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) or the Economically Weak-er Section (EWS) in these

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE

BJP is deliberately making such recruitments in jobs so that SC, ST, OBC catego-ries can be kept away from reservation. Secondly, the reservation scam in the ap-pointment of 69,000 assis-tant teachers in Uttar Pra-datable has desh has now been exposed by the High Court decision," Mr. Kharge said in a post on X. He said that in March, Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi had written to the Prime

Minister on the U.P. issue.
"It is necessary to fully
implement the provisions of economic, social and political justice enshrined in the Constitution of Inin the Constitution of In-dia. That is why the Con-gress party is demanding caste census for social jus-tice," said Mr. Kharge. Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Ya-dav also slammed the



Centre, terming the exer-cise a "cruel joke" on the country's reservation sys-tem and the Constitution.

Clever move: RJD "If these 45 posts were filled through the traditional civil services examina-tion, nearly half of them (22-23) would be reserved for SC, ST, and OBC candi-dates. By opting for lateral entry system, the govern-ment is effectively denying these communities their rightful share in gover-nance in a very systematic, planned and clever move," he said in a post on X. He said that in the latest

He said that in the latest election, the Prime Minister and leaders of the BJP's allies had claimed that no one could take away reservation from the marginalised, but their rights were now being looted from un-

der their noses. "People will not forgive those un-dermining the rights of 90% of the population," said Mr. Yadav, noting that lateral entry also affected EWS candidates adversely.

ated Indian nationals will-ing to contribute towards nation-building* to apply, in addition to leaving the applications open to Start from public sector under-takings. The appointment will be on contract basis for applicants from the private sector; other applicants will be posted on deputation. Directly re-cruited Central govern-

ment employees are not eligible for these posts. The lateral recruitment for joint secretaries, directors and deputy secretar-ies in the Central govern ment was introduced in 2018. According to a Lok Sabha reply dated July 24, so far 63 appointments have been made through lateral entry, of which 35 were from the private sec-tor. Currently, 57 of these employees are still with their respective Ministries/ ment was introduced in

Rise in militancy in J&K casts shadow over tourism

Peerzada Ashiq SRINAGAR

The growing militant footprint in the upper reaches of Jammu and Kashmir has of Jammu and Kashmir nas cast a shadow over the bor-der tourism that had picked up two years ago against the backdrop of a renewed ceasefire agree-ment between India and ment between India and Pakistan. The process to get passes for areas closer to the Line of Control (LoC) has now been made strin-gent again, and many areas in north Kashmir are now listed as no-go zones, offi-cial sources exid

cial sources said.

Several visitors and offroaders heading for Keran

uspected movement of nilitants after three infiltrators were killed on July 14 close to the LoC in the Keran Sector of Kupwara. The Lieutenant-Gover-

nor's administration had planned to promote Keran as a border tourist village as hundreds of tourists have showed interest in the destination since 2022. The high-altitude circuit - which connects Machil with Point 4040 with Zamindari Gali and Bandipora's Razdan Top – has also been closed for off-roaders

Strict permit process The administration's move



granted," a local off-roader

told The Hindu.

The process of police verifications of local touroaders heading for Keran tourist destinations to be promoted by the Jakk go-vernment – failed to get seem stopped. "Only on-been stopped. "Only on-been stopped." Only on-this month, official sources said. The security forces

background check," the

background check," the differender said.

This year, the upper reaches of the Jammur of late, visitors would organise musical shows a city by highly trained militants. Eight to 12 groups of infiltrators are believed to be active in the Pir Panjal valley and the Pir Panjal valley and the Chenab Valley, Of Iate, of the river waving and whisting enthusiastically at each other. The Army has

cial sources said, security forces have stepped up their vigil in north Kashmir, especially in Kupwara district, following reports of movement of armed men in the forests. The Pakistani Army has

also hardened its approach on the LoC. Sources said that the Pakistan Army has that the Pakistan Army has been using the public ad-dress systems of mosques on its side of the border to object to tourists coming close to the Neelum river

close to the Neelum river in the Keran and Teetwal area. The river divides Kashmir from Pakistan-oc-cur. The river divides of the river would organise musical shows and take selfies on both sides of the river. Many vi-ral videos last year showed the river waving and whis-

opening up more and more circuits close to the LoC to tourists in a gradual manner over the past two

Areas close to the LoC in mained out-of-bounds for mained out-of-bounds for outsiders for more than 30 years. These pockets were to the property of the second India and Pakistan. Howeve-er, as the guns and can-casefire agreement in Fe-bruary 2021, tourists had started exploring these than the second process of granting passes. It had resulted in several homes as homestays in the cy, however, may reverse such signs of progress in

UPSC advertises lateral entry posts in Ministries; Opposition cries foul

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The Union Service Public Commission (UPSC) on Saturday issued an advertisement to recruit 45 joint secretaries, directors, and deputy secretaries across 24 Central Ministries through lateral entry on a contract basis or deputation, triggering allegations from Opposition leaders that the Centre was trying to bypass reservation policies.

The advertisement is for the posts of 10 joint secretaries and 35 directors/deputy secretaries. The posts are required to be filled by September 17.

Responding to the development, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused the BJP, which had "ripped apart the Constitution", of launching a "double attack on reservation". He asked if there was any reservation for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) or the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) in these lateral entry posts.

"As part of a wellplanned conspiracy, the The BJP is deliberately making such recruitments so that SCs, STs and OBCs can be kept away from reservation

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE Congress president

BJP is deliberately making such recruitments in jobs so that SC, ST, OBC categories can be kept away from reservation. Secondly, the reservation scam in the appointment of 69,000 assistant teachers in Uttar Pradesh has now been exposed by the High Court decision," Mr. Kharge said in a post on X. He said that in March, Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi had written to the Prime Minister on the U.P. issue.

"It is necessary to fully implement the provisions of economic, social and political justice enshrined in the Constitution of India. That is why the Congress party is demanding caste census for social justice," said Mr. Kharge.

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav also slammed the



Centre, terming the exercise a "cruel joke" on the country's reservation system and the Constitution.

Clever move: RJD

"If these 45 posts were filled through the traditional civil services examination, nearly half of them (22-23) would be reserved for SC, ST, and OBC candidates. By opting for lateral entry system, the government is effectively denying these communities their rightful share in governance in a very systematic, planned and clever move," he said in a post on X.

He said that in the latest election, the Prime Minister and leaders of the BJP's allies had claimed that no one could take away reservation from the marginalised, but their rights were now being looted from under their noses. "People will not forgive those undermining the rights of 90% of the population," said Mr. Yadav, noting that lateral entry also affected EWS candidates adversely.

The government has asked "talented and motivated Indian nationals willing to contribute towards nation-building" to apply, in addition to leaving the applications open to State/ UT officers and employees from public sector undertakings. The appointment will be on contract basis for applicants from the private sector; other applicants will be posted on deputation. Directly recruited Central government employees are not eligible for these posts.

The lateral recruitment for joint secretaries, directors and deputy secretaries in the Central government was introduced in 2018. According to a Lok Sabha reply dated July 24, so far 63 appointments have been made through lateral entry, of which 35 were from the private sector. Currently, 57 of these employees are still with their respective Ministries/departments.

UPSC Lateral Entry Advertisement:

- The Union Service Public Commission (UPSC) issued an advertisement for 45 lateral entry posts in 24 Central Ministries, including 10 joint secretaries and 35 directors/deputy secretaries.
- The posts are to be filled by September 17, 2024.

Opposition's Allegations:

- Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav accused the government of attempting to bypass reservation policies.
- Kharge claimed that the BJP was trying to undermine the rights of Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), and the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) through lateral recruitment.

He criticized the government for allegedly depriving these communities of their rightful share in governance and accused the BJP of a "double attack" on the Constitution.

Arguments Against Lateral Entry:

The opposition argues that if these 45 posts were filled through the traditional civil services examination, many would have been reserved for SC, ST, and OBC candidates.

They assert that lateral entry is a method for the government to sidestep reservation rules and favor certain groups.

Government's Justification:

- The government has defended the move, calling for "talented and motivated Indian nationals" from the private sector, State/UT officers, and public sector employees to contribute to nation-building.
- The appointment is on a contract basis, and current Central government employees are not eligible for these posts.

Background of Lateral Entry:

Lateral recruitment for joint secretaries, directors, and deputy secretaries in Central government began in 2018.

According to a Lok Sabha reply in July 2024, 63 appointments have been made through lateral entry, with 57 of these appointees still serving in their respective ministries.

1.Criticism and Public Sentiment:

- 1. The opposition views lateral entry as a method to undermine reservations, which they claim would adversely affect SC, ST, OBC, and EWS candidates.
- 2. They argue that the rights of marginalized groups are being ignored, and the lateral entry system is seen as a "cruel joke" on the country's reservation system.

2010	148	74	271	550	1043
2011	157	78	255	511	1001
2012	169	77	295	550	1091
2013	188	92	326	622	1228
2014	194	98	354	718	1364
2015	176	89	314	585	1164
2016	163	89	347	610	1209
2017	166	74	275	543	1058
2018	128	61	209	414	812
2019	129	67	251	397	927
2020	122	61	229	338	836
2021	105	60	203	308	749

- What is the primary concern raised by opposition leaders regarding the UPSC's advertisement for lateral entry posts?
- a) The high cost of recruitment.
- b) The potential bypassing of reservation policies for SC, ST, OBC, and EWS candidates.
- c) The exclusion of candidates from rural areas.
- d) The length of the recruitment process.

When Governors moved against Chief Ministers in the recent past

NEWS ANALYSIS

Law and politics yield a complex mix. The issues arising out of the Karnata-ka Governor, Thaawar-chand Gehlot, granting sanction to prosecute Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for alleged irregularities in the allotment of plots by the Mysore Urban Develop-ment Authority are a good

example.

The law relating to a Go-The law relating to a Go-vernor granting sanction for a serving CM's prosecu-tion is governed not by statutory provisions alone, but also a string of court judgments. In the current political atmosphere, in which incumbents in the which incumbents in the Raj Bhavan are seen as serving the political inter-ests of the ruling party at the Centre, it is difficult to consider gubernatorial acts of far-reaching import free from political bias.

Yet, their acts, in a legal context, may be justified on the basis of fact and jud-icial precedent.

The question whether a Governor can accord sanc-tion to prosecute a Chief Minister on his own discre-tion, rather than the aid possible authority on the question, although it con-cerns two Ministers and not the CM. As in the Geh and advice of the Council of Ministers, has been ad-dressed only in a few cases. The question concerning lot-Siddaramajah instance the Madhya Pradesh Cabi-net had then refused sancthe prosecution of former Maharashtra Chief Minister A.R. Antulay resulted in a tion to prosecute two Mi-nisters, while the Governor found that there was suffijudgment by a two-mem-ber Supreme Court Bench in 1982 that held in favour cient material to do so. A five-member Constitution Bench of the Supreme in 1982 that held in favour of the Governor's discre-tion. "...when there is to be a prosecution of the Chief Minister, the Governor Court upheld the Gover-nor's decision and set aside the ministerial Counaside the ministerial Coun-cil's refusal to grant sanc-tion. If, on the given facts and circumstances, the Go-vernor were not to act in his own discretion, "there would be a complete breakdown of the rule of law, inasmuch as it would then be open for Govern-ments to refuse sanction, in spite of overwheining would ... as a matter of pro-priety, necessarily act in his own discretion and not his own discretion and not on the advice of the Coun-cil of Ministers." However, the order was based on a concession by the State go-wernment before the court. The Supreme Court re-fused to allow any resiling material showing that a



prima facie case is made prima jacte case is mane out," it said. It cautioned that if sanction to prose-cute "high functionaries" in such cases is refused or withheld, "democracy it-self will be at stake".

Past decisions
The earliest decision to
prosecute a serving Chief
Minister concerned Tamil
Nadu Governor Marri
Channa Reddy and Chief
Minister Jayalalithaa in
1995 Subramarian Swa-1995. Subramanian Swa-my, then heading the Jana-ta Party, obtained Governor Reddy's sanction to

prosecute Jayalalithaa on March 25, 1995, on two cor ruption charges. A Division Bench of the Madras High Court rejected her chal-lenge to the sanction order, citing the Governor's im-munity under Article 361 court regarding his func-tions. Unfortunately, the crucial question of law that Jayalalithaa raised before the Supreme Court was never adjudicated. The question was whether when sanction was sought

vernor should act in his own discretion, or on the aid and advice of the Coun-cil of Ministers excluding the Chief Minister. The matter was referred to a Countries of the August 1997. Constitution Bench, but Jayalalithaa withdrew her challenge in 2002, as she had by then been acquitted in both the TANSI land deal case and the coal import case, the two charges on which prosecution had been allowed by the Governor.

been allowed by the Blar Governor A.R. Kidwai allowing the GBI to Richard and the GBI to H.R. Bhar adwal according sanction to private complainants to prosecute B.S. well-known instances of Governors passing adverse-ton to office. The 20th sanction order against Mr. Yediyurappa was quashed Court in Nowember 20th on the ground that it consults of the ground that it consults are to the ground that it consults are the ground that why sanction was being gi-

ven. In that instance, too, the Chief Minister had drawn the Governor's at-tention to a resolution of the Council of Ministers not to grant sanction. The common thread in the matters concerning the Madhya Pradesh Ministers, Mr. Yediyurappa and Mr. Siddaramaiah is that the Council of Ministers were against grant of sanction, while the Governors fa-

voured it. The Karnataka High The Karnataka High Court had then observed that "great care, caution was necessary" because the complaint was private of the "uneasy relationship" between the CM and the Governor. If the revealigation, the Governor would have had materials mind, "With respect, the mind, "With respect, the caution that ought to have been exercised is absent in Court disposed of the appeal against the High Court's order as the Gover-nor, who had been asked to reconsider the sanction

In Mr. Siddaramaiah's ing his prosecution may re-ly on the Supreme Court judgment in the Madhya Pradesh case that effectively gave the Governor a veto over the Council of Minis-ters if material evidence was ignored for the sake of blocking a legitimate pro-secution. The Governor himself has not only cited the M.P. precedent, but all so declared in the order that he had independently examined the petitions and the supporting docu-ments. On the other hand

Karnataka CM must resign for impartial probe in case: BJP

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday sought the resignation of Karnataka Chief Minister Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to ensure an "impartial and indepen-dent" investigation into his alleged role in the Mysuru

alleged role in the Mysuru Urban Development Auth-ority (MUDA) site allot-ment "scars". Karnataka Welcoming Karnataka Geblot's sanction for Mr. Siddaramaiah's prosecu-tion in the case, BJP MP Sambit Patra said at a press-cida reports the "scaps" india reports the "scam" in-volved funds ranging from ₹3,000 crore to ₹4,000

Rejecting the Congress nor's decision was politi-cally motivated, Mr. Patra took a swipe at party presi-dent Mallikarjun Kharge for his visit to Bengalura

saying that it was to "pro tect" corruption. He wondered when Mr Kharge would go to Kolkata where protests were being held demanding justice for the rape-murder victim.

Probe commissions BJP MP Tejasvi Surya said BJP MP Tejasvi Surya said the Karnataka government had itself acknowledged ir-regularities in the MUDA site allotments, in which Mr. Siddaramaiah's wich was the purported benefi-ciary.

ciary. He said the State government had instituted two commissions to look into the corruption charge. Explaining the said scam, Mr. Surya alleged

that the Chief Minister's wife had been allocated 14 alternative upmarket sites in Mysuru in exchange for an acquired rural land that was initially purchased by her brother in 2004 and

BJP to start membership drive from September 1, sets target of 10 crore

Election of new party president is usually done after the drive; at a meeting held to set a timetable for exercise, Amit Shah proces leaders to include all sections of society Narendra Modi will be the first in the party to renew his membership

he Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Sa-turday announced hat it would launch the that it would launch the first phase of its member-ship drive on September 1, a move that usually pre-national president of the party. Prime Minister Na-rendra Modi will be the first in the party to renew his membership under this . The dates and timetals.

The dates and timetable for the organisational exer-cise were decided at a meeting presided over by BJP president J.P. Nadda and attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, State unit presidents, na-tional office bearers and leaders in charge of States.

Fixing a schedule: Amit Shah and J.P. Nadda at the BJP's national office-bearers' meeting held in New Delhi on Saturday. AN the timetable for our membership drive and the ways and means of going about it. The membership drive will begin from September 1, and our target is having at least 10 crore members," said BJP MP Sambit Patra after the meeting. The 10members can enroll even

will be) a QR code and members can enroll even members can enroll even members. The BPI usually starts the election process for a through a membership drive after which mandal, district and State presidents are elected. Only district and State presidents are elected. Only complete this exercise, the election for a national president is being the state of the election for a facility, one teachership is fielded for that election, and currently, there is speculation that a working president will be a working president will be elected the next president after November. after November.

Sources said leaders who attended the meeting were given assignments.

Sinha has been given charge of this drive in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat; Gha-Pradesh and Gujarat; Gha-ziabad MP Atul Garg will look at Uttarakhand and Bihar; general secretary Vi-nod Tawde will take care of nod Tawde will take care of Rajasthan, Madhya Pra-desh, Goa, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Have-li; D. Purandareshwari will take care of Kerala, Pudu-cherry, and Tamil Nadu, and so on

and so on.
Sources said the first
phase of the membership
drive will be from September 1-25, the second from October 1-15 and the third from October 16-31.

Active and primary membership registers will be prepared from November 1 to 10. Mr. Shah, in his address at the meet, urged leaders to include all sec-tions of society in the

Police summon DYFI

in mob violence case

and SFI leadership

Buch can't continue as SEBI chief. says Congress

Press Trust of India

The Congress on Saturday cited a media report which flagged alleged conflicts of interest against SEBI Chair-person Madhabi Buch, and

post was "untenable".

It said Ms. Buch must resign and a full JPC probe
must be conducted into
the Adami "mega scam".

Congress leader Jairam
Ramesh cited an article by
a media portal which rais-

tions such as whether or not Ms. Buch had recused herself from all matters in revolving companies that private equity firm Black-stone had a stake in and how many Blackstone companies find a place on that recusal list. Only a JPC

Trinamool harassing those seeking iustice: BJP

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday reiterated its demand for the renerjee, accusing the Trina-mool Congress govern-ment of harassing those seeking justice for the rape and murder of a traine doctor in Kolkara, and atperpetrators.

BJP spokesperson Sheh-zad Poonawalla said the

zad Poonawalla said the "dictatorial" Trinamool has engaged in a blame game and "dharna drama" and has tried to give a com-munal angle through the "Ram-Bam" remark. Mr. Poonawalla said the State administration had is-sued orders for the transf-

sued orders for the transf-er of 42 professors and doctors, who were part of the ongoing protest in Kol-kata. The transfers were meant to penalise them as they stood up for the vic-tim, he said. The Bengal government revoked the

order on Saturday. He alleged that the attack on protesters at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital was orchestrated to deter the protesters.

Harsher laws alone don't deter crimes against women: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal

Stringent laws and punishments against rape may not be enough to fight risnot be enough to fight ris-ing crimes against women, the Supreme Court had warned the government in 2017. The court was con-firming the death penalty of four men accused of the of four men, accused of the gruesome gang-rape of a 23-year-old paramedic in a moving bus here in 2012. The government of the day had reacted by consti-

day had reacted by consti-turing the Justice J.S. Ver-ma Committee to make the law more stern and effec-tions of the panel led to the enactment of Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 which brought in substan-tive as well as procedural rape law.

rape law. In her separate opinion in the 2017 order, Justice R. Banumathi (now retired), said governments, employers and institutions "must take steps" to create

awareness with regard to gender sensitisation and to respect women. "Apart from effective

Change in mindset is needed to ensure gender justice. Justice Banumathi

women, change in the mindset of the society at women, change on true
large and creating awareness in the public on gender justice, would go a long
departer, would go a long
against women." She
worter, Afritudinal change
and change in the mindset
men and to ensure gender
justice, she pointed out.
"On the practical side,
worthwhile to be considered. Banners and placards in the public trantrads and buses etc. must
be ensured. Use of streetlights, illuminated bustrol during odd hours must
trol during odd hours must
be ensured. Police/security

be ensured. Police/security guards must be posted at dark and lonely places like parks, streets etc. Mobile apps for immediate assis-tance of women should be introduced and effectively implementation of the va-rious legislation protecting flagged. she had

Protests continue across West Bengal, CBI steps up action in rape-murder case

as there will be no mem-bership drives in poll-bound Jammu and Kash-

mir, Jharkhand, Haryana and Maharashtra.

"We will be adding new members via a missed call

for which a phone number

The Hindu Bureau

Days after the rape and murder of a doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital here, protests continued on Saturday with doctors. Opposition party members and citizens taking to the streets. The Central Bureau of The Central Bureau of linvestigation, probing the crime, visited the fourth battalion barracks of the battalion barracks of the accused Sanjoy Roy had stayed on the day of the crime. Roy, a civil police volunteer, was arrested by the Kolkata Police within 12 hours after the incident on

The CBI also visited the residence of the family of the accused in the Bhawanipore area. A team of ex-perts from the Central Foperts from the Central Fo-rensic Science Laboratory had visited Kolkata and will conduct psychological evaluation of the accused. The CBI also interrogated Sandip Kumar Ghosh, former Principal of R.G. Kar Medical College and

Hospital, for the second

'Express outrage' The parents of the 31-year-old doctor on Saturday once again expressed their outrage against the hospi-tal authorities, and said that they believe the crime could not have been com mitted by one person.

Meanwhile, services at



tioned till early hours on Saturday and appeared be-fore the agency again after agency again after about the role of the princi-pal have been raised from several quarters including by the Calcutta High Court which had sent him on leave.

and private hospitals were affected. The Indian Medi-cal Association has called for a 24-hour suspension of non-emergency services beginning Saturday morn-

ing.

The West Bengal government on Saturday announced a new scheme 'rattirer shaathi' or 'hel-pers of the night', with an aim to provide safe work-ing conditions for women ing conditions for women on the night shift, in go-vernment hospitals and medical colleges, hostels and other places where women work at night. The programme was an-nounced after long deliberconsecutive day. the outpatient depart-Dr. Ghosh was ques-ments of both government

The Kolkata Police on Saturday summoned the lea-dership of two left-wing or-ganisations — the Democratic Youth Federa-tion of India (DYFI) and the Students' Federation of In dia (SFI) – in connection

Moyurie Som KOLKATA

with the moh violence that rupted on August 15 at the R.G. Kar Medical College

R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, where a doc-tor was raped and mur-change of the control of the col-py of the control of the col-mong the seven leaders of the two organisations sum-tions of the col-gra, 30 people have been arrested in connection with the mob violence. Earlier, West Bengal bergie alleged that she had

nerjee alleged that she had seen videos of the August 15 mob violence in which DYFI flags were visible.

"The people who car-ried out the vandalism that night are not part of the R.G. Kar student move-ment, they are outsiders," Ms. Banerjee had said. nounced after long deliber-ations, a press statement by the government said.

In response, Ms. Muk-herjee said on Friday that the DYFI office was not the

ople can get the party flag. "Our flags are available in Kolkata's marketplaces a well. When we carry tha flag, we do so with respon sibility," she said. She also raised questions on wheth

Attack on constable
The police posted a video
showing constable Shampa Pramanik of the Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate in uniform, with erate in uniform, with severe injuries to her face and head, allegedly caused by an attack during the 'Re-claim the Night' proces-sions on August 14. "Wasn't the night Shampa's too? It was meant to be a night for women, when they re claimed the streets de manding safety at the

workplace," the post read. Leader of the Opposi-tion Suvendu Adhikari said, "Doctors, nurses, polprotesting on the streets had no security because of the inefficient Police Force with the Trinamool goon

Harsher laws alone don't deter crimes against women: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI

Stringent laws and punishments against rape may not be enough to fight rising crimes against women, the Supreme Court had warned the government in 2017. The court was confirming the death penalty of four men, accused of the gruesome gang-rape of a 23-year-old paramedic in a moving bus here in 2012.

The government of the day had reacted by constituting the Justice J.S. Verma Committee to make the law more stern and effective in future. The suggestions of the panel led to the enactment of Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 which brought in substantive as well as procedural reforms in the core areas of rape law.

In her separate opinion in the 2017 order, Justice R. Banumathi (now retired), said governments, employers and institutions "must take steps" to create awareness with regard to gender sensitisation and to respect women.

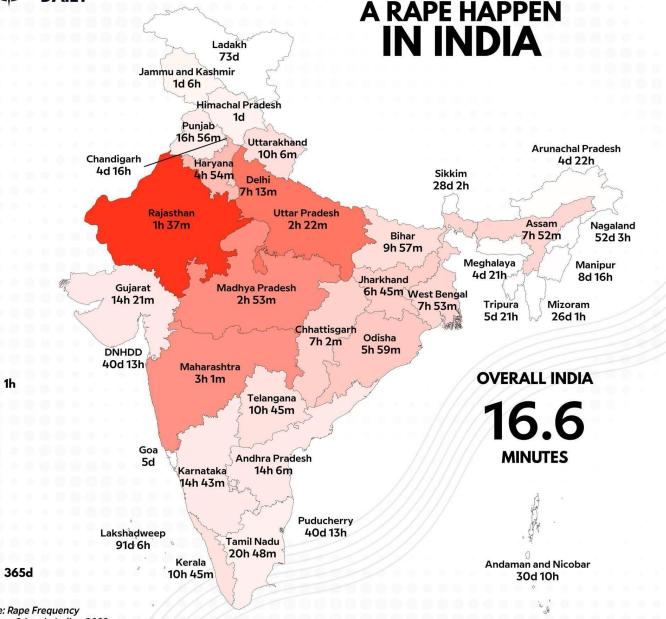
"Apart from effective implementation of the various legislation protecting Change in mindset is needed to ensure gender justice,
Justice Banumathi had said in 2017

women, change in the mindset of the society at large and creating awareness in the public on gender justice, would go a long way to combat violence against women," She wrote. Attitudinal change and change in the mindset is needed to respect women and to ensure gender justice, she pointed out.

"On the practical side, few of the suggestions are worthwhile to be considered. Banners and placards in the public transport vehicles like autos, taxis and buses etc. must be ensured. Use of streetlights, illuminated bus stops and extra police patrol during odd hours must be ensured. Police/security guards must be posted at dark and lonely places like parks, streets etc. Mobile apps for immediate assistance of women should be introduced and effectively maintained," she had flagged.



HOW OFTEN DOES A RAPE HAPPEN



Scale: Rape Frequency Source: Crime in India - 2022

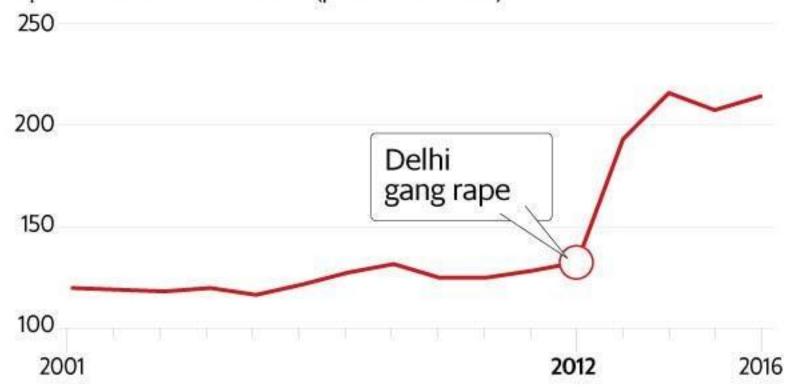
National Crime Records Bureau, Govt. of India

Areas in grey, if any indicate that data was not available for the Region.

Chart 3B

...Even as the reporting of sexual violence has increased, especially after 2012

Reported rate of sexual violence (per million females)



Source: NCRB, Census

- Supreme Court's Observation on Crimes Against Women:
- The Supreme Court of India observed that stringent laws and harsher punishments alone may not be sufficient to deter crimes against women, including rape.
- This observation was made in 2017 during the confirmation of the death penalty for four men convicted in the 2012 Delhi gang-rape case.

Government's Response:

Following the 2012 incident, the government constituted the Justice J.S. Verma Committee to recommend reforms in the legal framework dealing with crimes against women.

The committee's recommendations led to the enactment of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which introduced substantial and procedural reforms in rape law.

• Justice R. Banumathi's Opinion:

- In a separate opinion, Justice R. Banumathi emphasized that laws alone cannot ensure gender justice.
- She highlighted the need for a change in societal mindset and greater public awareness regarding gender justice.

Recommendations for Ensuring Gender Justice:

- Justice Banumathi suggested that governments, employers, and institutions should take steps to create awareness about gender sensitization and respect for women.
- Attitudinal change in society is necessary to combat violence against women.
- Practical measures like ensuring safety in public transport, better lighting in public spaces, extra police patrol during odd hours, and the use of mobile apps for immediate assistance were also recommended.

Importance of Implementation:

- Justice Banumathi stressed the importance of effectively implementing existing legislation to protect women and ensure their safety.
- She advocated for the introduction and maintenance of mobile apps for the immediate assistance of women, among other safety measures.

- What did Justice R. Banumathi emphasize as necessary to combat violence against women?
- a) Harsher punishments for offenders.
- b) A change in the societal mindset and increased public awareness about gender justice.
- c) More stringent laws without the need for public awareness.
- d) Increased economic opportunities for women



JSW Cement files papers with SEBI for ₹4,000-crore IPO

ISW Cement Ltd. has filed Draft Red Herring JSW Cement Ltd. has filed Draft Red Herring Prospectus (ORHP) with SEBI for its initial public offering (IPO) worth up to \$4,000 crore. The IPO, with a face value of \$10 each share, is a mix of fresh issue of shares of up to \$2,000 crore and an offer for sale (IPS) of up to \$2000 crore by selling shareholders. Out of the net proceed the fresh issue, JSW plans to deplay \$600 crore to 10 each process to the process of the process o part-finance the cost of establishing a new integrated cement unit in Rajasthan.

Alcon, Aravind Eye unveil Global Centre of Excellence

Global leader in eye care Alcon International in association with Aravind Eye Care System unwelled 'India's first Global Centre of Excellence unweiled 'India's first Global Centre of Excellence for Cataract Surgery Training. The the first dedicated centre to give comprehensal. 'It is the first dedicated centre to give comprehense training in advanced cataract surgery procedure to ophthalmology residents,' Alcon International President Rajkumar Narayanan told The Hindu. Going forward, Alcon is contemplating setting up such centres in South Africa and Latin America.

'Majority blue-collar jobs pay less than ₹20,000 per month'

Majority of blue-collar jobs in India pay within the salary range of £20,000 or less per month, suggesting a substantial portion of the workforce is grappling with financial strain, struggling to meet essential needs such as housing, healthcare and education, as per a report. More than \$7.63% of blue-collar jobs fall within the salary range of \$20,000 or less per month, indicating many workers earn close to the minimum wage, bluecollar recruitment platform Workindia said. 😁

India needs to lift job growth | Urgently need to plug via reforms: IMF's Gopinath

Economist moots a wide range of reforms to boost employment, bats for women's safety noting that country can't become a developed economy without adding more women in the workforce

ndia needs to improve the depth and quality of its education sys-tem to create an employa-ble workforce, nurture ef-fective institutions, including an efficient judi-ciary, to support develop-ment, and pursus reforms that the company of the con-kets, in order to actualise its quest to become a deveits quest to become a deve-loped country, Interna-tional Monetary Fund (IMF) deputy managing di-rector Gita Gopinath emphasised on Saturday

Ms. Gopinath, who was conversation with Fifteenth Finance Commis-sion chief N.K. Singh at the Delhi School of Econom-ics' diamond jubilee confe-rence, also stressed that no rence, also stressed that no country could aspire to at-tain 'high-income' status without lifting its women's labour force participation rate, which hovers at 35% in India, adding that ensur-ing women's safety was critical for this.

'Cut tariffs

Noting that India's import tariff rates were higher than its peer ecc Ms. Gopinath said that being open to trade was im-portant, even if trade integration was being questioned in the current global environment. Lowering tariffs was a requisite if India wanted to be an



Fund's recipe IMF's Gita Gopinath says India needs to improve depth, quality of its education system to create an employable workforce

India needs to create 60 million to 148 million additional jobs

supply chains, the fund's senior official asserted. While India's GDP growth had averaged 6.6% since the 2010s till the panmatch in the workforce "is now a longstanding pro-blem" that warrants urgent investments in revamping education and making sure since the 2010s till the pan-demic, its employment growth had been under 2% through this period, Ms. Gopinath pointed out. "So it is indeed the case... com-pared to other G20 emergpared to other G20 eme ing market economi

ing market economies, growth in India has been much less in terms of em-ployment-driven, [and] much more intensive in terms of capital," she said. Between now and 2030, India would have to create tional jobs cumulatively ov-er this period, she reckoned, calling for poli-cies that do not penalise firms for hiring workers, and implementing reforms proposed in the Labour Codes cleared a few years ago by Parliament, through incentives for States.

On the general quality of the workforce and skill

employment generation over capital investments.

Srivats Ram, Chairman

Confederation of Indian In dustry (CII), TN State Council said historically,

industrial promotion schemes incentivised

ichemis incentivised hassed on the amount of capital or investment being deployed. But now this is shifting toward attracting labour intensive sectors like electronics, non-leather footwear, etc., he said.

Mr. Ram also warned of the sdil gap among recent the sdil gap among recent hard to be placed at jobs immediately pointing to

immediately pointing to the need for more training. "Sometimes it is easy to train for necessary skills

with one or two pro-grammes. But it becomes

challenging in segments where technology is chang-ing rapidly," he added. During the IT boom it

was easy to get hired after graduation. But the indus-

try had matured and net

'Incentivise labour'

assess 170 countries' pre-paredness for adapting with AI.

"India is at about an in-

that people have more years of, and better quality of education. "It will not deliver re-"It will not deliver re-sults instantly. It will take time, but that absolutely needs fixing now. Other-stuck in the situation of a workforce that's not suffi-ciently skilled," she said, adding that "general cor-porate investment and private investment also

"Public investment has been going strong. If you look at private investment, by households in real estate, that's going strong. But if you look at corporate investment, that is not do-ing as well as it should be for an economy there for an economy that's growing at 7%," the erstwhile IMF chief economist remarked. With the advent of auto-

DGH boosting

mation and Artificial Intel mation and Artificial intel-ligence (AI) spurring wor-ries about the future of work opportunities, the IMF official cited a study by the multilateral lender that looked at four indicators to

rindia is at about an in-termediate level of prepa-redness, somewhat slightly above the average for emerging markets and de-termination accompanies veloping economies. But again, if you look within cator on education and skilling levels of the workforce, that's the area where a lot more work is required for it to be able to adapt," she said.

in it to be anote to sciapt,
Policies must "not linadvertently" tilt the playing
field in flavour of automaledd in flavour of automahave social security nets
have social security nets
and the ability to reskill, so
that workers who have to
some kind of unemployment insurance till they
find a job.
which proper praced as the
most prepared for AII, has
this program where it provides grants for lifelong
mething that is needed in

mething that is needed in this world where you con-stantly have new technologies and new kinds of things that machines can do. So you want to make sure that your skills are complementing what auto mation brings along," Ms. Gopinath averred.

\$4 tn financing gap to hasten pace on SDGs'

Press Trust of India

Finance Minister Nirmala stitharaman on Saturday said that inadequate access was hindering developing economies from achieving sustainable Development (Stramble Development) and the state of the state Finance Minister Nirmala

tation of many SDGs in de veloping economies was stagnating, with some indi-

stagnating, with some indi-cators even regressing. Citing a World Bank re-port, she noted that one in four developing countries was set to be poorer by the end of this year than they were before the pandemic. were before the pandemic insufficient to drive pro-gress in development and

gress in development and poverty reduction. To ac celerate progress on SDGs nancing gap," she stressed

Nissan India to treble export, sales by FY26'

Nissan Motor has em-Nissan Motor has em-barked upon a comprehen-sive market-espansion well as esports from India by FV26, according to a top company official. so major has also decided to the company official of the company of the com

tric SUV, he added.
"Our goal is to boost domestic sales to 1,00,000 units annually and increase exports to 1,00,000



nite in the local market an exported about 35,000 un its from Chennai."

According to Mr. Vatsa this plan is backed by Nis san's upcoming products including two new C-SUVs an electric SUV and a re

With more graduates in workforce. Tamil Nadu struggles with skills gap

Tamil Nadu fares better than most States on em-ployment metrics, but more must be done to tackle underemployment and gaps between skills and education, as the State pro-

education, as the State pro-duces the highest number of graduates in India. While there is no accu-mentation of the con-tion of the con-ti

sured different aspects of the sample population, considered the activity in which a person spent rela-tively long time during 365 days preceding the date of survey as the principal ac-tivity status, while the economic activity performed for 30 days or more, adwas considered the subsi Put together the princi-

pal and subsidiary nomic status, that is, Tamil Nadu's (TN) labour force Nadu's (TN) labour force participation rate (LPPR), which is the percentage of persons in the labour force - those working, or seek-ing, or available to work-was 46%, compared with 42.4% nationally. Under the principal plus subsidiary status, the per-

tion Ratio (WPR) in TN was 44%, compared with 41.1% nationally. The female



WPR was 31.6%, higher than the 27% nationally. In TN 31.6% earned a regular wage, compared with 20.9% nationally. The unemployment rate among the educated, that is, those who have attained secondary level education, with 7.3% nationally. The unemployment rate among graduates was 16.3% in the State, higher than 13.4% at the all India level, and the youth unem ployment rate (15-29 y/o) was 17.5% for TN, significantly more than the na-

TN has the highest number of factories in India. More than 40% of factory More than 40% of factory employment was in Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Maha-rashtra combined, accord-ing to the Economic Sur-tey 2023-24. But the highest employment growth between FY18 and FY22 was seen in states with a higher share of young population, which contains the combined of t ryana and Uttar Pradesh,

according to the Survey. The DMK governmen has said it has attracted in

vestments of more than ₹10 lakh crore and created about 31 lakh jobs in the

past three years. In June, Chief Minister M.K. Stalin told the Assembly that his government would fill more than 75,000 vacan-

cies across departments within 18 months. A. Kalaiyarasan, an eco-nomist with the Madras Institute of Development Stu-dies said TN has more unemployment graduates due to the higher gross en-rollment ratio (GER).

More graduate numbers TN's GER in higher educa-tion is almost double the national average, accord-ing to a 2024-25 State Higher Education Departm policy note, which quoted the All India Survey on the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE). "Our youth enrollment in education is not keeping pace with the employment opportunities. So some

pace with the employment opportunities. So some youth end up working in the gig economy like Swig-gy and other e-commerce sites, hoping to land a bet-ter job in future," Mr. Kalai-yarasan said. Despite TN having the highest women workforce nation must be addressed. He pointed to the monthly earnings gap between men earnings gap between men

of data to better handle E&P

in regular jobs earning ₹12,969 against ₹17,476 fo men in 2020-21. Mr. Kalaiyarasan also said TN must incentivise

To create more transparer cy in data mining and ac-cessibility as well as preparing itself for monitoring all types of energy sources, the Directorate-General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) is up-grading its National Data Repository (NDR) and also carving out a Hydrocarbon Efficiency and New Energy Department.

At successive roadshows held by the DGH before the exploration rounds, it has been found that investors

been found that investors want a more liberal regime in terms and stability in doing business here.

Also, a constant question to all the successive Director-Generals of DCH, the technical arm of the Ministry for Petroleum and Natural Gas that monitors exploration and produc-tion activities, has been why have the Exxons of the world still not made a mark in India's upstream space. What is it that they seek? "A lot of things have

been taken care of in the recently introduced Oil-fields Regulation and Development (Amendment Bill, 2024. Separately a

try had marured and net job additions had been coming down, amid a slow-ly. While the number of global capability centres ment for specific skills made skilling initiatives es-sential, Mr. Ram observed. ing with Anna University to update its curriculum. Nann Mudhahan scheme was a good initiative for en-try level job creation, hed be expanded with involvenill. 2024. Separately a working group for reserve-based funding – financing working group for reserve-based funding – financing constituted by the government, *Pallavi Jain Govil, Director General, DGH, while this happening on a real-time basis, the BCH of the state of the state of the various packages for New 200 Project and tendent of the state of the various packages for New 200 Project and tendent packages for New 200 Project and tendent

Buybacks: India Inc. races to beat tax changes from Oct. 1

Suresh P. Iyengar

It has been raining buyback offers from Corporate India before the tax chang-es announced in the recent Union Budget kick-in from October 1. In the Budget, FM Nir-

mala Sitharaman shifted the Income Tax liability on share buybacks from companies to shareholders

panies to shareholders.
Boards of 32 companies
met after the Budget an
nouncement and proposed buyback of shares
indus Tower leads the
pack with an offer of
22,640 crore followed by
AIA Engineering and Savita
oil Tech, which will buycrore and \$2564 crore, respectively. Cera Sanitarypectively. Cera Sanitarypectively. Cera Sanitary-ware offered to buy back shares at a premium of 19% at ₹12,000 a piece against Friday's close of ₹10,108.

Windfall for govt. As per the existing rules, firms undertaking share buybacks are subject to a 20% tax. It will be tax-free

However, from October the entire amount re-ceived by shareholders from buybacks will be treated as dividend income



other buyers.

Manish Chowdhury. Manish Chowdhury, Head of Research, Stox-Box, said cash-rich and low leveraged companies with predictable cash flows in future are expected to inpredictable cash flows in future are expected to join the share repurchase band-wagon. He added IT sector companies, given their strong balance-sheets and relatively subdued stock price movement price movements, are sure to take advantage of the changing taxation scenario and likely to be at the fore-front of share buybacks.

Satish Menon, ED, Geo-jit Financial Services, said the new rules will reduce non-retail investor partici-pation in buybacks as the response will depend on individual tax slabs. Ho-wever, he said, investors may respond positively for ongoing offers as they comes at a premium due to the bullish market.

treated as dividend income and taxed according to the come Tax slabs. The responsibility for withholding tax lies with the company.

Windfall for the government as the tax collection can go up. Experts believed in an according to the proportionately higher than long-term capital gains tax of 12.5% and short-term capital gains tax of 22.5% and short-term capital ga

Shifting Govil + 'can delay bill on digital competition'

K.R. Srivats

much-anticipated Digital Competition Bill (DCB) may be delayed following the Centre's decision on Friday to move Manoj Go vil, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, to the Fi nance Ministry as Expend ture Secretary, say econo Mr. Govil was at the

Mr. Govil was at the helm of framing the DCB the establish a competitive, and equitable digital mar-ket in India. His departure

Delays likely
The new MCA Secretary,
Deepti Gaur Mukerjee,
would need time to fami
liarise herself with the ining its finalisation, said economy watchers. The DCB has been in the works

for more than 18 months.

The government expects the digital economy to touch \$1 trillion by 2025 26. The DCB was intended challenges posed by the growing dominance of technology giants in India's

As Chairman of the 16 member Inter-Ministeria Committee on Digital Com

up in 2023, Mr. Govil brought together various stakeholders, from industry experts to legal professionals, to frame DCB.

Mr. Govil played a leading role in completing the CDCL report, drafting the Bill and securing the CCF approval for the report's recommendations and the Bill's proposals.

India needs to lift job growth via reforms: IMF's Gopinath

Economist moots a wide range of reforms to boost employment, bats for women's safety noting that country can't become a developed economy without adding more women in the workforce

<u>Vikas Dhoot</u>

NEW DELHI

ndia needs to improve the depth and quality of its education system to create an employable workforce, nurture efinstitutions. fective including an efficient judiciary, to support development, and pursue reforms in its land and labour markets, in order to actualise its quest to become a developed country, International Monetary Fund (IMF) deputy managing director Gita Gopinath emphasised on Saturday.

Ms. Gopinath, who was in conversation with Fifteenth Finance Commission chief N.K. Singh at the Delhi School of Economics' diamond jubilee conference, also stressed that no country could aspire to attain 'high-income' status without lifting its women's labour force participation rate, which hovers at 35% in India, adding that ensuring women's safety was critical for this.

'Cut tariffs'

Noting that India's import tariff rates were higher than its peer economies, Ms. Gopinath said that being open to trade was important, even if trade integration was being questioned in the current global environment. Lowering tariffs was a requisite if India wanted to be an important player on the world stage and in global



Fund's recipe

MF's Gita Gopinath says India needs to

improve depth, quality of its education system to create an employable workforce

- **Reforms in land, labour markets essential to become a developed country'
- Economist urges implementing
- India needs to create 60 million to 148 million additional jobs between now and 2030: Gopinath

reforms proposed

in Labour Codes

supply chains, the fund's senior official asserted.

While India's GDP growth had averaged 6.6% since the 2010s till the pandemic, its employment growth had been under 2% through this period, Ms. Gopinath pointed out, "So it is indeed the case... compared to other G20 emerging market economies. growth in India has been much less in terms of employment-driven, [and] much more intensive in terms of capital," she said. Between now and 2030.

India would have to create anywhere between 60 million and 148 million additional jobs cumulatively over this period, she reckoned, calling for policies that do not penalise firms for hiring workers, and implementing reforms proposed in the Labour Codes cleared a few years ago by Parliament, through incentives for States.

On the general quality of the workforce and skill levels in India, Ms. Gopinath said the skill mismatch in the workforce "is now a longstanding problem" that warrants urgent investments in revamping education and making sure that people have more years of, and better quality of education.

"It will not deliver results instantly. It will take time, but that absolutely needs fixing now. Otherwise, we are perennially stuck in the situation of a workforce that's not sufficiently skilled," she said, adding that "general corporate investment and private investment" also needed to rise.

'Corporate investment'

"Public investment has been going strong. If you look at private investment, by households in real estate, that's going strong. But if you look at corporate investment, that is not doing as well as it should be for an economy that's growing at 7%," the erstwhile IMF chief economist remarked.

With the advent of auto-

mation and Artificial Intelligence (AI) spurring worries about the future of work opportunities, the IMF official cited a study by the multilateral lender that looked at four indicators to assess 170 countries' preparedness for adapting with AI.

"India is at about an intermediate level of preparedness, somewhat slightly above the average for emerging markets and developing economies. But again, if you look within those indicators, the indicator on education and skilling levels of the workforce, that's the area where a lot more work is required for it to be able to adapt," she said.

Policies must "not inadvertently" tilt the playing field in favour of automation, and countries need to have social security nets and the ability to reskill, so that workers who have to shift jobs, can go through some kind of unemployment insurance till they find a job.

"Singapore [rated as the most prepared for AI], has this program where it provides grants for lifelong learning, which may be something that is needed in this world where you constantly have new technologies and new kinds of things that machines can do. So you want to make sure that your skills are complementing what automation brings along," Ms. Gopinath averred.

- Main Challenges
- Inflation: Inflation is stabilizing but still needs careful management to avoid adverse economic effects.
- Geopolitical Tensions: Conflicts, particularly in the Middle East, could affect commodity prices, such as oil.
- Political Uncertainty: Numerous elections globally this year may bring policy uncertainty affecting growth.
- Medium-Term Growth: Projected global growth rates are weak compared to historical averages, necessitating structural reforms.



Suggestions and Way Forward •



Encouraging corporate investment and flexible labour markets can aid broad-based growth and job creation. •



Improving ease of doing business and reducing trade restrictions are vital. •



Focus on education, skilling, and raising productivity in agriculture is essential for longterm growth



. • Improving macroeconomic and financial stability, and currency convertibility, benefits countries regardless of whether their currency becomes dominant.

VACANCIES IN BUREAUCRACY 'Lateral entry hiring is an anti-national step' NEWS » PAGE 5





Migrant workers, the mainstay of States However, there is not enough data on them



PERFECT START Man City begins with a 2-0 win over Chelsea SPORT » PAGE 16



Air India shifts crew after assault in London hotel

NEW DELHI

NEW DELINI
Air India said in a statement on
Sunday that it would relocate
its crew from the Radisson Red
Hotel in London following an
assault on one of its cabin
crew last Thursday. » PAGE 5

Ukraine says it struck key bridge in Russia's Kursk

Ukraine said on Sunday it had struck a second key bridge in the Kursk region, seeking to routes, in PAGE 14



Indian Coast Guard chief Rakesh Pal dead NEWS » PAGE 4

INSIDE

SC intervenes in rape and murder of doctor

Top court takes suo motu cognisance of the incident; three-judge Bench headed by CJI to hear case tomorrow; protests continue after doctors' strike ends; IMA set to submit safety document' to the Union Health Ministry with road map to make healthcare institutes safe; over 70 Padma award-winning doctors appeal to PM for 'urgent intervention

he Supreme Court on Sunday took aug the rape and murder of a postgraduate trainee doc-took and the suprementation of the suprementat

listed for the day before the Bench. The court's suo mo-tu intervention follows an August 13 order of the Cal-cutta High Court transfer-ring the investigation to vestigation from the Kolka-ta Police. The police had arrested a civil police vo-

arrested a civil police vo-lunteer in the case.

The body of the doctor The body of the doctor The body of the doctor seeminar room of the hospi-tal. It was reported that reports revealed horritying details of extensive injuries.

If the doctor injuries of the indian Medical Association (BMA) ended its 24-hour did in the doctor injuries of the said it had formed a com-mittee to present a "safety document" to the Union tument, which will be ready

ument, which will be ready by later this week, will in-clude the road map to make healthcare institutes safe for employees," its president. R.V. Asokan.



told The Hindu. The IMA will support the decision of the Resident Doctors' As-sociation of Delhi to contisociation of Deini to conti-nue the agitation, if neces-sary. "They are the soldiers on the ground, and we will support them if they want to continue the agitation," he said.

The Health Ministry, on Saturday, had appealed to the agitating doctors to res-ume their duties in the larger public interest and in view of the rising cases of dengue and malaria. It also assured doctors that a committee would be formed to suggest all possi-

Protests erupt near stadium in Kolkata

Shiv Sahay Singh

Violent protests erupted near the Salt Lake stadium in Kolkata on Sunday as thousands raised slogans demanding justice for the rape and murder of a

the safety of healthcare professionals.

More support Extending their support to the agitating doctors, over 70 doctors who have been honoured with the Padma doctor at the city's R.G. Kar Hospital and questioned the decision to cancel the Durand Cup Derby match between East Bengal and Mohun Bagan.

Minister Narendra Modi for his urgent intervention to ensure the safety of healthcare employees. In a letter, the group said they were concerned and an-guished about the horrific

events at the Kolkata hospital. "We stand in unwaver-

ing solidarity with the vic ing solidarity with the vic-tim's family and extend our full support to the medical community, who are in-creasingly confronting such violence in the course such violence in the course of their work. The safety and dignity of healthcare professionals must be safe-guarded with utmost priori-tity;" they said. In their letter, the doc-tors emphasised the need for law enforcement agen-cies to more risorously an-

cies to more rigorously ap-ply current legal frame-works to protect healthcare professionals, severe and swift penalties to serve as a deterrent against such crimes, enhanced safety measures in hospitals and medical insti-tutions and enactment and ntation of a speimplementation of a cial law for the protec of healthcare workers.

Flying architects



Jharkhand ex-CM Champai likely to quit JMM, join BJP

Amit Bhelari

In the run-up to the Assembly election in Jhark-hand, former Chief Minis-ter and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader Champai Soren is likely to join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). In a post on X, Mr. Soren indicated that he will soon leave the IMM.

The buzz of his joining The buzz of his joining the BJP got stronger when he removed the JMM lead-er' tag from his X handle. On Sunday, he landed in Delhi and despite repeated questions from pressper-sons about his joining the BJP. Mr. Champai Soren stuck to a one-line answer



that he was in the national that he was in the national capital for personal work. Before leaving for Delhi, there were reports that Mr. Champai Soren had a closed-door meeting with Bengal BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari in Kolkata on Sa-turday. The five-time JMM M.L., however, denied the reports. Mr. Champai So-ren has also reportedly re-moved the JMM flag from his ancestral house at Jilinggora village in Seraike-la-Kharsawan district of

Reacting to the reports, JMM Central Committee member and spokespermember and spokesper-son Manoj Pandey told presspersons in Ranchi, "Champai Soren has been associated with the party associated with the party for a long time and the par-ty has always given him a lot of respect. The party fully trusts him and is con-fident that he will not be-tray it."

Malaysian PM arriving today; | Fraudsters make the dead die twice in Rayagada trade, strategic ties on agenda

Suhasini Haidar Devesh K. Pandey

Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim will land in Delhi on Monday on a three-day visit, where he dra Modi will sign a num-ber of agreements and chart out a "multi-sectoral cooperation agenda" to en-hance trade, strategic ties, and people-to-people links, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

However, officials side-stepped the issue of controversial Islamic preacher Zakir Naik, who is wanted by Indian investigative agencies on alleged charges of hate speech and mo ney laundering, and whether India's demand that he be sent back would be raised during Mr. Ibra-hiero widt

be raised during Mr. Ibra-him's visit.

Asked at a briefing last week, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal did not confirm whether the issue



saying only that India-Ma-laysia ties "have improved over the past few years", and that the government was "eagerly waiting to warmly welcome him". "There will be discus-

sions on many issues, and all the matters between the two countries will be discussed," Mr. Jaiswal said.

Extradition request In 2021, Mr. Modi raised In 2021, Mr. Modi raised Mr. Naik's extradition with the then Malaysian PM Ma-hathir Mohammad, when they met on the sidelines of a conference in Russia.

At the time, the govern At the time, the government had announced that Indian and Malaysian offi-rate of the time of time

2016, was sent by India to the Malaysian government in January 2018.

Indian agencies had also failed to persuade Interpol to issue a Red Corner Not-ice against Mr. Naik despite three requests. The Inter-pol's adjudicating body found the evidence against Mr. Naik "not sufficient". Mr. Ibrahim had visited

Mr. Ibrahim had visited India in 2019 when he was part of Mr. Mahathir's rul-ing alliance. In an inter-view to *The Hindu* at the time, he had said that Ma-laysia needed "evidence" of Mr. Naik's guilt.

Indumati Watapanga, a Indumati Watapanga, a cooking assistant in a An-ganwadi centre in Rayaga-cha a thal district of the characteristic of the characteristic of the she lost both her sons and husband in just two years from 2020. But what hap-pened next was beyond mached:

Government records that had noted the deaths of her sons suddenly de-clared them alive again. This was not just a careless clerical error, but something far more sinister. Her two sons were found registered as construction workers with the Odisha Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (OBOCWWB). Just one month after registra-tion, these same records listed them as dead again. Indumati was not the only one caught in this sur-real web. Susata Suna, a migrant labourer from Am-badola panchayat, had struction Workers' Welfare

dead by the Government Railway Police of Vijayawa-da after she collapsed on the Alappuzha-Dhanbad Express on June 10, 2022. Yet, in a twist that seemed

Bizarre fraud



to defy the very laws of na ture, Susata died a second time on November 27, 2023 – this time, conveniently, 10 days after being registered with the Board.

purpose: to fraudulently claim death benefits from the Board. Government statistics shows that 33 "construction" had died within three days of their registration with the Board. Their next-of-kin received ₹2.05.000 each as death benefits and funeral assistance House er, it is likely that alm

er, it is likely that almost all of these 33 individuals were recorded as deceased twice in the records. In the southern Odisha district of Rayagada, bene-fits have been disbursed in case of death of 1,910 con-

2023 to 2024. Sources said that nearly 1,200 of these deceased were "killed' again in government records, as a gang of officials, trade union leaders and upon convenient ways to upon convenient ways to embezzle the government fund. The amount siphoned off could be in the range of 225 crore in Rayagada alone. 2023 to 2024. Sources said

uction workers from

Racket busted In March, the Rayagada

District Labour Office's verification calls to the nominees of deceased con-struction workers unexpectedly connected to individuals in Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, and other States raising suspicion about po-tential corruption.

The Labour Commis-

The Labour Commis-sioner deputed a high-level team to carry out a field in-uestigation. Rayagada District La-bour Officer (DLO) Jasmine Subhadarshini Sahoo was later identified as the mas-termind behind the mas-sive fraud, and suspended

genuineness in seven cases by calling non-existent mo-0000000000

As the team delved deeper, they uncovered layers of corruption hid-den beneath the surface. Indumati said that her sons' death certificates had been forged and their been forged and to death benefits were wiped out from their account by a middleman who surreptitionshy took their

tiously took their fingerprints.
"The Rayagada episode is an eye-opener for us," Odisha Labour Commissioner Vijay Amruta Ku-lange told The Hindu.

"We have already hand-ed over the matter to the Economic Offence Wing Economic Offence wing, apart from registering a police complaint to inquire into the case in detail. Be-sides, a local fund audit has been ordered into the functioning of the OBOCWWB." Mr. Kulange eoid that all involved in

INBRIDE



10 killed, 27 injured as pickup van collides with bus in U.P.

Ten people were killed and at least 27 injured when a pickup van collided with a bus in Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh on Sunday. The accident occurred on the Budaun-Meerut highway. Senior district officials reached the spot and rushed the injured to the district hospital. "A pickup vehicle was going towards Sambhal from Ghaziabad. It met with an accident with a private bus. 21 injured have come to the district hospital for treatment," Bulandshahr District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh said. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressed condolences on the deaths and instructed the district administration to carry out relief operations on a war footing.

PM monitors MPox situation; directs more surveillance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been continuously monitoring the MPox situation with Principal Secretary P.K. Mishra directing that surveillance be enhanced and measures be taken for prompt detection of cases. He further directed that the testing laboratories network should be geared up for early diagnosis. At present, 32 labs are equipped for testing. In a release issued on Sunday, the Centre said that in the past one week, a series of measures have been put in place and a meeting of experts was convened on August 12 to assess the risk.

Railways to adjust its clocks to maintain the right time

To develop a master clock system to replace manual timekeeping which does not help train

S. Vijay Kumar

n a first, the Indian
Railways will develop
a master clock system
for synchronising time
with the applications and
synchronism and
with plans to demonstrate
a prototype by Gandhi
Jayanti. The necessity of
keeping uniform time
keeping uniform time
plications involved in train
operations arose following operations arose following difficulties in accident

investigations.
According to official sources, the Railways will soon dispense with its current manual method of stationmasters setting time on the instructions of section controllers. The Railway Poord, bud contributed. Board had constituted a high-level committee to coordinate with the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), the Railways research arm, to finalise the architecture for the master clock system.

Under the existing system. Zonal Railways across the country use various systems, sourcing time from different sources.



The Railways will soon dispense with the method of stationmasters

With the advent of technology, the need for time synchronisation arose not only for proper working of the system of train operations and management, but also for post-facto analysis of rail accidents.

"The sequence of events with accurate time is essential for the authorities investigating the circum-stances that led to accidents. Mismatch in time restationmaster, crew, data

logger and inbuilt systems in the locomotive will lead to confusion in the probe. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to have a master clock system which will act as a timing source for diffe-tent ambiguitous and necessary. rent applications and sys-tems being used in the In-dian Railways," a senior officer in the Southern Railway told The Hindu on

Sourcing time

prototype for the master clock system and the synchronisation between different applications and sys-tems by October 2, officials would be sourced from Na-

Currently, Zonal Railways across India use various systems, sourcing time from different sources

stellation (NAVIC) or the National Physical Labora-

The RDSO has been

tories.

The high-level team, led by the Railway Board's Di-rector for Telecommunications, will study the exist-ing system of time synchronisation and its imsynchronisation and its im-pact on various applica-tions in terms of proper functioning and post-inci-dent analysis. Will finalise the architecture for the master clock system and the time dissemination for different functioning assets spread across various Zo-nal Railways, production centres.

dates, 102 were from Free Interview Guidance Programme (IGP), 55 were from Free Test Series, nine were from GS Class course and five candidates

CCPA imposes fine on IAS coaching centre for misleading ad

The Central Consumer Protection (Authority (CCPA) has imposed a penalty of Calakh on Strams for publishing a misleading advertisement.

The institute, in its advertisement, had made claims of "200 plus selections of "200 plus selections of "300 plus selections" of "300 plus sele India's No.1 Prestigious UPSC/IAS Coaching

Institute". Nidhi Khare, Chief Commissioner of CCPA, said in a statement that an advera statement that an adver-tisement should contain truthful and honest repre-sentation of facts by dis-closing important informa-tion in such a manner that they were clear, promi-nent, and extremely hard to miss for consumers. Poonse to the CEPA, subsi-ted the details of only 17 successful candidates

successful candidates against its claim of 200-

plus selections. "Out of these 171 candi-

An advertisement should contain truthful and honest

were from different States under the MoU signed bet-ween the State Govern-ment and the Institute to provide free seasing. This provide free coaching. This fact was not disclosed in their advertisement, there-

The CCPA observed that the total marks for the main exam and pers ty test are 1,750 and 275,

respectively.
"Thus contribution of
Personality Test is 13.5% in
the total marks. Majority of

ing advertisement creates a huge impact on the consumers who are UPSC aspi-rants, the CCPA said, adertisement had violat ed the consumer's right to

Jaishankar calls on Kuwaiti PM. Crown Prince to discuss ties

Press Trust of India

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Sunday called on Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al-Ahmed Al-labon Sunday on a day-long

"Pleased to call on His Highness Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. Conveyed the greetings of PM @naren-dramodi. Appreciated his perspectives on the deedramodi. Appreciated his perspectives on the deepening of India Kuwait ties. Valued his views in regard Valued his views in regard valued his views in regard earlier. A support of the real first part of the



Press Trust of India

The Food Safety and Stan-dards Authority of India (FSSAI) has launched a (FSSAI) has launched a project to assess micro-plastic contamination in food products and develop methods for its detection. According to an official statement, the project was started in March.

The aim is to develop and validate analytical methods for detecting micro and nano-plastics in va-rious food products, as well as assess their preva-lence and exposure levels

wait share centuries-old bonds of goodwill and friendship. Our contem-

12% of tested spice samples fail quality, safety standards

Nearly 12% of Indian spice samples tested falled to meet quality and safety meet quality and safety Several countries had aerlier taken steps over contamination risks in two popular Indian brands, The Food Safety and Standards Authority of In-dia conducted inspections, mixed spice blends after

mixed spice blends after Hong Kong suspended sales of some blends of the two brands in April over two brands in April over high levels of a pesticide. Britain then tightened controls on spice imports from india, while New Zea-and Australia have said they were looking into issues related to the brands. MDH and Everest have said their products are safe for consumption. Their spices are among the most

in India.
"The primary objectives of the project include deve loping standard protocols for micro/nano-plastic anafor micro/nano-plastic ana-lysis, conducting intra- and inter-laboratory compari-sons, and generating criti-cal data on microplastic ex-posure levels among consumers," the FSSAI said.

474 of 4,054 samples tested between May and early July did

popular in India, the big-gest exporter, producer and consumer of spices in the world.

According to the data obtained by Reuters under the Right to Information Act, 474 of 4,054 samples tested between May and tested between May and early July did not meet quality and safety

parameters.

The safety agency said in a statement it did not have breakdowns by brands of the spices it rest-say action against companies involved. "Action on non-conforming samples has been taken as stipulated," it said, referring to penalty provisions under law, without olaborating.

Pune's Burger King wins battle against fast-food giant

After a 13-year-long legal battle, the U.S.-based fastfood giant Burger King Cor-poration has lost its case against a namesake eatery against a namesake eatery in Pune, with a commer-cial court dismissing the company's trademark in-fringement lawsuit. District judge Sunil Ved-pathak, in an August 16 or-der, said the city-based ea-

tery Burger King was operational before the U.S. company entered the Indian market and that the latter failed to prove trade-mark infringement. The court dismissed the

2011 lawsuit filed by Burger King Corporation, repre-sented by Pankai Pahuja, sented by Pankaj Pahuja, which sought a permanent injunction against trade-mark infringement, along with monetary damages of 220 lakh, from the eatery's owners, Anahita and Sha-poor Irani. The court not-ed that the Pune eatery had been using the 'Burger

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trademark infringement.

gan operations in India on-ly in 2014. "Defendants have been using the trade name for

using the trade name for their restaurant since about 1992. The pleadings put forth by the plaintiff are totally silent about how fined the to use of trade-mark Burger King by de-fendants to their restaurant, it said. Founded in 1954, Burger King Corporation oversees a global network of 13, 900

fast-food restaurants in ov-er 100 countries and U.S.

territories.

The court ruled that Burger King Corporation had "miserably failed" to demonstrate that the local eatery had infringed on its trademark, adding that there was no evidence of tual damage caused to the company's business.

company's business.

The Irani family opposed the lawsuit, alleging it was filed with mala fide intentions to suppress legi said that apart from the ly no similarity in the plain-tiff's trademark and their own shop name. They also sought ₹20 lakh in com-

calls they faced following the suit.

However, the court re-fused to grant them mone-tary relief, citing lack of evidence beyond oral testi-mony to support their claims.

TH CROSSWORD + 14257

S. Jaishankar with Kuwait

Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmed

Abdullah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber

higher level, "India and Ku-

cross
Bugged Patrick to return to training by 1st of December (6)
Watches Stokes' attack in the absence of skipper getting first size
With director missing, there is difficulty in getting equipment [7)
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Strange, former lover's book seen at Indian college (6)

Pronsports berries after auditor takes engineer's place (7).
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Work unit has returned, yard is overcast (4)

CM COM

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On-ed rewritten after receiving religious instruction in Times (6) Daughter's refund uninitiated leads to argument [6] Over time, charge for party (4) Mass arrest, leader from east escapes (4)

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Gayathri Mantra's greatness

Among all the chants and slokas which devout Hindus fol-low, Gayathri Mantra is considered the mother of all man-tras. This pre-eminent mantra has many unique aspects associated with it, said Thirukkudanthai Dr. Venkatesh in

associated that is, said influsionational for ventages in a soft of the power of the constraint of the power of the constraint of the power of the constraint of the power of

ossablish that Gaoarleri Mantra, being montane. This is one tras, cannot behold the child being hungry.

Another unique feature is that the father transmits the mantra to the child during the initiation, while all other starts with an invocation wherein the supremacy of the paramatma over jivatma is first acknowledged. Then the Lord, the Creator's, omnipresence is recognised as is the fact that He is the controller of all cosmic activity. Then the

mantra evokes the luminescence emanating from the Lord and beseches that light to remove the darkness en-gulfing the mortal minds. Darkness in this context is all the thoughts of material-istic pursuits and worldly desires which engulf one's mind and prevents the same from realising the presence of the Lord. Chanting the Gayathri mantra regularly clears one's

mind of negativity and undesirable thoughts and focuses the same on the luminescence of the Lord.

CCPA imposes fine on IAS coaching centre for misleading ad

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has imposed a penalty of ₹3 lakh on Sriram's IAS, a coaching institute, for publishing a misleading advertisement.

The institute, in its advertisement, had made claims of "200 plus selections in UPSC Civil Service Exam 2022" and "We are India's No.1 Prestigious UPSC/IAS Coaching Institute".

Nidhi Khare, Chief Commissioner of CCPA, said in a statement that an advertisement should contain truthful and honest representation of facts by disclosing important information in such a manner that they were clear, prominent, and extremely hard to miss for consumers.

The institute, in its response to the CCPA, submitted the details of only 171 successful candidates against its claim of 200-plus selections.

"Out of these 171 candidates, 102 were from Free Interview Guidance Programme (IGP), 55 were from Free Test Series, nine were from GS Classroom course and five candidates

An advertisement should contain truthful and honest representation of facts, the CCPA said

were from different States under the MoU signed between the State Government and the Institute to provide free coaching. This fact was not disclosed in their advertisement, thereby deceiving consumers," the CCPA said in a release.

The CCPA observed that the total marks for the main exam and personality test are 1,750 and 275, respectively.

"Thus contribution of Personality Test is 13.5% in the total marks. Majority of candidates had already cleared Preliminary and Mains examination by himself/herself, with no contribution of Sriram's IAS," it said.

Such false and misleading advertisement creates a huge impact on the consumers who are UPSC aspirants, the CCPA said, adding that the advertisement had violated the consumer's right to be informed to protect himself against unfair trade practice.

Pune's Burger King wins battle against fast-food giant

Abhinay Deshpande

MUMBAI

After a 13-year-long legal battle, the U.S.-based fast-food giant Burger King Corporation has lost its case against a namesake eatery in Pune, with a commercial court dismissing the company's trademark infringement lawsuit.

District judge Sunil Vedpathak, in an August 16 order, said the city-based eatery Burger King was operational before the U.S. company entered the Indian market and that the latter failed to prove trademark infringement.

The court dismissed the 2011 lawsuit filed by Burger King Corporation, represented by Pankaj Pahuja, which sought a permanent injunction against trademark infringement, along with monetary damages of ₹20 lakh, from the eatery's owners, Anahita and Shapoor Irani. The court noted that the Pune eatery had been using the 'Burger



The American fast-food giant had filed a suit in 2011 alleging trademark infringement.

King' name since 1991-92, while the U.S. company began operations in India only in 2014.

"Defendants have been using the trade name for their restaurant since about 1992. The pleadings put forth by the plaintiff are totally silent about how customers have been confused due to use of trademark Burger King by defendants to their restaurant," it said.

Founded in 1954, Burger King Corporation oversees a global network of 13,000 fast-food restaurants in over 100 countries and U.S. territories.

The court ruled that Burger King Corporation had "miserably failed" to demonstrate that the local eatery had infringed on its trademark, adding that there was no evidence of customer confusion or actual damage caused to the company's business.

The Irani family opposed the lawsuit, alleging it was filed with mala fide intentions to suppress legitimate businesses. They said that apart from the name, there was absolutely no similarity in the plaintiff's trademark and their own shop name. They also sought ₹20 lakh in compensation for the harassment and intimidating calls they faced following the suit.

However, the court refused to grant them monetary relief, citing lack of evidence beyond oral testimony to support their claims.

Farmers' outfits to campaign against ruling BJP in Harvana

SKM calls for a meeting tomorrow even as Gurnam Singh Charuni plans to contest Assembly election; the main grievance of the organisation is regarding the recent announcement of MSP and other farm issues, particularly that of cotton farmers

head of the Harya-na Assembly elec-tion, farmers' or-ganisations under the Samyukt Kisan Morcha have decided to step up their campaign against the Nayab Singh Saini government in the State. However, the organisation finds it-self divided with influential leader Gurnam Singh Charuni, president of the Bhapolitical party to contest the election.

Mr. Charuni told The Mr. Charuni told The Hindu that he was yet to decide on joining an al-liance and the number of seats to contest. He said that the SKM was not en-tering politics, but farmers needed a party to voice

their concerns.

The reason for the rift between him and the SKM is the announcement of minimum support price duce by the State government. While the SKM held that this step was just an eyewash, Mr. Charuni wel-



Bharatiya Janata Party.
The SKM is hosting a
convention in Bhiswani on
Tuesday to discuss plans
after the announcement of
the election. Senior leader
inderlix Singh said the
SKM's call to defeat the By
woulder made in Hzypy
woulder made in Hzypy too, "During the Lok Sabha election, the SKM worked hard to defeat the BJP can-didates in the State," he

said. The main grievance of the SKM is regarding the

MSP and other issues of farmers, particularly that of cotton farmers. "The go-vernment says it will pro-vide MSP for nine more crops. Our demand is C2+50% [the M.S. Swami-nathan formula of calculat-ing MSP with comprehen-sive cost, family labour and value of land], not simple MSP of A2+FL (input cost

and family labour), the ex-isting formula," Mr. Singh said. The SKM had said in a timation of the loss in each of the 24 crops of Haryana will expose the real antifarmer face of the BJP and the Nayab Singh govern-ment," a statement said.

Other issues Recently, the All India Ki-san Sabha, a constituent of the SKM, organised a prot-est for cotton farmers.

In a complaint to the Ha-In a complaint to the Haryana Agriculture University, they alleged that the gowith big companies that supply cotton seeds and tright part and the supply cotton seeds and right part and the supply cotton seeds and with a good number of with a good number of calcultuation in the State, the SKM plans to raise their isomorphisms of the state of

Another major issue is stray cattle, which farmers say is a big threat to crops. "Because of the religious politics, the government has not done anything to control stray cattle," Mr. Singh alleged.

Lateral recruitment takes away quota of Scheduled communities, OBCs: Rahul

Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, on Sunday al-leged that the Narendra Modi government's policy of lateral entry into senior positions in the bureaucracy was an "anti-national step "as it was "openly snatching away" reservation in government jobs from the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Class (OBCs).

Mr. Gandhi alleged that
the Prime Minister was "at-

the Prime Minister was "at-tacking the Constitution by recruiting public servants by recruiting public servants Swayamaevak Sangh in-stead of the Union Public Service Commission Commission the IAS [Indian Administra-tive Service] is Modi's gua-rantee for ending reserva-post on the social media platform X. Tack Came a day after the tack came a day after the

tack came a day after the UPSC advertised vacancies for 45 posts, including of Joint Secretary, Director, and Deputy Secretary in the Union Ministries



guarantee for ending reservation, PM is recruiting public servants through the RSS instead of UPSC RAHUL GANDHI

ment being undertaken by the Centre. Usually, such posts are filled by officers of the Indian Administra other Group A services

'Not represented'
-Reservation of SC, ST and
OSC classes is being openly
OSC classes is being openly
on the state of the classes of the class

away from the top posts through lateral entry," the Congress leader said.

social justice including re vileged." he added

Board of India served as a Board of India served as a vivid example of what cor-porate interests could do if they occupied key govern-ment positions, "...for the first time a person from the private sector was made the chairperson," Mr. California of conflict of in-terest against SFRI Chair-terest against SFRI Chairterest against SEBI Chair-person Madhabi Puri Buch.

"The INDIA [Indian National Developmental, In-clusive Alliance] bloc will strongly oppose this anti-national step that hurts both the administrative structure and social jus-

Air India transfers crew out of London hotel after assault on woman member

Jagriti Chandra

Air India said in a statement on Sunday that it would relocate its crew from the Radisson Red Hotel at Heathrow in London following an assault on one of its cabin crew last

Thursday.

The announcement followed concern that the
crew on their London
signed to the same hotel
and the alrine management had allegedly failed
to beed complaints in the
part of the same hotel
and the alrine management had allegedly failed
to beed complaints in the
part of the facility.

On Thursday night, an
assailant entered the hotel
crew member with the

crew member with the help of a card key when she was asleep. She was as-saulted, but those in an adjacent room were able to intervene and nab the attacker on hearing her cries



Chats among crew reveal concern over inadequate safety

tained injuries and was rushed to a hospital. She was flown back to Mumbai on Saturday night. The airline has de-scribed the incident as "an

unlawful incident of intrusion". However, in What-sApp chats among crew members deputed on Lon-don flights, the incident has been described as a

In one of the WhatsApp onversations reviewed by The Hindu, a crew member

about inadequate safety at the hotel, the reception desk being left unattended at night, and dimly lit corridors. A post on Instagram that first brought the incident to light said there were concerns among the crew about a miscreant

crew about a miscreant knocking on their windows and doors, and they were often forced to stack their belongings against the ho-tel door for their safety. In a different post, there was concern over col-leagues being assigned to the same hotel on the day after the incident. "We have taken imme-

diate measures and decided to move our colleagues to another hotel," Air India

said in a post on X.

The airline added that it constantly reviewed travel employees. Air India is also working with the local pol-

AAP begins preparation for Delhi Assembly election, asks MLAs to prepare report cards

member, sandeep Patnak, said in a statement that the party was running several campaigns in Delhi for the Assembly election. He ad-ded that many more cam-

paigns would be launched. "We are going to every As-

connecting with the peo-

ple. We are giving them in-formation about work

formation about work done in the past four-and-

a-half years. We are direct-

public," Mr. Pathak said.

ting with the

hi Assembly election sche-duled to be held early next has asked all its MLAs to prepare a report card of the work they have done over the past four-and-a-half years and present them to party workers in their constituencies.

MSP of ₹2,300 a quintal of-fered by the Centre for paddy is based on the A2+FL formula; as per the C2+50% formula, it should be ₹3,012.

The announcement has no meaning as no crop will come in the market before

the election, scheduled for

"We will expose this double standards of the BJP in our campaigns," he

The SKM said paddy production in Harvana in

Senior AAP leader and Delhi State convener Gonal

blic.
"Through this method, the MLA will be able to tell the public what work has been done in the past four-and-a-half years," Mr. Rai

said. He said that a fourpronged strategy has been launched with former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, who was recently released on bail, spear-heading the people-con-



nect initiative by conduct-ing padyatras across the capital. Apart from the re-port cards, Mr. Rai said, "booth mapping" would be done in every constituency so that party work-ers could be given clear responsibilities. The party has roped in autorickshav drivers to convey to the pe-ople the work done by the government despite "ad

verse circumstances".
The AAP's national general secretary (organisa-tion) and Rajya Sabha

for the Assembly election with a renewed sense of energy after Mr. Sisodia

was released. "Mr. Sisodia has made a strategy to win the Assembly election by meet

On ticket distribution Speaking about ticket dis-tribution, Mr. Rai said that

rribution, Mr. Rai said that the final call on the distribution of ticket would be taken by Mr. Kejriwal.

"Our goal now is to identify the control of the c

The Delhi Congress attacked the AAP by saying that Mr. Sisodia, who had that Mr. Sisodia, who had spent 17 months in jail, should apologise to the pe-ople of Delhi. "Instead of fooling the people with lies and falsehood, Mr. Sisodia

vail upon Finance Minister Atishi and other Ministers and the Mayor and officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to repair the broken and water-logged prevent vector-borne dis eases due to rainwater a cumulation, polluted wa ter and air, and many

ter and air, and many deaths due to electrocu-tion and drowning," Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadon and Peame to power with a majority for the se-cond consecutive term in 2020, winning 62 of the 70 seats with a \$3.57% vote share. In the 2015 election, the party had won 67 seats with a 54.3% vote share.

However, the run-up to the coming election has not been smooth sailing for the AAP with several lead-ers including Mr. Kejriwal in jail and the tussle with the Lieutenant-Governor over day-to-day function

Corruption flourished under Cong. regime: Saini

Press Trust of India

Nayab Singh Saini on Sun-day alleged that corruption flourished under previous Congress govern that the party was "know

to work for commissions".

Hitting out at the Congress's 'Haryana Maange
Hisab' campaign, Mr. Saini
accused the party of land
grab. "When the Opposition has no issue to raise,
they are taking out a 'hisab'
describer access' when "he

Rescue Coordination Centre in Chennai

Singh inaugurated a new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) of the

At the event, he also inaugurated two new Coast Guard units – the Regional Guard units – the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (RMPRC) in Chen-nai and a Coast Guard Air — Puducherry —through "deo-conferencing. The new MRCC would facilitate enhanced coordi-nation for rescue of marin-ers and fishermen in dis-

the announcement of the Assembly polls, which are to be held on October I. that been installed with the latest equipment for



Defence Minister opens new Maritime

through terrestrial and sa-tellite systems, and has ad-

It would also serve as the nerve centre for coor-dinating all maritime res-the Chennai Port, is the

cue operations on the east coast of India and beyond, ensuring the safety and well-being of fishermen and mariners, the release added.

coordinating response against marine pollution in the waters adjoining the coastal States in the Indian Ocean Region. The Coast Guard Air En

clave in Puducherry would be equipped with Chetak and Advanced Light Heli-copter Squadrons. Both these helicopters are indi-genously built, and can carry out maritime patrol, search and rescue and oth-er such missions from the land as well as Coast Guard ships patrolling at sea, it said.

Thangam Thennarasu; MPs Dayanidhi Maran and Kalanidhi Veeraswamy; and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Congress slams Chhattisgarh govt, over arrest of its MLA

Defending party MLA De-vendra Yadav – arrested for his alleged role in the Balodahazaar arson case two months ago – the Con-gress on Sunday alleged that the ruling Bharatiya Ja-nata Party (BJP) was ha-rassing Opposition leaders in Chhattisgarh.

rassing Opposition leaders in Chattrisgarh. They also slammed the government for not investigating the purported role to the conference, Leader of the Opposition Charandas Mahant, State Congress former Chief Minister Blunder of the State Charantee Congress former Chief Minister Blunder of the State Protessing to the Arman and vandallism at government office that houses the Collector and State Charantee Character and the Balodas and the Collector and State Character and the Collector and State Character and the Balodas and the Collector and State Character and the Balodas and the Balo

protest on August 21 against the arrest of Devendra Yadav in the Balodabazaar

inst the arrest of Mr. Ya day, on August 21. They also slammed the Mr. Baghel said that Mr. Yadav had not committed any crime and the police had indiscriminately had indiscriminately slapped legal provisions on Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai and Deputy Chief Mi-nister Vijay Sharma.

"There are so many see tions that the investigating officer wrote as much as he officer wrote as much as he could. BJP has worked to spoil social harmony. The BJP is taking such action to hide its failure. The police should show evidence of the Sections that they have imposed. Action has been taken against Devendra Yadav under wrong Sections in a conspiracy. This shows the frustration of the gg. vernment," the Congress leader said.

Defence Minister opens new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Chennai

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) of the Coast Guard in Chennai on Sunday.

At the event, he also inaugurated two new Coast Guard units – the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (RMPRC) in Chennai and a Coast Guard Air Enclave in Puducherry –through

video-conferencing.

The new MRCC would facilitate enhanced coordination for rescue of mariners and fishermen in distress at sea, a release said. It has been installed with the latest equipment for



Safety impetus: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh receiving the Guard of Honour by the Indian Coast Guard contingent on Sunday. PTI

distress monitoring through terrestrial and satellite systems, and has advanced communication systems, it added.

It would also serve as the nerve centre for coordinating all maritime rescue operations on the east coast of India and beyond, ensuring the safety and well-being of fishermen and mariners, the release added.

The RMPRC, based at the Chennai Port, is the

first-of-its-kind facility for coordinating response against marine pollution in the waters adjoining the coastal States in the Indian Ocean Region.

The Coast Guard Air Enclave in Puducherry would be equipped with Chetak and Advanced Light Helicopter Squadrons. Both these helicopters are indigenously built, and can carry out maritime patrol, search and rescue and other such missions from the land as well as Coast Guard ships patrolling at sea, it said.

State Finance Minister Thangam Thennarasu; MPs Dayanidhi Maran and Kalanidhi Veeraswamy; and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Inauguration of Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC):

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated a new Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) of the Coast Guard in Chennai.

The MRCC is designed to enhance coordination for the rescue of mariners and fishermen in distress at sea, particularly along the east coast of India. Two new Coast Guard units were also inaugurated: The Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (RMPPRC) in Chennai.

A Coast Guard Air Enclave in Puducherry.

The inaugurations were conducted via video conferencing.

Features of the New Facilities:

The MRCC is equipped with the latest technology for distress monitoring through terrestrial and satellite systems.

It includes advanced communication systems and serves as the nerve center for coordinating all maritime rescue operations on the east coast of India.

The RMPPRC is a first-of-its-kind facility for coordinating responses against marine pollution in the Indian Ocean Region.

Coast Guard Air Enclave in Puducherry:

This unit is equipped with Chetak and Advanced Light Helicopter Squadrons, both indigenously built.

These helicopters are capable of carrying out maritime patrol, search and rescue, and other missions from both land and sea.

What is the primary purpose of the newly inaugurated Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Chennai?

a) To manage trade routes and cargo ships in the Indian Ocean.

b) To enhance coordination for the rescue of mariners and fishermen in distress along the east coast of India.

c) To oversee the construction of new ports and harbors in Tamil Nadu.

d) To regulate fishing activities in the Bay of Bengal.

The Hindu Bureau

Resident doctors working Place seeking the death pe-nalty for the accused in the rape and murder case of a medico at State-run R.G. Kar Medical College in

Kolkata.

Carrying placards and banners, the protesters among people to make them aware about the safety challenges faced by the control of t

"We don't want people "We don't want people and the government to treat it as just another news. A woman has been violated at her workplace Gollapalli Divya, a fourth-year student at Lady Hardinge Medical College.

Shreya, a junior doctor at Max Hospital, sought the ment for the accused.

"The punishment



Resident doctors protesting at Connaught Place in New Delhi

should match the level of in the case should be given death penalty," she said.

'Protest will continue' As people made videos and showed solidarity with the protesters, the doctors declared that they would continue with the boycott of out-patient departmen (OPD) and elective services at city hospitals until their demand are met.

Arushi, a third-year stu-dent at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, said though doctors are not although doctors are not al-lowed to strike work under the Essential Services Maintenance Act, their protest is the result of the non-redress of their safety concerns for long by the

Protests erupt near Kolkata stadium over doctor's murder

Thousands of supporters of two football clubs demand justice for the doctor; AIFF president and BJP leader Kalvan Chaubey among several detained after clash between protesters and the police

iolent protests erupted near the Salt Lake Stadium on the Eastern Metropoli an bypass here on Sunday as thousands of sports lovers raised slogans demand-ing justice for the trainee doctor who was raped and doctor who was raped and murdered at the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospi-tal. They questioned the decision to cancel the Du-

decision to cancel the Du-rand Cup derby match bet-ween East Bergal and Mo-han Bagan.
Archrivals in Kolkata Maidan, East Bengal and ecame together with their flags and in their team jer-seys to protest against the crime and engaged in a scuffle with the police. Crowds starred swelling at

drowds started swelling at 4 p.m. despite the decision to cancel the match. There was a large de-ployment of the police in front of the stadium and front of the stadium and the protesters clashed with the personnel. The police made an announcement asking the protesters to clear the arterial road and resorted to baton charge to disperse the crossel.



Football fans take out a rally seeking justice for the deceased doctor, in Kolkata on Sunday. DEBASISH BRADURI

Several people, includ-ing supporters of both clubs, were detained. Among those detained was president of All India Foot-ball Federation and Bhara-tiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Kalvan Chaubey.

'Why cancel?' way cancel?"
Raising slogans of "We want Justice", the protesters regrouped in the area after some time. The situation remained tense till evening, with protesters and the police coming face to face

to face.
Several protesters ques-tioned the move to sus-pend the derby match

4 p.m. to midnight of Sun-day on the pavement of the eastern side of the bypass eastern side of the bypass from Narkeldanga Main Road to Beleghata Cross-ing, Narkeldanga Main Road and E.M. Bypass crossing, among others. The police have im-posed prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the Bharathes Nasarik Su

when so many police per-sonnel could be deployed at the stadium.

The decision to "aban-don" the concluding Durand Cup Group A match was taken based on reports that the Bidhannagar Pol-Bharatiya Nagarik Su-raksha Sanhita around the R.G. Kar Medical College that the Bidhannagar Poi-ice Commissionerate, res-ponsible for managing the security arrangements at the Salt Lake Stadium, had falled to commit adequate forces. A usual derby sees a and Hospital for seven days with effect from August 18

The prohibitory orders have been issued in certain forces. A usual derby sees a crowd of 60,000 people. Some leaders of the Tri-namool Congress also ex-pressed disapproval of the decision to suspend the football match. have been issued in certain areas such as J.K. Mitra Road, Shyambazar five point crossing, Belgachia Road and others in the li-mits of the Shyampukur, Uitadanga and Tala police

prevent unlawfu

different parts of the city and other parts of West Bengal over the gruesome crime. Actors from the Bengali film industry took out a rally from Techni-

cian's Studio in South Kolkata.

Prohibitory orders
The Kolkata police issued prohibitory orders around

the Salt Lake stadium from

Differences emerge in Trinamool ranks over investigation

Shiv Sahay Singh

As protests continued to rage across Kolkata over the rape and murder of a doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, diffeences in Trinamool Congress ranks came to the fore on Sunday.

In a post on X, Trina-mool MP Sukhendu Sekhar Ray demanded custodia interrogation of the Kolka-ta Police Commissioner and the former principal of the medical college to the medical college to know who floated the initial "suicide story" and why. "Why wall of hall ded why. "Why wall of hall ded faccused Sanjay! Roy to be so powerful, why sniffer dog used after 3 days. 100's of such questions. Make the suicide of such questions. Make the suicide of the suicide of such questions. Make the suicide of the suicide of such questions and the suicide of the suicide of

"I also demand justice in "I also demand justice in the R.G. Kar case. But I attongly oppose this de-mand regarding CP [Vineet Kumar Goyal]. After get-ting information, he tried his best. Personally, the CP was doing his job and the investigation was in roosi. Police issue notice to Trinamool MP over social media posts; BJP, DYFI leaders

from my senior leader," he

said.
The police sent notice to Mr. Ray for his post and asked him to appear at the Lalbazaar headquarters by Sunday, Police sourcesde dog squad was sent to the crime spot after three days

crime spot after three days.
The police also sent notice to two doctors who allegedly revealed the identity of the victim. BIP leader Locket Chatterjee and Meenakshi Mukherjee of the Democratic Youth Federation of India too have been summoned.

been summoned. The DYFI has set up a protest stage outside the hospital. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had al-Mamata Banerjee had ar-leged that DYFI flags were seen at the hospital when it was vandalised in the early hours of August 15.

hours of August IS.

Earlier, Trinamool leader Santanu Sen had hit out
at the college's former
principal Sandip Kumar
Ghosh. Mr. Sen has since
been removed from the
party spokesperson post.

U.P. teacher suspended for kicking girl, pulling hair

Press Trust of India

A teacher of a governm school here was suspend-ed on Sunday for allegedly pulling a Class 5 student's hair and kicking her, offi-cials said. The incident reportedly took place a few days ago at a Bisouli-based

primary school.

Ballia District Basic
Siksha Adhikari Manish Kumar Singh said the teacher, Ajit Yadav, was suspended after a complaint was re-

ceived against him. Mr. Singh said the teacher's actions were in viola-tion of the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Edu-cation Act, 2009 and Uttar ant (Discipline and Ap-

Indian Coast Guard chief Rakesh Pal passes away

Director-General of Indian Coast Guard Rakesh Pal passed away in Chennai on Sunday. He was 59. The Coast Guard chief,

who was in Chennai to take part in an official function scheduled to be attended by Defence Minister Raiath Singh, died after a cardiac arrest. Mr. Pal reportedly col-

Mr. Pal reportedly col-lapsed at the Chennal air-port while receiving Mr. Singh and was rushed to the Rajiv Gandhi Govern-ment General Hospital around 3.30 p.m. E. Theranirajan, Dean of the begind and efforts

the hospital, said efforts were made to revive Mr. Pal at the airport. "In the ambulance, he was put on defibrillator five times. But vant (Discipline and Appeals Rules, 1992. Educa-tion Officer conducting the investigation has been di-rected to submit a report within 18 days.



Rajnath Singh and M.K. Stalin pay last respects to the late Coast Guard chief Rakesh Pal. PTI

theatre where doctors put him on ionotropic medi-cines and his heart re-gained function, the dean said. Doctors found that the left anterior descend-ing artery was fully occlud-ed. After an angiogram, an angioplasty performed.

Mr. Pal, however, developed a massive cardiac ar-rest and passed away at 7

"Deeply saddened at the untimely demise of Shri Rakesh Pal, DG, Indian Coast Guard in Chennai to-day. He was an able and committed officer under whose leadership ICG was making big strides in strengthe ning India's maritime security. My heartfelt condolences to his be-

Mr. Pal, however, deve-loped a massive cardiac ar-rest and passed away at 7 p.m. Condoling his death, the Condoling his death, the Defence Minister said,

JMM insulted me, have all options open: Champai

Former Jharkhand Chief Minister Champai Soren on Sunday said he was in-sulted by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) with the way he was asked to resign from the post. Describing the events in the lead-up to his resigna-

the lead-up to his resigna-tion on July 3, he said in a post on X, "After Hul Di-was, I came to know that all my programmes for the next two days have been postponed by the party leadership. On asking, I came to know that a meet-ing of the Legislature Party has been called by the coa-lition on buly 3 and that till lition on July 3 and that till then I cannot attend any programme as CM. Can there be anything more hu-miliating in a democracy than a Chief Minister's pro

than a Chief Minister's pro-grammes being cancelled by another person?" He added, "Despite swallowing the bitter pill of insult, I said the appoint-



ment letters would be disment letters would be dis-tributed in the morning, while the Legislature Party meeting would be held in the afternoon, so I would attend it from there. But I was told not to do so. For the first time in my spotless political journey of the last four decades. I was broken four decades, I was broken

No greed for power The former Chief Minister also clarified that he had

also clarified that he had no greed for power. "Although the Chief Mi-nister has the right to call a meeting of the Legislature Party, I was not even told

the agenda of the meeting. During the meeting, I was asked to resign. I was sur-prised, but I had no greed for power, so I immediately resigned. But my heart was emotional due to the blow to my self-respect. I was so emotional due to the in-

emotional due to the in-sulting behaviour. I felt as if I had no existence in that party, no existence at all, for which I had dedicated for which I had dedicated my entire life," he said. "After so much insult and contempt, I was forced to look for an alternative path, With a heavy heart, I

path. With a neavy neart, I said in the same meeting of the Legislature Party that 'A new chapter of my life is going to start from today'. I had three options. First, to retire from politics, se-cond, to form my own separate organisation and third, if I find a companion on this path, From that day on this path. From that day till today, and till the up-coming Jharkhand As-sembly election, all op-tions are open for me in this journey," he said.

Three booked for assaulting woman doctor in Mumbai

edly assaulted by the fami-ly of a patient at the Lok-manya Tilak Municipal General Hospital at Sion in Mumbai in the early hours of Sunday. The police have pooked three people, in cluding two women, and detained two of them.

The incident re The incident reportedly took place when the doc-tor was cleaning blood from a man's ear in the ca-sualty ward. The man re-portedly expanded as the man who had accompa nied the patient then alleg edly attacked the doctor.

The hospital described five or six attendants who were in a state of intoxica-tion and attempted to physically assault one of the resident doctors.

Several hospitals in Rajasthan get hoax bomb threat emails

Press Trust of India

Several hospitals across Ra-jasthan, including five here, received bomb threats via email on Sun-day, which turned out to be a hoax, the police said.

Bomb disposal squads cordoned off the hospitals and conducted a thorough sweep of the premises, but nothing suspicious was found, Additional Commisner of Police (Law and Order) Kunwar Rashtradeep said. The emails had claimed

The emails had claimed that bombs had been planted under hospital beds and in bathrooms, police said.

Among the city hospitals which received the threats were Monilek Hospitals.

pital, C.K. Birla Hospital, Manas Hospital, Apex Hos-pital and Rungta Hospital. The police have not yet confirmed the exact num-ber of the hospitals which received the emails. The email sent to the hospitals read, "I placed the bomb in the hospital building. The hombs are

building. The bombs are hidden under hospital beds and inside bathrooms. Every person in-side the hospital will be killed or will lose limbs. None of you will escape."

None of you will escape."
"You will end up in a "Two-and-half-year-old serve nothing but death. Serve nothing but death. The terrorists 'Ching and Cultist' are behind this such as cordon-and-search, search-and-death of the can a cordon-and-search, and a cordon-and-search, search, and a cordon-and-search, search, and a cordon-and-search, search, and a cordon-and-search, and a cordon-and-search,

Army fields tactical 'assault canine' Zac at bilateral exercise in Sri Lanka

Dinakar Peri

The Armies of India and Sri The Armies of India and Sri Lanka have deployed ca-nines – "K9s" in military parlance – in the bilateral exercise Mitra Shakti un-der way in the island na-tion. The Indian Army has deployed Zac, a Belgian Malinois, while Sri Lanka has fielded two canines. The 10th edition of Exer-

cise Mitra Shakti is being held from August 12-25 at the Army Training School. Maduru Ova, Sri Lanka.



Major Rishi Sharma, ADT Pranial Sakiva and K9 Zac.

said. It has additionally been trained in specialised skills such as laser-guided assault and weapon retrie-val, which greatly augment the "K9 capabilities" of our forces, the official stated.

Zac, an "assault K9", Zac, an "assault K9", was trained at the dog training facility of Re-mount Veterinary Corps (RVC) Centre and College, Meerut. "He is a force mul-tiplier and first responder in majority of tactical oper-ations," said Major Rish ment Commander.

Army dog trainer (ADT) Pranjal Sakiya is also part of the K9 Detachment. During the joint exer-cise, Zac will participate in a range of activities, includ-ing house intervention,

ing house intervention, jurgle searches, laser-guide is to enhance joint military in the finance of the first search tone. In one of the scenarious. In one of the scenarious is not entertake counter-insurgency operations in a subcount of the search of th

Army dogs are routinel employed in urban opera-tions such as vehicle checks, search-and-assault

detection.

The Indian contingent comprising 106 personnel is represented by a battalion of Rajputana Rifles along with personnel from other arms and services. The Sri Lankan contingent is being represented by personnel from Gajaba Reent of Sri Lankar

Army.
"The aim of the exercise

Nepal's new Foreign Minister begins five-day India visit

Press Trust of India

Nepal's new Foreign Minis-ter Arzu Deuba Rana on Sunday embarked on a five-day official visit to India. During her stay, she will meet External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral ties and promote ooperation.

Ms. Rana is visiting India

at the invitation of Mr. Jaishankar, the Foreign Ministry said in a stater nistry said in a statement. This is her first official visit to a foreign country after assuming charge. As part of the regular ex-change of high-level visits between Nepal and India, Ms. Rana's trip will further

consolidate the age-old, multi-faceted relations bet-



ween the two neighbours

"Nepal is a priority partner of India in its partner of India in its Neighbourhood First poli-cy. The forthcoming visit will provide both sides an opportunity to discuss and review the progress in bi-lated assessment in pilateral cooperation and help in advancing our tie further," the Ministry of Ex-ternal Affairs said.

Indian Coast Guard chief Rakesh Pal passes away

The Hindu Bureau

CHENNAI

Director-General of Indian Coast Guard Rakesh Pal passed away in Chennai on Sunday. He was 59.

The Coast Guard chief, who was in Chennai to take part in an official function scheduled to be attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, died after a cardiac arrest.

Mr. Pal reportedly collapsed at the Chennai airport while receiving Mr. Singh and was rushed to the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital around 3.30 p.m.

E. Theranirajan, Dean of the hospital, said efforts were made to revive Mr. Pal at the airport. "In the ambulance, he was put on defibrillator five times. But there was no pulse or blood pressure when he was brought to the hospital," Dr. Rajan said.

At the hospital, he was taken to the operation



Rajnath Singh and M.K. Stalin pay last respects to the late Coast Guard chief Rakesh Pal. PTI

theatre where doctors put him on ionotropic medicines and his heart regained function, the dean said. Doctors found that the left anterior descending artery was fully occluded. After an angiogram, an angioplasty was performed.

Mr. Pal, however, developed a massive cardiac arrest and passed away at 7 p.m.

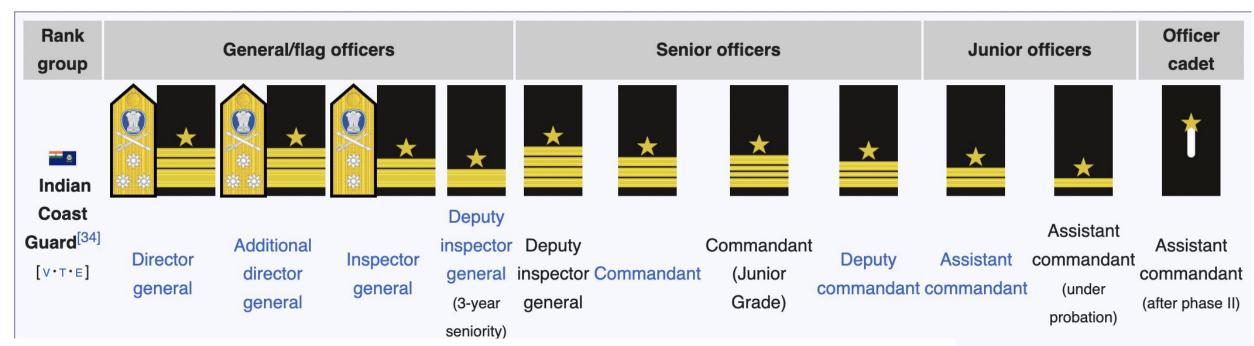
Condoling his death, the Defence Minister said,

"Deeply saddened at the untimely demise of Shri Rakesh Pal, DG, Indian Coast Guard in Chennai today. He was an able and committed officer under whose leadership ICG was making big strides in strengthening India's maritime security. My heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family."

Mr. Singh and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin visited the hospital and paid tributes.

Agency overview							
Formed	18 August 1978						
Employees	13,842 sanctioned strength (2018–19) ^[2]						
Jurisdictional structure							
Operations jurisdiction	India						
Constituting instrument	The Coast Guard Act, 1978						
Specialist jurisdiction	Coastal patrol, marine border protection, marine search and rescue.						
Operational structure							
Headquarters	Indian Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi						
Agency executives	Vacant since 18 August 2024 ^[3] , Director General S Paramesh, PTM, TM, Additional Director General, Indian Coast Guard						
Parent agency	Ministry of Defence						
	Facilities						
Boats	 3 pollution control vessels 25 offshore patrol vessels 43 fast patrol vessels 82 Patrol Boats 28 Patrol Craft 14 Hovercraft 77 Aircraft 06 Aux Barge 						
Planes	77 aircraft ^[4]						





Other ranks



MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024, NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 16 PAGES



DEA

Data-centric

decision-making is a

must but caste data

is tricky to capture JAYANT CHAUDHARY

PAGE 12

LATERAL ENTRY IN

EXPLAINED

TAKES SUO MOTU COGNIZANCE, DAYS AFTER HC SENDS CASE TO CBI

SC steps in, lists Kolkata rape-murder, 'related issues' for hearing tomorrow

Matter listed before 3-judge bench presided by CJI D Y Chandrachud

ANANTHAKRISHNANG

DAYS AFTER the Calcutta High DAYS AFTER the Calcutta High Court, expressing displeasure over the handling of the casers, the court of the casers, muster of a junior doctor at the R. G. Kar Medical College in the CBI, the Supreme Court has faken suo motu cognizance of the August 9 junicient. bench presided by Chief Justice of India JY Chandrachud will hear the matter. Tuesday, The bench also and Manog Missa. J Plandens and Manog Missa. J 70 PADMA awardee doctors wrote to PM Narendra Modi Sunday, asking him to personally intervene to address the

and Manoj Misra.

The supplementary cause list the Supreme Court for August Ishows 'in re: alleged rape and urder incident of a trainee docmurder incident of a trainee doc-tor in R.G.Kar Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata and related issues" listed for hearing before the bench, indicating that the court may also look into the acts vandalism by a mob at the ho pital on the night of August 14. On August 13, the High Court division bench of Chief Justice T S Sivagnanam and Justice

DURAND CUP MATCH CANCELLED OVER SECURITY ISSUES GIRL RAPED ON BUS IN DEHRADUN, FIVE ARRESTED

70 PARMA AWARRE

DOCTORS WRITE TO PM

SHUBHAJIT ROY

wernment, has said they are orking on a plan for "holistic re-m" of national institutions —

udiciary, police, civilian bureau-



Supporters of rival football clubs East Bengal and Mohun Bagan at a protest in Kolkata. Purtha Pau

Cracks in TMC: Its MP asks CBI to question top cop, gets police notice

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA

REFLECTING THE unease and an apparent divide within the rul-ing TMC in West Bengal over the handling of the case of the rape and murder of a junior doctor at the RG Kar Medical College and

stitutions packed with lovalists

an end on August 5 when she fled to India.

solar module list of domestic players



Judiciary to police, institutions have to be

rebuilt: Student leader now in interim govt

Govts come and go, India needs to maintain ties with our people: Nahid Islam

Islam: 'Bangabandhu statues had become symbols of fascism'

Shekhar Roy urged the CBI Sunday to conduct custodial in-terrogation of Kolkata Police ne college's former principal andip Ghosh. Within hours, the Kolkata police issued a notice to Roy, asking him to appear at the

Sukhendu Shekhar Roy

THE WORLD

REOPEN AFTER A MONTH PAGE 10



IMM crisis: Champai says was humiliated. weighing options; Hemant targets BJP

His senior leader in Delhi, CM: 'Money such a thing that it doesn't take long'

ABHISHEK ANGAD

Jharkhand was grappling with a crisis Sunday after JMM senior leader and former Chief Minister Champai Soren, who reached Delhi amid speculation that he he IMM and was now left with party, or join another part

fis remarks drew a sharp re-nse from Chief Minister

to the post in July after being granted bail in an alleged money laundering case (Champai Soren had to step down as CM), claimed that the BJP had brought people from Gujarat, Assam and Maharashtra to "spread poison among the tribals, Dalits, back-ward classes and minorities and make them fight with each other", the PTI reported. He was quoted saying: "Forget about so-



NCP ASKS FADNAVIS

LAs." Champai Soren, in a post

Champai soren, in a post of X, claimed that on July 3, he we told that all his scheduled programmes were cancelled in a statement, he said he ha no one in the party to go to wit his problems as the JMM's cer

AI stewardess assaulted

I&K Police to MHA: Connectivity issues, enable Jio for new laws implementation



Issue was discussed in a meeting chaired by Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla and attended by DGP R R Swain, PTIFIL

MANRAL NEW DELHI, AUGUST 18

FACING INTERNET connectivity new criminal laws, the Jammu and Kashmir Police has asked the Union Home Min whitelist Reliance Jio so that it can be used in police stations across the Union Territory, The Indian Express has learnt. The issue was discussed in a

ne Secretary Ajay Bhalla Chief Secretaries and DGs of all Union Territories highlighted teething issues faced in the im-July 1, 18-K Police DG R R Swaii as present at the meeting.
A senior official in J&K said



THE WORLD

TO PUSH GAZA CEASEFIRE DEAL PAK: EX-ISI CHIEF

that in most of the areas, there are only cable lines installed by CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BLINKEN IN ISRAEL

plementation of the Bhar Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya N.

YOUR RIGHT Rising cost difference TO KNOW AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION DOMESTIC solar modules

AGGAM WALLA DESPITE CONCERNS flagged at

IN DHAKA

household electricity tariffs, the household electricity tariffs, the Ministry of New and Benewahle Energy reimposed its mandate requiring solar projects to source eruners appropriate to the certain solar projects to source eruners—appeared list of domestic manufacturers starting April 1. Prior to the reimposition of the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALAMM) order, former Union Minister of Power

Hasina's ouster, said, "We haven't been able to celebrate

to 9.1 cents for imported and New and Renewable Energy modules. This gap has wid-ened since FY22, when R K Singh and the central public sector enterprise SJVN Ltd had explicitly flagged concerns domestic prices were 6%

He said during Hasina's rule titutional structures in the ntry had been "destre

artinaida university, is one of the most articulate student leaders. Following Hasina's departure, it was Islam who announced that Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus would head the interim

due to "injustice and loot".
"So, we have to reform to the victory and the downfall of the Hasina government. It's a big responsibility for us now." Islam, who studied sociology

Despite red flags, ministry reimposed EXPRESS NETWORK

RAHUL ATTACKS

LATERAL ENTRY IN GOVT TOP JOBS



truder who entered her room late at night, according to sources. The incident took place earlier this week. The air hostess, who sus-RAKESH PAL DIES IN CHENNAI 'ANTI NATIONAL'

by intruder in hotel room near Heathrow sustained by the air hostess. T

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

AN AIR India air hostess staying in a hotel near London Heathrow airport was assaulted by an in-

tained injuries, was rescued by those in adjacent rooms and hotel staff who responded to her cries for help, and the intruder was nabbed. The airline confirmed the in- ble support to our colleague a

matter is being investigated by London police and Air India i working with it to "pursue th natter to the fullest extent of th aw", the airline said.

law", the airline said.
"Air India accords foremo priority to the safety, securi-and well-being of our crew as staff members. We are deep anguished by an unlawful ind dent of intrusion at a hotel, o erated by a major internation chain, that affected one of o crew members," an Air In

A derelict school still running — just to keep 7 kids from dropping out

AISWARYARAJ

BEHIND THE iron gate lies a derelict building overrun by knee-high vegetation. Without even a board to announce its past its faded tricolour gates each ast its faded tricolour gates each ay, besides their sole teacher. Despite not fulfilling the min-tion of the students are fifthy and the lottchen

Expressway, has not been shut nues to be a lifeline for

iss little learners.

Past the unkempt front yard with brown plastic chairs, seepage stains mar the roof and walls of the school. Barring one, its three other classrooms are locked. A peek inside the only open classroom reveals a sad state of affairs: there's broken.

imum enrollment criteria of 20 partially damaged. The midday meal is cooked and served by an agency hired by the Haryana gov-emment. Located under the Garhi Harsaru cluster in the Municipal Corporation of Manesar area, the



due to the lack of an active power nearest primary school, around 2 due to the lack of an active power connection. Moving to moving to Gurngram and this school from that Praden's Kannau just a year ago with his migrant parents. Dives he is the only student tiply and divide three-digit timber, and also read sentences in English. Sitting next to school make, is a shy six-year-time to the control of the nearest primary school, around 2 km away, is covering for her. In 2011, the Hayanag spew for classroom, the childrenia with their bools in the other. The miding himself available when the need arises. Divesh it tells "The Indian Divesh tells "The Indian Indiana" in the Indiana Indiana

were open and we would sit there. There were more children

from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, all seven students are forced to study in the school's verandah student short of the current academic year insisting one from last year show that over 25 children to the current academic year in for the current academic year in for the current academic year in form that over 25 children to the current academic year in form the current academic year in form the current academic year in fort the current academic year

CYANIDE SENSOR

 A team led by Dr. Ravi Kumar Kanaparthi at Central University of Kerala has developed a highly sensitive and selective cyanide sensor.

- Cyanide is a potent toxin found in plants, fruits, and microorganisms, with strict WHO guidelines limiting its concentration in potable water to below 0.19 mg/L due to its lethal effects.
- The new sensor aims to enhance safety by detecting toxic cyanide at low concentrations in drinking water and food products

The new sensor material changes color from yellow to colorless upon detecting cyanide, providing a clear visual indication of its presence.

• The sensor specifically detects cyanide without interference from other ions, ensuring accuracy.

Navroz



- The Prime Minister of India conveyed his greetings on the occasion of Navroz, the Parsi New Year, celebrated with great enthusiasm, particularly in Maharashtra and Gujarat. This year, Navroz, will be celebrated on 16th August 2024.
- While globally observed in March, in India, the celebration occurs in July or August based on the Shahenshahi or Fasli calendar, which does not consider the leap year.

- Navroz meaning "new day", is deeply rooted in Zoroastrianism, one of the oldest monotheistic religions, founded by Prophet Zoroaster in ancient Persia (modern-day Iran).
- The festival, named Jamshedi Navroz after the Persian King Jamshed. Parsi New Year celebration dates back 3000 years and was brought to India by Zoroastrians who migrated to Gujarat in the 7th century.

• UNESCO inscribed Navroz on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2016, following an initial inscription in 2009.

Existing Tradit	ions of India Reco	gnised by UNESCO
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	Existing Traditions of India Recognised by UNESCO							
1.	Tradition of Vedic chanting, 2008	8.	Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir, India, 2012					
2.	Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana, 2008	9.	Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur, 2013					
3.	Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre, 2008	10.	Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab, India ,2014					
4.	Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India, 2009	11.	Yoga, 2016					

12.

13.

14.

Nowruz, 2016

Kumbh Mela, 2017

Durga Puja in Kolkata, 2021

5.

6.

Chhau dance, 2010

Mudiyettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala, 2010

Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan, 2010

THE NEW YEAR MAP OF INDIA

New Year festivals in different regions of India



BHAVISHYA



- Recently, the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare introduced 'Bhavishya'.
- It is a comprehensive online platform launched by the Government to facilitate the *pension sanction and payment process* for retiring central government employees.
- It is part of the *Digital India initiative*, aimed at enhancing pensioners' ease of living by ensuring timely and accurate disbursement of pensions.
- Bhavishya has been ranked 3rd best in NeSDA (National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment), 2021.

Word of the day

Encumber:

restrict (someone or something) so as to make free movement difficult

Synonym: restrain

Usage: These rules will encumber the people we are planning to help.

Pronunciation: bit.ly/encumberpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪnˈkʌmbə(ɹ)/, /ɛnˈkʌmbə(ɹ)/

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