

THE INDIAN MAIL

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RCB's IPL triumph 'is far more special' for Anushka, says Virat Kohli
As the city of Bengaluru celebrates Royal Challengers Bengaluru's maiden Indian Premier League (IPL) triumph, star batter Virat Kohli took the time to acknowledge....

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MK Stalin honours scholar Thayammal Aravanan with Kalaigarnar classical Tamil award
In a grand celebration of Tamil heritage and scholarship, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Wednesday...

03



Adani Ports sets new robust record in cargo handling in May
The month of May has been a historic month for India's logistics sector and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) set a new benchmark by handling 41.8 million...

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RCB's IPL victory celebration turns tragic : Several feared killed in stampede near B'luru's Chinnaswamy Stadium

Bengaluru, June 4 (IANS) : The celebrations for the first-ever IPL victory of the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) turned tragic on Wednesday with over 50 fans injured and falling sick, and several feared killed following a stampede near the Chinnaswamy Stadium here. The incident occurred while fans were attending the celebration event for the RCB team lifting the IPL 2025 trophy. According to sources, the bodies of two persons are at Bowring Hospital and that of four others at Vaidehi Hospital. Continued on pg 02



Botsa Satyanarayana faints on state due to heat stroke

Vizianagaram, June 4 (NSS): Former state minister and YSRCP MLC Botsa Satyanarayana has fallen ill. It is known that the 'Back Stab Day' program was organized across the state today under the auspices of the YSRCP. Botsa Satyanarayana participated in this program organized in Cheepurupalli. After the rally, he fainted due to a heat stroke while on stage. Following this, his colleagues immediately took him to a nearby hospital. The YSRCP has taken up the path of agitation on behalf of the people by claiming that the coalition government had failed to implement the promises made in the elections after coming to power and that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had cheated the people.

Raja Narasimha directs removal of diet contractor at IMH Erraganda

Hyderabad, June 4 (NSS): Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha has instructed officials to promptly terminate the diet contractor at the Institute of Mental Health (IMH) in Erragadda, Hyderabad. During the Telangana Formation Day celebrations on Monday, June 2, sweets were distributed to the inmates at IMH, which resulted in a significant food poisoning outbreak, affecting 92 individuals and leading to one fatality. The Non-DC ward of the hospital, where the sweets were served.



NITI Aayog stresses on reforms to speed up R&D in govt institutions

New Delhi, June 4 : NITI Aayog member Dr. V.K. Saraswat on Wednesday emphasised the critical need to transform India's government-funded Research.



Minister Ponnampallil holds face-to-face program at Gandhi Bhavan

Hyderabad, June 4 (NSS): Minister for BC Welfare and Transport Ponnampallil participated in the Congress party's public outreach programme, 'Face to Face with Ministers.'

Tension in Telangana village as protest against ethanol plant turns violent

Hyderabad, June 4 (IANS) : Tension gripped Pedda Dhanwada village in Telangana's Jogulamba Gadwal district on Wednesday as the protest by villagers against the proposed establishment of an ethanol plant turned violent. Farmers from surrounding villages gathered in large numbers and damaged the vehicles of the company.



Kavitha leads protest against notices to KCR over irregularities in Kaleshwaram project

Hyderabad, June 4 (IANS) : Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) MLC K. Kavitha on Wednesday led a protest against the notices issued to party president and former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Reddy (KCR). Kavitha, who is daughter of KCR, alleged that the Congress government formed the Commission to Defame KCR. Stating that the former chief minister transformed Telangana's agricultural landscape and turned barren lands fertile, she accused the Congress of targeting the former Chief Minister in an attempt to divert public attention.



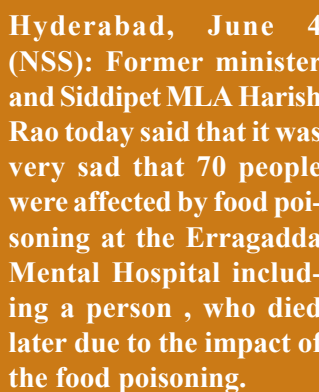
June 4 created history in Andhra Pradesh politics : CM Naidu

Amaravati, June 4 (IANS): On completion of the first year of TDP-led NDA's victory in Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday said June 4, 2024, was the day that created history in the state politics. "The day when dictators were swept away by the people's revolution. The day the people drove away, the madness that had been unleashed in the name of power.



Harish Rao demands quality medical care to food poison victims

Hyderabad, June 4 (NSS): Former minister and Siddipet MLA Harish Rao today said that it was very sad that 70 people were affected by food poisoning at the Erragadda Mental Hospital including a person, who died later due to the impact of the food poisoning.




PM Modi highlights 11 years of transformative reforms in energy sector

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday highlighted the transformative reforms in the renewable energy sector and the strong push for clean and affordable energy in the hydrocarbon sector in India over the last 11 years. The reforms have been elaborated in two separate articles written by Minister for New & Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi and Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri, respectively. Responding to the article written by Pralhad Joshi, the Prime Minister's Office posted on X: "Union Minister Pralhad Joshi highlights 11 transformative reforms in the renewable energy sector over the last 11 years – Have a read!" Joshi has stated that India stands as one of the world's foremost clean energy leaders, ranked third in solar energy, fourth in wind power.

Continued on pg 02



**VISTAAR FINANCE**

Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited
Regd Office:- Plot No.59&60-23, 22nd Cross, 29th Main, BTM Layout Stage 2, Bengaluru-560076. www.vistaarfinance.com

DEMAND NOTICE
NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIALASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002
NOTICE is hereby given by Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd (VFSP), that the following borrowers who have availed loan against property from Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd, and failed to pay Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs) of their loan to and that their loan account has been classified as Non-performing Asset as per the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India. The Borrowers have provided security of the immovable property towards the loan, the details of which are described herein below. The details of the loan and the amounts outstanding and payable by the borrowers to Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd, as on date are also indicated here below. The borrowers as well as the public in general are hereby informed that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Vistaar Financial Services Pvt Ltd, the secured creditor has initiated action against the following borrowers under the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the SARFAESI Act). If the following borrowers fails to repay the outstanding dues indicated against their names within 60 (Sixty) days of this notice along with further interest and other charges if any, the undersigned will exercise any one or more of the powers conferred on the Secured Creditor under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, including power to take possession of the property and sell the same. The public in general is advised not to deal with property described here below.

Sl. No	Account No.	Name of Borrower and Co-Borrower	Total Outstanding	Total Loan Outstanding as on
1	0227SBML01077	1.Mr/Mrs Yerra Shanthi Kumar, 2.Mr/Mrs Cita Varalaxmi, 3.Mr/Mrs Yerra Laxmi Bhai	Rs. 25,02,234.95	19-05-2025

Description of the Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the Property House bearing No.1-7-1022/9/28, admeasuring 164 Sq.yards Equivalent to 137.06 Sq.meters, situated at Krishna Nagar, Ambedkarnagar, Zamistanpur, Hyderabad, Telangana State and Bounded as follows PTIN No.1090132153, North by: House of Sri Lachmaiah, South by: House of Smt. E. Yellamma, East by: 10 feet wide Road and House of E. Yellamma, West by: Pit.

Date: 05.06.2025
Place: Hyderabad

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Vistaar Financial Services Private Limited

**CAN FIN HOMES LTD**
REGD. OFFICE: 29/1, 1st Floor, Sir M.N.Krishna Rao Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004. BRANCH OFFICE: SANGAREDDY BRANCH, MIG-58, First Floor, Phase 2, PR Pally, Bypass Road, Sangareddy, Call: 7625079234, E-Mail: sangareddy@canfinhomes.com, CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008699


APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
NOTICE is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property Mortgaged/ Charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd, Sangareddy Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 10-07-2025, for recovery of Rs.20,74,660/- (Rupees Twenty lakhs seventy four thousand six hundred sixty only) due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. from Terudali Indira and Terudali Nagabhushanam (Borrowers) and Karkam Kumar (Guarantors), as on 04-06-2025, together with further interest and other charges thereon. The reserve price will be Rs. 29,20,000 (Rupees Twenty Nine lakhs twenty thousand only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs.2,92,000/- (Rupees two lakhs Ninety two thousand only)
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY:
All that the house situated at H no 14-36 Narsapur village Municipality and Mandal Medak district Telangana-502313. Boundaries: North: Mori and Land of Manjula South: Municipality Road, East: 4 wide seri and house of solamma, West: House of lakeeruddin.
Known Encumbrance: NIL
The detailed terms and conditions of the sale are provided in the official website of Can Fin Homes Ltd., (<https://www.canfinhomes.com/SearchAuction.aspx>). Link for participating in e-auction: www.bankauctionwizard.com
Date: 04-06-2025, **Place:** Sangareddy **Sd/- Authorised Officer,** Can Fin Homes Ltd.

**Union Bank**
A Government of India Undertaking

NEREDUCHERLA BRANCH
Rice Millers Association Building, Janpahad Road, Nereducherla.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to Borrower: Estate of the deceased Late Sri. YARAVA MADHU S/o.Malakondiah, represented by: Legal Heirs of the deceased Borrower: Mrs Yarava Mamatha, W/o. Yarava Madhu & others, House Number: 5-127, Vidyanagar Area, Neredcherla Town, Suryapet District, Telangana State. Co-Applicant / Co-Obligant: Mrs. Yarava Mamatha, W/o.Yarava Madhu, H.No. 5-74, Vidyanagar Area, Neredcherla Town, Suryapet District, Telangana State that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession on 23-01-2025 of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India, Neredcherla Branch Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 15-07-2025 at 12.00 NOON to 5.00 PM with an auto extension of 10 minutes for recovery of Rs.18,81,604/- + Interest + Other Charges due to the Union Bank of India, Neredcherla Branch Secured Creditor from Borrower: Late Sri. YARAVA MADHU, Co-Applicant / Co-Obligant: Mrs. Yarava Mamatha. EMD should be paid either before or on the same day.

IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Under the Jurisdiction of District Registrar Nalgonda, Suryapet Revenue District, Sub Registrar Huzur Nagar vide doc number 4265-2016 All the part and parcel of Residential Site Admeasuring 516.31 Sq Yrds [1st Schedule-128.31 Sq.Yrds + 2nd Schedule 256.14 Sq.Yards + 3rd Schedule 131.86 Sq.Yards] with existing ground floor RCC roofed Residential Building admeasuring 576 Sft located in Sy.no 140/B/4, [140/AA/4] BLOCK No 05. House No 5-74 Opp Venkateswara Swamy Temple Vidya Nagar Area, Neredcherla Town and Municipal Limits, Neredcherla Mandal Suryapet District, Telangana State BOUNDED as follows as per document number 4265-2016. Boundaries of the Property deed [Part-1: 128.31 Sq.Yards old Ac Sheet House]: North: 12 ft Road; South: Site of Konatam Appi Reddy; East: Site of Injam Sudhakar Reddy; West: Site of Yarava Radhamma. Boundaries of the property deed [Part-2: 256.14 Sq.Yards New RCC Roofed House]: North: Site of Yarava Radhamma, South: 12 ft Road, East: 18 ft Road, West: Site of Yarava Madhu. Boundaries of the Property deed [Part-3: 131.86Sq.Yards Car Shed]: North: Site of Dondapati Sanjeeva Reddy, South: 12 ft Road, East: Site of Yarava Madhu, West: Site of Yarava Radhamma.
The reserve price will be Rs.49,57,965/- and the earnest money deposited will be 10% of the Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.50,000/-
Encumbrances Known to the secured Creditor: Not Known. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Union Bank of India Secured Creditor's website i.e., <https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in/auction-property/view-auction-property.aspx> and www.unionbankofindia.co.in and e-auction service providers website i.e., <https://ebkray.in>. For queries contact Number: 8291220220 and email ID: support.baankne@psballiance.com. UBI Branch Contact: Mr.K Narasimha Rao, Branch Manager, 8003156918, Email: ubi0822906@unionbankofindia.bank
Date: 02-06-2025, **Place:** Neredcherla **Sd/- Authorized Officer,** Union Bank of India
STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6)/Rule 9(1) OF STATUTORY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002
This may also be treated as notice u/r 8(6)/Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s and guarantor/s of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above-mentioned date.

**Indian Overseas Bank**
Regional Office-Hyderabad

5-1-664,665,679 Surabhi Arcade, Ground Floor, Bank Street, Koti, Hyderabad, Telangana 500001. Phone No-040-23468875/76, Email:hydard@ioibnet.co.in

NOTICE FOR PUBLIC AUCTION OF JEWELS

The below mentioned borrowers have borrowed jewel loan against Gold Ornaments from our Bank and failed to redeem the jewels on or before the due date. Despite being advised through registered post to redeem the jewels; the borrowers have not redeemed the jewels. Hence, the below mentioned borrowers are hereby advised to redeem the jewels by repaying the loan principal with interest and miscellaneous expenses before 23.06.2025. Failing to do so, the bank will auction the jewels through Public Auction on 23.06.2025. The Bank has the right to reschedule or cancel the auction at any point of time. The auction proceeds shall be credited to the loan account and remaining outstanding if any after crediting the loan proceeds shall be recovered for other liabilities of the borrower. This final notice is applicable to the legal heirs of the borrower if the borrower is deceased. We invite the bidders to take part in the Public Auction to be held on 23.06.2025 at respective branches as per the below mentioned table. Before commencement of auction, the bidders have to register their name with necessary KYC formalities and each bidder should deposit an earnest money of minimum of Rs.1000/- before starting the auction. Immediately after the auction, the highest bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount. The sale will be subjected to confirmation by our higher authorities. In case the sale is confirmed the highest bidder should deposit the balance amount within 3 days from the date of receipt of invitation, confirming the sale and in the case of bidder defaults to do so, the deposit amount paid by him/her would be forfeited. In case the sale is not confirmed, the amount deposited by the bidder would be returned to him/her without any interest. The bank is not liable for the quality/quantity of the jewels. The bank reserves the right to accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason what-so-ever. GST at the prevailing rate in respective state has to be remitted by the bidder over and above the bid amount.

S. No.	Account Number	Name & Full Address of Borrower	Loan Amount (Rs.) & loan Date	Gross weight (gms)	Loan Outstanding (Rs.)	Date & Time of Auction	Place of Auction
1	043703132000107	Tumula Kishore Kumar, H.No 3-2-374/1, Cheppal Bazar, Kachiguda, Himayath Nagar, Hyderabad-500027.	Rs.3,500/- Date: 30.4.2021	2.10	Rs. 5,460/-	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, LAKDIKAPUL BRANCH: 6-2-976, Capitol Pavani Estate, Khairatabad, Hyderabad-500004. Contact No.8925950437
2	127503462001419	Bonu Seetamma, W/o Papa Rao, Plot No.282, Allapur Kukatapally, Hyderabad.	Rs.52,000/- Date: 19.10.2023	14.70	Rs. 59712.00	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, KALYAN NAGAR BRANCH: Opp. to Mothi Nagar Community Hall, Kalyannagar Venture-III, Hyderabad-500018. Contact No: 04023421518, Mobile No.8925951275
3	173203462001189	R.Harishankar, S/o S.Rama Krishnan, H.No.3-39, Vani Villa Apartments, Vani Nagar, 4th Street Medchal-Malkajgiri, Secunderabad-500047.	Rs.15,750/- Date: 18.07.2024	4.00	Rs. 16,995.00	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, SAINIKPURI BRANCH: Plot No: 100, Defence Colony, Sainikpuri Secunderabad-500094. Contact No.8925951732
4	173203462000392	G.K.Surekha Reddy, W/o G.Kiran Kumar Reddy, Plot No.76, Bhanu Enclave Abmy Nilayam, Generals Road, Yapral, Secunderabad-500087.	Rs.38,500/- Date: 08.09.2020	11.40	Rs. 63,601.00	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, SAINIKPURI BRANCH: Plot No: 100, Defence Colony, Sainikpuri, Secunderabad-500094. Contact No.8925951732
5	217503462001692	Busa Veena Kumari, W/o B.Innaiah, H.No.1-53/207, Sai Residency, Madinaguda, Miyapur, Hyderabad-500049.	Rs.1,76,000/- Date: 21.09.2022	55.98	Rs. 2,30,460.59	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, MIYAPUR BRANCH: Plot No. 24A, B & 25, Ground Floor Temple Road, Madinaguda, Miyapur, Hyderabad-500049, TELANGANA. Tel: 040-23040524, Mob: 9951550388
6	2587034620000416	Mrs. Vadde Anjali, W/o Vadde Hari Krishna, H.No.7-31, D.N.Colony, Muthangi Village, Patancheru Mandal Sangareddy Dist., Telangana-502307	Rs.46,000/- Date: 29.01.2021	25.20	Rs. 71,149.03	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, ISNAPUR BRANCH: Plot no:5, Sy.No.51A/4 Muthangi Cross Road, Muthangi, Patancheru Mandal, Sangareddy Dist. 502319-Telangana. Contact No: 8925952587, Off: 0845522622
7	340003462000363	Perla Venkata Narasimha Murthi, Door No.6-11/A Opposite Bjp Office, Kukkatpally, Hyderabad, Telangana-500072.	Rs.1,00,000/- Date: 17.04.2023	29.10	Rs. 1,19,293.70	23.06.2025, 11.30 AM	INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, BALANAGAR BRANCH:6-3-144 & 144/1 Balanagar Village and Mandal, Kukkatpally Circle, HYDERABAD-500037, TELANGANA. Contact Off: 8925953400

Date: 04-06-2025, **Place:** Hyderabad **Sd/- Branch Manager,** Indian Overseas Bank

RCB's IPL victory celebration turns tragic : Several feared killed in stampede near B'luru's Chinnaswamy Stadium

Continued From pg 01

Six persons are being treated in the ICU of the Vaidehi Hospital and three are admitted to the ICU. Sources also claimed that two others have died. An official confirmation/statement regarding this, however, is still awaited. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar visited the Bowring hospital.

The stampede took place when thousands of fans attempted to enter the stadium in a hurry from various gates. Police at the scene transported the injured to ambulances and shifted them to the nearby Bowring Hospital.

Police stated that the ambulances were unable to move quickly to the hospital due to the overcrowding on the roads.

In a separate incident, one fan, while climbing a gate to jump into the stadium, fell and broke his leg.

Despite the presence of numerous police personnel, they are struggling to control the massive crowd. People are seen climbing trees

and sitting on branches to catch a glimpse of the celebration. More details regarding the incident are yet to emerge.

The government of Karnataka had earlier cancelled the victory parade from Vidhana Soudha to Chinnaswamy Cricket Stadium, citing security reasons. Police stated that they have been controlling the celebrating crowds since Tuesday night. Throughout the night, forces have been engaged in managing them and ensuring no untoward incidents occurred.

A huge number of crowds have also thronged the Vidhana Soudha premises to witness the felicitation program by the government. Police had to resort to a mild cane-charge to control the crowd.

Earlier, when the RCB team arrived at the HAL airport here on Wednesday, they were personally welcomed by Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar.

He presented bouquets to each player. Shivakumar especially greeted cricketer Virat Kohli, presenting him with both the RCB team flag and the Kannada flag.

Virat Kohli joyfully received the flags and posed for photographs with the Shivakumar.

PoK couldn't be retrieved if
Op Sindoor wasn't stopped:
Congress MP backs Rahul Gandhi

New Delhi, June 4

(IANS) : Congress MP

Imran Masood on

Wednesday came out in

support of Leader of

Opposition in Lok Sabha

Rahul Gandhi's contro-

versial "Narendra, sur-

render" jibe at Prime

Minister Narendra

Modi, asserting that had

the government not

halted Operation

Sindoor, the Indian

Army would have suc-

ceeded in reclaiming Pa-

kistan-occupied Kash-

mir (PoK).

Speaking at the Con-

gress' state headquar-

ters in Bhopal, Gandhi al-

leged that Prime Minis-

ter Narendra Modi had

surrendered to the

United States during

President Donald

Trump's tenure.

Gandhi linked this to a

broader historical trend,

accusing the BJP and

RSS of bowing to pres-

sure.

"Jaise udhar se Trump ne

ishara kiya, phone

uthaya, kaha Modi ji kya

kar rahe ho.

Narendra...Surrender aur

ji huzur kar Modi ji ne

Trump ke ishara ka palan

kiya," Gandhi said, im-

plying that PM Modi

obediently followed

Trump's directions.

SCR GM inaugurated Dhanvantari Special Ward at Central Hospital, Lallaguda



Hyderabad, June 4 (NSS):

South Central Railway, General Manager Arun

Kumar Jain inaugurated ‘Dhanvantari’

a Supervisors special ward at Central

Hospital, Lallaguda here on Wednesday.

Nirmala Rajaram, Principal Chief Medi-

cal Director, SCR, Lokesh Vishnoi, Di-

visional Railway Manager, Hyderabad

Division, Dr. I. Siva Naga Prasad, Medi-

cal Director, Central Hospital,

Lallaguda, Dr. NVBK Sai, Chief Staff

Surgeon, Central Hospital, Lallaguda,

Principal Heads of the Departments.



Make State conference grand success: Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao

Hyderabad, June 4 (NSS):

CPI Telangana State

Secretary and the party MLA Kunamneni

Sambasiva Rao today called for making the 4th

Telangana State Congress of the Communist Party

of India (CPI) to be held from August 19-22, 2025

at Maharaja Garden in Qutbullapur of Medchal

Malkajgiri district a grand success. Sambasiva Rao

attended the Invitation Committee meeting orga-

nized at the Shahpur Nagar AITUC office on

Wednesday on the occasion of the 4th CPI State

Congress as the chief guest. The meeting was pre-

sided over by CPI Telangana State Secretary V.S.

Bose. Speaking on the occasion, Kunamneni

Sambasiva Rao congratulated the CPI Medchal

District Committee for hosting the state confer-

ences. He said that National party leaders and

nearly 1000 party representatives from all districts

would attend the state conferences and discuss

the policies being followed by the central and state

governments on public issues and the fundamen-

tal rights of citizens guaranteed by the Constitu-

tion. He said that the conference would be a plat-

form for future struggles in the form of resolu-

tions. Rao noted that every communist worker

should distribute pamphlets to the people for the

success of the state conferences and added that

they should take financial and material support

for the success of the conferences. He said that

their party was demanding that the Narendra Modi

government at the Center immediately stop the

policies like killing Maoists and innocent tribals

in the name of Operation Kagar age added that

the Central Government should hold peace talks

with the Maoists and declare a ceasefire.

Australian Defence Minister meets

PM Modi, backs India's fight against cross-border terrorism

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) :

Visiting

Australian Deputy Prime Minister and

Minister for Defence Richard Marles

called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi

in New Delhi on Wednesday, reiterat-

ing Australia's support in India's fight

against cross border terrorism.

Prime Minister Modi congratulated

Marles on the historic victory of the

Australian Labor Party in the recent

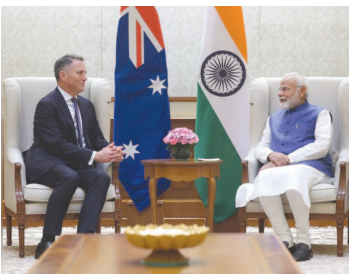
Federal elections and also extended an

invitation to Australian PM Anthony

Albanese for the Annual Summit, to be

held in India later this year.

"Glad to meet Deputy Prime Minister



Tejashwi slams Nitish Kumar govt over rising crime and health system failures

Patna, June 4 (IANS): Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Yadav launched a blistering attack on the Nitish Kumar-led Bihar government on Wednesday, criticising the sharp rise in rape, deteriorating law and order situation, and the alleged corruption within the state’s healthcare system. Yadav expressed outrage over recent cases of rapes against minors girls in districts like Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Khagaria, and Purnea, highlighting the repeated failure of the government to protect vulner-

able sections of society. “We don’t know what intoxication the government is under while sleeping. There is no district in Bihar that is free from such heinous incidents,” Yadav said. He also referred to the infamous Muzaffarpur shelter home (Balika Grih) case, stating that crime in the district has “peaked again.” In a shocking allegation, Tejashwi revealed what he called a “game of hospital beds” in government-run facilities. “The Health Minister’s PA is sell-



ing hospital beds, and the commission from this scam goes straight to the Minister,” Tejashwi alleged. He challenged the state government to explain why an 11-year-old rape victim in Muzaffarpur did not get a hospital bed, even after

being transferred. “When ministers visit hospitals, they ask for the cricket score instead of checking patient care,” he added sarcastically. He also mentioned PMCH and IGIMS, claiming rampant irregularities in the allocation of

beds. Tejashwi did not spare Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, whom he described as “unconscious” and politically disinterested. “The Chief Minister doesn’t attend NITI Aayog meetings, doesn’t conduct law-and-order reviews. He only attends political events. He is tired and disconnected from the people of Bihar,” Yadav said. He accused the administration of being preoccupied with power struggles, alleging that law enforcement is compromised by corruption and that transfer-posting mafias are running the show. “The DGP has no authority.



Cash row: Centre to table impeachment motion against Justice Varma in upcoming Parliament session

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : In a significant development, the Central government is preparing to initiate impeachment proceedings against sitting High Court judge, Justice Yashwant Varma, following serious allegations of financial impropriety. According to highly placed sources, a motion seeking his removal will be brought in the upcoming session of Parliament. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs Kiren Rijiju is expected to lead consultations with all political parties ahead of tabling the motion. Top government officials indicated that cross-party consensus would be crucial.

Gaurav Gogoi takes charge of Assam Congress, aims at 2026 Assembly polls



Guwahati, June 4 (IANS) : In a significant political transition ahead of next year’s Assam Assembly elections, Lok Sabha MP Gaurav Gogoi formally assumed office as the new president of the Assam Pradesh Congress Committee (APCC) on Wednesday. The ceremonial handover took place at the state Congress headquarters in Guwahati, where Gogoi received the mantle from Bhupen Kumar Borah, who helmed the party for over three years. The event drew the presence of several senior Congress figures, including AICC General Secretary Jitendra Singh and Leader of the Opposition Debabrata Saikia. Prior to the ceremony, Gogoi of-

fered prayers at the revered Kamakhya Temple, symbolically marking the beginning of his tenure at the helm of the state’s principal opposition party. In his first remarks after taking charge, Gogoi reaffirmed the Congress’s ideological legacy. “Inspired by the vision of leaders from Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru to Hiteswar Saikia and my father, Tarun Gogoi, we are committed to advancing a politics rooted in equality and inclusiveness,” he told reporters. Gogoi’s appointment comes at a politically sensitive time, amid allegations from Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma linking his wife to Pakistan’s ISI, claims the Congress leader has categorically rejected. Demonstrating his grassroots connection, Gogoi undertook a symbolic three-day padayatra from Sivasagar to Guwahati in the lead-up to the formal ceremony.



Himachal to showcase 78 species, including Asiatic lions in Kangra

Shimla, June 4 (IANS) : Himachal Pradesh will showcase 78 species, including the Asiatic lion, hog deer, monitor lizard, crocodile, ghadiyal and various bird species at a zoological park in Kangra district that will also have a wetland aviary for indigenous bird species, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu said on Wednesday. He said the Durgesh Aranya Zoological Park would boost tourism activities significantly and provide employment and self-employment opportunities. With its natural beauty, unique attractions, and eco-friendly infrastructure, the park will go a long way in making Kangra district the state’s tourism capital, an official statement quoting Chief Minister Sukhu

said on Tuesday. Chief Minister Sukhu, who inaugurated and laid foundation stones of six projects worth Rs 100 crore in the Dehra Assembly constituency, said the zoological park is being constructed at Bankhandi at a cost of Rs 619 crore. In the first phase, Rs 150 crore will be spent on construction of 43 enclosures. Around 90 per cent work of the boundary wall has been completed, besides which eight check dams have also been constructed. Chief Minister Sukhu directed the construction of more check dams to facilitate rainwater harvesting. He said it would not only be a tourist attraction but also a model of sustainable infrastructure, blending conservation with innovation. Chief Minister Sukhu also visited various under-construction sites in the zoological park and gave directions for its improvement and on-time completion.

Ashok Gehlot slams Rajasthan govt on rising ‘Bajri Mafia’ violence

Jaipur, June 4 (IANS) : Former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot launched a scathing attack on the BJP-led Rajasthan government on Wednesday, accusing it of either surrendering to the Bajri mafia or being in deep collusion with them. “It seems the BJP gov-



ernment in Rajasthan has either completely surrendered to the Bajri mafia or its representatives are receiving such ‘value’ from the mafia that they remain silent,” Gehlot wrote on X. The former Chief Minister added that the Bajri mafia are no longer afraid of anyone, and they can attack anyone at will, but the administration and government remain silent. Gehlot’s statement pointedly criticises not just the



Rajasthan minister busts racket in surprise raid; catches accused red-handed selling expired seeds

Jaipur, June 4 (IANS) : A major racket involving the repackaging and sale of expired and spurious seeds has been busted in Sri Ganganagar following a surprise raid led by Rajasthan Agriculture Minister Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena. The operation, conducted in the RIICO

industrial area, uncovered large quantities of counterfeit seeds being prepared for sale using deceptive methods like repacking in new bags and repainting to make them appear fresh. The Minister arrived in Sri Ganganagar on Tuesday and led a high-level raid on several seed warehouses and factories, including Shankar Seeds, Shakti Seeds, and Harvester Food. The entire operation was kept confidential, and the Minister personally supervised the proceedings. At Harvester Food, officials discovered expired seeds being repackaged and sprayed with paint to give them the appearance of new, viable stock.

Indian Overseas Bank
WANAPARTHY BRANCH (code-2586), Door No.43-78,
Kothakota Main Road, Opp. Ranga Theatre,
Wanaparthy, Wanaparthy District, Telangana-509103.
Ph: 08545-230296, 08925952586 & E-mail id: iob2586@iob.in

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE
(for immovable property) [(Rule 8(1))]
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Indian Overseas Bank, WANAPARTHY**, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 is-sued a **demand notice dated 24/10/2024** calling upon the borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors **Shri/Smt./ Mrs. B.Ramanjaneyulu** having address at House No.6-6-84/8, Raghavendra colony, near water tank, Gadwal Dist., Telangana State 509125. **Mr. B.Ramanjaneyulu** (herein after referred as ‘borrowers’) to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.25,30,402.42 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh, Thirty Thousand Four Hundred and Two and Forty Two paise)** as on 24/10/2024 with further interest at contractual rates and rests, charges etc till date of realization within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **04th day of June of the year (2025)**. The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be sub-ject to the charge of **Indian Overseas Bank** for an amount of **Rs.27,30,630/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakh, Thirty Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty only)** as on 03/06/2025 with interest thereon at contractual rates & rests as agreed, charges etc., from the aforesaid date mentioned in the demand notice till date of payment less repayments, if any, made after issuance of Demand Notice. The dues payable as on the date of taking possession is **Rs.27,30,630/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakh, Thirty Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty only)** payable with further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc. till date of payment. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property.
All that part & parcel of residential house located at HNo-32-82/39/1 on plot no 39/Part western side, Survey no: 987/A/1, 987/A/1, 988/A/1/1, 988/A/2/1, 988/A/1, 987/A/2, 987/A/2, 988/A/1/2, 988/A/2/2, 988/A/2, 987/A/3, 987/A/3, 987/A/3, 988/A/1/3, 988/A/2/3, 988/A/3, 987/A/4, 988/A/1/4, 988/A/2/4, 988/A/4, Pangal road, Wanaparthy Town & Municipality, Wanaparthy, Telangana 509103. **Owner: Mr. B.Ramanjaneyulu**, Extent: 93.33 Sq.Yds. **Bounded On the North by:** Plot No.40, **On the South by:** 30' wide Road, **On the East by:** House on Plot No.39 remaining part, **On the West by:** 30' Wide Road.

Date: 04-06-2025
Place: Wanaparthy
Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Indian Overseas Bank

Public Notice For E-Auction For Sale of Immovable Properties

Sale of Immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-HFL) Corporate Office at Plot No. 58, Udyog Vihar, Phase-V, Gurgaon-122015 (Haryana) and Branch Office at 8-20/1, 2nd Floor, Alwyn Colony X Roads, Hafeez Pet, Hyderabad, Telangana-500048* under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002(hereinafter ‘Act’). Whereas the Authorized Officer (‘AO’) of IIFL-HFL had taken the possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/prospect nos. with a right to sell the same on ‘AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS and WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS’ for realization of IIFL-HFL’s dues. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.iiflhome.com

Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property / Secured Asset	Date of Symbolic Possession	Reserve Price
1. Mr. Mohanram Nounam Naved 2. Skilidynamo Consulting Lp 3. Mrs. Naseem Begum (Prospect No IL10774962)	26-Feb-2025 Rs.40,00,491/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Forty Thousand Six Hundred and Forty Nine Only) Bid Increase Amount Rs. 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand Only)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing Flat No.30/1, bearing Municipal No.16-2-705/8/10 & 10/A/301, (PTIN No.1061605558), in Third Floor of Syeds Residency(Including Common Areas and all Common amenities), with One Car Parking Space in Still Floor, in the bearing old portion of premises No.16-2-705/8/10, and 16-2-705/8/10 A, Situated at Akbar Bagh, Malakpet, Hyderabad-T.S. 500059 Area Admeasuring (In Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Built-Up Area, Carpet Area, Land Area Property Area: 1086.00, 668.80, 252.00	16-May-2025 09-May-2025 Rs. 41,43,818/- (Rupees Forty One Lakh Forty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Eighteen Only).	Rs.36,20,000/- (Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Twenty Thousand Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs. 3,62,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Two Thousand Only)

Date of Inspection of property	EMD Last Date	Date/ Time of E-Auction
07-Jul-2025 1100 hrs -1400 hrs.	09- Jul-2025 till 5 pm.	11- Jul-2025 1100 hrs-1300 hrs.

Mode of Payment: EMD payments are to be made vide online mode only. To make payments you have to visit <https://www.iiflhome.com> and pay through link available for the property/ Secured Asset only. Payment link for each property/ Secured Asset, is different. Ensure you are using link of the property/ Secured Asset you intend to buy vide public auction. For Balance Payment - Login <https://www.iiflhome.com> >My Bid>Pay Balance Amount. **Important Information:** This auction is published basis possession vide Sec 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act. Physical possession will be offered post receiving of Section -14 order as per process laid down under SARFAESI Act and as when physical possession will be taken. Bidder shall do necessary due-diligence in respect of documents and legality before participating in auction proceedings.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- For participating in e-auction, intending bidders required to register their details with the Service Provider <https://www.iiflhome.com>, well in advance and has to create the login account, login ID and password. Intending bidders have to submit/ send their ‘Tender FORM’ along with the payment details towards EMD, copy of the KYC and PAN card at the above mentioned Branch Office.
- The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column ‘Bid Increase Amount’. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will be automatically get extended for 5 minutes.
- The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (after adjusting EMD) within 24 hours of the acceptance of bid price by the AO and the balance 75% of the bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. All deposit and payment shall be in the prescribed mode of payment.
- The purchaser has to bear the cess, applicable stamp duty, fees, and any other statutory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges, land and all other incidental costs, charges including all taxes and rates outgoings relating to the property.
- The purchaser has to pay TDS application to the transaction/payment of sale amount and submit the TDS certification with IIFL-HFL.
- In case of default in payment at any stage by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the above stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid will be forfeited (including EMD) and the property will be again put to sale.
- AO reserves the rights to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and condition of tender/auction without assigning any reason thereof. In case of any dispute in tender/auction, the decision of AO of IIFL-HFL will be final.

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of Tender/Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Place:- Hyderabad , Date: 05-June-2025
Sd/- Authorised Officer, IIFL Home Finance Limited.

OPINIONmail



Telangana not to accept Andhra's Godavari-Banakacherla link project

The Telangana government will not accept the Andhra Pradesh government's proposed Godavari-Banakacherla link project under any circumstances, Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said on Tuesday. He made it clear that Telangana is against the project and will never accept it. Talking to media persons, the minister disputed the claim by the Andhra Pradesh leaders that they will use water going to waste into the sea. Uttam Kumar Reddy said all efforts were being made to stop the Godavari-Banakacherla project. The Telangana government has written letters to the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) and Union Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil.

He said that he directly spoke to the Union Minister to discuss the issue and urged him to stop the project. "We have conveyed our objections and we will respond at an appropriate time," he said.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, during his separate meetings with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman and Jal Shakti Minister Patil on May 23, submitted a proposal seeking the Centre's project for the Polavaram-Banakalcherla link project. The project aims to divert surplus water from the Godavari River to water-scarce areas in south-central Andhra Pradesh. It will use lift irrigation and tunnels to connect the regions in three phases.

The Chief Minister said that the project would benefit millions in drought-hit areas and serve as a model for river linking across India. The Detailed Project Report is expected this month.

Naidu stated that the Polavaram-Banakacherla link project, costing Rs 80,000 crore, will divert 200 TMC of water without affecting any other states. "Telangana too is building projects on the Godavari. Over the past 100 years, 2,000 TMC of water flowed into the sea. Our plan is to redirect 200 TMC of this surplus to drought-prone areas through this project, to be initiated upon Central approval," he said.

In April, Telangana Irrigation officials had opposed the project at the GRMB meeting.

Irrigation Secretary Rahul Bojja and other officials presented strong arguments before the GRMB against AP for taking up the Godavari-Banakacherla project without approvals and for violating Tribunal orders. The officials told GRMB that, as per media reports, the G-B link scheme is a major project proposed with an estimated cost of Rs 80,112 crore. The plan involves diverting more than 200 tmcft from the Godavari River at Polavaram to Rayalaseema through the Bollapalli reservoir and Banakacherla head regulator. The proposal seeks to interlink the Godavari, Krishna and Penna rivers by expanding the Polavaram Reservoir Head Works against the Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal Award.

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

'What if this content reaches your own children': NCW asks Ullu App officials

"What if this content reaches your own children?" the National Commission for Women (NCW) asked officials of Ullu App on Friday over the now pulled-down show 'House Arrest' that sparked a massive backlash over the objectionable content. NCW chief Vijaya Rahatkar also expressed displeasure over actor and host of the OTT show 'House Arrest' Ajaz Khan for failure to appear before the panel.

Taking a serious note of his non-compliance, the Commission issued a second notice to Khan and decided that the summons will now be served through police authorities. Rahatkar told Avinash Dugar, CEO of Ullu App, and Priyanka Chaurasia, Head of Operations, about their moral and social responsibility as content producers. The Chairperson said that there is a blurring line between entertainment and exploitation, and House Arrest is a clear example of the latter — promoting exploitation of women under the guise of entertainment. The Commission expressed strong concern over the general content



profile of the App, which appears to glorify incest, objectification of women, and soft pornography, all of which could have a devastating psychological impact on young, impressionable minds.

The Chairperson also directed the platform to submit a comprehensive impact assessment report on the societal implications of such content and to outline corrective measures to prevent the proliferation of sexually explicit, exploitative material.



Bihar artist's unique tribute to 'Operation Sindoor'

Madhurendra, a known artist in Bihar has paid unique tribute to the Indian Army's 'Operation Sindoor' by sketching its painting on 'Peepal' leaf. While the whole country celebrates the success of Operation Sindoor and salutes the armed forces for responding to Pakistan's cowardly actions.

'Operation Sindoor' has raised the cost of supporting terrorism for Pakistan, says Retd Lt. Gen Dua

In an exclusive interview with IANS, Lieutenant-General (Retired) Satish Dua, who was the Corps Commander during the surgical strikes after the Uri attack, shared his insights on 'Operation Sindoor', a retaliatory military campaign launched after the horrific Pahalgam attack in which 26 people were massacred by terrorists. He pointed out that 'Operation Sindoor' has raised the cost of supporting terrorism for Pakistan.

In a wide-ranging conversation with IANS, he delved into the strategic depth, symbolism, and message sent through

the operation, while also discussing Pakistan's continued provocations and India's calibrated military posture.

Here is the full interview:

IANS: What is your opinion about the achievement of Operation Sindoor?

Lt. Gen. Satish Dua: Operation Sindoor was launched in response to the ghastly carnage at Pahalgam. Pakistan has conducted several such attacks by sending terrorists. The first major strike was at Uri, where they killed our soldiers. At that time, I was the Corps Commander when we launched the surgical strikes. For the first time, we went across and



hit terrorist camps. That was a shallow strike, around 4-5 kilometres in depth.

Then came Pulwama, and we conducted a strike deep inside at Balakot. But this time, in Pahalgam, they targeted tourists, and that too, selectively based on religion and gender. It was a heinous act. In response, major mea-

sures were taken, like invoking the Indus Water Treaty, which had never happened before. Visas were cancelled, border gates closed, High Commission staff reduced, and strong diplomatic steps were taken. The Prime Minister chaired a high-level meeting and announced that a military response.

'Remain calm, exercise restraint': Bangladesh urges India & Pakistan

Bangladesh has urged both India & Pakistan to remain calm, exercise restraint, and refrain from taking any actions that could further aggravate the situation in the wake of Operation Sindoor launched by the Indian armed forces inside Pakistan.

Bangladesh Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain and Pakistan's Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar had a telephonic conversation and discussed the evolving security situation between India and Pakistan. Touhid Hossain said that Ishaq Dar had called to brief him on the steps Islamabad has taken in light of recent developments in the region. Hossain told the media that he had conveyed Bangladesh's desire for peace and avoidance of conflict in the region.

In his conversation with his Pakistani counterpart, Touhid also stressed the importance of dialogue in resolving any issue.

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar on Thursday held talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi in New Delhi, stating that his visit comes at a time when India is responding to the barbaric Pahalgam terrorist attack by striking the terror infrastructure in neighbouring Pakistan in a "targetted and measured" manner.



YouTube has blocked six Bangladeshi TV channels in India, says Dhaka media

YouTube has restricted access to at least six Bangladeshi television channels in India following a takedown request from the Indian government "citing concerns related to national security and public order", Bangladeshi media reported on Saturday. The six Bangladeshi television news channels blocked in India are Jamuna TV, Ekattor TV, DBC News, Somoy TV, BanglaVision News & Mohona TV. While four channels became inaccessible on Friday, two more - DBC News and Somoy TV — were added to the block list on Saturday, reports cited. Geo-blocking is a practice used to restrict

online content based on the geographical location of the user. In this instance, Bangladeshi TV news channels remain available globally, except in India. The Indian government has previously taken similar action against Pakistani YouTube channels for allegedly spreading provocative or misleading content. Meanwhile, the Bangladeshi press continues to face systematic and organised repression under the Interim Government headed by Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus. A total of 640 journalists have been targeted in the first eight months of the interim government's rule from August 2024 to March 2025. These attacks include criminal cases filed against 182 journalists, acts



of violence against 206 journalists, denial of accreditation to 167 journalists, and inquiries initiated against 85 senior journalists by the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit, anti-terror and anti-money laundering units of the country's government. Analysts reckon that the entire media in Bangladesh has been silenced by Yunus as journalists have been sacked from jobs instantly on the whims and fancies of the leaders of the Anti-Dis-

crimination Students Movement, who have emerged as the real decision makers.

The Anti-Discrimination Students Movement activists led by Hasnat Abdullah not only attacked independent dailies but trespassed into tv channels forcing the owners to sack journalists from jobs without any ground because of the threat from the student protesters.

AAP indulging in politics over Jangpura demolition: Delhi BJP chief

Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva on Tuesday hit out at AAP leader and former minister Manish Sisodia for giving a political colour to the court-ordered demolition of a slum built over a major drain in south Delhi's Jangpura area.

He said Sisodia, who fled Delhi and settled in Punjab after losing the Assembly election from Jangpura seat following his earlier tenure in Patparganj, has left Delhiites stunned with his statement.

Earlier, Sisodia hit out at the BJP government in Delhi for demolishing the Madras Colony slums in Jangpura without giving an alternative to the displaced residents.

The Delhi BJP President stated

that due to the Madras Camp located on the Barapullah drain, cleaning work of the drain had been halted for nearly a decade, causing waterlogging not just in the nearby areas but in several colonies and roads several km away from the slum.

"For nearly a year, the issue of relocating the Madras Camp was known to the then Arvind Kejriwal and Atishi Marlena-led governments, yet the AAP leaders remained silent and made no plans for rehabilitation through DUSIB. Today, they are shedding crocodile tears," said Sachdeva.

South Korea: Former PM Han apologises for Conservative Party's presidential candidacy disarray

Seoul, June 4 (IANS) : Former South Korean Prime Minister Han Duck-soo, an aspiring presidential candidate for the conservative People Power Party (PPP), issued an apology to the public and party members Wednesday regarding the recent confusion surrounding his potential candidacy merger with the party's presidential candidate, Kim Moon-soo. Han's apology came after some party members voiced strong opposition to the leadership's unprecedented attempt to nul-

lify the party's primary and replace Kim with Han, following the failure of talks between Han and Kim to unify their campaigns, reports Yonhap news agency. "I sincerely apologise to the people and party members for the current situation, regardless of the reasons behind it," Han said during his first press conference since declaring his candidacy earlier in the day. The PPP selected Kim as its candidate for the June 3 presidential election through primaries last week, but has pressured him to step aside and support Han, who

has performed better in hypothetical matchups with front-runner Lee Jae-myung of the liberal Democratic Party. After the failed talks for a single-ticket campaign, the PPP cancelled Kim's nomination and had Han join the party to register him as its new presidential candidate in the wee hours of Saturday. The decision has led to strong criticism from primary candidates and their supporters. "I will be any 'Duck-soo,' whether it's Kim Duck-soo, Hong Duck-soo, Ahn Duck-soo or Na Duck-soo," Han said, expressing his



willingness to unite all the primary contenders - Kim, former PPP leader Han Dong-hoon, former Daegu Mayor Hong Joon-pyo and lawmaker Ahn Cheol-soo. Han also emphasised that his focus is on securing victory in the upcoming election, and he has no interest in party leadership. "I will play a role just as a brief stepping stone ... I sincerely hope that the party and the people step over my back and move into the next era," Han said.

15 US states sue over Trump's executive order to fast-track fossil fuel projects

San Francisco, June 4 (IANS) : A coalition of 15 US states is filing a new lawsuit challenging President Donald Trump's executive order declaring a "national energy emergency," which aims to accelerate fossil fuel development. Washington State Attorney General Nick Brown announced the legal action on Wednesday during a press briefing.



IMF loan to Pak: Terror financing is absurd and must be stopped, says global investor Jim Rogers

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : After the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved the disbursement of \$1 billion to Pakistan despite India's stern warning over such funds being used by the neighbouring country to sponsor terrorism, veteran global investor Jim Rogers on Wednesday said that the financing of terror is "absurd" which must be stopped. India has firmly opposed providing funds to a country that continues to sponsor cross-border terrorism, warning that such support carries reputational risks for global institutions and undermines international norms, according to government sources. In an interaction with IANS, 82-year-old Rogers said he is against terror financing by global organisations, hailing India's efforts to defend its borders. "I am certainly against terror financing, and I hope the whole world is. Terror financing is

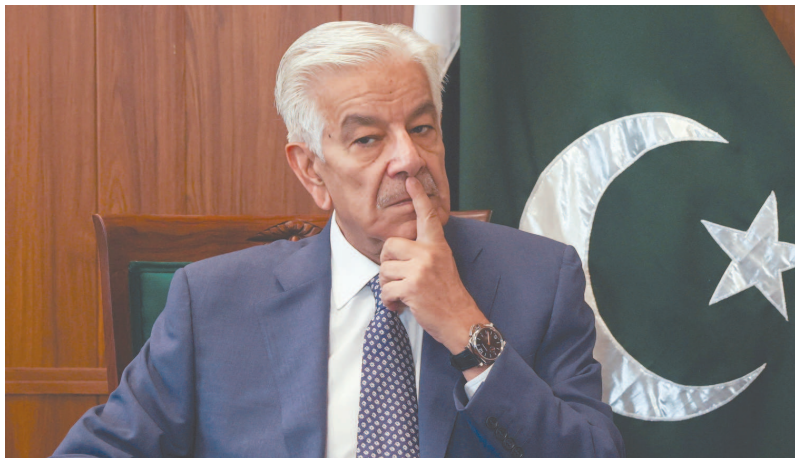


absurd; terrorists are absurd," Rogers emphasised. On the ongoing conflict between the countries, the American investor and financial commentator based in Singapore said: "India is right in defending its borders. Every country is always right in defending its borders". "But the question always becomes who is actually defending the borders and who is attacking," he said, adding that "India is one of the great and exciting countries in the world". Political leaders and experts have expressed serious concern over the IMF reimbursement to Pakistan, stressing that this would not help de-escalation of hostilities between India and Pakistan.



Bangladesh: Police arrest five Awami League leaders, affiliates

Dhaka, June 4 (IANS) : In a growing suppression of the Awami League party under the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government, the Bangladeshi Police arrested five leaders of the party and its affiliates from different locations in the capital of Dhaka, local media reported. The arrested individuals are Pallabi Thana Awami League vice-president and former MP Ilias Mollah's aide Ramzan Ali, Mohammadpur Thana Swechhasebak League vice-president Md. Alamgir, Gulshan Thana Chhatra League organising secretary Russell Al Jobayer, Dhaka Metropolitan Ward 66 Jubo League general secretary Mehedi Hasan, and Awami League-nominated former MP from Muradnagar, Comilla Abdul Quader, as confirmed by the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP).



Pakistan Defence Minister ridiculed at home for calling madrassa students as 'second line of defence'

Islamabad, June 4 (IANS) : Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif continues to be in the news for all the wrong reasons. From his bold statements and claims on an American news network citing social media content as proof to calling madrassa (religious schools) students as the second line of defence to safeguard the country, Asif's out-of-the-box statements and unique positioning on sensitive topics has surprised everyone in Pakistan, who are now forced to question his credentials to be a defence minister of the country. In the most recent statement that even forced his party members to take a step back in shock and amazement, Khawaja Asif, while addressing a session of the National Assembly, said that students of madrassas will serve as the country's second line of defence, whenever needed. "As far as madrassas or madrassa students are concerned, there's no doubt they are our second line of defence, the youngsters who are studying there. When the time comes, they will be used as needed 100 per cent," said Khawaja Asif amid escalating tensions with India. The statement left many thinking on why would the country's defence minister even consider madrassa students as the second line of defence, or for that matter the country's security. The statement

has raised many eyebrows. "There would be no one in the parliament who would not have taken this statement in a bad taste. It damages the already perceived image of Pakistan to the world which sees the unlimited spread of religious seminaries in the country as a place where young brains are brainwashed in the name of Jihad and so-called freedom struggle," said Tahira Abdullah, a rights activist. "It's impossible to imagine that our defence minister would say such a thing, especially at a time when the country is taking on its neighbour India and accuses its government for towing the Hindutva supremacy agenda and being anti-Muslim," she added. Another human rights activist, criticised Khawaja Asif for playing the Hindu-Muslim divide line in his speech, deliberately segregating madrassa children from others, seeing them as the most suited to be used as an asset and transform any conflict into a fight between Muslims and Non-Muslims thereby injecting the religious mix into politics. "Khawaja Asif's statement clearly shows his mindset of being a religious hardliner who sees jihadists in madrassa children and intends to use them against his territorial opponents like India in the name of difference in religious beliefs," said Saeeda Diep, Founder of the NGO Centre for Peace and Secular Studies (CPSS).

Turkey should stay out of India-Pakistan conflict: Global investor Jim Rogers

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Turkey should stay out of the conflict between India and Pakistan and should not supply arms to the country, said global investor Jim Rogers on Wednesday. His comments came as the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) reported Pakistan of using Turkish-made drones in India's ongoing 'Operation Sindoor' which started in the aftermath of the barbaric

Pahalgam tragedy that claimed 26 lives. "I would not want anyone to supply arms to Pakistan or India. I hope Turkey will stay out of it," Rogers said in an interaction with IANS. "If I were advising Turkey, I would say stay out of it. Stay home. Let's leave it alone," he added. In a press briefing on Friday, the MEA said that Pakistan used 300-400 Turkish drones to attempt infiltration at 36 locations in India

and tried to target the country's military installations on May 8-9. While the Indian armed forces are analysing the drones, "initial reports suggest that they are Turkish Asisguard Songar drones", said Colonel Sofiya Qureshi, during the press conference. The Indian armed forces shot down many of these drones using kinetic and non-kinetic means. Designed and manufactured by Turkey-based defence company Asisguard, Songar drones were

first launched in April 2019 and delivered to the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) after successful completion of their testing in February 2020. They are Turkey's first indigenous armed drones. Meanwhile, major Indian travel companies like EaseMyTrip, Cox & Kings and Travomint have suspended all packages to Turkey for supporting Pakistan.

Baseless, unfounded: Kabul rejects Pak claims of Indian missiles striking Afghanistan

Kabul, June 4 (IANS) : Labeling them as "baseless" and "unfounded", Afghanistan on Wednesday categorically dismissed Pakistani allegations of India launching missile strikes on the Afghan territory. In an interview with Afghan media outlet Hurriyat Radio, Afghanistan's Defence Ministry spokesperson Enaitullah Khawarzmī outrightly rejected Pakistan's allegations that India had carried out a missile strike on Afghan soil, labeling such claims as false and unfounded.

Earlier in the day, Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri had also rejected Pakistan's "totally frivolous allegations", terming them as nothing but "ludicrous claims". Speaking at a special media briefing on Operation Sindoor alongside Colonel Sofiya Qureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh, Misri urged the Afghan people to remember which nation had repeatedly targetted civilian infrastructure in their country. "There is this yet again completely ludicrous claim that Indian missiles have hit Afghanistan. Totally

frivolous allegation. And, I only want to point out that Afghan people don't need to be reminded about which country it is, that has on multiple occasions, in just the last one and a half years, targeted civilian populations and civilian infrastructure in Afghanistan," said Misri while highlighting Pakistan's role in destabilising and destroying Afghanistan. Kabul on Thursday had expressed deep concerns about the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, following the heinous Pahalgam terrorist attack which

had resulted in the death of 26 innocent civilians. The Indian armed forces have launched Operation Sindoor, targetting high-value terror locations in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the dastardly April 22 terror attack. "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan expresses concern over the escalating tensions between Pakistan and India, viewing further escalation as not being in the interest of the region. Afghanistan reaffirms its belief



that security and stability serve the collective interests of all countries in the region. Meanwhile, it urges both sides to exercise restraint and resolve their issues through dialogue and diplomacy," the Afghan Foreign Ministry said in a state-

ment. Pakistan has so far shown no signs of de-escalating tensions and continues to attack the civilian and military infrastructure, including places of religious worship, in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan.



Pak may misuse \$1 billion IMF loan for funding terror : RJD MP Manoj Kumar Jha

Patna, June 4 (IANS) : Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) MP Manoj Kumar Jha on Wednesday expressed concern that Pakistan may misuse the \$1 billion International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan. Talking to IANS, Jha said, "The countries or institutions that have made this decision should seriously consider whether this amount is meant for the people of Pakistan or terror laboratories. Once the truth comes out, even they will be shocked."

The RJD MP's remarks assume significance as tensions between India and Pakistan have been escalating following 'Operation Sindoor'.

The RJD leader also called for media restraint and supported the Indian government's measured stance during the current crisis. "Even on Friday, I urged that our Army and our government are fully capable. I just listened to the press briefing.

Assam CM slams Congress for 'reckless propaganda' on IMF loan to Pakistan

Guwahati, June 4 (IANS): Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday, in a veiled attack against Congress, alleged that Jairam Ramesh and Pawan Khera peddling "reckless propaganda" regarding the IMF, Pakistan and India's stand. The Chief Minister, "Exposing the Misinformation: IMF, Pakistan, and India's Principled Stand Once again, Congress leaders like Jairam Ramesh and Pawan Khera are indulging in reckless propaganda — twisting facts.



Prohibitory order imposed in Indore till July

Indore, June 4 (IANS) : In a bid to uphold peace and public order within Indore, Police Commissioner Santosh Kumar Singh has enacted "prohibitory order" under Section 163 of the Indian Civil Code 2023, police said. Any violation of this directive will result in punitive action under Section 223 of the Indian Justice Code 2023. The order will remain in effect until July 4, 2025, the order posted in X account of the District Collector said on Wednesday. As per the provisions outlined, no individual or group within the urban limits of Indore may host any event that could incite hostility between communities. Any form of provocative speech or dissemination of misinformation -- whether in person or through social media -- that targets religious.

Pak tested our air defence, we proved ourselves highly effective: Military experts on India's decisive response to cross-border aggression

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : In the wake of escalation in cross-border skirmishes, senior Indian Defence experts have shed light on Pakistan's increasingly aggressive drone warfare tactics, revealing the full scale of recent attacks and India's decisive response. Defence expert and retired Navy officer, Commodore G.J. Singh stated, "If we talk about one aspect, after the escalation, we slowly started climbing up, going higher. Initially, Pakistan deployed many low-cost drones, but

they mixed them with some sophisticated ones. It is also believed that Pakistan tried to test our air defense system to see how capable we are in intercepting their drones."

"They tested this along various borders, including the Punjab border and Rajouri, and we proved ourselves to be highly effective. We successfully shot down all of them. However, we realised that the low-cost drones they are sending can be dealt with not through our missile systems, but through lower-cost alternatives."



Fadnavis inaugurates Maharashtra Cyber's AI chatbot and awareness film

Mumbai, June 4 (IANS) : Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday inaugurated Maharashtra Cyber's AI-based chatbot and a public awareness short film. These citizen-centric initiatives aim to spread awareness and provide prompt guidance to citizens to prevent cyber fraud, crimes, and human trafficking. The inauguration took place in the presence of Additional Director General of Police (Cyber) Yashasvi Yadav, DIG Sanjay Shintre, Superintendent of Police Hemrajsingh Rajput, actors Sharad Kelkar and Ameesha Patel, and OSD to the Chief Minister Kaustubh Dhavse.

A short awareness film on cybersecurity, featuring actors Sharad Kelkar and Ameesha Patel, was showcased in both Marathi and Hindi languages. The film educates citizens on various forms

of cybercrime and fraud. The newly launched AI-based chatbot, integrated with Maharashtra Cyber's 1945 helpline, was also presented. It provides users with information on different types of cybercrime and how to file complaints, the government said in a statement. CM Fadnavis remarked, "People are receiving increasing numbers of cyber fraud calls, and it is crucial to respond to them with caution. This chatbot and awareness film will prove vital in providing timely information to the public. Raising awareness is key to preventing crimes before they occur."

He also emphasised the need for greater public awareness to prevent human trafficking, particularly cases where individuals are taken abroad under the pretext of jobs and sold into exploitation.

CPI(M) cautions younger comrades against projecting personal views as party line on social media

Kolkata, June 4 (IANS) : The CPI(M) leadership in West Bengal has issued a note of caution to party members - particularly those who are younger comrades -- urging them to exercise restraint on social media and avoid presenting personal views as the party's official position. The advisory, circulated through an internal letter among full-time party workers, outlines two key directives. First, members must refrain from making social media statements that, to an extent, contradict the

CPI(M)'s official political line. Second, if any comrade does express a personal opinion online, it must be clearly stated as such and not attributed to the party. The advisory, which came in the form of an internal party letter circulated among the whole-timers in the party, clearly stated that it had come to the notice of the leadership that often the personal opinion of the comrades expressed in the social media is totally opposite to the official party lines. It stresses the importance of synergy between individual members and the party, as well as coordination across different levels of lead-



ership and committees when communicating publicly. The leadership has also made it clear that any social media post targeting party leaders, leadership groups, or fellow comrades will be treated as an act of internal factionalism. Such tendencies and behaviour, the party warned, will

invite disciplinary action against the comrades concerned. "In the past, several members were verbally or informally warned for spreading misinformation or making disparaging remarks about the leadership or other comrades on social media.

K'taka BJP MLA slams Congress for accusing him of disrespecting Tricolour

Bengaluru, June 4 (IANS) : BJP MLA C. K. Ramamurthy on Wednesday slammed Congress for accusing him of disrespecting the National Flag at an event and trying to create controversy. He further urged the Congress should learn some sense at least now and stop spreading false news about him. Speaking to the media, Ramamurthy criticised the Congress, saying, "Out of frustration over the defeat of one of their former local MLAs, the Congress is portraying as if I have committed a mistake that I never did." "In Jayanagar's 9th Block, a prayer was held at a temple by Kannada cultural



organisations for the success of the Indian Army's operation. During this event, sweets were also distributed. A video from the event, where a third person standing beside me is seen wiping his hand on the National Flag, has been circulated by the Congress on social media.

Cyber fraud gang busted in Rajasthan's Bharatpur for swindling Rs 400 crore

Jaipur, June 4 (IANS) : The Bharatpur Range Police have uncovered a cyberfraud gang that swindled more than Rs 400 crore through fake online gaming and investment schemes, police said. Inspector General of Police, Bharatpur Range, Rahul Prakash, on Wednesday, confirmed that a team from the Range Office successfully exposed the gang and initiated legal action against the accused.

Among those arrested are Ravindra Singh (54), son of Triloki Nath Singh, a resident of Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, currently living in Sector-17, Dwarka, New Delhi; and Dinesh Singh (49), son of Dina Nath, along with his wife Kumkum, also from Ballia, now residing in Mohan Garden, New Delhi. Director General of Police (Cyber Crime) Hemant Priyadarshi revealed that a cyberfraud complaint regarding a Fino Payment Bank account was lodged by victim Hari Singh through the cyber helpline number 1930 at the Dholpur Cyber Police Station.



Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel reviews border districts' preparedness

Gandhinagar, June 4 (IANS): Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel held a high-level video conference on Wednesday to assess the state's preparedness, particularly in the border districts, and assured citizens that the government has adequate stockpiles of essential supplies, medicines, and fuel. During the review meeting with district collectors and senior officials, CM Patel

emphasised that all border districts -- especially Banaskantha, Kutch, Patan, and Jamnagar -- are fully equipped to handle emergencies. "If any urgent requirement arises in these districts, local administrations can immediately coordinate with the state government to ensure swift delivery of necessary items," he said. The Chief Minister reviewed arrangements at the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC)

in Gandhinagar in the presence of Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi and Chief Secretary Pankaj Joshi. Special attention was given to the protection of citizens' lives and maintaining normalcy across the border regions. To ensure robust communication during emergencies, CM Patel directed that satellite phones, wireless systems, and walkie-talkies be made available in vulnerable border villages. He also instructed officials to



strengthen village-level evacuation plans, prioritise the safety of women, children, and the elderly, and ensure an adequate number of transport vehicles are ready for rapid deployment. CM Patel further directed the Roads and Buildings Department to remain on alert with necessary equipment and manpower to keep all routes motorable in case of damage during any emergency. "Road connectivity must be restored swiftly to ensure uninterrupted transport of supplies and personnel," he noted.

Adani Ports sets new robust record in cargo handling in May

Ahmedabad, June 4 (IANS) : The month of May has been a historic month for India's logistics sector and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZ) set a new benchmark by handling 41.8 million metric tonnes (MMT) of cargo - an all-time high for the company, showcasing the capabilities of Indian ports on a global scale. A 17 per cent growth compared to last year is not just a statistic — it's a testament to the rapidly evolving economic structure and the strong foundation of infrastructure devel-

opment in the country. The key drivers of Adani Ports' stellar performance were container traffic (+22 per cent year-on-year) and dry cargo (+17 per cent year-on-year). While global port companies are grappling with recession and geopolitical uncertainties, APSEZ has not only maintained stability but also expanded rapidly. As of year-to-date (YTD) May 2025, a total of 79.3 MMT of cargo has been handled, reflecting a 10 per cent year-on-year growth. A 21 per cent growth in container handling highlights

APSEZ's operational efficiency and technological upgrades. In May, Adani Logistics recorded 0.06 million TEU rail volume (+13 per cent YoY) and 2.01 MMT GPWIS volume (+4 per cent YoY). On a YTD basis, rail volume stood at 0.12 million TEU (+15 per cent YoY) and GPWIS volume at 3.8 MMT. This clearly indicates that the company's strategic focus on multi-modal logistics infrastructure is beginning to show tangible results. While other major ports in the country - such as JNPT and Paradip Port - re-



corded growth of around 7 per cent and 9 per cent respectively in May, APSEZ surged ahead with a 17 per cent jump, signalling its lead over the competition. Adani Ports is not just India's largest private port operator; it is becoming a pillar of the country's

global trade strategy. APSEZ's role is set to become even more significant. Through multimodal hubs, smart ports, green energy, and digital tracking systems, the company is shaping the future of logistics. The data from May is a snapshot of the transformation un-

derway in India's logistics and infrastructure sector. Adani Ports has demonstrated that when strategy, investment, and innovation work together, India can not only become self-reliant but also take a leadership role in the global supply chain.



Vijaya Diagnostic Centre's profit dips in Q4, expenses rise 13.8 pc

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Vijaya Diagnostic Centre Limited on Wednesday reported nearly 1.41 per cent drop in net profit in Q4 of the last financial year at Rs 34.8 crore, from Rs 35.3 crore in the previous quarter (Q3 FY25). The company's total expenses in Q4 were up by nearly 13.8 per cent at Rs 130.4 crore, from Rs 114.6 crore in the year-ago period, according to its stock exchange filing. The pathology lab saw its revenue up by 11.6 per cent in Q4 at Rs 173.2 crore, from Rs 155.2 crore in the same period

in FY24. For the full fiscal, net profit rose 20.41 per cent to Rs 143.08 crore in the year ended March 2025, as against Rs 118.83 crore during the previous year ended March 2024. The share of the company ended almost flat, down by Rs 3.1 or 0.31 per cent to Rs 990 on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) on Wednesday. Vijaya Diagnostic's share price has declined by 2.04 per cent, or Rs 20.60, over the past five days. In the last one month, the stock has fallen by 1.03 per cent, equivalent to Rs 10.30. Over the past six months, the share price has dropped by 7.46 per cent, or Rs 79.75. On a year-to-date (YTD) basis, the stock is down by 6.85 per cent, reflecting a loss of Rs 72.75 on the NSE. The company claims to have 125 state-of-the-art diagnostic centres located in 20 cities, with in-house team that has more than 2,200 professionals -- pathologists, radiologists and microbiologists.

US stocks soar as tariff truce with China sparks global market rally

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Wall Street kicked off the week with a powerful surge on Wednesday, as major US stock indexes soared after the United States and China struck a long-awaited deal to reduce tariffs. The agreement, which aims to ease tensions in the ongoing trade war between the two largest economies, lifted investor confidence and sparked a global market rally. The Dow Jones Industrial Average jumped 1,037.13 points, or 2.51 per cent, at 42,286.51. The broader S&P 500 climbed 150.24 points, or 2.65 per cent, to trade at 5,810.15, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq surged 621.90 points, or 3.47 per cent, at 18,550.82.



Indian banks to maintain stable asset quality despite global uncertainty : Moody's

Mumbai, June 4 (IANS) : Global rating agency Moody's said that Indian banks are well-positioned to maintain stable asset quality over the next 12 months, even as global trade tensions create uncertainty for the world economy. According to Moody's, domestic economic conditions remain supportive of growth, helping Indian banks manage their loan books effectively. The agency expects the non-performing loan (NPL) ratio to stay between 2 to 3 per cent over the next year. As of December 2024, the NPL ratio stood at 2.5 per cent -- reflecting strong asset quality in the sector. This positive outlook comes at a time when investor interest in banking stocks remains high. On Tuesday, the

Nifty Bank index hit a record high of 56,161.40, driven by optimism ahead of the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting this week. Investors are hopeful of a potential interest rate cut, which could further support credit growth and ease borrowing costs. The RBI, under Governor Sanjay Malhotra, has already cut the repo rate twice this year -- from 6.5 per cent to 6 per cent -- and analysts expect another 25 basis point reduction in the upcoming policy. Although the Nifty Bank index pulled back slightly in mid-morning trade.



Seoul's industrial output, retail sales decline in Q1 this year

Seoul, June 4 (IANS) : Industrial output and retail sales in Seoul declined from a year earlier in the first quarter of this year, while the city's service sector remained relatively strong despite the broader economic slowdown, government data showed on Wednesday. Seoul's industrial production dropped 2.1 percent on-year during the January-March period, mainly due to reduced output in the electricity and gas, food manufacturing and machinery equipment sectors, according to the data from Statistics Korea. Nationwide, however, industrial output rose 2.4 percent on-year, supported by robust production in semiconductors, electronic components and pharmaceuticals, reports Yonhap news agency. Retail sales in Seoul also fell 2.1 percent on-year in the first three months, largely due to weaker performance in duty-free shops and sales of automobiles and fuel.

Indian rupee opens stronger against US dollar

Mumbai, June 4 (IANS) : The Indian rupee opened 75 paise stronger at 84.65 against the US dollar on Wednesday, following its previous close at 85.38 a dollar. The trading range for the day was expected to be between 84.50 and 85.25, according to analysts. The dollar maintained its gains fol-

lowing a significant trade pact between the US and China. The US will reduce tariffs on Chinese goods from 145 per cent to 30 per cent for 90 days, while China said it will cut tariffs on US goods from 125 per cent to 10 per cent for 90 days. The two countries will establish a mechanism to continue discussions about economic and trade relations.



Morepen Labs' Q4 net profit declines 29 pc as rising expenses weigh on margins

Mumbai, June 4 (IANS) : Pharmaceuticals company Morepen Labs on Wednesday reported a decline of 29.3 per cent in its net profit (year-on-year) for the fourth quarter (Q4) of FY25, as rising expenses took a toll on the healthcare company's performance.

Paytm sees large trade order involving 1.7 crore shares, stock falls marginally

Mumbai, June 4 (IANS) : Shares of One97 Communications Ltd, the parent company of Paytm, declined marginally on Wednesday after stock worth Rs 2,380 crore changed hands in multiple large trade order involving 1.7 crore shares. While the buyers and sellers in the trade were not known, reports suggested that Alibaba Group's subsidiary Antfin was

the likely seller. According to reports, Antfin, the second largest shareholder in One 97 Communications with a stake of 9.85 per cent, sought to offload 4 per cent stake in the financial services major.



Sensex, Nifty open lower as Infosys and Zomato drag

Mumbai, June 4 (IANS) : Indian equity indices opened in the red on Wednesday as heavyweights like Infosys, Eternal (Zomato) and Kotak Mahindra Bank were top losers in the BSE benchmark. At around 9:25 am, Sensex was down 444 points or 0.54 per cent at 81,985 and Nifty was down 105 points or 0.42 per cent at 24,817. After a negative opening, Nifty can find support at 24,800 followed by 24,700 and 24,500. On the higher side, 25,000 can be an immediate resistance, followed by 25,100 and 25,200, according to analysts. In the Sensex pack, Sun Pharma, IndusInd Bank, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, Maruti Suzuki, Titan, HUL and Axis Bank were top gainers. Infosys, Eternal (Zomato), Tata Steel, HCL Tech, Power Grid, UltraTech Cement, Asian Paints, ITC, NTPC, HDFC Bank were top laggards. On the sectoral front, auto, IT, financial services, FMCG, metal, realty and media were major losers. PSU bank, pharma, realty and PSE were major gainers.



We stand firmly with Army in safeguarding India: Punjab AAP chief

Chandigarh, June 4 (IANS) : Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Punjab President, Aman Arora, on Wednesday emphasised the state government's commitment to the nation's security. He assured that the Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann-led Punjab government and the three crore citizens of the state stand firmly with the Indian Army in safeguarding the country. Arora commended the Indian Army for its vigilant and decisive actions in countering threats, stating, "The Army is

delivering a strong and resolute response to the country's enemies. It is the responsibility of every citizen to support the Army's efforts and uphold the nation's unity and security." To ensure the safety and well-being of the population in border areas, the Punjab government has implemented several measures. Arora highlighted that each of the border districts, Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur, and Fazilka, have been placed on high alert.

Railway Protection Force tightens security in NFR zone



Guwahati, June 4 (IANS): In response to escalating security challenges across the country, Railway Protection Force (RPF) of the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has significantly strengthened its security protocols at stations, trains and railway premises, an official said on Wednesday.

The NFR, one of the 17 railway zones in the country, operates in the northeastern states and in seven districts of West Bengal and five districts of north Bihar.

NFR's Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO) Kapinjal Kishore Sharma said that with an increased focus on passenger safety in the current national security environment.



CCPA issues 13 notices to digital marketplaces against listing, sale of walkie-talkies

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) on Wednesday issued 13 notices to leading digital marketplaces like Amazon, Flipkart, Meesho and OLX against the listing and sale of walkie-talkies on their platforms without proper frequency disclosure, licensing information, or Equipment Type Approval (ETA).

Walkie-talkies are being sold on e-commerce platforms without mandatory and clear disclosures regarding the re-

quirement of a wireless operating license or compliance with applicable laws, according to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs. A preliminary analysis further revealed an alarming volume of such listings across these platforms, including approximately 467 listings on Amazon, 314 on Flipkart, 489 on Meesho, and 423 on TradeIndia, indicating the widespread scale of the issue. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi said the sale of non-compliant wireless devices not only breaches statutory obligations but may also pose significant risks to national secu-

rity operations. "All sellers are required to strictly adhere to applicable regulatory standards to uphold consumer rights and prevent unlawful trade practices," the minister posted on X social media platform. These platforms include Amazon, Flipkart, Meesho, OLX, TradeIndia, Facebook, Indiamart, VardaanMart, Jiomart, Krishnamart, Chimiya, Talk Pro Walie Talkie and MaskMan toys. The product listings for walkie-talkies do not specify whether the device requires a license from the concerned authority for use.

"The omission of details such as frequency range, licensing obligations under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, or the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933, and the Use of Low Power, Very Low Power Short Range Radio Frequency Devices (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2018 and the potential legal consequences of unauthorized use, misleads consumers into believing that the devices are freely operable by the general public," said the ministry.



Arms racket in Kolkata busted, four arrested

Kolkata, June 4 (IANS) : The Kolkata Police's Special Task Force (STF) on Wednesday announced that it had busted an illegal arms racket in the city and arrested four persons in this connection in the intervening night of May 8 and May 9. According to a statement issued by the STF, its personnel, based on specific information, conducted a raid at Purba Beraberi under the jurisdiction of Narayanpur Police Station in the northern outskirts of Kolkata and busted the racket. The four persons arrested in this connection have been identified as Linkon Hossain, 25, Bakibilla Gazi, 28.

13 year-old girl airlifted from Agatti Island to Kochi for medical treatment

Kavaratti (Lakshadweep), June 4 (IANS) : In a swift emergency medical evacuation, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) have airlifted a child from the Lakshadweep braving challenging weather conditions on Wednesday night. The 13-year-old girl, suffering from sepsis, septic shock, severe anaemia and severe thrombocytopenia, was airlifted from Agatti Island in Lakshadweep to Kochi, Kerala, in ICG Dornier aircraft. The patient along with medical escorts have been evacuated to Kochi for further medical treatment. The successful evacuation is a testimony of the ICG's commitment towards ensuring safety of citizens, even in farther islands, under all weather conditions.

The Indian Coast Guard maintains active presence in the Lakshadweep Islands and has always been prepared to extend support to the Union Territory administration and islanders in emergencies. In the year 2025, ICG has conducted two similar medical evacuations, on February 8 and February 25, there by living up to its motto 'We Protect'. ICG is a maritime law enforcement and search and rescue agency of India with jurisdiction over its territorial waters including its contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone. It was started on February 1, 1977, and formally established on August



18, 1978, by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India. It operates under the Ministry of Defence. The ICG works in close cooperation with the Indian Navy, the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Revenue (Customs), and the Coastal Police of the State Police Forces, and the Central Armed Police Forces. The ICG has the Western and Eastern Seaboard, both commanded by three-star officers designated Coast Guard Commander Western Seaboard and Coast Guard Commander Eastern Seaboard. The seaboards are in turn divided into four regions. A fifth region, Andaman and Nicobar Region reports directly to the DGICG. Each region is headed by an officer of the rank of Inspector-General.



Nagaland Guv bats for preserving Naga heritage, culture, customary practices

Kohima, June 4 (IANS) : Nagaland Governor La Ganesan on Wednesday emphasised to protect Naga heritage, culture, tradition and customary practices. Releasing a book titled 'The Lotha Naga Customary Law, Practices & Attires' authored by P. Pius Lotha at Raj Bhavan, Kohima, the Governor emphasised the importance of cultural rootedness in the face of globalisation.

Noting that tradition is not a relic of the past but the foundation of one's identity, he said such documentation is especially vital for the youth, fostering a sense of pride, belonging and resilience.

In his address, the Governor expressed great delight at being part of the occasion, noting that the book launch was more than a literary event. "It was a tribute to the enduring spirit of the Lotha Naga community and a reaffirmation of the collective duty to preserve indigenous culture," he said.

The Governor lauded Pius Lotha for his meticulous research, describing the book as a "source of invaluable knowledge" that captures the essence of Lotha traditions, governance, family structures, customary laws and traditional attire.

India aims to become space power equal to world, work for humanity and planet : Minister

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : India aims to be a leader in the space sector as an equal partner of the world, and work for the betterment of humanity and the planet, according to Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology on Wednesday. Addressing the Global Space Exploration Conference (GLEX 2025) at Bharat Mandapam, here, Singh affirmed India's growing prominence as a space power in the global arena. The MoS underscored India's transition from being a follower in space exploration to becoming a global enabler.

"India is now collaborating as an equal partner with some of the leading space-faring nations. This is a testimony to our scientific capability, visionary leadership, and commitment to peaceful space cooperation," he said. He added that India's space journey, which began with humble beginnings, has evolved into a source of inspiration for developing countries. Singh described GLEX 2025 as a platform that advances India's vision on two fronts -- "A for Bharat" and "B for the World." He said the conference embodies India's aspiration to serve its own people through space applications while also embracing the spirit of Vishwa Bandhu Bharat -- a trusted global partner committed to col-



laboration, not domination. "We are not here to act as a Big Brother," he emphasised, "but as equal brothers, working together with the rest of humanity for the shared benefit of our planet." The Minister highlighted the Government's initiatives to democratise the space sector, encouraging private enterprise and public-private partnerships. "The opening up of India's space sector has already triggered a boom in innovation, with over 190 startups emerging in the last two years alone," he noted, adding that this ecosystem was vital to fuelling India's ambitions in deep space missions, satellite launches, and commercial space applications.



MP, Maharashtra ink pact for Tapti Basin recharge project

Bhopal, June 4 (IANS) : In another initiative towards an inter-state river project, the governments of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra inked a pact for the 'Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project', which stands as the world's largest groundwater recharge initiative. It aimed at ensuring sustainable water management for both the states of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.



Jharkhand woman jumps into well with three children, all kids dead; mother critical

Giridih (Jharkhand), June 4 (IANS) : In a heart-wrenching incident in Jharkhand's Giridih district, a woman allegedly attempted suicide by jumping into a well with her three young children.

Xi, Putin reach many new, important common understandings : Chinese Foreign Ministry

Beijing, June 4 (IANS) : Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin had in-depth exchanges of views on China-Russia relations and major international and regional issues and reached many new and important common understandings during Xi's visit to Russia, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said here Wednesday. Lin Jian told a daily news briefing that the two heads of state signed the Joint Statement Between the People's Republic of China and the

Russian Federation on Further Deepening the China-Russia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination for the New Era on the Occasion of the 80th Anniversary of the Victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War and the Founding of the United Nations. They witnessed the exchange of over 20 bilateral cooperation documents, injecting new impetus into the development of China-Russia relations. Noting that the two sides are good neighbours that cannot be moved

away, true friends who share weal and woe, and good partners for mutual success, Xi said that the relationship between China and Russia is characterised by a distinct historical logic, strong endogenous driving force and rich civilizations, and does not target any third party and it is not subject to restrictions from any third party, according to Lin. Xi also noted that the two sides have successfully found the right way for the two neighboring major countries to get along with each other and forged a spirit of strategic coordination for a new era with permanent good-neigh-



borly friendship, comprehensive strategic coordination and mutually beneficial cooperation at its core. The two countries need to nourish everlasting friendship and deepen political mutual trust, and increase strategic coordination, as well as pursue mutual benefit, and continue to deepen practical co-

operation in various fields, Xi said. The two countries need to uphold fairness and justice, and firmly defend the international system with the UN at its core and the international order based on international law, Xi said, adding that the two countries need to enhance solidarity.



Albanese urges elected party MPs to have 'laser-like' focus on working for Australians

Canberra, June 4 (IANS) : Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has urged the elected Members of Parliament (MPs) of his Labor Party to maintain a focus on working for all Australians after winning re-election. Albanese on Wednesday convened the Labor caucus, comprising all of the party's elected members of both houses of parliament, in Canberra for the first time since winning a second term in power at last Saturday's federal election in a landslide result. Addressing the caucus, Albanese welcomed the party's new elected parliamentarians to Canberra and asked members of both houses to retain a "laser-like focus" on working for the Australians who voted for them and those who did not. "We want to see them lifted up, and given opportunity," Albanese said. "We seek power in order to deliver for the people who need Labor to be in government."



Bangladesh: Yunus-led interim government 'seriously considering' banning Awami League

Dhaka, June 4 (IANS) : The interim government of Bangladesh under Muhammad Yunus on Wednesday said that it is "seriously considering" the "demand" raised by various political parties, organisations and the public to ban the Awami League party headed by former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Reports suggest that several student groups, radical Islamist parties and the newly-formed National Citizen Party, who were behind the nationwide protest and violence in Bangladesh in July and August 2024 that led to the fall of the government led by Hasina, are now aggressively demanding a ban on the Awami League party. In a statement, the interim government on Friday stated that demands have been made over alleged charges of "dictatorship and terrorist activities" under the Awami League government. "The government has already established contact with the political parties in this regard

and will take a decision soon after discussing with them. In this regard, the government is taking into consideration the UN report on the terrorist activities of the leaders and supporters of the Awami League," said the interim government. The interim government also termed Chhatra League, the student wing of Awami League, as a "terrorist organisation". The organisation was banned immediately after the ouster of former Prime Minister Hasina following the violent uprising. "In addition, initiatives have been taken to bring necessary amendments to the International Criminal Tribunal Act to take action against organisations involved in crimes against humanity on behalf of the government," the statement added. Meanwhile, former President of Bangladesh Abdul Hamid left the country on Thursday, months after the ouster of Hasina.

Brazil expresses concern over India-Pak tensions; rejects all forms of terrorism

Brasilia, June 4 (IANS) : The Government of Brazil, reiterating its stance on denouncing all forms of terrorism, expressed grave concern about the military actions in the Kashmir region following escalating tensions between India and Pakistan. The remarks came after the Indian armed forces launched Operation Sindoor, targeting nine high-value terror locations in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the dastardly April 22 terror attack, which left 26 innocent civilians dead. "As expressed in the statement of April 23 regarding the attack in Kashmir on the previous day, the Government of Brazil reiterates its repudiation of all acts of terrorism. Brazil calls on the parties involved to exercise the utmost restraint in order to prevent an escalation of tensions," Foreign Ministry of Brazil said in a statement on Thursday. "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs advises Brazilian nationals to refrain from non-essential travel to Kashmir.



India and Maldives strengthen healthcare partnership

Thiruvananthapuram, June 4 (IANS) : In a crucial association, India has committed its support to the Maldives by ensuring the supply of essential medicines through HLL Lifecare Limited - a Government of India enterprise under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, solidifying the growing healthcare collaboration between the two nations. In line with this initiative, the State Trading Organization Plc (STO) - a Government of

Maldives enterprise responsible for the import and distribution of essential goods - has signed a strategic agreement with HLL under India's Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).



India, New Zealand aim to conclude FTA this year

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : India and New Zealand have reaffirmed their common vision and mutual understanding to work towards a future-ready framework and conclude the free trade agreement (FTA) this year. In a major step towards expanding bilateral trade and investment engagement, the first round of negotiations for the India-New Zealand FTA concluded successfully in New Delhi. The next round will be held in July 2025. "As India steadily advances its footprint through multiple trade agreements, this round reflects a steadfast commitment to enhance economic partnerships aligned with national priorities and global aspirations," the Commerce Ministry said in a statement. The first round followed a series of virtual discussions held between both partners which laid the groundwork for the in-person meeting. Constructive negotiations were held across all areas of FTA including Trade in Goods and Services, Trade Facilitation and mutually beneficial sectors of economic co-operation. This engagement highlights the strategic importance both partners attach to building a mutually beneficial, balanced and a fair trade agreement. This development builds on the shared commitment



to deepen economic ties and guidance given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the visit of Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, in March. The FTA was launched during the meeting between Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Todd McClay, Minister for Trade and Investment, Government of New Zealand on March 16. Total merchandise trade between the two countries has reached \$1.3 billion in financial year 2024-25, registering a strong growth of 48.6 per cent over the previous financial year.

South Korean DP candidate says strong relations with Japan vital to economy, security

Seoul, June 4 (IANS) : Democratic Party (DP) presidential candidate Lee Jae-myung underscored Wednesday the need to maintain strong ties between South Korea and Japan, saying bilateral cooperation is vital to both the economy and security. Lee made the remark in a written congratulatory message sent to a forum hosted by a DP lawmaker, as he has been bolstering his campaign for the June 3 election, buoyed by his growing lead in the polls, Yonhap news agency reported. "South Korea and Japan are important partners that have

long maintained a close cooperative partnership," Lee said in the message at the event held to discuss Seoul's relations with Tokyo. "Continuing bilateral cooperation is vital from both the economic and security perspectives," he said. With Japan being the fourth-largest trading partner for South Korea, security cooperation between the two neighbors has served as the "foundation for the trilateral security partnership with the United States, which has contributed to ensuring peace in Northeast Asia and the prosperity of South Korea," Lee said. Lee called for enhancing bilateral relations with Japan through "meticulous and sophisticated diplo-



macy to advance national interest," particularly at a time when South Korea is at a "pivotal moment of geopolitical transformation." That said, Lee also took note of pending bilateral issues stemming from Japan's 1910-45 colonisation of the Korean Peninsula, as well as Japan's release of contaminated water from its crippled Fukushima nuclear power plants. "In particular, addressing historical issues is essential for building a future-oriented relationship," Lee said. "The South Korea-Japan relations can mature further when dialogue.

India opposes IMF lifeline for Pakistan due to terror financing risk

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : India strongly opposed further financial assistance from the IMF to Pakistan at the executive board meeting held on Wednesday, expressing serious concerns over Islamabad's track record and the fact that the bailouts were enabling the cash-strapped country to sponsor cross-border terrorism. India abstained from voting on extending a fresh \$1.3 billion IMF loan to Pakistan under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) lending program at the meeting. "While the concern that fungible inflows from international financial institutions, like IMF, could be misused for military and state sponsored cross border terrorist purposes resonated with several member countries, the IMF response is circumscribed by procedural and technical formalities. This is a serious gap highlighting the urgent need to ensure that moral values are given appropriate consideration in the procedures followed by global financial institutions," India's representative Parameswaran Iyer said at the meeting. He high-



lighted that Pakistan has been a prolonged borrower from the IMF, with a very poor track record of implementation and adherence to the IMF's programme conditions. Last September, the Executive Board of the IMF approved a 37-month Extended Arrangement under the EFF for Pakistan in the amount of SDR 5,320 million (or around \$7 billion). While there was an immediate disbursement of \$1 billion, the meeting on Friday was called to review the funding programme for Pakistan.

India is not the aggressor but will respond when attacked: Cong leader TS Singh Deo

Ambikapur, June 4 (IANS) : Amid rising tension between India and Pakistan, senior Congress leader and former Deputy Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, T.S. Singh Deo, on Wednesday commended the Indian armed forces for their measured and effective response to Pakistani aggres-

sion. He said that the current conflict is being fought more on a technological front than traditional ground combat. "Wars today are highly technology-driven," Singh Deo said. "So far, no army has physically crossed the border; the current strikes are being carried out using modern missile systems. From



what we're seeing so far, India's S-400 air defence system is receiving a lot of attention and proving to be highly effective.

Karnataka BJP leader urges action against illegal Bangladeshi immigrants

Bengaluru, June 4 (IANS) : Ramesh N. R., senior BJP leader and former President of the BJP Bengaluru South District Unit, has urged Karnataka Home Minister G. Parameshwara and Director General of Police Alok Mohan to take immediate action against illegal Bangladeshi immigrants allegedly residing in Bengaluru and other areas of the state using fake documents. Ramesh claimed that for over 13 years, more than 50,000 Bangladeshi nationals have been illegally staying in areas under the Mahadevapura, K.R. Puram, and Bengaluru South



Assembly constituencies, including localities such as Marathahalli Junction, K.R. Puram Lake, Jakkasandra Junction, Kundalahalli Gate, Munnekalalu, Kadubeesanahalli, Devarabeesanahalli, Hulimavu, and Chikka Begur.

AK-47 case: NIA files set of additional charges in Bihar court

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a supplementary chargesheet with additional charges against four persons accused in a case relating to the seizure of an AK-47 rifle in Muzaffarpur, Bihar, an official said on Wednesday. All four accused, identified as Vikash Kumar, Satyam Kumar, Devmani Rai, and Ahmad Ansari, were previously charged by the local

police under the Arms Act. In its supplementary set of charges filed before the NIA Special Court, Patna, on Thursday, the federal anti-terror agency charged all four under Section 120B of the Indian Penal Code; and Sections 13 and 18 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 in addition to the chargesheet filed earlier under Sections 25(1-AA), 26, and 35 of the Arms Act, 1959. As per the NIA, which has been

investigating the case since May last year, the accused had conspired and were actively involved in the illegal procurement and smuggling of prohibited bore weapons to Maoists and other criminal elements. They had also raised and utilised funds for the procurement of these arms as part of the conspiracy, aimed at disturbing the unity, integrity, security, and sovereignty of the nation. Initially, on May 7, 2024, the Muzaffarpur Rail Police had re-

covered an AK-47 butt and a rifle lens from Vikash and Satyam. The duo disclosed during the investigation that they had supplied an AK-47 rifle and five live rounds to Devmani Rai alias Anish, a resident of Mankauli under Fakuli Police Station, Muzaffarpur. A search of Devmani's house later led to the recovery of the rifle and the live rounds. All three, along with accused Ahmad Ansari, were arrested in



the case. In December last year, the NIA had raided 17 locations in Bihar linked to a case of illegal arms trade, recovering documents and cash amid ongoing investigations. NIA teams conducted search operations at the

residences of suspects linked to the case at Muzaffarpur, Vaishali and Saran districts, which is connected to the recovery of an assault rifle from Fakuli Police Station in Muzaffarpur district.



Proud of our military, nation stands united: Samajwadi Party's Nadvi

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS): In the wake of heightened tensions between India and Pakistan following the terror attack in Pahalgam, Samajwadi Party (SP) MP Mohibbullah Nadvi on Wednesday lauded the Indian Armed Forces for their strong and decisive response to Pakistan's aggression following Operation Sindoor. The Indian forces responded to unprovoked attacks from Pakistan firmly, gaining widespread support and admiration from across the nation. Terming the response as a "moment of pride for the entire nation", Nadvi emphasised the bravery and unity of the Indian people. Speaking to IANS, Nadvi said, "It is a moment of pride for the whole country. We are all proud of our military, which is courageously giving a befitting reply to the enemy.



Country that openly shelters terrorists should not receive IMF funding: Pawan Khera

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS): Congress leader Pawan Khera has strongly called on the Indian government to oppose any fresh financial assistance from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to Pakistan, citing its continued support to terrorism. Speaking to IANS on Wednesday, Khera said, "We had already made this demand ten days ago, urging the Government of India to take a tough stand. A country that openly shelters terrorists should not receive funding from the IMF." His remarks come as the IMF Executive Board prepares to review Islamabad's request for funding under a climate resilience programme, in addition to the first review of an ongoing \$7 billion bailout package. Khera added that the Congress party is demonstrating its unwavering support for India's armed forces through the 'Jai Hind Yatra', which is being held at state headquarters across the country. "Today, on behalf of the Congress party, the 'Jai Hind Yatra' is being carried out across the country at every state headquarters.

SC trashes plea to implement NEP in TN, Kerala and Bengal

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to entertain a plea seeking direction to the states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. A bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan opined that the apex court, in exercise of its writ jurisdiction, cannot directly compel any state government to adopt NEP. "The court may, however, intervene if a state's action or inaction related to the National Education Policy violates any fundamental rights. We do not propose to examine this issue in this writ petition," said the Justice Pardiwala-led Bench as it dismissed the plea filed by advocate



G.S. Mani, the petitioner-in-person. Referring to the media reports, the plea said that five states, namely Odisha, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Delhi, have not yet signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Ministry of Education.



10 years of PMJJBY: Palamu residents in Bihar thank PM Modi for securing their lives

Patna, June 4 (IANS) : As the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) completes a decade, the stories of empowerment of poor and unprivileged families, as well as the tangible transformation of lives on the ground across the country, are filling up the space. In Bihar's Palamu district, the beneficiaries of the PMJJBY scheme are also happy and are unambiguous in their praise for the scheme, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The scheme has brought a ray of hope to their lives. They claim to have benefited immensely from the scheme and are calling it an excellent public welfare initiative. A couple of beneficiaries spoke to IANS and explained how the scheme was essential for every individual, and everyone should come forward to avail the benefits. Prafull Giri, a PMJJBY beneficiary, said, "When I went to open my account at my nearby Gramin Bank, I came to know about this scheme. In my family, around 4 to 5 people are benefiting from it. I would say this is one of the best schemes launched by the government, and I sincerely thank Prime Minister Modi for bringing it."

After fake news scare, comedian Hareesh Kanaran says he's 'hale and hearty'



Thiruvananthapuram, June 4 (IANS) : Popular Malayalam comedian Hareesh Kanaran was forced to issue a clarification on social media after a fake news report claimed he was seriously ill. The actor reassured fans that he is in good health and con-

demned the spread of misinformation. "There is a fake news item circulating on social media stating that I am seriously ill. It originated from an online portal. I urge everyone to support me in taking appropriate action against those responsible," Kanaran wrote. His close friend and fellow mimicry artiste, Nirmal Palazhi, also took to social media to denounce the rumour. "Just last night, we were performing together on stage. I'm shocked and saddened that such baseless news is being spread about Kanaran. He came to know about it only after some media outlets called to verify his condition. We must stand united against this kind of fake reporting," Palazhi said. Hailing from Kozhikode, Kanaran began his career as a mimicry artiste in 'Calicut Friends' and went on to form his own troupe.



'We are working under PM Modi's direction': Tripura CM

Agartala, June 4 (IANS) : Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha on Wednesday said that he has requested the Central and state forces to work in synchronisation in dealing with the present situation arising in view of the India-Pakistan tensions. The Chief Minister said that during a meeting with the senior security officials, he had requested security officials in the state to maintain close coordination among them to deal with the border-related issues and other related development in view of the tension between India and Pakistan. "We are working under the direction of the Central government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Defence Minister (Rajnath Singh) and External Affairs (S.

Jaishankar), and other leaders are working closely in dealing with the prevailing situation," Saha, who also holds the Home portfolio, told the media. He said that the security and civil administrations are ready to deal with any situation in Tripura. "Situation across Tripura is completely normal and no cause for concern," the Chief Minister said. An official of the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said that the Chief Minister held a high-level meeting here on Friday with senior security, intelligence and civil officials and discussed enhanced surveillance along the India-Bangladesh border. "The closed-door meeting lasted for more than an hour.

Israel says two soldiers killed, three wounded in Gaza

Jerusalem, June 4 (IANS) : Two Israeli soldiers were killed and three others seriously wounded in two separate attacks in the southern Gaza Strip on Wednesday, according to a statement from the Israeli military released Friday.

In the first attack, Sergeant Yishai Urbach, 20, a combat engineer, was killed when Hamas militants fired a rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) at a building in Rafah, where Israeli forces were stationed. Two other soldiers were injured in the assault.



South Korea: People Power Party begins unprecedented process to replace presidential candidate

Seoul, June 4 (IANS) : The conservative People Power Party (PPP) set in motion an unprecedented process to replace its presidential candidate on Wednesday, as talks on merging the candidacies of its standard-bearer, Kim Moon-soo, and former Prime Minister Han Duck-soo collapsed the previous day. The party convened an emergency committee and election management body at the same



time to begin a process to make decisions on the cancellation of Kim's election as the party's candidate, Han's party membership and other related issues.



S. Korean experts call for gradually raising age threshold for seniors to 70 by 2035

Seoul, June 4 (IANS) : A group of experts in South Korea on Wednesday proposed gradually raising to 70 from the current 65 the age threshold for senior citizens, a move aimed at focusing resources to support those who need the most in a country that has already become a "super-aged" society. The experts also advised the government to consider extending the retirement age after raising the age limit for senior citizens to 70 by 2035, Yonhap news agency reported. "The age of 65 as the definition of a senior citizen has remained unchanged for 44 years since 1981, despite significant societal shifts," the experts said in a joint statement. "South Korea is expected to face accelerating demographic challenges, in-

cluding low birth rates and rapid aging," they added. "To prevent income disruption, opportunities for older adults to participate in the labour market should be expanded based on their capabilities and needs." The number of people aged 65 years or older had reached over 10.24 million, or 20 per cent of the country's total population of 51.22 million, as of late 2024, making South Korea a rare "super-aged" society, government data showed earlier. The UN classifies countries where more than 7 per cent of the population aged 65 or older as an ageing society, those with over 14 per cent as an aged society, and those with more than 20 per cent as a super-aged society. The steady rise in the number of senior citizens, coupled with a sharp decline in the country's birth rate over the years to one of the world's lowest, has placed an increasing financial burden on the country. In March, the National Assembly approved a government-proposed reform of the country's national pension system to require young and new subscribers to pay more but receive less.



'Pak hid Osama bin Laden', UK

MP Priti Patel backs India's right to defend

London, June 4 (IANS) : UK Conservative Party MP Priti Patel extended support to India, saying that it has the right to take reasonable and proportionate steps to defend itself, and to dismantle the vile terrorist infrastructure that has caused death and continues to threaten it. She slammed Pakistan for threatening India and Western interests by fostering terrorism. The remarks came after the Indian armed forces on Wednesday morning launched Operation Sindoor, targeting nine high-value terror locations in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) in response to the Pahalgam terror attack, which killed 26 innocent civilians. Speaking at the House of Commons on Wednesday, the UK's Shadow Foreign Secretary Patel extended her condolences to the victims of murderous, violent terrorism in Pahalgam. "It was an act of terrorism, and we must reflect on the fact that Pahalgam has joined Mumbai, New Delhi and other places in India in being forever scarred by an act of terror," she said. "On April 22, terrorists brutally killed 26 tourists in Pahalgam in a barbaric and savage act of violence. Most victims were killed at point-blank range by gunshots to their head," she pointed out.



US: California governor to release new ad against Trump's tariffs

Los Angeles, June 4 (IANS) : California Governor Gavin Newsom will release a national ad to show his message against the US President Donald Trump's tariffs policy, which Newsom said risks "ending America's run as the world's greatest economy." According to a report from the Politico on Wednesday, the 30-second ad is scheduled to run on "Fox and Friends" this weekend, noting this move will "simultaneously cast Newsom as cheerleader for the Golden State's economy and top critic of the president's signature policy." It "marks a return to Newsom's well-worn playbook of goading Republicans on their home turf. It is also a notable escalation of the governor's antagonism toward Trump after months of striving to defuse tensions with the White House," the report said. The ad, which was posted on YouTube on Wednesday,

showed Newsom was speaking direct-to-camera against a backdrop of the Port of Oakland, reports Xinhua news agency. Newsom boasted about California's recent ascent to the world's fourth-largest economy, crediting that achievement to "reducing trade barriers and delivering for American consumers," and warned that "the Trump administration is putting all of that at risk, halting delivery of essential goods through our ports today." He then warned that Trump's tariff policy would lead to a slowdown of goods coming into the country, raising the spectre of empty store shelves during the back-to-school or Christmas shopping season. "It's school backpacks in a few months, it'll be Christmas toys, these tariffs punish families," the governor said. The ad was paid for out of Newsom's 2022 governor campaign account, the report said, adding that a spokesperson declined to share how much the ad buy cost.



North Korea's Kim says participation in Russia's war against Ukraine justified

Seoul, June 4 (IANS) : North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has said the North's deployment of troops to Russia to support its war against Ukraine was justified, defending his country's participation in the war as an exercise of its sovereign rights, Pyongyang's state media reported on Wednesday. Kim made the remarks during his visit to the Russian Embassy in Pyongyang the previous day to mark the 80th anniversary of the Soviet Union's defeat of Nazi Germany during World War II, known as Victory Day, reports Yonhap, quoting the state-run Korean Central News Agency (KCNA). Citing a mutual defence treaty signed last year with Russia, Kim said he issued the order to send the North's troops to Russia to "liberate" the Kursk front-line region as

he was determined to faithfully implement the treaty. "Our participation in the war was justified, and this is within the realm of the exercise of our sovereign rights," Kim said during a congratulatory speech, calling the North's troops engaged in combat against Ukraine "heroes." Last month, North Korea acknowledged for the first time that it had dispatched troops to fight alongside Russia against Ukraine. Seoul's spy agency said the North has sent around 15,000 soldiers to Russia so far and is believed to have incurred more than 4,700 casualties, including some 600 deaths. Claiming that Ukraine has invaded Russia's territory, the North's leader said he will not be hesitant to use North Korea's military forces if the United States.

US measles cases top 1,000 in 2025, highest level in 6 years

Los Angeles, June 4 (IANS) : The United States has recorded more than 1,000 measles cases so far in 2025, marking the highest annual count in six years, according to the latest data released by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This is the first time the country has surpassed 1,000 measles cases in a single year since 2019, when 1,274 infections were reported nationwide, reports Xinhua news agency, quoting the CDC data. As of Wednesday, 1,001 cases were confirmed across 31 US jurisdictions, including 126 hospitalisations and three deaths, according to the CDC. A total of 14 measles outbreaks have been recorded nationwide this year. The CDC defines an outbreak as three or more connected cases. Approximately 13 per cent of infected individuals this year have required hospitalisation.



Trump calls for 30-day ceasefire between Russia, Ukraine

Washington, June 4 (IANS) : US President Donald Trump has called for a 30-day unconditional ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine, stating that he is committed to securing peace between both nations. He warned that any kind of violations of the ceasefire would lead to sanctions. "Talks with Russia/Ukraine continue. The US calls for, ideally, a 30-day unconditional ceasefire. Hopefully, an acceptable ceasefire will be observed, and both Countries will be held accountable for respecting the sanctity of these direct negotiations. If the ceasefire is not respected, the US and its partners will

impose further sanctions," he wrote in Truth Social on Wednesday. "Thousands of young soldiers are dying on a weekly basis, and everybody should want it to STOP. I do, and the United States of America does, also. As President, I will stay committed to securing Peace between Russia and Ukraine, together with the Europeans, and a Lasting Peace it will be! This ceasefire must ultimately build toward a Peace Agreement. It can all be done very quickly, and I will be available on a moment's notice if my services are needed. Thank you for your attention to this matter!" he further added. Meanwhile, addressing reporters at the Oval Office, Trump asked Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President

Volodymyr Zelenskyy to put an end to the conflict. "I have a message for both parties: Get this war ended. Get this stupid war finished. That's my message for both of them," he said. Speaking to reporters at a briefing on Friday, White House spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt mentioned that the much-anticipated Trump-Putin meeting next week in the Middle East is not going to happen. The White House said that Trump had a "very good and productive" call with Zelenskyy, and he expects that both Ukraine and Russia will come to an agreement next week on the proposed 30-day ceasefire. Meanwhile the Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov speaking to reporters said that that Russia is thankful to the US leadership for efforts on the Ukrainian settlement and it will welcome any country's participation in it, in a response to a question regarding publications that US President Trump might ask Turkey or China to facilitate peace talks on Ukraine. "We are ready to welcome any country's efforts. We are obviously thankful to the US President Trump for all efforts for bringing the process of settlement to the political and diplomatic field.



Indian women's hockey team to open Asia Cup 2025 campaign against Thailand

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : The Indian women's hockey team is set to kick off its campaign in the Women's Asia Cup 2025 against Thailand on September 5, 2025, at the Gongshu Canal Sports Park Field Hockey Field, the 2022 Asian Games hockey venue, in Hangzhou, China. The Indian team has been placed in Pool B, alongside defending Asia Cup champions Japan, Thailand, and Singapore, while Pool A consists of hosts China, Korea, Ma-

aysia, and Chinese Taipei. The tournament is set to take place in Hangzhou, China, from September 5 to 14, 2025. Team India, which claimed the bronze medal in the previous edition, will be eyeing the top podium finish this time. A victory not only brings continental glory but also guarantees a direct qualification to the 2026 Women's FIH Hockey World Cup, as the Asia Cup champions earn an automatic berth in the prestigious quadrennial event. Speaking on the tournament, In-

dia captain Salima Tete said, "We are excited to begin our campaign in the Women's Asia Cup. Being placed in Pool B alongside defending champions Japan will test our skills and character from the very start. "However, facing them in the pool stage will be a great opportunity to measure ourselves early in the tournament. Our focus will be on playing smart, disciplined hockey and taking it one match at a time.

'Shooting League of India will help unearth more talent,' says Olympian Anjum Moudgil

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Arjuna Awardee rifle shooter Anjum Moudgil has expressed her delight at the introduction of the Shooting League of India (SLI) and said it will help unearth more talents and will be very helpful for the athletes to prepare for global events. The inaugural edition of the Shooting League of India (SLI) was announced by the National Rifle Association of

India (NRAI) last month, and the tournament will have the window between November 20 and December 2. The competition will witness some of the prominent national and international names in action. "It's a first-of-a-kind league happening, and I am really excited. I have been playing the sport for the last 17 years, and I have seen it grow tremendously. Having a league for shooting will really boost the image of our sport, and

people will get to understand the minute details of it," Anjum said. The 31-year-old athlete is of the opinion that a tournament like this will be very helpful for the athletes to prepare for global events. "Having a league would really help the athletes to prepare for global tournaments because there is a certain pattern that has been followed for so many years by us, the senior athletes," she said.



Owen earns maiden Australia call-up for T20I against West Indies, Fraser-McGurk omitted

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Mitch Owen has earned a maiden call-up to the Australian team after being named in the squad for the five-match T20I series against the West Indies in July. Young opener Jake Fraser-McGurk is a notable omission from the T20I squad after an extended lean period, while Marcus Stoinis and Xavier Bartlett are also dropped for the trip to the Caribbean. Cameron Green and Cooper Connolly also return to the T20I team following recovery from their respective injuries.



Gary Stead to depart as New Zealand head coach after 7-year tenure

Christchurch, June 4 (IANS) : New Zealand men's head coach Gary Stead is set to leave his role when his contract finishes at the end of June after seven years in charge of the national side. Stead, who last month confirmed he would step away as coach of the white-ball formats, was effectively ruled out of contention for the head coach

role after NZC opted for one head coach across all three formats. Considered as New Zealand's most successful national coach, Stead oversaw the inaugural ICC World Test Championship win in 2021.

Lee Carsley extends contract as England U21 head coach ahead of European Championship

London, June 4 (IANS) Lee Carsley has signed a new contract as the England head coach with the Football Association (FA) through to the end of the 2027.



Cummins confirms Smith to bat at number four in WTC Final against South Africa

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : Australia Test captain Pat Cummins has confirmed premier batter Steve Smith will bat at number four in the upcoming World Test Championship final against South Africa, set to happen at Lord's from June 11-15. Smith, who has 23 centuries and 26 fifties while batting at number four in Tests, had slammed a first-innings century which set the stage for Australia to clinch the 2023 World Test Championship Final win over India at The Oval in London. There were initial murmurs of Smith being asked to open the batting alongside Usman Khawaja, but Cummins has now shut it down. "I can confirm that Smudge will be batting at four. Everyone else, I'm not willing to, but I can confirm Steve Smith will be number four," said Cummins to The Grade Cricketer on Prime Video Australia. Australia are on the verge of being the first team to win back-to-back WTC titles and Cummins spoke about the challenges of competing in the two-year championship cycle. "After winning (in) 2023, there's a lot of talk of trying to retain it. Go and defend it. It's not tangible until you actually make the final. Now that we've made it, it'll be pretty cool to win another ICC trophy." "Playing at Lord's, it's a tournament that every other Test playing nation is vying for so, it just

signifies a pretty good couple of years. I think it shows performance over two years. But there are varying conditions. Even in ICC World Cups, it's normally very similar conditions. A Test tournament, you've got to go and win basically everything at home, but for us, we had to go to Sri Lanka and win in really tough spinning conditions." "Go over to New Zealand, and beat a really strong side at home. So, I think it shows that you've really got to be a complete team over a couple year stretch to make the final. We just missed out that first year (2019-2021), but I think we are a better side now than we were back then. We lost a couple of games at home. But, yeah, I think two (WTC titles) would be incredible. One, I think, is still a pretty good demonstration of how good we've been over the past few years," he elaborated. Cummins signed off by saying South Africa, captained by Temba Bavuma, have enough match-winners who can pose a serious challenge to them in the WTC final.



RCB's IPL triumph 'is far more special' for Anushka, says Virat Kohli

New Delhi, June 4 (IANS) : As the city of Bengaluru celebrates Royal Challengers Bengaluru's maiden Indian Premier League (IPL) triumph, star batter Virat Kohli took the time to acknowledge the support of his better half, Anushka Sharma. In the summit clash, Kohli top-scored with 43 off 35 balls as RCB posted an imposing 190/9. In defence of it, RCB's brilliant bowlers, led by Krunal

Pandya's match-winning spell of 2-17, restricted Punjab Kings to 184/7. Kohli said that the victory is far more special for Anushka, given her Bengaluru roots. "I've seen it for 18 years, and she's seen it for 11. Suffered the same moments since 2014 and celebrated every close win and the madness of our supporters at the Chinnaswamy. We're both equally relieved, and since she's a Bangalore girl too, this is far more special for her. Together all the way through @anushkasharma," posted Kohli on Instagram. The moment the final ball was hit and victory sealed, Kohli collapsed to the ground, overcome with emotion.



Golf: Diksha among five Indians at Tenerife Open on LET

Canary Islands, June 4 (IANS) : Five Indians led by Diksha Dagar will tee up at the Tenerife Women's Open in the Canary Islands this week. After a short break, the Ladies European Tour (LET) is back in action, and the tournament in Tenerife returns to the schedule for the first time since 2011. Diksha Dagar, Avani Prashanth, Tvesa Malik, Hitaashee Bakshi and Sneha Singh will be in the field of 132 players from 35 nations at the Abama Golf Resort. Pranavi Urs has withdrawn, as her wrist injury is not fully healed. After nine events in 2025, Diksha is the top Indian in the eighth place on the LET Order of Merit, which decides the yearlong race to crown the tour's number one player.