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AI Policing : Hyd police showcase future-ready force on state formation day

Telangana State Formation Day celebrations at the City Armed Reserve Headquarters turned into a showcase of Hyderabad... **02**



EaseMyTrip slips into Rs 15.4 crore loss in Q4

Online travel aggregator EaseMyTrip has slipped into the loss in the fourth quarter (Q4) of FY26, reporting a consolidated net loss of Rs 15.4 crore compared to a profit of Rs 13.9 crore... **07**



Hockey India names Salima-led squad for Women's Nations Cup

Hockey India announced the women's squad for the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup, which is scheduled to be held in Auckland, New Zealand from June 15 to 21... **12**

My dream is to make Telangana gateway to the world: CM Revanth Reddy

Hyderabad, June 2 : Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said on Tuesday that his dream is to position the state not merely as a gateway for the nation, but to the entire world and that the roadmap to achieving this vision is mentioned in the 'Telangana Rising - 2047' document.

Addressing the Telangana Formation Day celebrations at Pa-



rade Grounds here, he stated it is the firm resolve of "people's government" that Telangana should emerge as a one-trillion US dollar economy by 2034, and a three-trillion-dollar economy by 2047.

The Chief Minister said that to the best of his knowledge, a single master plan encompassing an entire state does not exist anywhere else in the country.

Telangana Rising - 2047 Vision Document has classified the state into three categories -- CURE, PURE and RARE. "We are adopting a three-tiered strategy for development. We designate the region situated within the Outer Ring Road surrounding Greater Hyderabad as the "CURE" zone. We are transforming this area into a world-class services hub."

The Chief Minister stated that the primary objective of this plan is to develop this region as a completely eco-friendly and pollution-

free zone. "We have introduced the HILT Policy to facilitate the relocation of polluting industries to areas situated beyond the Outer Ring Road. Furthermore, the government is actively promoting the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs). We are providing exemptions on registration fees and road taxes in addition to the lifetime tax for electric vehicles." The government is constructing a Regional Ring Road on the lines of the Outer Ring Road. It has developed plans to transform the PURE (Peri-Urban Region Economy) zone situated between these two ring roads into a vibrant hub for infrastructure and manufacturing. "We are developing 'Bharat Future City' -- a Greenfield Smart City in 30,000 acres. Regional connectivity will be strengthened by developing Shamshabad as a bullet train hub."

He said that RARE will constitute the very heart of Telangana's DNA. "Agriculture and agro-based industries fall within the purview of this zone. This region extends from the Regional Ring Road right up to the borders of Telangana. Initiatives concerning irrigation, the development of agro-industries, agricultural research, crop diversification, and similar aspects will be driven through the industries and research centres established within this zone." Stating that the state government is giving equal priority to development and welfare, he claimed that Telangana is the only state implementing numerous welfare schemes and standing as a role model in the country.



Jana Sena will contest in Telangana : Pawan Kalyan

Jana Sena party leader and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan announced that there will be a party in Telangana. He broke the pot by saying that he will contest in Telangana.

Hyderabad, June 2 : Jana Sena party chief and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan has announced that there will be a Jana Sena party in Telangana. He has broken the pot that he will contest in Telangana. Speaking at the Jana Sena party office in Jubilee Hills on Tuesday, AP Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan made it clear that Telangana is the inner part of

the country. Pawan Kalyan explained that those who opposed Telangana are in office and have become MLAs.

Pawan Kalyan said that he donated crores of rupees to the Kondagattu temple because he respects Telangana. He said that the Jana Sena Party is not afraid of your palms. If it is afraid, will it



form a party? He asked. He made it clear that the Jana Sena Party will be the first to raise its voice if there is any betrayal of Telangana. He said that whatever he does is not for votes.. he has love and affection for Telangana.

The AP Deputy CM reminded that he would welcome the TRS office in Guntur. Not only in Andhra Pradesh.. but here too, will I become the CM? Pawan Kalyan questioned. When did I insult Telangana? He questioned the local leaders. He said that he is not afraid even if his head is cut. He said that he does not like to be provoked.

He said that he does not care no matter how many insults he is scolded.

Is he the reason for the lack of employment in Telangana? He directly questioned the leaders of political parties. He said how did the film industry in Madras come here? He said how will they stay here if they are cursing the people of Andhra. He directly questioned the leaders of Telangana as to how long they will spend their time cursing the people of Andhra. He asked how they did not come here suddenly. He said that AP contractors are doing well in Telangana. He said that he has respect for Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. Some people say that he has occupied the pond.. If he does that, will he be allowed to stay here? He directly protested.

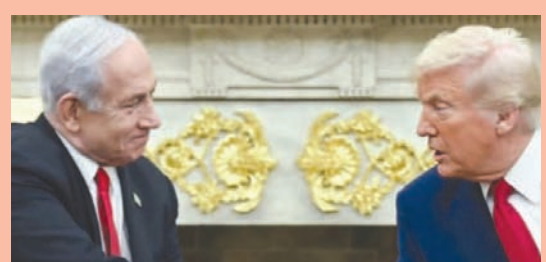
Uttam hails Telangana's free fine-rice scheme



Suryapet, June 2 : Describing the state government's free fine-rice distribution programme as a landmark welfare initiative unmatched anywhere in the country, Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said the scheme was unique not only in Telangana's history, but also in the history of India and the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh. Addressing Telangana State Formation Day celebrations after unfurling the National Flag in Suryapet on Tuesday.

You are crazy.. if it weren't for me, you would be in jail : Trump's anger at Netanyahu

Washington, June 2 : International media reports have reported that US President Donald Trump has expressed his anger at Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Tensions between the two leaders have reportedly increased in the wake of Israel's latest military actions in Lebanon. Trump reportedly spoke to Netanyahu on the phone, expressing his displeasure over the continued attacks in Lebanon. "You're crazy. If it weren't for me, you'd be in jail. I'm protecting you. Right now, everyone hates you. Your actions are also increasing opposition to Israel."



Tamil Nadu leader Annamalai resigns from BJP

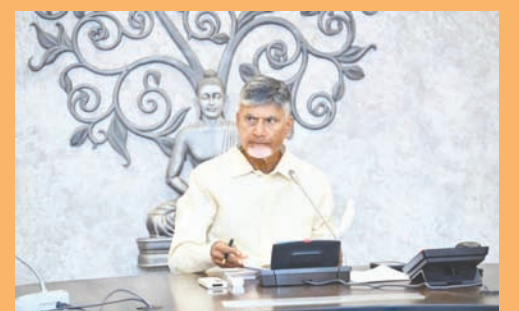
Chennai, June 2 : A key development has taken place in Tamil Nadu politics. Former Tamil Nadu BJP president K. Annamalai has resigned from the party. It is learnt that he submitted his resignation letter to party national president Nitin Nabeen. Political sources say that he rejected the offer of Rajya Sabha membership from the party. In this context, it is reported that Annamalai is likely to meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday evening.

If it doesn't work, I will bow down and leave it aside : CM Chandrababu with MLAs

AP CM Chandrababu Naidu made key remarks at a workshop on SIR held at the Telugu Desam Party office in Mangalagiri.

Amaravathi, June 2 : AP CM Chandrababu Naidu made key remarks at a workshop on SIR organized at the Telugu Desam Party office in Mangalagiri. He said that a meeting of NDA leaders will be held on the 4th of this month. He revealed that NDA coordination committees will be appointed at the state, constituency and district levels. He said that allies should be brought together at the field level. It is not necessary to have more or less strength, and such thoughts should not be entertained.

The CM made it clear to the MLAs that priority should be given to activists. He said that in order to carry the flag, activists should be made partners in the power that comes through the flag. The CM said that the post is not permanent for anyone.. as long as the person works,



there will be no threat to the post. He made it clear that if he does not work, he will be dismissed without any hesitation. He said that no one should remain a one-time MLA. The CM said that in American democracy, there is a chance to be elected only twice. 'As long as the people like us, we can be MLAs. If the behavior of the MLAs is good.. votes will be cast.. people will support us. If the MLAs do not behave well, their votes will be lost.. Everyone should remember that. It doesn't matter if they don't work.. just don't talk nonsense. Tasmat... Chandrababu warned the MLAs to be careful.

AI Policing : Hyd police showcase future-ready force on state formation day

Hyderabad, June 2 : Telangana State Formation Day celebrations at the City Armed Reserve Headquarters turned into a showcase of Hyderabad Police's technological transformation and people-centric policing initiatives as police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar unveiled a series of achievements and reforms. After unfurling the National Flag and paying hom-

age to Telangana martyrs, the Commissioner highlighted how Hyderabad Police is leveraging Artificial Intelligence, digital innovation and community participation to build a safer city. Among the standout initiatives was 'C-Mitra', India's first Virtual Police Officer platform, which allows citizens to file complaints and register FIRs from their homes. The system has already facilitated more than 1,100 Zero FIRs and hundreds of cybercrime cases. The Commissioner also highlighted the AI-powered 'Cop-Writer' application, the 'SOC-EYE' digital monitoring platform, and the strengthened Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing's crackdown on drug networks. A major focus was placed on personnel welfare, with nearly 20,000



police personnel undergoing comprehensive health screening under the Grand Health Challenge initiative. Health volunteers have also been deployed across police stations to monitor wellness and provide support. The department's anti-food adulteration wing, H-FAST, has registered 173 cases and seized nearly 95 tonnes of adulterated food products, while emergency response teams under 'Spandana' continue to provide rapid assistance to citizens across the city.



CM Chandrababu reviews arrangements for Godavari Pushkaralu-2027

Amaravathi, June 2 : CM Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday reviewed the arrangements for Godavari Pushkaralu-2027. A key meeting was held with the cabinet sub-committee at the Velagapudi Secretariat. Godavari Pushkaralu will be held from June 26 to July 7, 2027. The CM directed the officials on the arrangements for the management of the Pushkaralu. Discussions were held on creating better facilities for devotees. Special plans were made on security, traffic and sanitation. A review was held on the development of infrastructure for Pushkara. The meeting discussed the coordination of water resources, roads, and health departments. The CM held a review with officials on the development of Pushkara ghats. Chandrababu issued orders that all departments should work in coordination for the management of Pushkara. Endowments Minister Anam Rama Narayana Reddy, Irrigation Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu, Municipal Minister Narayana, Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav, Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha, Health Minister Satyakumar Yadav attended the meeting.

Grand Celebrations Mark Telangana State Formation Day

- Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Adi Srinivas Unveils National Flag
- Schemes Distributed to Beneficiaries
- Cultural Programs Captivate Audience

Rajanna Sircilla, June 02: The Telangana State Formation Day celebrations were conducted with great grandeur. The festivities were held on Tuesday at the Parade Ground, located near the District Police Bhavan, with Government Whip and Vemulawada MLA Adi Srinivas attending as the chief guest. Earlier in the day, the Government Whip—joined by District Collector Garima Agarwal and other officials—paid floral tributes at the Telangana Martyrs' Memorial, situated near the Old Bus Stand in Sircilla. Subsequently, at the Parade Ground, the Government Whip hoisted the

national flag and received a ceremonial guard of honor from the police force. On this occasion, he delivered a commemorative address. The event was followed by captivating cultural programs presented by students. Sanction letters for the 'Indiramma Housing Scheme' were also distributed to beneficiaries. "Inspection of Stalls" The Government Whip, the District Collector, and the Superintendent of Police (SP) inspected the

stalls set up under the aegis of the Forest, DRDO, Police, and Public Relations departments, inquiring about the details and exhibits on display. As part of the 'Praja Palana Pragathi Plan' (People's Administration Progress Plan) and under the 'Paryavaran Utsavalu' (Environmental Festivals) initiative, the Forest Department organized a tree-planting drive; Government Whip



Adi Srinivas, District Collector Garima Agarwal, SP Mahesh B. Githe, and other officials participated in planting saplings. District Library Corporation Chairman Nagula Satyanarayana Goud, Additional Collector Gaddam Nagesh, Additional SP Chandrayya.

Telangana Government grants remission to 91 prisoners

Hyderabad, June 2: On the occasion of Telangana State Formation Day, the state government has granted amnesty to 91 prisoners. The prisoners will be released from jails today. This was announced by Telangana Prisons DG Soumya Mishra. She advised the prisoners being released to start

a new life in the society and become responsible citizens without going to jail again. Among those being released, there are 85 men and six women. The DG said that 38 of them have shown interest in working in petrol pumps run by

the Prisons Department. They will be given appointment letters today itself. The remaining 53 have decided to settle in agriculture and self-employment sectors, and they will also be provided with necessary support.



HDFC BANK Limited
Branch Address: 1st Floor, Sri Hari Towers, #59A-1-5/1, Besides Mary Stella College, Vijayawada -520 008. CIN: L65920MH1994PLC080618. Website: www.hdfcbank.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Limited (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (HDFC) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notices, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notices, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated hereinbelow in their respective names, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to HDFC by the said Borrower(s) respectively. Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Description of Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (ies)
1	1. Mrs. Chilaika Vijaya Latha (Borrower)	Rs.36,19,016/- as on 31-Dec-2025*	18-May-2026	A-Schedule: All that the "Sri Sahasra - Block-1" apartment building being constructed in the land admeasuring 3297.25 Sq.Yds in, D.No.482/5E, D.No.483/A, Guntur Municipal Corporation Area, Gorantla Grama Panchayathi, Korielpadu, Guntur District being bounded by the following boundaries: East: Block No.2 of Sahasra Apartment - 198-0 ft., South: 40 Feet Wide Road - 144-6 ft., West: 30 Feet Wide Road - 198 ft., North: Remaining land belongs to Executant (Chikkam Porma Chandra Rao) - 155-3 ft. All that the undivided share of land admeasuring 67 Sq.yds out of the above said total land admeasuring 3297.25 Sq.Yds. B-Schedule: All that the Flat no.507 in 4th floor admeasuring 1477 Sq.ft (includes plinth area, common areas and car parking) in the apartment called "SRI SAHASRA" Block - 1, being constructed in the above said total land admeasuring 3297.25 clearly mentioned in the above said A-Schedule being bounded by the following boundaries: East: Open Area in Ground, South: Open Area in Ground, West: Common Corridor and Open Area in Ground, North: Open Area in Ground.
2	Mr. Mahadasa Suresh (Borrower)	Rs.91,48,923/- as on 31-Dec-2025*	07-Apr-2026	All that the R.C.C roofed together with appurtenant land admeasuring 639.13 Sq.yds bearing Door No.16-4-17, Sy.No.102/3, Jagannagaripeta, Samarlakota Municipality, Samarlakota Sub District, Samarlakota Mandal, East Godavari District being bounded by: East: My remaining land - 60 ft., West: Public Road - 58 ft., North: House belongs Gorakapudi Chinnalaha Dora, Sabbella Veera Reddy-- 97.06 ft., South: Land belongs to Pendyalala Naraiah and Gandhi Verraju - 97.06 ft.
3	Mr. Mohammad Naseem Akram Pasha (Borrower)	Rs.96,09,927/- as on 31-Dec-2025*	10-Apr-2026	All that the R.C.C roofed building together with appurtenant land admeasuring 273.33 Sq.yds bearing Door No.3-112, Plot No.96, "LAKSHMI VINEETHA ENCLAVE", approved layout plan vide no. B.P. No.167/2012, File No.R.C.C-3052/07 being approved by V.G.T.M.VUDA on 14-08-2007, according to G.O.Ms.no.86, M.A dt.03-03-2006, R.S.no.423/8 situated at Eedupugallu Village & Grama Panchayathi, Kankipadu Mandal, Kankipadu Sub Registrar area, Machilipatnam District Registrar, Krishna District being bounded by the following boundaries: East: Land bearing Plot No.95 - 60 feet, South: Land bearing Plot No.97 - 41 Feet, West: 9 Feet Wide Road - 60 Feet, North: Open Space - 60 Feet.
4	1. Mr. Moka Nagaraju (Borrower), 2. Mr. Sri Karthikeya Medical Academy (Co-Borrower) Rep. by Mr. Moka Nagaraju	Rs.96,49,924/- as on 28-Feb-2026*	17-Apr-2026	All that residential building on Plot No.2 admeasuring 320Sq.yards or 267.55 Sq.meters (24 Sq.Yards southern side of Plot No.2 covered by Survey Nos.334/1, 334/2 and 334/3 and 296 Sq.Yards Northern side of Plot No.2 covering Survey No.333/4) vide approved layout plan No.10/2002, covered by Survey Nos. 334/1, 334/2, 334/3 and 333/4 situated at Poranki Village, Penamaluru Mandal, Krishna District, SRO: Kankipadu is bounded by: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: Plot No.3 Property, West: Land belongs to Gali Venkata Ravi Kumar, North: Plot No.1 property.
5	Mr. Shanmugam Rohini Devi (Borrower)	Rs.92,22,185/- as on 31-Dec-2025*	10-Apr-2026	SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY: ALL THAT the Land bearing in Survey No.150/P, admeasuring Acres 4-19 Guntas, Situated at: NARSINGI VILLAGE, Gandipet Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State, and bounded as follows:- North: 40' Wide Road and Neighbor's Land, South: Part of Survey No. 150/P, East: Land of Kutumba Rao, West: 40' Wide Road. SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY: ALL THAT the 3 BHK Flat bearing No. A-002 (East Facing) in Ground Floor of "A" (ALPINE) Block in "WHISTLING WOODS", with a carpet area of 1336.03 Square Feet, equivalent plinth area of 1523 Square Feet, equivalent Super built-up area of 1950 Square Feet, along with proportionate undivided share of land admeasuring 64.09 Square Yards, out of total land admeasuring Acres 4-19 Guntas in Survey No.150/P, Situated at: NARSINGI VILLAGE, Gandipet Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State, and bounded as follows: North: Open to Sky, South: Open to Sky, East: Corridor, West: Open to Sky.

*with further interest, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization.
If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to HDFC as aforesaid, then HDFC shall proceed against the above Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (ies) under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (ies), whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 03-June-2026
Place: Vijayawada

For HDFC Bank Ltd.
Sd/- Authorised Officer

Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai-400020.

Paves the Way for Societal Development : KTR

Rajanna Sircilla, June 2: BRS Working President and Sircilla MLA, K. Tarakarama Rao, stated that fostering talent paves the way for the development of society. As part of the 'Gift a Smile' initiative, KTR—the Sircilla MLA, former Minister, and BRS Working President—distributed tablet computers to the top 30 students who demonstrated exceptional performance in the 10th-grade annual examinations within the Sircilla constituency. He distributed the tabs and congratulated the students on Tuesday at the Geethanagar Zilla Parishad High School in Sircilla town. Speaking on the occasion, KTR remarked that these incentives, presented as a recognition of the students' hard work, would serve as an inspiration for them to achieve even loftier goals. He emphasized that in today's digital era, technological proficiency is indispensable for students, and he urged them to utilize these tablets for their educational ad-



vancement to achieve even greater successes in the future. KTR asserted that students from Sircilla possess the potential to excel not only at the state level but also at national and international levels. He reiterated that by encouraging talent, the path toward societal development can be effectively paved. The event was attended by Sharada (Headmistress of Geethanagar Zilla Parishad High School).

Komatireddy highlights welfare, mega infrastructure push in Nalgonda

Nalgonda, June 2 : Telangana State Formation Day celebrations were held with grandeur in Nalgonda on Tuesday as the State completed 12 years of its formation and stepped into its 13th year. Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy participated as the chief guest.

HDB Financial Services Ltd.
Registered office: Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009.
Contact Address: HDB Financial Services Limited., 1st Floor, Wilson House, Old Nagardas Road, Near Amboli Subway, Andheri (E) Mumbai-400069, and also at: #76-8-10/1, F.No.4, Bhavani Towers, Swathi Theater Road, Beside Union Bank Of India Bhavanipuram, Vijayawada-520012

DEMAND NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE U/S 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the overdraft facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose facility account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses but they have been returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No.	Name of Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Mortgagors	O/s. As per 13(2) Notice	NPA Date	Notice Date
1	30036731	1) Kharim Rice And Provisions, Shop No-1 New Vegetable Market Ongole Prakasam Ongole-523001 Andhra Pradesh, And Also: Bapatla District, Door No.16-185, 16-186 Addanki Mandal,Assessment No.1147003778 Addanki municipality area sahebulapalem area Addanki-523201, 2) Shaik Abdulkaareem, D.No. 21-1-78/5, Ongole, Ganuga Palem, Ongole, Prakasam, Ongole-523001, Andhra Pradesh, 3) Shaik Arifa, D.No.21-1-78/5, Ganuga Palem, Ongole, Prakasam, Ongole-523001, Andhra Pradesh, 4) Shaik Abdul Rahiman S/o. Babavali, Dno.16-185 Dama Vari Palem, Dama Vari Palem Addanki Prakasam Addanki-523201 Andhra Pradesh, 5) Shaik Samimun, D.No.16-185, Dama Vari Palem, Dama Vari Palem, Addanki Addanki-523201, Andhra Pradesh	Rs.2128972.40/- as on 13.05.2026	05.05.2026	18.05.2026

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURITIES:- All that piece and parcel Bapatla Distr- Addanki S.R.-Addanki Mandal - Addanki Municipality Area North Addanki Village S.No.1038 - Assessment No.1147003778 - Dor No.16-185, 16-186-Sahebulapalem area - RCC, ACC house and site ounded by: East: Gali Baz tar, South: House of Shaik Daryavulli West: Municipal Pazgar, North: House of Shaik Kaleshavali, Shaik Khasim Saheb Within the boundaries an extent of 122.87 Sq. Yards of site, wherein 729 Sq. Feet of ground floor RCC building and 351 Sq. Feet of 1st floor ACC Iron Sheet house ar 1 216 Sq. Feet of ACC sit out and bathrooms with all fixtures and easement rights

The above borrowers and /or their guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) (wherever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of said 60 days under sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.

Further more, this is to bring to your attention that under Section 13 (8) of the SARFAESI Act, in case our dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by us are tendered at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by us, and no further step shall be taken by us for transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 18.05.2026, Place: Addanki Sd/- Authorised Officer, HDB Financial Services Ltd.

Ghazipur murder: Victim's father alleges police in 'nexus' with extortion gang, demands bulldozer action

Ghazipur, June 2 : After the son of a hotelier was shot dead by four masked men in Kotwali police station area of Uttar Pradesh's Ghazipur two days ago, the victim's father on Sunday blamed the police inaction against an alleged extortion racket for the incident, alleging that members of the police force are in "nexus" with the gang members. He demanded encounter and bulldozer action against the accused. According to the investigators, the prime suspect is associated with the alleged "Katra Gang". Alok Rai, father of the 29-year-old victim identified as Vineet Rai, said that the family does not have any personal enmity with anyone. "He (the accused) is a criminal type of a person and operates a gang named 'Katra gang'. His house is located 100 metres north to our hotel.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my client is intend to purchase the below mentioned schedule property, from Mr. Chetta Hanumantulu, Chetta Narsimhulu and Smt Chetta Babamma, If any persons of the Public have any objections they have to submit the objections along with documentary proof to the undersigned within 7 days from this day. After expiry of stipulated date of time we shall proceed with the sale transaction and any claims whatsoever thereafter will not be entertained under any circumstances. SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY All that the open Agricultural land an extent Ac. 2-36.50 Guntas bearing Survey No's 284 A5/1, 285A4, 284A5/2, 285A5 AND 285A6/1, total admeasuring Ac. 2-36.50gnts, situated at Peddammantla Village, Pudur Mandal, Vikarabad District, Telangana State. Boundaries: North: Buyers Land, South: Road, East: Neighbours Land, West: Neighbours Land T. Srinivasu (Advocate) Office: Flat No.3011, Build well Acropolis Apartments, Fathullaguda, Nagole, Date: 28/01/2026 Mobile No: 9949066379.

CHANGE OF NAME

Master, EDA PARIKSHIT REDDY S/o. EDA VENKATA RAJI REDDY and MATTA APARNA REDDY (Mother), Age 16 years 11 Months, Student, shall henceforth be known as EDA PARIK REDDY S/o. EDA VENKATA RAJI REDDY and MATTA APARNA REDDY (Mother). Place: Alwal Mandal, Date: 02-06-2026. Sd/- MATTA VIJAY MOHAN REDDY (Signature of Guardian)



750 smugglers' assets worth Rs 300 crore frozen in 15 months: Punjab DGP

Chandigarh, June 2 : Punjab Police have dismantled the financial infrastructure of organised drug trafficking networks over the past 15 months, striking a major blow to narco-hawala syndicates by freezing illicit assets of 750 drug smugglers valued at Rs 300 crore, Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said here on Tuesday. "The Punjab Police force has systematically shifted its focus from mere street-level seizures to dismantling the broader economic infrastructure that funds cross-border smuggling."

यूको बैंक UCO BANK ECIL Cross Roads Branch, Behind Radhika Theatre, Door No.6, Sri Ram Nagar, Post ECIL, Hyderabad-500062.

DEMAND NOTICE

Notice U/S 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Hereinafter called 'Act') Whereas at the request of you, (below mentioned borrowers / guarantors) UCO BANK, ECIL Cross Roads Branch has granted credit facilities from time to time by way of financial assistance against various assets creating security interest in favour of the Bank. The particulars of properties mortgaged by you by way of deposit of title deeds creating security interest in favour of the bank are mentioned here under. As you have failed to discharge the debt due to the Bank, the below mentioned loan accounts have been classified as Non performing Assets as per the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India. As the demand notices sent to you by Registered Post calling upon you to discharge the debt due to Bank were returned, un-served, we are issuing this notice through paper publication.

Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Mortgagor:- Name of the Firm: M/s VLT Group, 8-11/2, Sy.No.215, Boduppal, Medipally (M), Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Hyderabad-500098. Partner: Mrs. Vejella Soujanya, C/o Vejella Vinayaka, H.No.1-54/14A, 2nd Floor, Manikavam Acts, Sai Nagar, Old Habseepal, Miyapur, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500049. Partner: Mr. Chitturi Naresih, S/o Chitturi Nagabhushanam, 4-7-310, Raghavendra Nagar Colony, Hayathnagar, P.O. Hayathnagar, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-501505. Outstanding Amount: Rs.2,08,1,031.62 as on 30-11-2025 (inclusive of interest up to 30-08-2025) along with future interest and incidental expenses, costs thereon. Non Performing Asset on: 03-12-2025 Demand Notice dated: 25-05-2026 SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY/IES: PART-I

Table with 4 columns: S.No., Description, Quantity, and Unit. Items include Vacuum Pump, Iron pole and iron shed, Viscous cream filling Machine, etc.

And all other current assets like inventory book debts, bills receivables, consumables stores & spares (both present and future). PART-II All that the existing bearing H.No.5-15/37A/1 building permission Application No. 386776/HAD01/174/2024 (Assessment No. 1187018032) on Plot No.37 on Land admeasuring of 133.33 Sq. Yards or equivalent to 111.47 Sq.Mtrs, having G.F. RCC Slab Plinth area 1199.97 Sq.Ft., in Survey No.716/UU situated at Chattanapally Village (Shivar), Shadnagar Municipality, Ferozganar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State, Sub-Registration District Ferozq Nagar and Regn. District Ranga Reddy and bounded by: North: 25'-00" Wide Road, East: South: Plot No.34, 41, Plot No.36, West: Plot No.38. If you the above mentioned person/s fail to repay the above mentioned amount due by you with future interest and incidental expenses, costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, within 60 days from the date of this notice, the Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of SARFAESI Act and other applicable provisions of the said Act. This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other Provisions of Law. Date: 02-06-2026, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorised Officer, UCO BANK

BJP claims strong showing in Himachal civic polls with 59 per cent success rate

Shimla, June 2 : Elated over the party's massive sweep in the Municipal Corporation elections, BJP National Vice-President Saudan Singh on Tuesday extended his greetings to the people of the state, the party leadership and party workers. He said that in the elections held across four Municipal Corporations, the BJP achieved a success rate of 59 per cent by securing victory in 37 of the total 63 wards. Besides the Municipal Corporations, the BJP claimed that in the elections to 3,759 panchayats, considered the backbone of grassroots democracy in the state, BJP-backed candidates achieved a historic victory. "The BJP registered a spectacular victory by securing an absolute majority in the Municipal Corporations of Mandi, Dharamsala and Solan. In the Mandi Municipal Corporation, the BJP achieved an 86 per cent success rate by winning 12 of the 14 seats, while in Dharamsala it secured a clear majority by winning 11 of the 17 seats. In Solan, the party won the trust of the people by securing victory in 10 of the 17 seats," he said. He remarked that the results reflected the voice of the people of Himachal Pradesh. "By extending their support to the politics of develop-

ment, good governance and public service, the people have delivered a clear mandate in favour of the Bharatiya Janata Party. This victory is a triumph of the public welfare programmes, pro-poor schemes and decisions taken in the national interest that are being implemented by the Central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi." Saudan Singh said the people of the state had endorsed the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. "The public has conveyed the message that they stand firmly with the politics of development and trust. The results of the Municipal Corporation elections also demonstrate that the BJP's organisational structure has strengthened down to the booth level. , and the public has rewarded the



tireless efforts of party workers by extending overwhelming support to the BJP." Congratulating state BJP President Rajeev Bindal, Leader of the Opposition Jai Ram Thakur and the elected representatives, he said the BJP would continue to work relentlessly for the development of the state, further reinforcing the trust reposed in it by the people. State BJP President Bindal accused the Congress government of attempting horse-trading by altering the rules governing the election of Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of Panchayati Raj institutions.

Parliamentary panel to review issues related to NEET, NTA, CBSE exams

New Delhi, June 2 : The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports will hold key meetings in the national capital on Monday and Tuesday to discuss several important issues concerning NEET, the National Testing Agency (NTA), CBSE examination reforms, and broader education policy matters. Beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, the Committee will deliberate on issues related to NEET and the NTA.

PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojana strengthens water conservation and irrigation in Ajmer villages

Ajmer, June 2 : Under the Central government's flagship 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana' (PMKSY), several water conservation and irrigation development projects worth crores of rupees have been undertaken in various villages of Rajasthan's Ajmer district. These initiatives have improved water availability in rural areas while also contributing significantly to rainwater conservation and groundwater recharge. According to Shalabh Tandon, District Nodal Officer for the Vande Ganga Water Conservation Campaign, multiple water-related infrastructure projects have been developed under the scheme. In Tikwada village, water recharge shafts, tanks, water conservation structures.

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES Registered office: Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009. Contact Address: HDB Financial Services Limited, 1st Floor, Wilson House, Old Nagardas Road, Near Amboli Subway, Andheri (E) Mumbai-400069, and also at: #76-B-10/1, F.No.4, Bhavani Towers, Swathi Theater Road, Beside Union Bank Of India Bhavanipuram, Vijayawada-520012

DEMAND NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the Overdraft facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose facility account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses but they have been returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Table with 5 columns: Sl. No., Loan Account No., Name of Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Mortgagors, O/s. As per 13(2) Notice, NPA Date, Notice Date. Includes details for 28835380.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURITIES:- All that piece and parcel of property in Chittoor District, Madanapalle Sub-District, Madanapalle Mandal, 3rd ward, Madanapalle Municipality, Bandamida Kammappalle Gramam, near New Power house to ring road, Weavers Colony, S.No.105-2 paiki, house D.No.3-146-14-12-23-D, Assessment No.1009026671. Bounded on: East: Site belongs to Police Ramachandra, West: Road, North: Site belongs to M.Venkataswamy and others, South: Site belongs to P.Aruna, Within this area measuring East to West both side 54 feet or 16.47 meters, North to South both side 27.5 feet or 8.38 meters, in total area 165 Square yards or 1485 Square feet site and in constructed R.C.C. roofed house and in fitted doors, door frames, windows, electrical fittings, roof, both room, four side walls and ext.

The above borrowers and/or their guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) (wherever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of said 60 days under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act. Further more, this is to bring to your attention that under Section 13 (8) of the SARFAESI Act, in case our dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by us are tendered at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by us, and no further step shall be taken by us for transfer or sale of that secured asset. Date: 18.05.2026, Place: Madanapalle Sd/- Authorised Officer, HDB Financial Services Ltd.

BAJAJ FINANCE LIMITED corporate office at: 4th Floor, Bajaj Finserv Corporate Office, Off Pune Ahmed Nagar Road, Viman Nagar, Pune Maharashtra 411014. Branch Office at: Off. 1-10-39 to 44, 1st Floor, Gumidipalli Towers, Prakash Nagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016

DEMAND NOTICE

Demand Notice Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Undersigned being the Authorized officer of M/s Bajaj Finance Limited, hereby gives the following notice to the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) who have failed to discharge their liability i.e. defaulted in the repayment of principal as well as the interest and other charges accrued thereon for Home Loan(s)/ Loan(s) against Property advanced to them by Bajaj Finance Limited and as a consequence the loan(s) have become Non Performing Assets (N.P.A's). Accordingly, notices were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and rules there-to, on their last known addresses, however the same have been returned un-served/undelivered, as such the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) are hereby intimated/ informed by way of this publication notice to clear their outstanding dues under the loan facilities availed by them from time to time.

Table with 3 columns: Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s) / LA Number, Description of Immovable Property, Demand Notice Date & Amount. Includes details for Shree Shyam Petroleum, VINAY AGARWAL, BALMUKAND AGARWAL, and PREETI AGARWAL.

This step is being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrowers and/or Co-Borrowers (guarantors) are advised to make the payments of outstanding along with future interest within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which (without prejudice to any other right remedy available with Bajaj Finance Limited) further steps for taking possession of the Secured Assets/ mortgaged property will be initiated as per the provisions of Sec. 13(4) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. The parties named above are also advised not to alienate, create third party interest in the above mentioned properties. On which Bajaj Finance Limited has the charge. Date: 01/06/2026, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorized Officer, Bajaj Finance Limited

mahindra HOME FINANCE MAHINDRA RURAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Corporate Office: Unit No. 203, Amiti Building, Piralam Agastya Corporate Park, Opposite fire Brigade Station Kamani Junction, L.B.S. Main Road, Kurli (west) Mumbai-400070

POSSESSION NOTICE

[See rule 8(1) of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002] (For immovable Properties) Whereas as the Undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd. (here in after referred to as MRHFL) having its MRHFL H.No. 1-46/59, Ground Floor, Opp: LIC Offices [V & M] Narsampet, Dist: Warangal, Telangana-506132, & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd. H.No.2-8-1/5, 1st Floor, Near Vinutha Hospital, Hyderabad Road, Jangaon, Telangana-506167. Under the Securitization Reconstruction of Financial Assets & in compliance of Rule(8) of Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12), read with Rule(3) of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notices on the date mentioned against each account calling up on the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice(s). The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property lies described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her Under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account. The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is here by cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the change of Mahindra Rural Housing Finance Ltd. For the amount and the interest there on as per Loan Agreement. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub section (8) Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Table with 7 columns: S. No., Agreement No./ Fin No., Name And Address Borrower/ Co-Borrowers & Guarantor, Amount As on Demand Notice, Demand Notice Date, Date of Possession Taken, Description of The Immovable Properties. Contains 7 entries for various properties in Warangal.

CFM Asset Reconstruction Pvt Ltd Registered Office: Block No. A/1003, West Gate, Near YMCA Club, Svt No.835/1+3, S.G. Highway, Makarba, Ahmedabad - 380061, Corporate Office: 1st Floor, Wakefield House, Sprott Road, Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400011. www.cfmrc.in | info@cfmrc.in | +91 00400552822 | CIN:U67100GJ2015PTC083994

POSSESSION NOTICE

[See rule 8(1) of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002] (For immovable Properties) WHEREAS, The Authorized Officer of CFM Asset Reconstruction Private Limited('CFMARC') under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, hereinafter referred to as 'the Act' and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the security interest(Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a Demand u/s. 13(2) of the Act calling upon the following borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being, with future interest at the contractual rate together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc. till the date of payment and/or realization thereof, within 60 days from receipt of the said notice. CFMARC has acquired the entire Financial Assets along with the underlying security interest of the borrower under the provisions of Section 5 of the SARFAESI Act from the Assignor. The Assignor has assigned all the rights, title and interests of Borrower in favor of CFMARC acting in its capacity as trustee of the CFMARC Trust-187 vide registered Assignment Agreement dated 25-08-2025 duly registered on 04-12-2025. By virtue of assignment of Financial Assets as per financial documents and the underlying security interest, CFMARC has stepped into the shoes of Secured creditor to the borrower and identified to recover outstanding dues and enforce the underlying security interest. The Borrower/ Co-Borrower and Mortgagor failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Co-borrower and Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described in Schedule in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The Borrower, Co-borrower and Mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property, and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of CFMARC for an amount with future interest at the contractual rate together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc. till the date of payment and/or realization thereof. (less amounts paid since issue of demand notice, if any). The Borrower, Co-borrower and Mortgagor attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section(8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Table with 5 columns: S. No., Agreement No./ Fin No., Name And Address Borrower/ Co-Borrowers & Guarantor, Demand Amount & Date as per Demand Notice, Date of Actual Possession, Description of The Immovable Properties. Contains 3 entries for properties in Guntur.

OPINIONmail



BJP marks 12 years of Modi govt with nationwide brotherhood campaign

As the Narendra Modi government completes twelve years in office on June 7 this year, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday launched a sweeping nationwide initiative titled the "Brotherhood Program" (Bhaichara Karyakram) running from June 5 to 21. The campaign blends patriotism, public service, and awareness drives, positioning the milestone as a celebration of "Twelve Years of Trust, Development, and Public Welfare". The BJP has underscored these years as transformative, citing achievements in poverty alleviation, farmer welfare, women's empowerment, and cultural preservation. To amplify the message, a series of media interactions will be held between June 8 and 12, where Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of NDA-ruled states, and senior BJP leaders will present detailed reviews of the Union government's performance. Parallel to this, a special outreach effort from June 8 to 14 will see BJP leaders engaging directly with citizens in their Assembly/Lok Sabha constituencies. These interactions will highlight development initiatives, skill-building opportunities, and welfare schemes. Signature events such as "Freedom Campaigns", "Progress Path Journeys" (Pragati Path Yatras), and "Developed India Pledge Conferences" (Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sammelans) will form the backbone of the programme, with the ambitious goal of connecting with at least 500 prominent individuals in every district.

A major highlight will be the "Public Welfare Camp" (Jan Kalyan Shivir) in Nashik from June 12 to 20, where eligible citizens will be enrolled in flagship schemes like Ayushman Bharat, PM SVANidhi, and PM Surya Ghar. Alongside, exhibitions showcasing scientific advancements, workshops on natural farming, and district-level meetings will reinforce the Union government's emphasis on holistic development. The campaign also integrates environmental and cultural themes.

On June 5 celebrated globally as the Environment Day, the BJP will launch the "One Tree for Mother" (Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam) initiative, while the International Yoga Day on June 21 will be marked with yoga programmes at the "Mandal" level. To ensure a wide reach, the BJP has formed special teams at the state and district levels, tasked with engaging educational institutions and leveraging social media platforms. Guidelines promoting environmental conservation and indigenous architecture have also been issued. BJP leaders assert that this campaign is not merely a commemoration but a strategic effort to strengthen public trust and accelerate India's developmental resolve.

India's Consulate greets Haj pilgrims as departure phase starts after award winning coordination this year



Riyadh, June 2 : India's Consul General in Jeddah, Fahad Suri, has extended his heartfelt 'Haj Mubarak' greetings to all Indian Haj pilgrims on the successful completion of the main Haj rituals.

On the occasion of the commencement of the departure phase, he also conveyed his best wishes for the safe, smooth, and auspicious return

home of all pilgrims, the Consul General of India in Jeddah wrote on Sunday on social media platform X. Fahad Suri, along with Consul Haj Sadaf Choudhary, participated in the Khitamahu Misk ceremony organised by the Saudi Haj Ministry, marking the successful conclusion of Haj-2026 season and celebrating excellence in pilgrim services. Each year, the Saudi Haj Ministry gives away performance awards (Labbaytum Awards).

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

Indian envoy, Yamanashi Prefecture Governor discuss strengthening India-Japan ties

Tokyo, June 2 : India's Ambassador to Japan, Nagma Mallick, held a meeting with Yamanashi Prefecture Governor Kotaro Nagasaki on Tuesday, discussing ways to further strengthen partnership between two nations, with a focus on deeper engagement with the Prefecture. During her visit to Yamanashi Prefecture, Nagma Mallick also attended the Shingen-Ko Festival. In a post on X, Indian Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick vis-

ited Yamanashi Prefecture and met Kotaro Nagasaki, Governor of Yamanashi Prefecture. They discussed ways to further strengthen India-Japan partnership, with a focus on deeper engagement with Yamanashi. "During her visit to Yamanashi Prefecture, the Ambassador also attended the Shingen-Ko Festival -- the largest Samurai Festival in the world -- organized at Kofu City," it added. On March 26, External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar met his Japanese counterpart Toshimitsu Motegi on the side-



lines of G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting in France. "Always nice to meet my friend FM Toshimitsu Motegi, this time on the sidelines of G7 FMM," EAM Jaishankar posted on X. On March 6, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri held a meeting with Special Advisor to Japan's Prime Minister Sadamasa Oue and discussed strengthening the defence technology and economic security. "Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met Sadamasa Oue, Special Ad-

visor to the Prime Minister of Japan. They had a productive exchange of views on strengthening the defence technology and economic security pillars of the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership," Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on X. On February 8, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated his Japanese counterpart Sanae Takaichi on her victory in Japan's House of Representatives election. In his message, PM Modi expressed confidence that he and Takaichi will continue to take the friendship between India and Japan to greater heights.



California court rules Stanford University can keep Mao Zedong aide's diaries, marking setback for Beijing: Report

California, June 2 : In a significant ruling with global implications, a California court has allowed Stanford University to retain the private diaries of Li Rui, a former insider of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), who later emerged as one of its most prominent critics, according to a report. A report by the 'Tibet Rights Collective' mentions that the decision marks a major setback to

Beijing's longstanding attempts to control historical narratives. The report said, "This is not merely a legal victory for Stanford. It is a decisive moment in the global struggle between authoritarian censorship and the preservation of truth." Li Rui, who once served as an aide to Mao Zedong, spent decades documenting political developments, internal decisions, and personal observations within China's

power structure. The Tibet Rights Collective report notes that "for over 80 years he recorded events... creating an extraordinary archive of modern Chinese political history", much of which contradicts the CCP's official version of events. At the centre of the legal dispute was China's effort to reclaim the diaries. The Tibet Rights Collective emphasises that the issue ultimately comes down to "control", saying that Li Rui feared his writings would be "censored, redacted or destroyed" if they remained within China's reach. His decision to transfer the materials to Stanford's Hoover Institution was therefore seen as a deliberate move to preserve access and protect historical truth. Among the most sensitive contents are Li's firsthand accounts of the Tiananmen Square Massacre, a topic that remains heavily censored within China. The report highlights that he documented "troops opening fire on civilians.

Finland set to close its Embassy in Pakistan amid strategic concerns



Islamabad, June 2 : The Finnish Embassy in Islamabad will cease its operations this summer, with the mission continuing to function until the final date is announced. After reopening its Embassy in 2022 following a decade-long closure, Helsinki has decided to shut it again, the local media reported.

Finland's neighbouring country, Sweden, had already closed its mission in Pakistan indefinitely in 2023 due to security concerns. Citing Finnish Embassy sources, leading Pakistani daily 'The News International' reported that the mission's closure was driven by strategic and operational reasons. The Embassy offers limited consular services, while visa and passport-related work is often handled by other Finnish missions, including the one in Abu Dhabi.

Thousands affected by blackouts after damaging storms hit Australia

Sydney, June 2 : Tens of thousands of homes in Western Australia (WA) have been hit by blackouts after severe storms swept across the state over the weekend, damaging properties and power lines.

The state-owned Western Power said that around 70,000 customers in WA, including in the capital of Perth, were without electricity as of Monday morning following damaging storms that hit the southern half of the state on Saturday and Sunday.



US senators warn on Chinese autos threat



Washington, June 2 : Top US senators have urged President Donald Trump to block Chinese automakers from operating in the United States, warning of risks to national security and American jobs, according to a congressional press release. Senators Tammy Baldwin, Chuck Schumer, and Elissa Slotkin called for action after Trump signalled openness to Chinese firms entering the US market, saying at a forum: "Let China come in." In a letter to the president, the lawmakers warned: "Allowing automakers headquartered in China, which operate with backing from the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), to build and sell vehicles in the United States would have far-reaching consequences for our economic and national security."

Intel, Odisha explore chip packaging facility



Washington, June 2 : Intel Corporation and 3D Glass Solutions have signed a memorandum of understanding with the Odisha government to explore establishing an advanced semiconductor glass core packaging substrate manufacturing facility, a move that could strengthen India's ambitions to become a global semiconductor hub. The agreement was signed at Intel's headquarters in California's Santa Clara and is aimed at exploring the cre-

ation of a world-class facility focused on advanced semiconductor packaging technologies, a media statement said on Saturday. If realised, the project would rank among the biggest technology investments in eastern India and could position Odisha as an emerging centre for semiconductor manufacturing, advanced packaging, artificial intelligence infrastructure, next-generation data centres and digital technologies. The project remains subject to regulatory approvals, funding support from the state and Cen-

tral governments, and other business conditions. India's Ambassador to the US, Vinay Kwatra, linked the initiative to broader technology cooperation between New Delhi and Washington. "This initiative marks an important milestone in advancing the vision articulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald J. Trump during the Prime Minister's visit to Washington, D.C., in February 2025, for collaboration between the two countries in advanced manufacturing under the US-India TRUST (Transforming relationship utilising strategic technology) Initiative," Kwatra said. Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said the proposal aligns with India's efforts to expand domestic manufacturing. "This initiative reflects India's larger vision of strengthening domestic manufacturing capabilities and positioning the country as a global economic powerhouse," he added.



Not enough anti-ballistic missile production in the US: Zelensky

Kyiv, June 2 : Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky has said that there is not enough anti-ballistic missile production in the US. "There is not enough anti-ballistic missile production in the United States, and this could lead to a crisis in different parts of the world. Russia is ramping up its internal production of ballistic missiles," Zelensky wrote on Tuesday on social media platform X. He mentioned that he also sent a letter to the White House and to the US Congress. "As many as 60-65 anti-ballistic missiles per month, compared to current challenges, is nothing. It is no secret, and Russia knows this. We need to expand the production. I asked the previous US administration, and I am asking today's administration to give Ukraine licenses to produce Patriot missiles," Zelensky added. "We can increase the production of Patriot missiles. This will help us. This will help the Middle East and any other country that the United States decides to help. Until we produce a European anti-ballistic system."



Trump defends anniversary plans as protests, political tensions grow

Washington, June 2 : As the United States prepares to mark the 250th anniversary of its independence next month, the Trump administration is facing a series of political and legal challenges, from questions over anniversary celebrations in Washington to growing controversy surrounding immigration detention policies and key Senate races ahead of the midterm elections.

US expects India, allies' backing on China's rare earth curbs: US Treasury Secretary

Washington, June 2 : US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent revealed on Tuesday that Washington expects support from its allies and friends, including India, over its attempt to counter China's latest export controls on rare earths. In an interview with Fox News, Bessent characterised the Chinese export controls as "China versus the world" and expressed confidence that US partners would extend their backing behind Washington's efforts. "We have already been in touch with the allies. We will be meeting with them this week, and I expect that we will get substantial global support from the Europeans, from the Indians, from the democracies in Asia... This is a global problem, and I think our global allies will follow us on this," he added. Bessent asserted that the US won't "let these export restrictions and monitoring go on" and "everything is on the table" to retaliate against

Chinese measures. "Back in early summer, we were forced to put 12 countermeasures on China that were highly affected by natural resources that are used in the making of plastics for jet engines and parts. I believe that they had to ground a large part of their civilian fleet. So, we have plenty of straight brute force countermeasures that we can pull," he said. US President Donald Trump on Friday threatened to impose additional 100 per cent tariffs on Chinese products from November 1 and export controls on "any critical software." In another post, he hinted at cancelling a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, accusing



Beijing of "hostile" trade behaviour after China expanded export controls on rare earth elements. However, on Sunday, Trump said there is no need to "worry about China" and the Chinese President just "had a bad moment." Last week, Beijing tightened its export control measures on rare-earth elements and imposed a fee on US ships as Washington expanded its own rules governing exports.



Egypt works to help facilitate deal between US, Iran: President

Cairo, June 2 : Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi said that the country was helping to facilitate a peace deal between the United States and Iran, as he spoke with his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron over regional developments. During a phone conversation on Sunday, Sisi said Egypt was engaged in intensive contacts with various parties concerned.



South Korean, African FMs hold meeting to discuss cooperation amid global challenges

Seoul, June 2 : Foreign ministers from South Korea and dozens of African countries gathered in Seoul on Tuesday to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation for shared growth and jointly address supply chain disruptions and other global challenges, Seoul's foreign ministry said. The Korea-Africa Foreign Ministers' Meeting, held under the theme of "Partnership for Joint Responses to Global Challenges," brought together representatives from 50 African countries, out of the 54 invited, and four regional organisations -- the African Union, the African Development Bank, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. It marks the first gathering of African foreign ministers for a meeting hosted independently by the South Korean government. "We gather today at a critical juncture where the global order is rapidly shifting. The world is facing multi-faceted challenges across

various sectors, such as supply chains, energy and food security," Foreign Minister Cho Hyun said in an opening address. "Amid continued instability in the Middle East and uncertainty surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, African countries are gaining increasing geopolitical and economic significance on the global stage... Closer cooperation between Korea and Africa is more important than ever," he added. In his opening remarks, Ghanaian Foreign Minister Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa, whose country serves as the vice chair of the African Union this year.

German FM expresses 'great concern' over Israeli advance in southern Lebanon

Berlin, June 2 : German Foreign Minister Johann Wadepuhl expressed "great concern" over the further advance of the Israeli army in southern Lebanon, urging all conflict parties to immediately cease hostilities and return to an agreed ceasefire. In a statement, Wadepuhl noted that while the Israeli military action is a reaction to ongoing attacks by Hezbollah on northern Israel, any further escalation will aggravate an already tense situation and trigger new waves of displacement within Lebanon.

If civilians are the ones who pay the price of a military escalation and parts of Lebanon become permanently uninhabitable, it will not make Israel's neighborhood safer in the long term, he said. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) on Sunday said it had captured Beaufort Castle after entering the Beaufort Ridge and Wadi al-Saluki areas in southern Lebanon. According to the IDF, the operation is focused on establishing operational control over the Beaufort Ridge.



Child abuse, neglect cases on rise in Fiji

Suva, June 2 : Fiji's Ministry of Women, Children, and Social Protection has raised the alarm at the rising number of child abuse and child neglect cases recorded by the Child Welfare Act National Database. A total of 1,477 child abuse

and child neglect cases were reported in the country last year, according to statistics from the database. Speaking at a World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse event on Tuesday, Acting Permanent Secretary Salaseini Daunabuna said among the cases, 68 percent were of child neglect,

physical abuse, and sexual abuse, and 73 percent of the perpetrators are known to the victims. The statistics also revealed that child abuse and neglect often occur within a child's safe space, she added. "In most cases, the perpetrator is someone within a child's immediate

family, and this is evident in 50 per cent of the cases reported in 2023," Daunabuna said. She said that the statistics have been rising steadily over the years, making urgent intervention and prevention essential, Xinhua news agency reported. The Fijian government is working in collabora-



tion with key child protection stakeholders to effectively and inclusively address child welfare concerns, according to Daunabuna.

Israel holds national cyber defence drill simulating widespread attack against country

Jerusalem, June 2 : Israel held a national defence drill simulating a possible widespread cyber attack against the country, the Israel National Cyber Directorate (INCD) said in a statement on Tuesday. The exercise, which took place on Wednesday, was led by the INCD and the Defence Ministry's National Emergency Management Authority (NEMA), with the participation of 26 government ministries and emergency bodies. The drill's scenario involved a cyber attack that simultaneously hit key transportation, health, finance, government, supply, and energy organisations.

India seeing 'exceptionally high growth' in challenging global environment: UN economist

United Nations, June 2 : India is seeing "an exceptionally high growth" in a "relatively challenging global environment", according to Senior Economist Ingo Pitterle. He made the observation at the release of the UN's World Economic Situation and Prospects 2026 (WESP) report on Tuesday, which said that India was keeping its rank as the world's fastest-growing major economy with 6.6 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth. Pitterle, who heads the UN's Global Economic Monitoring Branch, said that the estimate for India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for last year was "significantly upgraded" by 1.1 per cent to 7.4 per cent from the projection made in the mid-term WESP last May. Similarly, the projection for this year was raised by 0.2 per cent to 6.6 per cent. The upgrade, he said, "reflects an exceptional combination of factors which have all worked in the direction of stronger growth in India, of a very dynamic economy".



One of the factors was consumer demand, and another was investment, with public investment being strong, he said. Inflation falling significantly, "partly due to a very abundant harvest", enabled the central bank to lower interest

rate and provide a monetary impulse, was another contributory factor, he said. "We had a positive fiscal impulse to investment, and we had a positive impact on GDP from the agricultural sector."

New York homeless man kills two, injures one in stabbing spree

New York, June 2 : A homeless man killed two people and critically wounded another one in a series of random stabbing in Manhattan, said New York City Mayor Eric Adams. The 51-year-old man, who had been arrested eight times before, was arrested shortly after his attack on the third victim, Xinhua news agency reported. Investigation is going on and law enforcement departments in New York City are not looking for any additional suspects at this time, according to Adams. "It is a clear, clear example of the criminal justice system, mental health system that continues to fail New Yorkers," Adams said.



Police search Trinamool MLA Madan Mitra's Kamarhati house, seize documents

Kolkata, June 2 : Police conducted a search operation at Trinamool Congress MLA Madan Mitra's house in the Kamarhati area of North 24 Parganas district on Tuesday. Barrackpore Police Commissioner Deputy Commissioner (South) Dyutiman Bhattacharya led the search operation. When the police reached Madan Mitra's house on Sunday afternoon, it was locked and the MLA was not present. However, the police broke open the lock and entered the premises. After conducting a search for around an hour, they locked the house again and left. It is learnt that the house is named 'Uday Villa'. Trinamool Congress MLA from the Kamarhati Assembly constituency, Madan Mitra, also has a party office

there. Allegedly, the land on which the house stands belongs to a central agency. The police are investigating how the structure was built on land allegedly owned by a central agency. According to local sources, Madan Mitra occasionally stays at the house. However, it is still unclear whether he is the owner of the property. The police said some documents were seized following the hour-long search operation. According to sources close to Madan Mitra, he is currently at his residence in south Kolkata. The Trinamool Congress is scheduled to hold a meeting at Trinamool supremo Mamata Banerjee's Kalighat residence on Sunday evening. Political circles are keeping a



close watch on how many of the 80 Trinamool Congress MLAs who won the Assembly elections will attend the meeting. Sources claimed that Madan Mitra is in Kolkata to attend the gathering. Since the change of government in the state, police and civic body officials have begun a crackdown on illegal constructions in and around the city that had mushroomed during the Trinamool Congress

government's tenure. Most of these illegal constructions were allegedly built with the support of Trinamool Congress leaders and promoters or real estate developers under the patronage of influential party leaders. In several areas, bulldozer drives have been carried out to demolish such illegal constructions.



Omar brushes aside speculation over June 3 National Conference MLAs' meeting

Srinagar, June 2 : Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday dismissed speculation surrounding a meeting of National Conference (NC) MLAs convened by him on June 3. Omar Abdullah was reacting to speculation about the meeting, with some political observers and opponents attaching extraordinary significance to it and suggesting that something "big" was in the offing. Taking a swipe at political op-

ponents and commentators speculating about the purpose and outcome of the meeting with NC legislators, Abdullah said those making the most noise were the ones least informed about it. "I love how the people who know the least about the meeting I've called with my MLAs are talking the most. Remember one thing - those who know don't speak and those who speak sit in the opposition," Abdullah said in a post on X.

Trinamool Legislative Party meeting at Mamata's residence called off after poor attendance

Kolkata, June 2 : Signs of internal discord within the Trinamool Congress came to the fore on Sunday after a meeting of the Trinamool Legislative Party at the residence of party supremo and former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was called off following poor attendance by MLAs. The meeting had been convened by Trinamool Legislative

Party leader Sovandeb Chattopadhyay at Mamata Banerjee's Kalighat residence. According to party sources, the venue was chosen to underline the importance of the meeting, and Mamata Banerjee had also been requested to attend in order to strengthen coordination between the party leadership and MLAs. The Trinamool Congress currently has 80 MLAs in the new Assembly.



However, only around 20 legislators turned up for the meeting on Sunday, following which it was cancelled due to a lack of quorum. Responding to questions over the cancellation.

Governor urges Odisha universities to become globally competitive and innovation-driven



Bhubaneswar, June 2 : Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati on Tuesday called upon universities in Odisha to evolve into globally competitive, socially responsible and technologically advanced institutions while remaining deeply rooted in Indian values, emphasising that higher education institutions must play a pivotal role in building an Atmanirbhar Bharat and preparing the state for future challenges.

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Two held in Mumbai for Rs 4 lakh extortion bid using letter with PM's fake signature



Mumbai, June 2 : The Anti-Extortion Cell of the Mumbai Police has arrested two individuals for allegedly attempting to extort Rs 4 lakh from a complainant by using a letter purportedly carrying the forged signature of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, officials said on Tuesday. The accused were produced before the Esplanade Court, which remanded them to three days of police custody for further investigation. The arrested individuals have been identified as Tausif Hussain Ismail Patel (44).

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Samsung Biologics inks 2 new deals worth \$668 mn with European pharma



Mumbai, June 2 : The Indian stock markets appear to be transitioning into a consolidation phase with high volatility and low visibility, according to analysts. Global developments continued to dictate market direction, particularly the evolving US-Iran conflict, which kept crude oil prices volatile and elevated. This, in turn, raised concerns over inflation and fiscal stability for import-dependent economies like India. "While domestic flows and technical supports are providing stability, global factors such as crude oil prices and geopolitical developments will continue to dictate direction."

RBI likely to hold rates steady amid global uncertainty

New Delhi, June 2 : The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is widely expected to keep its benchmark policy rate unchanged at 5.25 per cent when the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) concludes its three-day meeting on June 5, as policymakers weigh mounting global uncertainties and their potential impact on inflation and economic growth. Market participants and economists anticipate that the central bank will maintain its cautious stance, choosing to closely monitor evolving de-

velopments in West Asia and their implications for commodity prices, supply chains and financial markets before taking any policy action. The six-member MPC, chaired by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, will meet from June 3 to June 5 to review the monetary policy framework. The committee had also left rates unchanged at its previous meeting in April, citing uncertainties arising from geopolitical tensions and their possible effects on inflation.



Cotton duty waiver brings relief to TN's Tiruppur knitwear industry; exporters hail move

Coimbatore, June 2 : The Tiruppur knitwear and textile industry has welcomed the Centre's decision to temporarily remove customs duty on cotton imports, describing it as a timely intervention that will help reduce production costs, improve raw material availability, and enhance the global competitiveness of India's textile and apparel exports. The Centre has announced a temporary exemption from all customs duties on cotton imports from June 1 to October 30, a

move aimed at addressing concerns over rising cotton prices and ensuring adequate supply to the textile sector. Industry leaders said the decision would provide much-needed relief to manufacturers, exporters and spinning mills that have been grappling with escalating raw material costs over the past several months. Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEP) Chairman A. Sakhivel welcomed the announcement, stating that the duty waiver would significantly improve cotton availability for the

Indian textile and apparel industry. "The removal of customs duty on cotton imports is the need of the hour. It will help moderate domestic cotton prices, improve the availability of quality cotton and reduce input costs across the textile value chain," he said. Sakhivel noted that the measure would strengthen the competitiveness of Indian textile and apparel exports in international markets at a time when exporters are facing intense competition from several textile-producing nations.



'China exploiting workers to gain advantage in manufacturing sector'

New Delhi, June 2 : China's big advantage in the manufacturing sector vis-a-vis other countries is not so much due to economies of scale or the fact that the country has rapidly caught up with the technology of Western countries, but its exploitation of labour under a repressive system, according to a report. An article in The Diplo-

mat highlights that China's "advantage is not simply about efficiency or technology. It is embedded in a labour system that systematically lowers costs through lax enforcement, extended working hours, and wage suppression. The result is a structural cost gap that reflects not superior productivity."

China's manufacturing sector slows further as exports contract

Beijing, June 2 : China's manufacturing activity slowed further in May as new export orders contracted and input costs kept rising, according to a survey by the country's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) released on Tuesday. The official manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) dropped to a three-month low of 50 from 50.3 in April, with the 50-point mark separating growth from contraction, the data showed. While the supply rose during the period, the demand weakened further, with the sub-indexes for production and new orders estimated at 51.2 and 49.9, re-

spectively, in the manufacturing PMI survey. New export orders plunged to 48.6 from 50.3 during the month amid global uncertainties due to the Middle East conflict. The figures will add to the concerns of the Chinese government, which is increasingly being confronted by the supply-demand mismatch, as the hitherto excessive dependence on exports that was driving growth is no longer providing the earlier momentum. Other countries are also taking steps to check the flood of cheap Chinese goods that is hurting growth and employment in their domestic economies. Major EU member countries are working towards taking stronger measures to prevent their econo-



mies from being hit by the flood of cheap goods from countries with "industrial overcapacity" such as China, according to a report in the South China Morning Post. "A paper signed by Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, France and Lithuania days before a major China-focused debate in Brussels said the bloc must respond more aggressively to 'systemic and structural industrial overcapacity'

-- phrases often taken as shorthand for Beijing," the report states. The intervention comes as the European Commission prepares for a China policy orientation debate on Friday, designed to chart a new course in light of growing complaints from governments and industries about the economic pressure caused by Chinese competition.

EaseMyTrip slips into Rs 15.4 crore loss in Q4

Mumbai, June 2 : Online travel aggregator EaseMyTrip has slipped into the loss in the fourth quarter (Q4) of FY26, reporting a consolidated net loss of Rs 15.4 crore compared to a profit of Rs 13.9 crore in the corresponding quarter last financial year (Q4 FY25). The company had posted a profit of Rs 3.4 crore in the preceding quarter of FY26. De-

spite the quarterly loss, EaseMyTrip reported a modest increase in revenue from operations, which rose 8.9 per cent year-on-year to Rs 151.9 crore in the January-March quarter from Rs 139.5 crore a year ago. On a sequential basis, however, revenue remained largely flat, inching up just 0.1 per cent from Rs 151.6 crore in Q3 FY26, as per its filing.



Including other income of Rs 14 crore, the company's total income stood at Rs 166 crore during the quarter under review.

Meanwhile, total expenses surged 38.6 per cent year-on-year (YoY) and 18.4 per cent quarter-on-quarter (QoQ) to Rs 153.2 crore, im-

proving profitability. For the full financial year FY26, EaseMyTrip reported a net loss of Rs 47.5 crore against a profit of Rs 108.6 crore in FY25. Revenue from operations for the year also declined 8.8 per cent to Rs 535.7 crore from Rs 587.3 crore in the previous fiscal. The company's EBITDA dropped sharply by over 85.8 per cent year-on-year to Rs 22.9 crore in FY26, while EBITDA margin narrowed significantly to 4 per cent from 26.7 per cent in FY25.



L&T Semiconductor Technologies launches India's cellular IoT module business

Mumbai, June 2 : In a boost for the 'Make in India' and 'Digital India' initiatives, L&T Semiconductor Technologies Limited (LTST) announced its entry into the cellular IoT module business during 'CES 2026.'

The launch empowers OEMs and device makers to rapidly integrate pre-certified 4G modules into smart devices spanning energy meters, industrial sensors, and connected vehicles. This marks a strategic step forward for India's electronics ecosystem, dramatically accelerating product development and lowering R&D investments for manufacturers, while targeting both domestic and global markets.



US legal issues behind us, focus now on accelerating next phase of growth: Gautam Adani

New Delhi, June 2 : Billionaire Gautam Adani has said that matters related to the Adani Group's legal proceedings in the United States were now "behind us" and the conglomerate was focusing on accelerating investments across energy, transport, logistics and digital infrastructure as part of the next phase of growth. Gautam Adani said that the

group's biggest challenge was no longer access to capital but executing projects fast enough to meet India's infrastructure and energy needs, particularly as Artificial Intelligence drives demand for power-intensive digital infrastructure. Adani Group chairman described the Rs 24,930 crore rights issue in the company's flagship Adani Enterprises as a vote

of confidence from investors, at a time when the conglomerate faced questions over governance and regulatory issues. "Even though it was a year in which the world grew more fractured, complex energy security models returned to the centre of national strategy and technology.

Major milestone for J&K power sector as Uri-I Stage-II work begins

Srinagar, June 2 : Chairman-cum-Managing Director of NHPC, Bhupender Gupta, on Sunday successfully carried out the first blast for the construction of the 240-MW Uri-I Stage-II Hydro Electric Project in the Uri area of Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district.

A major milestone for Jammu and Kashmir's power sector was achieved with the successful execution of the first blast for the 240 MW Uri-I Stage-II Hydro Electric Project by NHPC Chairman-cum-Managing Director Bhupender Gupta on Sunday, marking the formal commencement of key construction activities.

The development is being viewed as significant for the region's energy infrastructure, with the project expected to strengthen power generation capacity and contribute towards long-term energy security. Officials associated with the project said the successful first blast signals the beginning of major construction work under the Uri-I Stage-II Hydro Electric Project.

The hydroelectric project is expected to augment electricity generation and improve energy availability, particularly as Jammu and Kashmir continues to pursue the expansion of its power infrastructure. The project forms part of

broader efforts aimed at harnessing hydropower potential and reducing dependence on external power supply sources. Officials said the commencement of construction activities marked an important stage in the implementation of the project. The 240 MW project is expected to play a key role in enhancing generation capacity and supporting future power requirements in the region. NHPC already operates six major hydroelectric projects in Jammu and Kashmir with a combined installed capacity of 2,250 MW. These include Salal HEP (690 MW) in Reasi district, Uri-I HEP (480 MW) in Baramulla district, Uri-II HEP (240 MW) in



Baramulla district, Dulhasti HEP (390 MW) in Kishtwar district, Kishanganga HEP (330 MW) in Bandipora district and Sewa-II HEP (120 MW) in Kathua district.

NHPC is also executing multiple large-scale projects in Jammu and Kashmir, largely through joint ventures such as Chenab Valley Power Projects Limited (CVVPL) and Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (RHPCL). These include the Pakal Dul project (1,000 MW) on the Marusudar River in Kishtwar district, the Ratle project (850 MW) on the Chenab River in Kishtwar district.

In MP's Damoh, anganwadi workers raise awareness among pregnant women under PMMVY scheme



Bhopal, June 2 : An awareness session was organised by the Anganwadi workers in Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday, to enlighten the pregnant women about various aspects of precautionary and safety measures, centering around motherhood. Many pregnant women, who attended the session, were counselled about the need for healthy nutrition, regular health check-ups during the pregnancy period and were also informed about monetary assistance available under government scheme. The awareness session was organised at the Tendukheda government hospital under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). The PMMVY is a centrally sponsored flagship scheme by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, designed to support pregnant women and lactating mothers and providing maternity benefits to particularly those belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sections. The main objective is to encourage pregnant women to receive financial support, better nutrition, timely health check-ups.



Five arrested for running loan fraud syndicate in Kolkata

Kolkata, June 2 : Kolkata Police have arrested five persons from different states for allegedly running a fraudulent scheme under the guise of facilitating loans through the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, officials said on Tuesday. According to police, the arrests were made following a raid conducted by officers from the Purba Jadavpur police station on Friday night. The accused were arrested from a residential building in Nitai Nagar on the outskirts of Kolkata. The Police are investigating who others are involved in this syndicate.

According to police, the arrested individuals have been identified as Amit Khan, Rathin Siddi, Mohammad Nazimuddin Siddiqui, Vishal Shinde.

Punjab Police has no authority in matter related to Delhi Assembly: Virendra Sachdeva on FIR against Kapil Mishra

New Delhi, June 2 : As an FIR was registered against Delhi Minister Kapil Mishra by the Punjab Police, Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva on Tuesday said that since the incident occurred inside the Delhi Assembly, the Punjab Police has no authority to act in the matter.

Speaking to IANS, Virendra Sachdeva said, "What surprises me is that the incident took place inside the Vidhan Sabha, where the Leader of Opposition, Atishi Marlena, made an objectionable remark against Sikh Gurus. In this matter, neither the Punjab government nor the Punjab Police has any authority." He further said that the Aam Aadmi Party's concern became evident after the remark, as Atishi was not present in the Delhi Assembly. "Whatever happens inside the Assembly falls under the authority of the Speaker. The AAP leaders are demanding a forensic investigation, which raises suspicion. This is why everyone.



Punjab Police register case for uploading, circulating doctored video of former Delhi CM Atishi

Chandigarh, June 2 : A spokesperson of the Jalandhar Police Commissionerate said on Tuesday here that an FIR has been registered on a complaint by Iqbal Singh regarding uploading and circulating edited and doctored video of former Delhi Chief Minister Atishi.

Several social media posts containing a short video clip allegedly showing Atishi, the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Delhi Assembly, making allegedly derogatory and blasphemous remarks against Sikh gurus with highly inflammatory captions have been uploaded on social media platforms. The Jalandhar Police Commissionerate spokesperson also said that investigations have been conducted in a scientific manner and the video clip containing Atishi's audio was downloaded from social media platform of Delhi Minister Kapil Mishra and forwarded to the Forensic Science Laboratory Director in Mohali for forensic examination. With the forensic report dated January 9, it has emerged that the word "Guru" has not been uttered by Atishi in her audio as contained in the video clips being circulated on social media. There has also been deliberate doctored of the video to attribute words in the captions that were never spoken by the Delhi LoP.



PM KISAN beneficiaries in Bihar's Nalanda draw benefits of scheme, thank Modi govt

Nalanda, June 2 : The Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN) scheme, since its launch in 2019, has helped umpteen farmers overcome their monetary crisis besides propping them to live a life of dignity.

Rajeev Krishna appointed Uttar Pradesh's new DGP



Lucknow, June 2 : Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government announced the appointment of Acting DGP Rajeev Krishna as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of the state on Tuesday. An order to this effect was released in a notification, signed by Additional Chief Secretary Sanjay Prasad. The move brings an end to the prolonged wait for a full-term DGP for the state, as the post reportedly remained vacant after the removal of then DGP Mukul Goyal from the post in 2022. Rajeev Krishna has been commanding the state police force

in the capacity of Acting DGP, and now, with the announcement of his elevation as the permanent police chief, this ends a long hiatus of four years for the top post.

The 1991 batch officer Rajiv Krishna's name as the new DGP was finalised, following deliberations by a panel of three senior officers submitted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). The Commission had forwarded the names of 1990-batch IPS officer Renuka Mishra, 1991-batch IPS officers Piyush Anand and Rajiv Krishna, to the state government.

The UP government decided to entrust the leadership of the police force to Rajiv Krishna, taking into account administrative experience, expertise in law-and-order management.

Maharashtra among top performers in Ayushman Bharat implementation : BJP leader

New Delhi, June 2 : Maharashtra BJP leader and State Coordinator of the Ayushman Bharat Mission, Satish Talekar on Tuesday explained how the Central government's ambitious Ayushman Bharat scheme is being effectively imple-

mented in the state. He also explained how the BJP is actively working to connect beneficiaries with the programme.

Speaking to IANS, Talekar said the scheme has proved to be nothing short of a lifeline for poor and middle-class families. The scheme is bringing a significant transfor-

mation to the lives of millions, he added.

Under the Ayushman Bharat Mission, eligible families are provided with health insurance coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh, which has been extremely helpful during serious illnesses or medical emergencies. He further said that the scheme has



addressed one of the biggest concerns of economically weaker families—access to affordable healthcare.



Two arrested after DRI recovers over 100 kg ganja in Bihar

Patna, June 2 : In continuation of its sustained efforts to curb drug trafficking and dismantle narcotics supply networks across India, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has seized 104.9 kg of ganja (cannabis) in Bihar and arrested two accused, an official

said. The two accused were arrested on Saturday, the official said. During questioning, the accused told DRI officials that they were involved in the illicit transportation of the contraband.



India, US discuss defence cooperation and advancing strategic interests in Indo-Pacific

Singapore, June 2 : Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh held a meeting with House Armed Services Committee Member Pat Harrigan, who led a bipartisan US Congressional Delegation (CODEL), in Singapore on Tuesday, with discussions held on regional security, expanding defence cooperation, and advancing shared strategic interests in the Indo-Pacific. In a post on social media platform X, the Ministry of Defence's Directorate of Public Relations, said, "Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh held productive discussions with Member, House Armed Services Committee Pat Harrigan, who led a bipartisan US Congressional Delegation (CODEL)." "The interaction reaffirmed the strength of the India-US defence partnership, with exchanges on regional security, expanding defence cooperation."

Namibia plans state-coordinated fuel import system to curb costs

Windhoek, June 2 : Namibia plans to introduce a state-coordinated petroleum import system by the end of September as part of efforts to lower fuel costs and improve efficiency in the country's fuel supply chain, according to the Ministry of Industries, Mines and Energy. In a statement, Namibia's Industries, Mines and Energy Minister Modestus Amutse said the government is at an advanced stage of finalising Bulk Petroleum Import Coordination Regulations that will allow the state to coordinate the importation of all petroleum products into the country, Xinhua News Agency reported. According to Amutse, the re-

forms are expected to reduce fuel import costs by consolidating national demand, capturing economies of scale and eliminating premiums charged above the basic fuel price. Amutse said Namibia has been under pressure from rising global oil prices following geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, prompting the government to commit more than one billion Namibian dollars (about 62 million US dollars) to cushion consumers against higher fuel prices. "The emergency we face is not one of supply but one of cost," he said, adding that without intervention, fuel prices would have risen sharply from July.



UNIFIL to lodge formal protest after Israeli troops destroy surveillance cameras at HQ

Beirut, June 2 : The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has said that it will file a formal protest after Israeli soldiers destroyed surveillance cameras installed at its headquarters in Naqoura. UNIFIL spokesperson Candice Ardell said in a statement on Tuesday (local time) that Israeli troops had, since Friday, destroyed all cameras facing the Menghi road at the mission's general headquarters in Naqoura. The cameras were positioned solely to monitor the UNIFIL compound's immediate area, ensuring the security of its peacekeepers, Ardell said.



China tightens grip on civil society amid escalating crackdowns: Report

Naypyidaw, June 2 : Despite repeated warnings from international organisations, the space for civil society in China is shrinking rapidly, while opportunities for resistance or redress are disappearing. The latest crackdowns by Chinese authorities depict a state increasingly intolerant of autonomy in any form, with society living under coerced conformity, a report said on Tuesday. "Fresh crackdowns sweeping across China are reigniting global alarm, as human rights groups warn that civil liberties inside the country are shrinking to levels unseen in years. From labour activists and student protesters to lawyers, religious believers, and online

commentators, an ever-widening range of citizens is finding itself caught in a tightening web of surveillance, arbitrary detention, and opaque legal punishment under the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)," a report in Myanmar media outlet 'Mizzima News' detailed. "What is emerging is not a series of isolated incidents, but a systemic pattern of repression that has become increasingly normalised—and increasingly hidden—from public view," it added. Citing rights advocates, the report said that the human rights situation in China has worsened significantly, marked by the frequent denial of due process and the use of ambiguous criminal charges to suppress dissent.



Nepal govt in damage-control mode as PM Balendra Shah's remarks draw controversy

Kathmandu, June 2 : Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has clarified that Prime Minister Balendra Shah's remarks regarding the South Asian country also encroaching on Indian territory were related to "cross-border occupation" and encroachment in the

no-man's land along the border with India. Prime Minister Shah on Tuesday triggered a political storm after claiming, during his first-ever appearance to answer lawmakers' questions in Parliament, that Nepal had also encroached on Indian territory despite Nepal's consistent complaints about Indian encroachment. Opposition political parties, foreign affairs experts.



South Korean Vice Defence Minister to visit Laos for ASEAN-led regional security talks

Seoul, June 2 : Vice Defence Minister of South Korea, Kim Seon-ho will visit Laos this week to attend an annual ministerial meeting of defence chiefs led by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the defence ministry said on Tuesday. Kim will leave for Vientiane on Wednesday to join the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)-Plus, which will bring together defence chiefs of 10 ASEAN countries and eight others, including the US, China and Japan, Yonhap news agency reported.

Pledging to be bridge-builder, India elected unopposed to UN Human Rights Council

United Nations, June 2 : India has been elected unopposed to the Human Rights Council (HRC) for the seventh time to a three-year term starting next year with a pledge to be a bridge-builder. After India's election by the General Assembly was announced on Tuesday, Permanent Representative P Harish said, "This election reflects India's unwavering commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms". He added in his X post "We look forward to serve this objective during our tenure".



WH official says Indian refineries to benefit after Hormuz reopening

Washington, June 2 : White House National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett said on Tuesday that refineries in India and Pakistan were among those affected by disruptions caused by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, expressing hope that fuel supplies and prices would ease once the key shipping route reopens. Speaking on ABC News'

"This Week", Hassett said increased maritime traffic was already moving through the strait and suggested conditions could improve if ongoing negotiations succeed. "When you get the Strait open, then it's about 300 nautical miles per day for one of those big tankers. And so, the people in Pakistan and India that have refineries that are mostly shut down -- they're going to get their oil," Hassett said. "They'll turn the refineries up, and then refined product prices will go down globally, and then it will spread from place to place," he added.



Pakistan charging fee for visit to Kartarpur Sahib leads to politicisation of religion: Report

New Delhi, June 2 : The Pakistani government and the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) charging Indian pilgrims a fee of \$20 and Non-Resident Indian (NRI) pilgrims \$5 for visiting the Kartarpur Sahib, has remained a subject of continuous controversy, wrote Sudeep Singh in an editorial in 'Khalsa Vox'. Significantly, no major Gurdwara in the world imposes a mandatory charge for just paying obeisance. He asserted: "Pakistan's policy reflects a mindset that views religious sites not as places of devotion but as instruments of control and revenue generation." Protests have erupted among the Sikh organisations and devotees who argued that the imposition of such a fee is contrary to the Sikh ideals. Many have reportedly compared it to the Mughal-era 'Jizya' tax, under which non-Muslims were compelled to pay a levy solely because of their faith. "In the 21st century, imposing a tax on pilgrims simply because they come from another country.



Indonesia to study Brazil's free meal program for schoolchildren

Jakarta, June 2 : Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto plans to send a team to Brazil to study the implementation of free meal programs for students. "I have asked my team to arrange a meeting with Brazilian representatives. We will send a team to learn about the lunch program for children in Brazilian schools," the president said during the Indonesia-Brazil Business Forum held at the Copacabana Palace in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday local time, Xinhua news agency reported. During the forum, Prabowo emphasised that the free lunch program for schoolchildren is a strategic initiative of his administration.

Slovak PM opposes Ukraine's use of long-range missiles inside Russia

Bratislava, June 2 : Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico on Tuesday voiced opposition to Ukraine's use of US long-range missiles to strike inside Russia, the News Agency of the Slovak Republic (TASR)

reported. In a major shift of his administration's policy on the Ukraine crisis, US President Joe Biden has authorised Kyiv to use US-supplied long-range missiles to strike targets inside Russia.





Slovak PM calls for EU dialogue with Russia, lifting gas, oil sanctions

Bratislava, June 2 : Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico has called on the European Union (EU) to resume dialogue with Russia and lift sanctions on Russian energy raw materials, after holding a phone call with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, local media STVR reported. "The EU, and especially the EC (the European Commission), should immediately resume dialogue with Russia and ensure such a political and legal environment that individual member states and the EU as a whole replenish the missing gas and oil reserves.

BJP govt acting too late, seems like giving scapegoat route to Ankita's killers : Cong

Lucknow, June 2 : As Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has approved a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the high-profile murder case of 19-year-old Ankita Bhandari, the Congress on Tuesday said that the BJP government is acting far too late, and appears to be giving a 'scapegoat' route to Ankita's killers.

The reaction comes amid renewed public outrage and widespread protests across Uttarakhand, triggered by recent controversies, including leaked audio clips and allegations of the involvement of a 'VIP' in the case.

Ankita Bhandari, who worked as a receptionist at a resort near Rishikesh, went missing in September 2022. Her body was later recovered, leading to the arrest of the resort owner Pulkit Arya, the son of a former BJP leader, along with two of his associates.

Following the incident, the state government

constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) led by a woman IPS officer, which carried out a swift and detailed probe. Throughout the process, all the accused were denied bail, and a chargesheet was filed in the case.

In May 2025, a lower court convicted all three accused and sentenced them to life imprisonment. Reacting to the decision to hand over the case to the CBI, Congress spokesperson Surendra Rajput said, "The BJP government is acting too late. This seems like giving a scapegoat route to Ankita's killers. We have been demanding a comprehensive investigation for a long time."

He further alleged that the delay

was aimed at protecting influential individuals.

"Whether it is to save 'Gattu' or 'Pattu', the way the BJP has delayed action is sinful and deserving of a curse. The rapist and murderer of Ankita Bhandari should be hanged immediately. We hope the CBI will conduct a fair investigation without coming under pressure from any political party. The CBI should also fear the sin and curse that come with injustice. The Congress will not remain silent until justice is delivered in the hills of Uttarakhand," he told IANS.

Rajput also reacted to the recent ban on the delivery of non-vegetarian food in Ayodhya.



He said, "If such rules are being imposed, it should be clarified how many years they are valid legally, religiously, and scripturally. Does Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's government intend to prevent Shaivites, the followers of Lord Shiva, from eating non-vegetarian food?" He questioned whether followers of Lord Shiva would be allowed to live in Ayodhya and demanded answers from the BJP. On Friday, the Ayodhya administration banned the delivery of non-vegetarian food items within a 15-km radius of the Ram temple.

2400 youths get jobs with big firms under NSDC scheme

New Delhi, June 2 : National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) on Tuesday announced the successful conclusion of Bharatpur Kaushal Mahotsav, where more than 2,400 youth were given appointment letters for jobs with leading corporate employers across multiple sectors. Jayant Chaudhary, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Education, presided over the event in Rajasthan's Bharatpur, where he personally handed over the job letters to the successful candidates. "The mega recruit-

ment drive witnessed an overwhelming response from the corporate sector, with more than 70 industry leaders participating actively in the initiative. Major employers including e-commerce giants Flipkart and Zepto, global food chain Burger King, and premium dining brand Barbeque Nation, along with other prominent companies, collectively brought over 20,000 job opportunities to Bharatpur Kaushal Mahotsav," said an official statement.

The diverse range of positions offered competitive salary packages ranging from 19,000 to 35,000 per month, marking a significant boost to local employ-



ment prospects. The recruitment drive included corporations from sectors such as tourism, hospitality, logistics, food processing, IT-ITES, automotive, BFSI, and electronics. The minister stressed the significance of community involvement in effectively implementing skill development plans in Bharatpur, which is ready for launch. He highlighted NSDC and MSDE's collaborative efforts to attract pro-industry policies through state investment summits, opening opportunities for youth in remote areas.

Congress gears up for nationwide 'Save MNREGA' campaign

New Delhi, June 2 : The Congress has launched a coordinated nationwide campaign to oppose what it terms the dilution of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), planning large-scale mobilisations across states and seeking resolutions from over 2.5 lakh gram sabhas demanding restoration of the original right-to-work law. As part of the agitation, the Congress will roll out statewide protests beginning on Tuesday in several states, including Uttarakhand and Bihar. The Congress is preparing one of its largest grassroots mobilisations in recent years as it intensifies its campaign against changes to the MGNREGA framework. Party leaders allege that the Centre has weakened the rural employment guarantee by diluting the powers of gram panchayats, particularly their authority to determine the nature of work and allocate employment. According to the Congress, this undermines the Act's core promise of providing rural households a legal right to demand employment when needed. In Uttarakhand, the party has announced a statewide agitation against what it describes as the replacement of MNREGA with the Viksit Bharat G Ram G Rural Act. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Political Affairs Committee, chaired by Uttarakhand Congress incharge Kumari Selja. The meeting was held at a hotel on Rajpur Road in Dehradun. On January 10, the party will hold district-level press conferences across Uttarakhand to highlight the implications of the new framework and contrast it with the employment guarantees provided under MNREGA. Congress leaders claim the changes will adversely affect rural livelihoods and weaken decentralised governance. In Bihar, the Congress will launch a 'Save MNREGA' campaign targeting what it calls the Modi government's anti-



MNREGA policies. Party workers will undertake village-to-village outreach to raise awareness among rural communities. Leaders said the campaign would span grassroots mobilisation as well as legislative action, with the party prepared to raise the issue from the streets to the state Assembly. According to Congress insiders, the All India Congress Committee (AICC) has instructed all state units to take the agitation deep into rural areas. A key component of the campaign is to ensure that over 2.5 lakh gram sabhas across the country pass resolutions demanding the reinstatement of the original provisions of MNREGA. Earlier, on Friday, the Congress launched the 'MNREGA Bachao Sangram' in Jammu. The programme was led by AICC General Secretary and Jammu and Kashmir incharge MP Dr Syed Naseer Hussain, along with Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee President Tariq Hameed Karra. Held at the Kashmir Hills Resort in Jammu, the event saw participation from senior party leaders, sitting and former legislators, ex-ministers, district presidents, frontal organisation office-bearers, block presidents and party workers, signalling the party's intent to mount a sustained nationwide protest to safeguard MNREGA.

Ebola patient in Italy hospital awaits test results

Rome, June 2 : Italy's Ministry of Health has said that in a suspected case of Ebola in Cagliari, investigations are underway on a patient who returned from Congo and is now in the Sardinian capital, local media reported. The patient, symptomatic, has undergone the Ebola test, which will be analysed by Spallanzani in Rome on Sunday evening. The patient is currently in isolation at a hospital facility. The Ministry of Health stated in a note, is in contact with the local health authorities of Sardinia and with Spallanzani (Italy's National Institute for Infectious Diseases) to monitor the evolution of the situation, Adnkronos news agency reported. The patient is hospitalised in the Infectious Diseases department of the Santissima Trinita hospital in the city. Test samples to ascertain the presence of the virus were sent to Rome by air ambulance. All protective procedures foreseen in these cases have been activated in the Is Mirrionis hospital.



Italy's government also urged Europe to step up surveillance coordination at its borders to combat the spread of Ebola, Italy's Prime Minister, Georgia Meloni's office said in a statement on Tuesday. Italy is sending a team of experts from Rome's Spallanzani infectious diseases hospital to Congo to help combat the outbreak and strengthen monitoring and control of the virus, PM Meloni's office added. "Italy believes that the epidemiological situation in Central Africa linked to the recent outbreak of the Bundibugyo Ebola virus (BVD strain) in Congo and (neighbouring) Uganda requires the utmost attention," the statement said. "For this reason, Meloni has written to the European Union Council President Nikos Christodoulides, European Council President Antonio Costa, and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen," the statement added. "The aim is to urge -- while respecting national prerogatives on health protection -- enhanced coordination of border surveillance through common rules for managing direct and indirect arrivals from the affected areas," the statement said.



French farmers stage protests over EU-Mercosur trade deal

Paris, June 2 : Farmers took to the streets across France to protest against the trade agreement that the European Union (EU) plans to sign by the end of the year with the South American trade bloc Mercosur. France's largest farmer union, the National Federation of Agricultural Holders' Unions (FNSEA), announced on Monday evening that 85 demonstrations have been organized across the country, but without blockades on motorways, Xinhua news agency reported. The goal of the demonstrations was not to annoy the public, but to remind them of the urgent and dramatic situation facing the country's agriculture, the FNSEA said.

The EU and Mercosur states - Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay - reached a comprehensive trade agreement in 2019.

Speaking Monday evening to the French public television channel France 5, Arnaud Rousseau, president of the FNSEA.



Weapon cache discovered in northern Afghan province

Kabul, June 2 : Police have discovered a weapon cache containing a variety of arms and ammunition in Baghlan province in northern Afghanistan, provincial police chief Mawlawi Abdul Haq Haqqani said Tuesday. The weaponry was recovered from Deh Salah district on Thursday, the official added. Without providing further details, the official stressed that no one has the right to keep or carry arms illegally, and police would spare no effort to collect weaponry from unauthorized persons to ensure law and order in the province, Xinhua News Agency reported. Previously, police reported the collection of 21 firearms and the arrest of 18 individuals in eastern Parwan province on Wednesday. As part of efforts to ensure law and order in post-war Afghanistan, the Afghan government has vowed to collect arms and ammunition from anyone living outside the security organs of the administration. In November last year, a significant weapons cache was uncovered in Afghanistan's Uruzgan province.



Will fight, eliminate pollution: Delhi Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa

New Delhi, June 2 : Delhi Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa said on Tuesday that despite inheriting the pollution problem in legacy from the Arvind Kejriwal regime, the BJP government "will not run away from pollution, will fight it, and eliminate it". In his detailed speech in the Delhi Legislative Assembly, Sirsa presented a fact-based account of Delhi's pollution problem, from its historical background to the present government's action plan. The minister said, "We will not run away from pollution. We will fight it, confront it, and eliminate it." He referred to landmark developments starting from the M.C. Mehta vs Union of India (1984-85).



Chinese vloggers filming slums, narrow lanes in Bangladesh

Dhaka, June 2 : A group of Chinese nationals was seen filming slums, narrow lanes, and even inside the people's homes in Techpara of Bangladesh's Uttara, a report noted. As per the report, nobody, including local police, seems to know who they are, who they work for, or where the footage is going. Mohammad Badal, a local resident, said that the Chinese vloggers entered houses and took various videos as well as when a fight broke out. They came back in a group with the police, Bangladesh's The Business Standard newspaper reported. They are very drawn to the local slums and houses of lower-income residents, he added. "I have been seeing them (Chinese vloggers) for around a year now. At one point, there was even tension in the area because of them. Local residents complained that

they were entering houses without permission. Tenants of one house complained that they came into the kitchen area and even near the bathing space with their cameras," said Raju Ahmed, to the Business Standard news, who lived in the area for nearly 15 years. He also alleged that women's privacy is frequently compromised. "If a house's gate is open, they walk straight in. Many times, they show no respect for women's privacy whatsoever," he said. "That person said he has a lot of money and connections in this country," Raju claimed. "He said he can do whatever he wants." A long-time resident of Techpara, Monowar Begum, claimed that the Chinese nationals pay local girls around Tk500 to Tk1000 to go around with them and make videos, and they often go live.

Zimbabwe records 70 suspected cholera cases, one death amid new outbreak

Harare, June 2 : A total of 70 suspected cholera cases and one death have been recorded in the Kariba District of Zimbabwe's Mashonaland West Province since a new outbreak began in early November, the Ministry of Health and Child Care said. As part of the response, 1,007 out of a targeted 2,553 people in the district which borders Zambia have received an oral cholera vaccine dose, said the ministry in a statement, Xinhua news agency reported.

The new outbreak came a few months after the Zimbabwean government declared in August an end to a previous nationwide outbreak that began in February last year and claimed hundreds of lives.

According to the ministry, infection prevention and control measures alongside cholera awareness campaigns have been implemented in the town to contain the outbreak. Zimbabwe has experienced recurring cholera outbreaks over the past years due to inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure.



Bushfire claims one life in Australia's Victoria, state of disaster declared

Victoria, June 2 : A man has died, and a state of disaster has been declared amid the ongoing bushfire crisis in the southeast Australian state of Victoria.

Premier of Victoria Jacinta Allan said at a press conference that a man aged in his 60s was found deceased in his car near the town of Harcourt, 110 km northwest of Melbourne, on Tuesday afternoon.

His death was not directly related to the fires, Allan said, but occurred in close proximity to a fire ground, reports Xinhua news agency.

Three other people who were reported missing on Friday after their home near the town of Longwood, 120 km north of Melbourne, was destroyed by one of the most severe fires in the state have been found safe.

Local fire authorities said three firefighters have been injured while battling fires.

Allan said that 10 major fires were burning across Victoria as of Saturday morning, and another 20 were being closely monitored by authorities.

A total of 200 fires were burning across Victoria on Friday as temperatures exceeded 40 degrees Celsius, and Allan said on Saturday that authorities believe over 300,000 hectares of land have been burnt and 38,000 homes and businesses are without power.

Temperatures dropped on Saturday, but authorities have warned that strong winds will continue to cause fires to spread unpredictably. Emergency management authorities said on Saturday that at least 120 structures across the state of Victoria have been destroyed by fires, and there have been significant livestock losses.



Bangladesh measles outbreak death toll reaches 585 as two more children die

Dhaka, June 2 : Two more children have died from measles-like symptoms in Bangladesh in 24 hours till 8 a.m. on Tuesday, raising the death toll to 585 since March 15, local media reported. Both the deaths have been classified as suspected, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

With the latest casualties, the total number of suspected measles death in Bangladesh has reached 495 while the confirmed deaths stood at 90, United News of Bangladesh reported.

As many as 1,324 suspected measles cases were recorded in Bangladesh in the past 24 hours, raising the suspected cases to 70,936. During the same period, 53 confirmed measles cases were reported in Bangladesh, increasing the total number of confirmed infections to 9,049.

As many as 56,886 suspected measles patients have been hospitalised in Bangladesh since March 15, of whom 52,841 have recovered, according to the DGHS.



Israel captures strategic Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon

Jerusalem, June 2 : The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) on Tuesday said it had captured Beaufort Castle after entering the Beaufort Ridge and Wadi al-Saluki areas in southern Lebanon. According to the IDF, the operation is focused on establishing operational control over the Beaufort Ridge and the Wadi al-Saluki area, as well as degrading Hezbollah's capabilities in the region. "Last night, our heroic fighters captured the Beaufort Castle. They proudly raised the flag of the State of Israel and the flag of the Golani Brigade there," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday. "I remind you that 44 years ago, this place was a symbol of a heroic battle by our fighters, but it was also a symbol of deep division among us. Today, we returned to Beaufort differently. We returned united, determined and stronger than ever," he added. According to the IDF, Hezbollah directed military and combat activities.

US says Hezbollah blocking Israel-Lebanon truce

Washington, June 2 : The United States has accused Hezbollah of undermining efforts to secure a ceasefire with Israel, saying the Iran-backed group is prolonging the conflict and refusing to halt attacks despite a US-backed proposal aimed at preventing

further escalation. Secretary of State Marco Rubio recently spoke with Lebanese President Joseph Aoun and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as part of ongoing diplomatic efforts between Israel and Lebanon, according to a US official familiar with the talks.

The United States proposed what the official described as a straightforward path to de-escalation. "To advance those talks, the United States proposed a clear sequence: Hizbollah must stop all attacks on Israel. In return, Israel would refrain from escalation in Beirut. This would create space



for gradual de-escalation and an effective cessation of hostilities," the official said. According to the official, Aoun sought to move the proposal forward and obtain agreement from the parties involved. "President Aoun tried to advance this proposal and secure an agreement," the official said. The effort stalled, however, after a response from Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, a close political ally of Hezbollah.

Uganda to continue anti-ADF operations despite Ebola outbreak in DR Congo

Kampala, June 2 : The Ugandan military said on Tuesday that it would continue joint operations with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) against the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebel group despite the ongoing Ebola outbreak in the neighbouring country. Chris Magezi, acting spokesperson for the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF), told Xinhua over the telephone that there had been no calls for an immediate halt to military operations, as the ADF contin-

ues to kill and abduct civilians in eastern DRC, Xinhua news agency reported. His remarks came after World Health Organisation (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Thursday appealed to armed groups operating in eastern DRC to declare a ceasefire to enable health workers to access affected communities and help contain the spread of Ebola. "The UPDF will continue operations against ADF remnants while observing Ebola prevention measures and maintaining Ebola SOPs (Standard Operating Proce-



dures)," Magezi said. The ADF, an armed group affiliated with the Islamic State Central Africa Province, originated as a Ugandan rebel movement and is active in eastern DRC. Its continued operations have prompted joint military action by

Congolese and Ugandan forces since November 2021 aimed at tracking and neutralising the group. Despite these operations, local observers said the ADF continues to expand its area of activity in eastern DRC.



Violence in Balochistan escalates as rights groups report extrajudicial killings by Pakistani forces

Quetta, June 2 : As violence against civilians continues to escalate across Balochistan, leading human rights organisations on Tuesday brought to light the extrajudicial killing of two Baloch civilians by Pakistani forces.

Paank, the Baloch National Movement's Human Rights Department, mentioned that Balach Baloch, a resident of Tasp area of Panjur district, was killed on January 8 after individuals allegedly linked to a Pakistan-backed death squad attempted to detain him and fatally shot him as he tried to flee. "This killing highlights a broader pattern in Balochistan, where security forces are using proxy armed groups for enforced disappearances and targeted killings.

IAEA chief voices concern over reported drone strike at Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Plant

Vienna, June 2 : International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Rafael Grossi expressed serious concern over a reported drone strike on a turbine building at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP), warning that attacks on nuclear facilities are "like playing with fire." The IAEA said it had been in-

formed by the ZNPP that a drone struck a turbine building at the facility earlier in the day, reportedly causing a hole in one of the building's walls. The agency disclosed the incident in a post on social media platform X. "There should be no attacks of any kind from or against a nuclear facility," Grossi said, reiterating his call for restraint to avoid jeopardizing nuclear safety and security. He added that the IAEA team stationed at the plant had requested access to the affected turbine building to conduct a first-hand assessment of the reported damage, Xinhua news agency reported. According to the IAEA, the incident would mark the first drone attack within the perimeter of the ZNPP since April 2024.

The Zaporizhzhia plant, one of Europe's largest nuclear power facilities, has been under Russian control since March 2022. Since the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the IAEA has repeatedly warned of the risks posed by military activities around the site and called for the protection of nuclear infrastructure. Russia's Rosatom said on Satur-

day that a Ukrainian drone had struck the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, but no damage to key equipment was reported.



**Linsey Smith crowned
new No. 1 bowler ahead of Women's T20 WC**

Dubai, June 2 : England's left-arm spinner Linsey Smith, who was fighting for a regular place in her side's T20I setup less than two years ago, has now climbed to the summit of the ICC Women's T20I Bowling Rankings for the first time in her career on the eve of the Women's T20 World Cup. The 31-year-old England spinner moved ahead of Pakistan's Sadia Iqbal to become the world's top-ranked T20I bowler following a string of impressive performances against New Zealand and India. Smith's rise comes after a standout Player of the Series display against the White Ferns and another influential outing in England's recent victory over India in Bristol.

The achievement caps a remarkable journey for Smith, who made her international debut in 2018 before spending several years on the fringes of the national side. Having re-established herself as a regular member of England's T20I squad only late last year, she now enters the World Cup as the highest-ranked bowler in the format.

England's strong run has also been reflected elsewhere in the bowling charts. Fast bowler Lauren Bell climbed one place to third, while stand-in captain Charlie Dean gained two spots to move into fifth position.

India's emerging spinner Shree Charani was among the biggest movers in the latest update. Her three-wicket performance against England helped her leap seven places to fourth.



**BBL: Andrew
Flintoff named Sydney
Thunder's head coach**

New Delhi, June 2 : Sydney Thunder have secured one of the most high-profile coaching appointments in Big Bash League history, naming former England captain Andrew Flintoff as the club's head coach through to the end of BBL 17. Flintoff succeeds Trevor Bayliss, who stepped down in February after six seasons in charge. The appointment marks Flintoff's return to the Big Bash for the first time in more than a decade, having previously featured as a player during BBL 4.

He represented England 272 times across formats and remains best remembered for his inspirational performances during the 2005 Ashes series, when he helped England reclaim the urn after an 18-year wait.

**Sayali Satghare shines as Mumbai Falcons
clinch historic first win in inaugural T20 Mumbai Women's League**

Mumbai, June 2 : India star Sayali Satghare led SOBO Mumbai Falcons from the front with a decisive three-wicket spell as her side began their campaign with a convincing 16-run victory over Thane Sky Risers in the tournament's opening match of the inaugural T20 Mumbai Women's League here at the Wankhede Stadium. Chasing a challenging 174, opener Mansi Patil (46) kept the chase alive for Thane Sky Risers de-

spite losing partners at regular intervals. Mahek Pokar (23 retired hurt) and Saima Thakor (29) made promising starts but failed to build on them as the Falcons attack, marshalled brilliantly by Satghare, kept the pressure firmly on the opposition. In the closing stages, wicketkeeper Khushi Bhatia produced a spirited 28 off just 16 balls, striking the ball cleanly to keep Thane's hopes alive. However, her dismissal in the penultimate over all but extin-

guished the Sky Risers' chances and tilted the match decisively in the Falcons' favour. Earlier, Thane Sky Risers failed to capitalise on a dream start from skipper Saima Thakor, who created history by striking off the very first ball of the tournament and then claimed another wicket in the same over. Coupled with nine dropped catches, the lapses allowed SOBO Mumbai Falcons to recover through a late onslaught from Hurley Gala (45 not out).



**Hockey India names
Salima-led squad for Women's Nations Cup**

New Delhi, June 2 : Hockey India announced the women's squad for the upcoming FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup, which is scheduled to be held in Auckland, New Zealand from June 15 to 21. Salima Tete will continue as the team's captain for the tourna-

ment. Savita and Bichu Devi Kharibam will serve as dependable, experienced goalkeepers. In defence, Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam, Ishika Chaudhary, Nikki Pradhan, and Jyoti bring significant international experience to the backline.

**'Childhood dream has been taken away,'
says Gilmour on missing FIFA WC due to injury**

Edinburgh, June 2 : Scotland midfielder Billy Gilmour has expressed his heartbreak after being ruled out of the FIFA World Cup 2026 with a knee injury, describing the setback as having a "childhood dream" taken away from him just days before the tournament. The 24-year-old sustained the injury



during Scotland's 4-1 friendly victory over Curaçao at Hampden Park on Saturday.



**Diaz shines as Colombia
beats Costa Rica in international friendly**

Bogota, June 2 (IANS) Colombia continued its preparations for the FIFA World Cup 2026 with a convincing 3-1 victory over Costa Rica in an international friendly at El Campin Stadium on Tuesday. Bayern Munich winger Luis Diaz was the star of the evening, scoring one goal and providing an assist as Colombia produced an impressive performance in front of their home fans ahead of the tournament, which begins on June 11.

Defender Davinson Sanchez gave Colombia an early advantage when he rose highest to head home from a Diaz corner kick. The hosts maintained control and doubled their lead soon after through Diaz, who combined well with Jorge Carrascal before calmly finishing from close range following a defensive mistake by the visitors, according to Xinhua. Costa Rica responded positively and reduced the deficit in the 33rd minute. Andrey Soto found the net with a header after being set up by Josimar Alcocer, giving the visitors hope of a comeback before halftime.

However, Colombia remained the better side for most of the contest and sealed the result 10 minutes from full-time. Sporting Lisbon striker Luis Suarez latched onto a long pass from veteran playmaker James Rodriguez before firing a powerful shot into the far corner to make it 3-1.

This was a good test, even though we didn't have the full group with us until yesterday," Lorenzo said after the match. "We have a lot of things to improve, but as the days go by, by spending time together and getting all of the players physically up to speed, I am confident that we will be in very good shape for the World Cup," he added.