

Namo Football Tournament Helps Nurture Rural Sports Talent: MP Manish Jaiswal

DB Reporter
Ramgarh : "A fit India is a hit India," said Hazaribagh MP Manish Jaiswal, emphasizing the importance of promoting sports among youth in rural areas. He was speaking as the chief guest at the final match of the Namo Football Tournament, held at the Digwar Football Ground with support from the Kisan Sporting Club.

MP Jaiswal praised the initiative, saying, "The primary objective of organizing such tournaments is to encourage local talent, honor sportspersons, and provide them with a platform to showcase their skills. Events like these play a crucial role in bring-



ing hidden rural talent to the forefront."Prior to addressing the gathering, MP Jaiswal was welcomed with garlands and a ceremonial shawl.The final match was played between Bajrang Club Baheratand (Sandy) and Sirka. In a tightly contested match, neither team managed to score in regular time, leading to a penalty shootout. Sandy

emerged victorious with a 1-0 win, claiming the championship title.

The winning team was awarded a trophy and a cash prize of ₹25,000, while the runner-up team received ₹15,000 and a trophy. The tournament was conducted by MP representative Manoj Giri, and the vote of thanks was delivered by

Ramsahay Bediya.

Several notable figures were present at the event, including BJP District President Praveen Mehta, Dwarika Singh (alias Khokha Singh), MP representatives Rajeev Jaiswal, Vijay Jaiswal, Raju Chaturvedi, Ranjit Pandey, Ranjit Sinha, Chhotan Singh, Ratan Prasad Sahu, Ruby Jaiswal, Balram Mahato, Anmol Singh, Shankar Karmali, Bunty Tiwari, Arun Kushwaha, Mukesh Singh, Sangeeta Devi, Vicky Mahato, Vinod Kumar, Rajkumar Mahato, Kishun Mahato, Kuldeep Kushwaha, Ravi Kushwaha, Raju Kushwaha, Suresh Kushwah, and Pankaj Kushwaha.

Symposium to Be Held in Ramgarh on the Occasion of Akhand Bharat Smriti Diwas

DB Reporter
Ramgarh : As part of a nationwide observance of Akhand Bharat Smriti Diwas, the Hindu Jagran Manch is organizing a symposium in Ramgarh on August 23. The event will take place at 3:00 PM at the Brahmarishi Dharamshala, located on Bijulia Talab Road. The program will be attended by various dignitaries and office bearers from the regional and district units of the Hindu Jagran Manch. The announcement was made via an official press release issued on August 22 by the newly appointed district president of the organization, Satyajit Chaudhary. Chaudhary emphasized the emotional significance of the day, stating that the horrors of the partition continue to haunt the collective memory of the



nation. "The independence granted on August 15 was, in reality, a deception-a political conspiracy. On the eve of our so-called freedom, our sacred land, Bharat Mata, was divided by power-hungry forces. We lost parts of our own homeland. How can we ever forget such a wound?" he said. He further stated that the Hindu Jagran Manch is committed to the vision of Akhand Bharat-an undivided India-and that the symposium is a step toward reinforcing that collective resolve.

Khatian Rights Assembly and Fellowship Meet to Be Held in Patratu on August 24: Ramesh Mahto

DB Reporter
Ramgarh : Under the leadership of Dumri MLA and Central President of the Jharkhand Loktantrik Krantikari Morcha (JLKRM), Tiger Jayram Mahto, a much-anticipated Khatian Rights Assembly-cum-Fellowship Meet will be organized on August 24, 2025, at Ambedkar Park, New Market, PTPS, Patratu. Sharing details of the event on Friday, JLKRM State Media In-charge Ramesh Kumar Mahto said preparations are in their final stage. Cleaning, tent setup, and banner installations are in progress at the venue. Banners, posters, and hoardings have also been put up across the Patratu region to ensure maximum public participation. The party has extended an open invitation to all to join the program on August 24. Speaking on the significance of the event, Mahto highlighted that the people of Patratu continue to face challenges related to employment, rights, displace-



ment, and basic amenities. "This program aims to raise awareness and unite people in the fight for their rights," he said. He emphasized that the Patratu team is actively conducting outreach and awareness campaigns with dedication and enthusiasm. "Jayram Mahto is no longer just an individual-he represents an ideology that is drawing people from all communities toward the movement. His clear vision for Jharkhand's development and the identity of Jharkhandis resonates deeply in today's context," Mahto stated. He further added that until Jharkhand frames policies

based on Khatian -including local, employment, displacement, and industrial policies-the indigenous people of the state will continue to be deprived of their rights. The party is increasingly seen as a beacon of hope for the poor, marginalized, backward, and oppressed sections of society. Senior leaders, including Central Organization General Secretary Rajendra Bediya, Central Secretary Santosh Chaudhary, General Secretary Leelavati Devi, Media In-charge Ramesh Kumar Mahto,and Sahdev Mahto, visited the venue to oversee the preparations.

Inner Wheel Club Launches Awareness Campaign on Child Safety in Ramgarh

DB Reporter
Ramgarh : Focusing on child safety and awareness, the Inner Wheel Club of Ramgarh organized a special awareness program on August 22 at the Omkar Mission Orphanage. The event aimed to educate children about the concepts of Good Touch and Bad Touch in a simple and engaging manner. Club members Shweta Jain and Nidhi Chaudhary led the session, emphasizing the importance of teaching children to identify safe and unsafe touches. "It is essential for children to understand that if a touch makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe, it should be recognized as a bad touch. In such cases, they should say 'no' firmly, raise their voice, and immediately inform a trusted adult such as a parent, teacher, or guardian," they said. Children were taught using interactive activities, video stories, and storytelling techniques,



making the session both informative and easy to understand. Club President Namita Shroff highlighted the need to teach self-protection and awareness from an early age. "Recognizing the difference between good and bad touch builds children's confidence and helps them stay safe in any situation," she said. The children of Omkar Mission Orphanage also performed thought-provoking street plays on themes such as Adopt Swadeshi, Boycott Foreign Goods and the Kargil War, showcasing their patriotic spirit. Their performances cap-

tivated the audience. Participants were awarded certificates and prizes by the Inner Wheel Club. Additionally, the club distributed stationery items, snacks, and sports equipment among the children. The event received full support from orphanage educators Neetu Negi, Kumari Anita, and Geeta Devi. Prominent attendees included Renu Mewad, Janesha Vadera, Megha Bagaria, Neeru Sahni, Anuradha Shroff, Navjeet Kaur, Gurbaksh Kaur, Madhu Agrawal, Harmeet Kaur, Neetu Agrawal, and Jaspreet Kaur.

Mukhiyas and Jal Sahiyas Hold Dialogue on Jal Jeevan Mission in Medininagar

DB Reporter
Medininagar (Palamu): An interaction programme with Mukhiyas and Jal Sahiyas was held at the Town Hall in Medininagar on Friday under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Swachh Bharat Mission. The event aimed to raise awareness and ensure effective grassroots implementation of the missions.

Addressing the gathering, Mast Ram Meena, Principal Secretary of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, emphasized the importance of cleanliness and safe drinking water. "Cleanliness starts at home and must extend to the village, district, and nation. Contaminated water and food are among the leading causes



of illness, and ensuring safe water is essential to public health," he said. He noted that traditional sources of water like wells and ponds have become polluted due to human activity and urged the community to restore them. He also highlighted that under JJM, contractors are responsible for maintaining completed projects for five years, and villagers should

reach out if issues arise. JJM Campaign Director Ramesh Gholap informed attendees that the mission, launched on August 15, 2019, has made significant progress. Of the target to provide piped drinking water to 62.5 lakh households in Jharkhand, 55% has been achieved. In Palamu district, 53% of the targeted 3.65 lakh households have been

covered. Palamu Deputy Commissioner encouraged local representatives to actively monitor implementation, stating that Mukhiyas and Jal Sahiyas are best placed to ensure success at the village level. The programme began with lamp lighting and featured experience-sharing by several grassroots representatives.

"Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect" Program Launched at Vinoba Bhave University



DB Reporter
Hazaribagh: The "Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect" program, initiated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, was launched at Vinoba Bhave University on Friday. The program, running from August 15 to October 15, 2025, aims to engage and connect students with the vision of a developed India. Dr. Umendra Singh, nodal officer and professor of the Economics Department, informed that a comprehensive outreach campaign was

conducted at the university campus by interacting with students exiting the examination hall. The initiative aims to 'connect' students with the developed India mission through various activities. Following the directions of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chandra Bhushan Sharma, a schedule of nearly 35 activities has been planned to be conducted by mid-October. Prior to this, meetings were held with NSS volunteers and selected research scholars to strategize effective implementation of the

program. The NSS Unit-1 students also presented a tableau on youth connect during the Independence Day celebrations. Dr. Singh shared details about the 'My Bharat' portal and registration process with both students and faculty, forming teams to accelerate participation. The program is expected to inspire Vinoba Bhave University's youth towards contributing to India's development goals by 2047, while also enhancing the university's national recognition.

ISECT University organizes one-day seminar

DB Reporter
Hazaribagh. Carrot grass, which is spreading rapidly from farms to village paths and vacant lands in the city, has become a serious problem for both farmers and the general public. In view of its solution, the Agricultural Faculty of ISECT University celebrated Parthenium Awareness Week from 16 August to 22 August, under which farmers were made aware about it by visiting various places of Tarawa, Hutpa and Harli. On the occasion of the closing ceremony on Friday, a one-day seminar was organized in Daru Panchayat Bhawan, in which Mukhiya Sunil Kumar participated as the main partici-



pant. During this, Mukhiya Sunil Kumar praised the awareness program of ISECT University and said that making farmers aware from time to time by the university is not only helpful for advanced agriculture but its positive effect is also being seen on the yield, for this the Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Vice Chancellor and Dean of

Agriculture Faculty, Head of Department and others of the University deserve thanks. Dr Arvind Kumar, Head of the Agriculture Department, present on the occasion, said that Parthenium or carrot grass is actually an annual herbaceous plant, whose biggest specialty is that it can thrive in any kind of environment. This is the reason

that in a short time it occupies the fields and stops the growth of crops and the poisonous elements present in it not only harm the fertility of the soil, but also reduce the yield of crops sown nearby. Not only this, its pollen is also harmful for human health. In such a situation, it is very important to know about it. At the same time, Head of the Department Dr SP Vishwakarma said that this grass also has another aspect. He told that if it is used from a scientific point of view, then it can prove to be a boon rather than a curse. Research has found that it is possible to manufacture many types of pesticides, bactericides and weed killers from carrot grass.

10 Years Rigorous Imprisonment in Attempt-to-Murder Case, 50,000 Fine Imposed

DB Reporter
Medininagar (Palamu): The Principal District and Sessions Judge Diwakar Pandey on Friday sentenced Manish Kumar Sharma, a resident of Chhechouri village under Pandwa police station, to 10 years of rigorous imprisonment in an attempt-to-murder case. The court also imposed a fine of ₹50,000, failing which the convict will have to undergo an additional one year of simple imprisonment. The case pertains to Pandwa P.S. Case No. 45/2023, regis-



tered on June 25, 2023 under Sections 341, 323, 325, 307, 504, and 506 of the IPC, based on the complaint filed by Manoj Kumar, son of Krishna Ram of Chhechouri village. According to the FIR, on the night of June 8, 2023, around 12 midnight, the accused Manish

Kumar Sharma attacked Krishna Ram with a knife on his neck with the intent to kill him. Hearing the commotion, family members rushed out and saw the accused fleeing. When Krishna Ram's son tried to chase him, the accused threatened to kill him as well.

Deputy Commissioner Holds Public Grievance Hearing, Orders Prompt Solutions

DB Reporter
Hazaribagh: Deputy Commissioner Shashi Prakash Singh organized a public grievance hearing at his office, where numerous villagers presented their issues. Singh attentively listened to each complaint and directed officials to take immediate action. Key issues raised included pension approvals, ration card corrections, housing, manipulation in Registry-2, supply concerns, land disputes, family conflicts, and employment.

The Deputy Commissioner instructed officers to resolve matters sensitively and within stipulated timeframes. Significant cases addressed included Abhishek Kumar's complaint of Registry-2 manipu-



lation in Ichak, illegal school construction on gifted land reported by Jhanwa Turi, and land grabbing allegations in Laratango village of Darlu block. Singh ordered thorough investi-

gations by relevant officials. Additionally, swift action was directed on land measurement issues in Vishnugarh, Mayia Samman scheme benefits for Ruby Kumari, and lease renewal complaints by Anil Kumar

Khandelwal. Deputy Commissioner Singh emphasized that the administration is committed to providing timely and effective solutions, urging officials to prioritize public grievances.

70 Liquor Shops Allotted via E-Lottery in Palamu, 112.30 Crore Revenue Projected

DB Reporter
Medininagar (Palamu): A total of 70 liquor shops have been allotted in Palamu district through a transparent e-lottery process, including 7 country liquor outlets and 63 composite shops. The information was confirmed by Excise Superintendent Sanjeet Kumar. The district is expected to generate ₹112.30 crore in revenue from liquor sales over the remaining seven months of the 2025-26 financial year. Notably, two shops in Hariharganj alone are projected to contribute ₹23.15 crore. The shop allotted to Anand Kumar Mathur is expected to generate ₹11.47 crore, while one allotted to Manasa Devi, a woman applicant, is set to yield ₹12.49 crore. In Medininagar, the Chhah Muhan outlet was allotted to Ankit Kumar Tiwari for ₹6.22 crore. Earlier, the district had 79 operational liquor outlets. The fresh allotment process began on August 8 and concluded on August 20, with 477 applications



received from Jharkhand and neighboring states including Bihar, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh. Kumar explained that the top-ranked applicant in the e-lottery is given priority to complete formalities. If the applicant fails to do so, the opportunity passes to the next candidate in line. The process aims to ensure fairness and maximize state revenue.

Panchayat Representatives Submit 8-Point Demand Charter to CM and Governor

DB Reporter
Ranchi: The Jharkhand State Three-Tier Panchayat Representatives' Association has submitted an eight-point memorandum to Chief Minister Hemant Soren and Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan, demanding immediate action to address key issues faced by grassroots representatives. The association said of statewide agitation if their demands are not met promptly. Their primary demands include the immediate release of 15th Finance Commission and State Finance Commission funds to Panchayats, ₹30 lakh compensation for accidental death of a representative, post-service pension, monthly honorarium similar to Kerala, and full rights to utilize both tied and



untied funds. Additional demands include the restoration of withdrawn financial powers, provision of personal security through bodyguards and arms licenses, the use of DMFT funds as per Panchayati Raj norms, and special discretionary

funds for Panchayat representatives, akin to those granted to MPs and MLAs. The association emphasized that fulfilling these demands is vital for empowering local self-governance and preserving the dignity of elected representatives.

Thorough Investigation Ordered into Flat Sales on Agreement in Dhanbad

DB Reporter
Dhanbad: Aditya Ranjan, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, today reviewed revenue collection across various departments. During the registration department's review, it was revealed that many multi-story buildings are conducting flat sales through registered agreements instead of proper registration, which is mandatory. The Deputy Commissioner directed a detailed investigation into all such multi-story buildings to curb flat sales based solely on agreements. He also instructed the registration department to review agreements older than 4 years and 11 months, whose validity has expired, and cancel them accordingly. Additionally, notices will be issued to buildings with approved



maps and completed construction, urging owners to complete flat registrations. The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that lack of registration causes significant revenue loss to the state government. During the review of the agricul-

tural market, inquiries were made about the number of shops and warehouses and the monthly rent collected. The Deputy Commissioner instructed the agricultural market's rent secretary to propose new constructions and rent revisions.

Tata Steel JDC Rafting concludes with thrilling competition and sportsmanship

DB Reporter
Jamshedpur : Tata Steel JDC Rafting event, held at Dimna, concluded today with an exhilarating display of teamwork and sportsmanship. Out of 26 teams that participated, 22 teams completed the challenging course, showcasing the determination and spirit of around 200 participants. In a closely contested competition, EQMS & Engineering Services emerged as the winners, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and rafting skills. HSM secured the runner-up position, while Coke



Plant claimed the second runner-up spot. The event was a grand success, promoting camaraderie, teamwork, and adventure among the participants. Congratulations to the winners and all participants for their remark-

able achievements. Sanjay Singh, Vice President, Tata Workers' Union and Chairman, Sports Advisory Committee, felicitated the winners, applauding their outstanding performance and sportsmanship.

Preparations for food distribution through Smart-PDS complete from September

DB Reporter
Hazaribagh. Food distribution will start in Hazaribagh district from September under the Smart-PDS scheme. For this, all the Public Distribution System vendors of the district were given training on food distribution and machine operation through e-PoS machine. The training work was completed by Visiontech technicians Mr. Naresh Kumar, Amit Gupta, Kundan Kumar Singh, Devchand Kumar Mahato, Manoj Kumar



Sinha and Chhatrapati Mahato. During the training, the e-PoS machines of all the public distribution vendors were also upgraded. On this occasion, District Supply Officer Mr. Murali Yadav provided detailed information about the Smart-PDS scheme to all the vendors present and resolved the questions and problems raised by the vendors during the training.

Mukhiya Sangh demanded arrest in Mohan Mahato murder case from Barkagaon police

DB Reporter
Barkagaon. The Mukhiya Sangh had a formal meeting with the Barkagaon police station in-charge Krishna Kumar Gupta regarding various problems of Barkagaon and to restore peace. During this, the President of the Barkagaon Mukhiya Sangh and MP representative Ranjit Kumar informed about various problems and also informed about the fact that no one has been arrested yet in the murder case of Panchayat Samiti member Mohan Mahato of Gondalpur Panchayat two years ago and



demanding that the culprits be arrested and sent to jail as soon as possible. The police station in-charge assured the public representatives and said that further action will be taken after investigating the matter. On the occasion, mainly the President

of the Mukhiya Sangh and MP representative Ranjit Kumar, Mukhiya Aniket Nayak, Geeta Devi, Kavita Devi, Baby Devi, Neelam Minj, Mukhiya representative Beagle Chaudhary, Sanit Mahato, Rajkumar Saaav and others were present.

AYUSH Block Level Health Check-up Camp Organized

DB Reporter
Ichak. a block-level health camp was organized at the Community Health Center, Ichak, by the courtesy of District AYUSH Committee Hazaribagh. The program was inaugurated by BDO Santosh Kumar by lighting the lamp and was conducted by Dr. Shailendra Kumar Rai. The BDO conducted a health check-up at the camp and took the program forward. In the health camp,



under the AYUSH department, 285 patients including old-age, Karunya, Murkulo, PVT GS

camps were set up and Ayurvedic, Homeopathic treatment was given to 285 patients including

Divyang. In which walker, crutches, stick, kneecap, labour bailer, cervical bailer, stool pen, urine pout, napkin, undergarment etc. were given to the needy patients. District Dr. Bijay Kumar Tiwari, Dr. Rahuldev Rana, yoga teacher Surendra Ram, Lalita Kumari, Aarti Kumari, Neeraj Kumar, Sahiya Nisha Kumari, Sarita Devi, Munni Devi, Kaushalya Devi, Chinta Devi, etc. were present in the program.

Dalit woman accuses school operator of usurping land donated by her, submits application to DC

DB Reporter
Ichak. Dalit widow Jhaanwa Devi of Hadari Turi Colony of the block has filed an application in the DC's Janta Darbar and has accused GD National School's operator Shweta Verma, wife of Uday Kumar Singh, New Area Hazaribagh, of usurping the land

donated by her. In the application submitted in the DC's Janta Darbar on August 22, the woman has said that one acre 30 decimal land under account number 03 plot number 2586/15 of Mauja Hadari was given to my ancestors by the Bhudan Committee during the time of undivided Bihar. My ancestors

had been encroaching on it. GD National School's operator Shweta Verma, wife of Uday Kumar Singh, has forcibly occupied it and built a building. My family members were living on the land donated by farming. But after the land was usurped, farming has stopped.

Teenage girl jumps from railway police in Nawalshahi, referred to Sadar in critical condition

DB Reporter
D o m c h a n c h (Koderma): A teenage girl has attempted suicide by jumping on the railway track from the Purnanagar railway bridge of Koderma-Giridih railway section under Nawalshahi police station area. Due to which the girl has been seriously injured. The injured girl has been identified as a 17-year-old girl resident of Purnanagar under Nawalshahi police station area. According to the information received, there was a dispute between the girl and her family on Thursday late night regarding some-



thing. After which on Friday afternoon, she went alone towards the railway track and reached near the Purnanagar railway bridge and jumped on the railway track from there. Due to which she was seriously injured.

Meanwhile, a villager passing by saw her and informed her family about it. After which the family reached there and hurriedly took her to Koderma Sadar Hospital where her treatment is going on.

Karnataka's groundwater crisis worsens with 45 taluks completely running dry: Report

New Delhi, Agency: Groundwater has been fully depleted in 45 taluks across Karnataka, Minister for Minor Irrigation NS Boseraju informed the Legislative Council on Thursday.

The alarming revelation came as Boseraju presented the Karnataka Groundwater (Regulation and Control of Development and Management) (Amendment) Act, 2025 in the Council, Deccan Herald reported.

He noted that Karnataka has slipped two positions on the national groundwater index, from seventh to ninth, reflecting the growing crisis. While 45 taluks have recorded 100% groundwater depletion,

the minister also highlighted that the situation remains “critical” in 92 other taluks and “semi-critical” in 33 more, the report further added.

“Measures are being taken in keeping with the Centre’s directions to increase groundwater levels in the state,” Boseraju assured. The bill was passed after it was debated by 15 Members of the Legislative Council (MLCs) from both the ruling and opposition parties, who shared their views and concerns on the legislation.

Bengaluru’s dependence on groundwater has reached a breaking point, with both its urban and rural zones recording 100% extraction rates in 2024, as per the latest report



by the Central Groundwater Board. This essentially means the city is drawing as much groundwater as is being naturally replenished, leaving no safety margin for future demand, according to a Times of India report. The crisis is not new. For more than a decade, Bengaluru has been extracting nearly twice the amount of groundwater it can naturally recharge, pushing its reserves into an unsustainable zone. Data from the Karnataka Groundwater Directorate further highlights that the city has remained in the “over-exploited” category for several years, underscoring the urgent need for regulation and conservation efforts.

Two minor sisters found unconscious in Bharatpur after alleged assault Bengaluru apartment residents sponsor 10 free surgeries for domestic staff and workers: Report

Bharatpur, Agency: Two minor sisters were found unconscious on the roadside in Rajasthan’s Bharatpur after allegedly being attacked and assaulted by unidentified men, police said on Friday.

Locals, who found the 17-year-old and 18-year-old unconscious on the road, took them to Raj Bahadur Memorial Hospital and informed the police.

“Police received information that two sisters were admitted to the hospital after being found unconscious,” additional superintendent of police Shankar Lal said.

According to police officers, the two school students, who are currently preparing for competitive exams, go to a coaching cen-

tre in Bharatpur city daily on a motorcycle from their village and return in the evening.

“They alleged that after returning from the coaching centre, they had gone out for an evening walk when some men turned up in a car and started assaulting them,” an officer said.

The girls alleged that when they opposed the men assaulting them, they were attacked with iron rods.

“When my sister tried to call our parents, they snatched her phone. They have been harassing us for ten days. I can identify them if they come before me,” one of the sisters said.

The police have recorded the statements of the girls and are investigating the matter.

New Delhi, Agency: In a remarkable act of community care, residents from nearly 30 apartment complexes in Bengaluru came together to offer vital medical support to the unsung heroes of their neighbourhoods, their operational staff.

In collaboration with Manipal Hospital on Kanakapura Road, the residents facilitated 10 free surgeries on Wednesday for essential workers including gardeners, electricians, plumbers, security guards, domestic helps, and cleaners. The initiative, coordinated by various residential communities, aimed to ease the medical burden for workers who often cannot



afford such care, Times of India reported.

According to the report, apartment complexes such as Prestige Falcon City, Sobha Forest View, and Mantri Serenity were among

those that actively participated in this effort, each nominating individuals in need of surgical intervention.

“Our goal is to honour the trust of our neighbourhood communities while ensuring customer centricity remains at the heart of our care,” said a representative from the organising committee as per the publication. One of the recipients was eight-year-old Subash, a student at Government School in Kaggalipura, who suffers from a rare congenital condition called tracheoesophageal fistula, a disorder where the windpipe and food pipe are abnormally connected.

Subash’s family, unable to afford the surgery, found hope through the support of Chain Makers of Kanakapura Road (CMKR), a federation of 150 associations that nominated him for the procedure, the report added.

Manipur Naga bodies to meet central govt representatives for talks on FMR

New Delhi, Agency: Members of Manipur’s Naga apex body United Naga Council (UNC) are scheduled to meet with representatives of the central government on August 26 in New Delhi to discuss the Free Movement Regime (FMR) and border fencing in Naga areas of Manipur.

The delegation, led by UNC President Ng. Lorho will include members from the UNC working committee, the All Naga Students’ Association, Manipur (ANSAM), and the Naga Women’s Union (NWU).

The talks will address growing concerns over the impact of border fencing on traditional Naga territories and the implications of scrapping the FMR, which has long facilitated cross-border movement for Naga communi-



ties. Samson Remei, Convenor of the UNC Working Committee; Vareiy Shatsang, general secretary of UNC, Th. Angteshang Maring (ANSAM President) and Ch. Priscilla Thiumai (NWU President), will be part of the delegation. During a recent meeting with a

delegation of UNC and governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla held on August 16, the governor assured the delegation that discussions with the Centre would be facilitated shortly. Earlier, on August 11, the United Naga Council (UNC) cautioned in a statement that the government’s “indifferent attitude” required “stringent action” and said it would announce its mode of agitation within 15 days if grievances were not resolved. Manipur shares a 398-km border with Myanmar. Out of this, fencing has been completed on a 9-km stretch near Moreh, while another 21km is under construction along with roadwork. The FMR, which earlier allowed free movement up to 40km on both sides of the border, was reduced to 16km in 2004 and remains at that level.

Villages near Jewar airport to get campaigns on drone use, waste hazards



New Delhi, Agency: Noida Villages around the upcoming Noida International Airport in Jewar will soon see intensive awareness campaigns against drone flying, use of laser lights, and waste mismanagement that could endanger aircraft movement, officials said on Thursday.

The Gautam Budh Nagar administration has directed officials to prioritise outreach in rural pockets within a 20-km radius of the airport as part of its airfield environment and disaster management planning. Dedicated campaigns in these villages are expected to start before the first phase of operations in September 2025.

District magistrate Medha Rupam stressed that community cooperation is critical for airport safety. “The safety of an international airport does not depend only on security agencies and technology. It requires the cooperation of people living in its surroundings. Villagers have to be fully aware that seemingly routine activities – from letting cattle stray in open fields near the boundary to flying drones during weddings – can directly put passengers’ lives at risk,” she said. Rupam added that outreach will focus on sensitising residents about drone use, laser lights, and uncovered waste that attracts birds.

Officials from Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL) flagged wildlife activity, stray cattle, and uncovered waste as major risks in the Yamuna-side belt where several villages fall close to the boundary. “We are not only building infrastructure but also preparing the ecosystem around the airport.

‘Rename it not-so-NICE road’: Angry Bengaluru resident slams 306 toll for chaotic ride in viral post

Bengaluru, Agency: A Bengaluru commuter’s frustration over the condition of the NICE Road has gone viral on social media, sparking a wider conversation about the road’s chaotic traffic, hefty tolls, and lack of enforcement.

In a scathing post shared on X, the resident wrote, “NICE Road should be renamed as Not-so-NICE Road.” He complained about trucks occupying all lanes and crawling along at slow speeds, making it nearly impossible for other vehicles to pass safely.

“Some morons are overtaking left, right and centre, putting all drivers at risk,” he added. The user also pointed out the lack of safe braking distance and the dangers of driving in clusters due to the erratic traffic conditions.

Highlighting the steep cost of using the stretch, the post noted that the toll for travelling from Tumkur Road to Electronic City is ₹306 for just 43 kilometers, a per-kilometre rate of ₹7.10.

“For this torture, we pay hefty toll charges,” the



user wrote, demanding that either cars and two-wheelers receive discounts or at least be allotted a dedicated lane to escape the slow-moving truck traffic.

The post has struck a chord with fellow commuters, many of whom

chimed in with their own experiences. One user commented, “Please remember NICE Road was built as a city bypass, mainly meant for heavy vehicles. The city has grown way beyond and it’s become another MG Road. What’s worse than trucks are the two-wheelers, a menace wherever they go.”

Another added, “This problem isn’t just on NICE Road, it’s common across highways. One truck moves at 20 kmph, another overtakes at 21, and the third at 22, causing a gridlock.

Editorial

The centre is not a police station

Union Home Minister Amit Shah introduced the 130th Amendment Bill of the Constitution in the Lok Sabha. Serious and controversial provisions have been made in them. Actually, the basic principle of the Constitution is that until the court declares an accused as a criminal or guilty, the accused person is 'innocent', 'blameless', but the subject of the proposed bill is that if any Prime Minister, Union Minister, Chief Minister, State Government Minister remains in custody for 30 days, then on the 31st day he will become 'ineligible' for the constitutional post. He will have to resign or will be dismissed. The opposition has termed these provisions as anti-constitutional, anti-justice and anti-fundamental rights, so some opposition MPs have torn copies of the bill and thrown them towards the ruling party. It has also been termed as a 'demonic bill'. The Home Minister's argument is that this bill has been brought in view of morality and purification in the government and politics. This is half truth, because many such leaders were included in the BJP, against whom serious criminal cases were going on, but later the agencies tarnished them. Such leaders are Chief Ministers, MPs, MLAs. However, in view of the uproar and opposition in Parliament, it was announced to send the Constitution Amendment Bill to the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). The committee will have 21 MPs from Lok Sabha and 10 MPs from Rajya Sabha. Of course, more MPs will be from the ruling party, so one should not expect many amendments in the basic bill. The JPC has been asked to submit its report by the first day of the winter session of Parliament. Before analyzing the subject, it is worth noting the ADR report that about 46 percent of the MPs who were elected to the Lok Sabha in the 2024 parliamentary elections have serious criminal cases registered against them. In 2009, this average was 30 percent. The 'friend of the court' of the Supreme Court has told it that about 5000 criminal cases are still pending against MPs and MLAs. In view of this data, introducing such a Constitution Amendment Bill in Parliament is not expected and acceptable. In fact, different roles of the central and state governments have been fixed in the Constitution. Their rights have also been defined. The federal structure cannot be affected. The central government cannot assume the role of a 'police station'. It is possible that while making the bill, the example of former Delhi Chief Minister Kejriwal must have been in the minds of the central government and officials! Kejriwal was kept in jail for 177 days. Neither charges were framed against him in the court nor did any court declare him 'guilty'. Such laws should be amended. Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren was kept in jail for 5 months. Ultimately, he got bail, but till date no charge has been proved against him. Satyendra Jain, who was a minister in the Delhi government, was kept in jail for more than 2 years. Ultimately, the CBI presented a closure report in his case in the court and Jain was completely acquitted.

Our health infrastructure and Dr. Bhagwat's statement

as recently raised serious questions on the expensive health and education system in Indore. Expensive medical facilities in India, the world's most populous country, are undoubtedly a matter of concern.

Dr. Ajay Khemriya

RSS chief Dr. Mohan Bhagwat h Recently, while hearing a case, the Allahabad High Court had said that private hospitals consider patients as ATMs. Actually, India's health sector is full of serious discrepancies. On the one hand, we are at the top in the world in the production of cheap medicines and vaccines, but our own citizens spend the most money from their pockets on their health in the world. Many organizations of the world are accepting that economic discrimination is decreasing in the country, but it is also a fact that about 7 percent of the people in the country reach the pit of poverty every year due to expensive treatment. Last year, a bill related to kidney treatment of a private hospital in Delhi was made for Rs 2473894. This is just a sample of how the health system of the private sector is working. The latest report of ACKO India Health Index says that the rate of increase in cost of treatment in the country is 14% every year. According to a government data, despite a great scheme like Ayushman Bharat, 40% of the people in the country are still spending from their own pockets on their health, which is called OOPE (Out of Pocket Expenditure). This figure is much higher than the global average of 18%. However, after Ayushman Bharat, government expenditure on health has

increased from 29 to 48%, which is a good indicator. The problem that Dr. Mohan Bhagwat has drawn attention to is underlining the pain of the common man because 23% of the people are still forced to borrow for hospital expenses. The most important aspect of expensive health services is related to medicines because medicines are still very expensive. During treatment in the private sector, 70 to 90% of allopathy medicines are being used as branded ones, whereas the government has started Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra for cheap generic medicines. The prices of up to 90% of the medicines at these centres are less than those of branded medicines. Government efforts for generic medicines are not bearing fruit due to the pressure of the pharma lobby. Till now, 15057 generic stores have been opened across the country and the anomaly is that branded medicines are also being sold along with generic ones in these stores. The annual turnover of allopathy medicines in India is 4.2 lakh crores. About 3 lakh crores worth of medicines are consumed in the Indian market and medicines worth 1.2 lakh crores are exported. The government needs to work in this area on top priority. Currently, branded medicines are being sold 30 to 2000 percent more expensive than generic medicines. By stopping this organized business of branded medicines, expensive

treatment can be brought down in a jiffy. Actually, the country also needs a drug revolution like the green revolution because there is no special regulation in this sector right now. At the time of independence, medicines with European patents were expensive because we did not have production here. After the Patent Act in 1970, India did unprecedented work in the manufacture of medicines. Today we are the world's leading producer. The world has seen this strength of India in the corona vaccine. The second factor for expensive treatment is the corporatization of the health sector because till 1980, only charitable trusts or foundations were active as health providers in the country and the main objective of all was service and not profit. In return, the government gave free land to the poor in the name of cheap treatment and local employment and provided tax concessions. Today new players have come in this sector whose aim is to do business like corporate houses. This is the reason that two-thirds of the country's hospitals are in urban areas and only one-third of the population is getting coverage of services from these hospitals. The concentration of private hospitals is dense in urban areas because investors keep an eye on areas with more money. The fact to be noted is that the majority of patients coming to these urban areas suffer from diseases that

can be cured on initial complaint, but the structure of public services is almost dead at the rural and town level. As a result, the dependence of the common man on urban health services becomes a compulsion. It is a fact that for the first time after independence, work has started in a systematic manner on health and related services. The Modi government has instituted basic work in the last ten years in the three major health-related areas of drinking water, sanitation and housing. Work is also in progress in mission mode on these three subjects. Similarly, the Ayushman Bharat scheme has also worked to bring down the private expenditure on health (OOPE) from 63 to 40 percent. As of January 2025, 36.9 crore Ayushman cards are functional in the country. Under the scheme, the government has so far spent an amount of Rs 1.40 lakh crore on the treatment of 8.5 crore people. There are also two spots behind this picture which are not being discussed. Firstly, 4.3 crore patients have been treated in private hospitals under Ayushman and this figure is 4.2 in government hospitals. There is not a single state in the country where private hospitals have not committed fraud in the Ayushman scheme. That is, billions of rupees have been embezzled by showing patients as admitted without actually admitting them.

Challan of Lord Ganesha

Mridula Shrivastava

People are dancing and singing on the occasion of Ganesh Visarjan on the road of Andheri West, Mumbai. 'Aayo re-aayo re, my Ganesh ji aayo re. Ganpati Bappa Moraya. Come early next year.' 'I have told you that I will not come to your earth now.' Ganesh ji was saying something like this that day, tearfully. Just then Narad ji heard him the challan notice. Ganesh ji's vehicle neighed like a horse. Mouse ji

stopped a bit. Ganesh ji was a little scared. 'What happened to my vehicle? It is not moving forward... move ahead brother my mouse. XUV 30, my latest model.' Mouse hit his neck. 'Read the notice first. I knew this will happen. If you want to go to jail, then go. But don't make me wait. How many times did I tell you that you are sitting in the front seat, wear a seat belt. Then he said, I am the destroyer of obstacles. No one will harm me. But Mr.

Ganesh ji! Traffic rules are for everyone. You are not some big shot. If you ride without seat belt, you will have to pay 2500 rupees. I will not go to custody. So what if I am a mouse. After all, do I have any respect or not? Get down here. Otherwise I will make you roll. Ganesh ji got nervous. Which troublemaker should I call now to remove my obstacle? He is also thinking whether he should shake his trunk or hang it? Hold your ears brother, now I will

never ride without seat belt, forget mouse, even ant. Look, even the latest model of XUV 300 is not able to impress these traffic police vs uncles of Mumbai. Do you not even feel pity that the driver of my car worth lakhs is my mouse, but no, he slapped a challan. Sent the slip through Narada ji. Oh God! Protect me. I will feed you modaks. Oh, I am Ganesh myself. Who am I saying this to? ...Hey! So what if it is Ganesh? Rules are rules,

Bhaiya. ...Forgive me uncle, I will follow the rules of every road of this earth's Atal Road Scheme built at every step. I don't have a single penny to give you. ...Oh, these people have made my ornaments out of clay. ...Hey Bhaiya, you could have used a little gold. And if you had to decorate me, you could have made me wear real gold ornaments, what would have happened? You could have taken them off at the time of immersion.

The noose around Naxals is tightening in Chhattisgarh: Meaningful results are starting to emerge

- Dr. Mayank Chaturvedi

The land of Chhattisgarh has been bearing the tragedy of red terror for a long time. Naxals once held sway from Dantewada to Bastar and Narayanpur, the sounds of guns reverberated in the forests and the tribal society was forced to live in the shadow of fear and insecurity, but now in the last few years, there has been a decisive change in this picture. The coordinated strategy of the state government and the central government, the continuous crackdown by the security forces and the parallel policies of development and rehabilitation have done the work that seemed impossible for years. It is seen that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP government of the state and their vision of a Naxal-free India, many such initiatives are bringing about a change in the lives of people living in those areas of the country, which were once 'forbidden areas' of the country. The incident of Narayanpur is the latest example, where eight Naxals, including two women, have

surrendered. A total reward of Rs 30 lakh was announced on them. Many of them were notorious Maoist leaders. Sukhlal was active as a divisional committee member and "Maoist doctor", there was a reward of eight lakhs on his head. Similarly, Hurra was also associated with Company No. 1 PPCM and there was also a reward of eight lakhs on his head. Podiam was an area committee member and deputy commander of the local organization squad. Women members like Kamala and Deepa were also handling important responsibilities in the organization. These surrenders make it clear that the morale of the Maoists is continuously breaking even inside the forests. The big impact of campaigns like "Operation Prahar" and "Operation Dawn" is visible . In fact, this series is not limited to Narayanpur only. In the past years, security forces conducted many big operations in areas like Bastar, Sukma, Kanker, Dantewada and Bijapur. Chhattisgarh Police and central forces together conducted campaigns like "Operation Prahar" and

"Operation Dawn", in which big Naxalites were killed one after the other. Notorious Maoist leader Hidma, who was considered the most dangerous face of the Bastar Division Committee, was on the radar of security agencies for a long time. The way his network was broken is an example of the success of the state's security strategy. Apart from this, the backbone of the organization has been broken due to the death or surrender of Mandvi Hidma, Gudsa Usendi and many other notorious commanders. Naxalism is not just a battle of guns, it is also a battle of ideology. The Maoist organization kept misleading the tribals in the name of their development and kept them away from the government and the system by talking about their rights. But when the central and state governments decided that development would be used as a weapon, the picture started changing. Roads were built, bridges were built, schools and hospitals opened, mobile towers were erected and for the first time the presence of the government and administration was felt in

the tribal areas. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said many times that "Naxalism will end not with bullets of guns, but with the light of development." This thinking seems to be the backbone of Chhattisgarh's strategy. Chief Minister Vishnudev Sai also said recently that "Our priority is not only law and order, but to integrate tribal society with the mainstream and provide them a fear-free environment. The rehabilitation policy is part of this thinking." This is the same policy that inspired the surrendered Naxalites of Narayanpur to give up arms. The state government has given them immediate assistance of Rs 50,000 each and also guaranteed further education, employment and social rehabilitation. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has also reiterated several times that the government's goal is to free the country from Naxalism by 2026. In his words, "Naxalism has been the biggest obstacle to the development and democracy of this country. We

have made historic progress in the last ten years towards eradicating it and now this terror is in its last stage." In fact, the figures confirm this claim. In the last decade, the number of Naxal-affected districts has halved. Where once more than 126 districts including Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar were affected by this red terror, today their number has shrunk to less than 18. In which six districts are most affected, Bijapur, Kanker, Narayanpur and Sukma of Chhattisgarh, West Singhbhum of Jharkhand and Gadchiroli of Maharashtra. At the same time, six districts are in the 'worrying category', Andhra Pradesh (Alluri Sitaram Raju), Madhya Pradesh (Balaghat), Odisha (Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Malkangiri), Telangana (Bhadrachalam, Kothagudem). Similarly, now other affected districts include Chhattisgarh (Dantewada, Gariaband, Mohla-Manpur-Ambagadh Chowki), Jharkhand (Latehar), Odisha (Nuapada), Telangana (Mulugu).

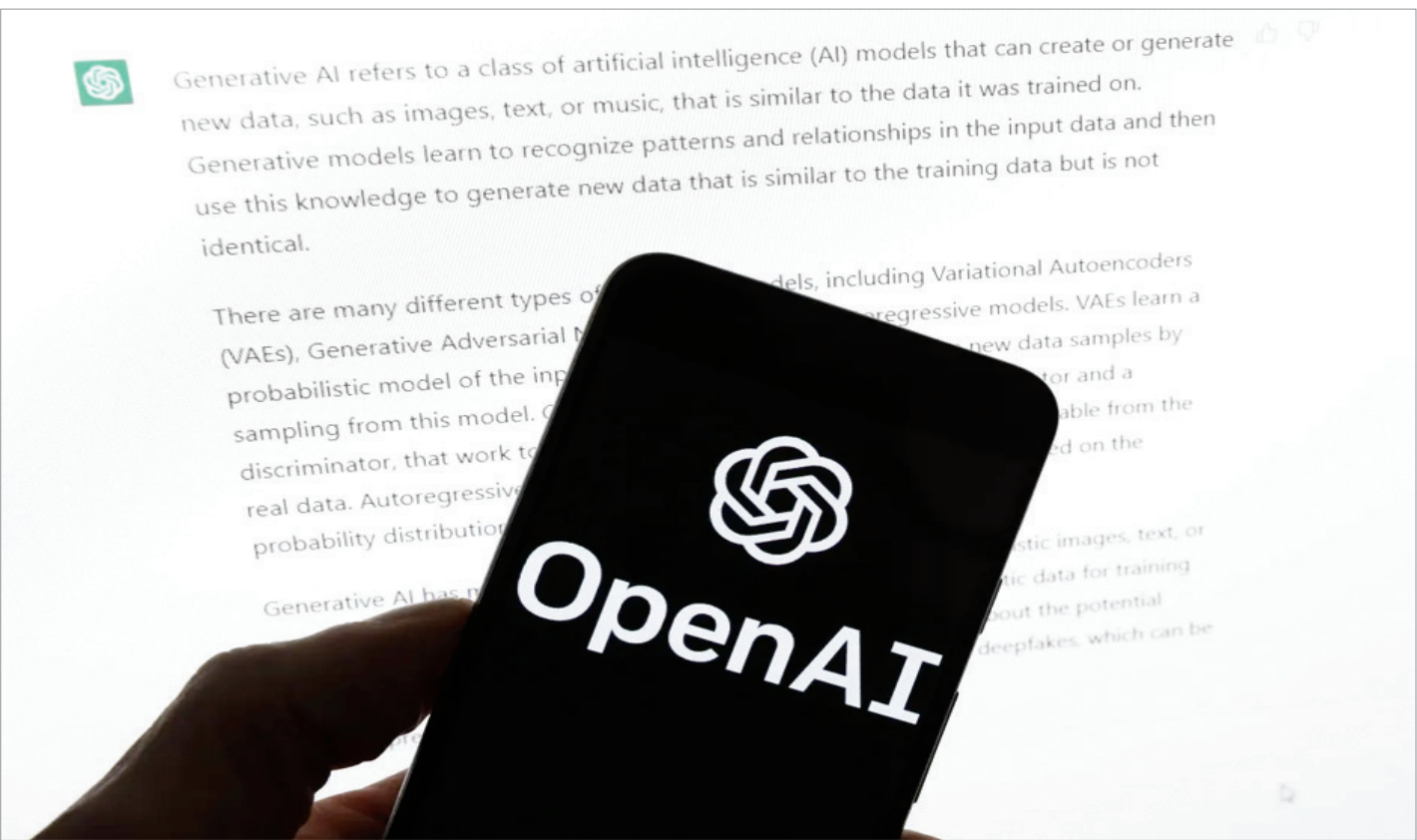
OpenAI announces its first India office in New Delhi, hiring for new roles

New Delhi:OpenAI announced Friday that it will establish its first office in New Delhi later this year. This move highlights the rapid adoption of its AI tools in India, which is the second-largest market for ChatGPT after the U.S. and one of its fastest-growing.

OpenAI has officially created an entity in India and has started hiring a dedicated local team. In a statement, the company said opening an office in India reflects its support for the IndiaAI Mission and its commitment to partnering with the government to "build AI for India, with India".

This expansion will also allow OpenAI to better serve its millions of users in India, including students, educators, professionals, and developers who use its tools for learning, creativity, and problem-solving. The company noted that this decision underscores India's global leadership in AI, its thriving ecosystem, and the growing demand for OpenAI's advanced tools across the country.

Data from OpenAI shows that India is a leading country for AI adoption. The number of weekly active ChatGPT users in India has more than quadrupled in the past year. The country also ranks among the top five developer markets globally on the OpenAI platform and has



the largest population of students using ChatGPT worldwide.

Commitment to the Indian Market

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman stated, "The level of excitement and opportunity for AI in India is incredible. India has all the ingredients to become a global AI leader: amazing tech talent, a world-class developer

ecosystem, and strong government support through the IndiaAI Mission".

He added, "Opening our first office and building a local team is an important first step in our commitment to make advanced AI more accessible across the country and to build AI for India, and with India".

The local team will also focus on

strengthening relationships with local partners, government agencies, businesses, and academic institutions. The company is dedicated to listening to users, customers, and partners in India to create features and tools specifically for the region, making advanced AI more affordable and accessible.

This news follows recent initia-

tives developed for the Indian market, such as ChatGPT Go, the OpenAI Academy, and enhanced support for Indic languages.

Government perspective

Ashwini Vaishnaw, the Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, said, "OpenAI's decision to establish a presence in India reflects the country's growing leadership in digital innovation and AI adoption". He added that with strong investments in digital public infrastructure and AI talent, India is uniquely positioned to drive the next wave of AI-led transformation.

The minister noted that the IndiaAI Mission is building an ecosystem for trusted and inclusive AI, and he welcomes OpenAI's partnership in this vision to ensure AI's benefits reach every citizen.

According to OpenAI, local businesses and institutions are already using its tools to tackle critical challenges, such as AI-powered agricultural services, streamlined recruitment, and effective governance.

Looking ahead, OpenAI will host its first Education Summit in India this month and its first Developer Day later this year to bring together the country's AI community. The company is actively hiring for roles in India and will announce more details about the new office and future plans in the coming months.

Meta freezes AI hiring after recruiting top talent from Google, OpenAI and Microsoft

New Delhi:Meta, one of the leading names in the social media world, owning Facebook, Instagram and more, has reportedly halted hiring in its artificial intelligence (AI) division- including roles for researchers and engineers. The move was taken after months of aggressive talent acquisition, where the company lured top AI experts from rivals like Google, OpenAI, Microsoft and Anthropic.

As per the Wall Street Journal report, the freeze began last week, although Meta has already brought on board more than 50 researchers at salaries ranging between seven and eight figures.

Why did Meta stop hiring?

Meta has recently hired the best talent from the leading companies, which seems to be the reason for the freeze on hiring. Although Meta has not yet specified a direct reason, but the insiders claim that the pause is a part of the company's yearly organisational and financial planning.



A Meta spokesperson confirmed the freeze, calling it a step towards "creating a solid structure for our new superintelligence efforts after bringing people on board and undertaking budgeting exercises."

The freeze also comes after reports that Meta attempted to acquire several AI startups to absorb their talent. One notable case involved Thinking Machines Lab, founded by ex-OpenAI COO Mira Murati. Meta reportedly offered nearly USD 1 billion (around Rs 8,700 crore) to co-founder Andrew Tulloch, but the deal did not go through.

Sony increases PlayStation 5 price in US by USD 50 amid Trump's tariff impact

New Delhi:Sony Interactive Entertainment has confirmed that the PlayStation 5 Standard Edition will now cost more than usual (USD 550), while the Digital Edition will retail at USD 500. The high-end PS5 Pro version will be priced at USD 750.

The move follows recent US trade tariffs on Japanese imports, which increased costs for companies like Sony. Isabelle Tomatis, VP of global marketing at Sony Interactive Entertainment, said the decision was made to navigate "a challenging economic environment."

Tariffs are driving up costs

The Trump administration had initially proposed a 25 per cent tariff on Japanese imports but later agreed to 15 per cent after negotiations. Sony had earlier



er warned that tariffs could add nearly USD 680 million to its annual costs, prompting price adjustments in the American market. Other global businesses are also struggling with the new tariff impact. For instance, cosmetics giant Estee Lauder expects losses of around USD 100 million in the 2026 fiscal year, while PepsiCo may increase soft drink prices by 10 per cent due to rising costs of aluminium cans. Energy drink maker Monster Beverages is also considering price hikes.

Wider Tariff impact across industries

The US Commerce Department recently broadened tariffs on steel and aluminium, affecting hundreds of products, from child seats and tableware to heavy machinery.

Dream11, MPL, Zupee suspend real-money gaming in India following parliamentary ban

New Delhi:Online gaming companies such as Dream11, Mobile Premier League (MPL), and Zupee Ludo have suspended all of their real-money gaming offerings in India. This decision comes after Parliament passed a bill to ban all forms of online money games.

On Thursday, Parliament passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, with the Rajya Sabha approving it without debate. The bill aims to prohibit all forms of online money games while promoting eSports and online social gaming.

In a LinkedIn post, MPL stated that it respects the law and will fully comply with the ban on online money games in India.

"Effective immediately, we are suspending all gaming offerings involving money on

the MPL platform in India," the post said. "Our foremost priority is our users. While new deposits will no longer be accepted, customers will be able to withdraw their balances seamlessly. However, online money games will not be available on the MPL platform anymore".

MPL has more than 120 million registered users across Asia, Europe, and North America.

Dream11, Zupee Ludo stop real money contests

Gaming platform Zupee has also announced that it will discontinue all of its paid games. According to a report on BT, a company spokesperson said, "Zupee remains fully operational, and our players can continue to enjoy their favorite games on the platform. In line with the new Online Gaming Bill 2025, we are discontinuing paid games,



but our hugely popular free titles like Ludo Supreme, Ludo Turbo, Snakes & Ladders, and Trump Card Mania will continue to be available for all users for free".According to reports, in an internal note, Dream Sports CEO Harsh Jain informed employees that there is "no legal pathway" to continue Dream11's paid con-

tests once the law is enacted. The company has briefed both full-time and contractual staff on a transition plan.



Akshara Singh dazzled in a green saree

In the video, Akshara’s charming look, gentle smile, and stylish poses are captivating her fans. She is shooting the video in different styles wearing a saree—sometimes walking forward, sometimes posing from behind the trees. She is also seen enjoying the weather while playfully letting her pallu flow in the air.

Bhojpuri actress Akshara Singh is often in the limelight for her excellent acting and stunning style. She frequently posts her pictures and videos on social media. Continuing this trend, Akshara shared a video on Wednesday. In the video posted on Instagram, she looks absolutely gorgeous in a green saree. Fans can’t stop praising her smile in the clip. Her captivating look, gentle smile, and stylish poses are winning hearts. She is seen

shooting in different styles—sometimes walking forward, sometimes posing from behind trees, and at times enjoying the breeze while playfully tossing her saree’s pallu in the air.

This look not only highlights her beauty but also shows that she is no less than anyone when it comes to fashion while keeping her simplicity intact. The actress has added the romantic short film Bumbling’s song Finally We Met to the video.

Shankar Mahadevan and his sons release devotional song Jai Shri Ganesh

Singer Shankar Mahadevan, along with his sons Siddharth and Shivam Mahadevan, released a devotional track titled Jai Shri Ganesh on Wednesday. The song captures the spirit of devotion and festivity associated with Ganesh Chaturthi. Sharing his thoughts about the song, Shankar Mahadevan said, “Jai Shri Ganesh is a celebratory track filled with the inspiration of Lord Ganesh. It blends devotion with joy. I will be truly happy if people welcome Bappa with this song.”

Siddharth Mahadevan added that the atmosphere of Jai Shri Ganesh is completely festive. He said, “The moment anyone listens to this track, they will feel like joining an aarti and dancing with joy.” Shivam Mahadevan expressed, “Singing this song dedicated to Ganpati Bappa with my father and brother is very special for me. We wanted to create a track that brings happiness and a festive spirit into every household.” Jai Shri Ganesh is now available worldwide on Times Music and all major music platforms.



Actress Neeru Bajwa Admits She Lied to Enter the Industry

Punjabi film industry’s renowned actress Neeru Bajwa is currently in the spotlight for her film Tehran. She revealed that to make her place in the film industry, she once had to rely on a lie.

In an exclusive conversation with IANS, the actress shared that there used to be a misconception in the industry about people coming from Canada. Because of this, she would tell everyone that she was from Chandigarh.

Neeru said, “Earlier in the industry, people believed that if you were from Canada, you wouldn’t know the local language well and wouldn’t be able to speak Indian or Punjabi fluently. So, I used to lie to people, saying I was from Chandigarh, and spoke in an Indian accent. I was fed up with that mindset. I also knew that no matter how much I explained, they wouldn’t believe me.” Speaking about her role preparation, Neeru shared that spy films helped her a lot. “I didn’t do any special preparation for the role.



When Soha Ali Khan took a fearful plunge into the water, she described that Rang De Basanti scene as terrifying

Actress Soha Ali Khan is currently in the spotlight for her podcast All About Her. In this show, she will not only interact with renowned personalities but also share some interesting anecdotes—stories that reflect both the strengths and vulnerabilities of women. One such story is about the famous Rang De Basanti scene where she had to jump into the water.

During the podcast promotions, in a conversation with IANS, Soha revealed that she was extremely scared while shooting that sequence. Her fear grew even more when she found out that she would be the first among the team to perform the stunt without a harness.

The actress shared that the filming of Rang De Basanti took almost a year since the team shot across several cities including Rajasthan, Punjab, Delhi, and Mumbai. “We got to travel across the country, and during this time, we formed a deep bond with the entire team, actors, and characters. For us, it was more than just a film—it was an experience, and audiences gave it immense love,” she said.

Recalling that particular moment from the song Masti Ki Pathshala, Soha said, “The scene was shot at a fort near Jaipur. During the shoot, everyone realized I was scared of jumping from such a height. I was told there would be no harness. At that time, I was new to the film industry, so I didn’t know things like you shouldn’t jump at the speed of gravity, and nobody explained it either.



Nora Fatehi to debut in Tamil cinema with Kanchana 4, calls it the “perfect film” for her entry



Actress Nora Fatehi is all set to step into Tamil cinema with the fourth installment of the popular Tamil horror-comedy franchise Kanchana. Nora will be playing the lead role in this much-awaited film.

Explaining why she chose Kanchana 4, Nora said, “When I was offered this film, I felt it was the perfect project for my Tamil debut. This franchise already has a strong identity, and its unique script immediately drew me in.”

Talking about her choice after the success of the crime-comedy drama Madgaon Express, Nora added, “After that film, I wanted to be part of another comedy project, and I saw the right opportunity in this one. I am really excited to work on it.”

On preparing for her role, Nora revealed that learning Tamil has been one of the toughest challenges. “Language is always a challenge, but I love challenges. I’ve already worked in Hindi, Telugu, and Malayalam films, but Tamil is by far the toughest for me. I’ve been rehearsing my lines, working on pronunciation, and practicing a lot. The encouragement I receive on set is my biggest motivation.”

She further shared, “The crew didn’t expect me to be so comfortable in comic scenes. That kind of feedback inspires me to do even better. This film gives me the chance to respect the culture and language while giving my best performance, and the team has been very supportive.”

Nora also highlighted the difference between Tamil and Bollywood cinema.

Vaani Kapoor Wins Hearts with Her Performance in Mandala Murders, Says Local Stories Have a Global Impact

Actress Vaani Kapoor is receiving immense praise for her web series Mandala Murders. The actress believes that the more rooted and local a story is, the greater its impact will be on a global level.

She said, “The series trended globally for three weeks, which was unbelievable for me. I never expected so much love and support from the audience. This is my streaming debut, and it’s a very special moment for me that I will always cherish.”

Vaani added, “I have put a lot of hard work and heart into Mandala Murders. To see it loved not just in India but across the world is the biggest reward for us. India is known for its mythological stories, and I feel that is why our narratives resonate not only with people here but also with audiences everywhere who want to know more about our culture and identity.”

The show’s story revolves around two investigating officers who set out on a mission to uncover the truth behind a series of mysterious murders. During their investigation, they stumble upon terrifying secrets deeply connected to history.

Mandala Murders is a mythological-crime thriller series featuring Vaani Kapoor alongside Vaibhav Raj Gupta, Surveen Chawla, Shriya Pilgaonkar, Siddhanth Kapoor, Rahul Bagga, Raghubir Yadav, and Monika Chowdhary, among others. The series has been directed by Gopi Puthran with Manan Rawat as co-director.



Krishna Shroff Wins Hearts in Chhoriyan Chali Gaon with Fearless Makeover Task

Krishna Shroff continues to prove why she is one of the most interesting contestants on Chhoriyan Chali Gaon. In the recent episode, the contestants faced a thrilling challenge—giving the people of Bamulia village a complete makeover. From massages to haircuts, shaving, and styling, the girls had to step out of their comfort zones and win the villagers’ trust. While many contestants seemed nervous, Krishna once again stood out with her fearless attitude and natural ability to connect with people. She was given salon services like shaving and eyebrow shaping—things she had never done before. Yet, she accepted the challenge without hesitation and completed it with perfection, leaving her



rural client smiling with joy.

What made the moment even more special was Krishna’s personal memory. She shared how the task reminded her of her early days when she used to coach young girls in basketball. “I used to teach kids basketball, and today’s task took me back to those days when I received my very first salary. Once again, I felt that the reward of hard work is always sweet,” she said. It is this determination, heartfelt effort, and genuine connection with people that has made Krishna a favorite among the villagers.