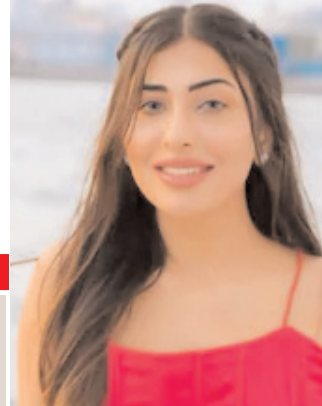


Uttarakhand Minister Satpal Maharaj Calls on HP Governor

P-7

Kaisi Yeh Yaariaan, CID Actress Ruma Sharma On Film Debut With Jeena Dil Se: 'I Didn't Want To Limit Myself'

P-10



Southwest monsoon arrives in Kerala

The southwest monsoon set over Kerala on Thursday, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Typically, the monsoon arrives in Kerala around June 1, which marks the beginning of the Southwest monsoon season (June-September).

"The southwest monsoon has further advanced into the remaining parts of southwest and southeast Arabian Sea, some parts of westcentral and eastcentral Arabian Sea, Cont. on P9 >

Soldier injured in accidental fire

An Army jawan sustained injuries after his service rifle went off accidentally while he was on duty in a forward area of Jammu's Poonch district.

According to officials, the incident took place late Wednesday night in Bolnoi sub-sector of Mendhar, Poonch.

Army authorities shifted the injured to a hospital, where he was undergoing treatment, officials said.

Police had taken cognizance of the incident.

NC MLAs to protest in Delhi for statehood

The ruling NC today announced that its MLAs would protest in New Delhi on the first day of the forthcoming monsoon session of Parliament to press for the restoration of statehood and constitutional guarantees for Jammu and Kashmir.

The announcement was made by the party's chief spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq following a marathon meeting of NC lawmakers and allies, including CPI (M) and independent legislators, presided over by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah. Cont. on P9 >

Saxena launches integrated Job Portal for Ladakh



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, JUNE 04

In a significant initiative aimed at strengthening employment opportunities across the Union Territory, LG Vinai Kumar Saxena today launched Integrated Cont. on P9 >

US House passes measure to halt action against Iran

WASHINGTON, MAY 04: The US House of Representatives has passed a resolution seeking to prevent President Donald Trump from taking further military action against Iran without congressional approval.

The measure was approved by a narrow 215-208 vote, with four Republicans joining Democrats in backing the proposal.

The resolution now moves to the Republican-controlled Senate for consideration. Even if approved there, President Trump could veto the measure, re Cont. on P9 >



Modi, Delcy hold strategic talks, agree on energy partnership

NEW DELHI, JUNE 04: India and Venezuela today agreed to forge a long-term energy partnership, along with measures to ramp up economic ties -- including in critical minerals, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and automobiles -- after extensive talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Venezuelan Vice President Delcy Rodriguez.

Rodriguez is on a five-day visit to India to bolster the overall bilateral cooperation against the backdrop of New Delhi seeking to diversify its crude oil procurement amid supply disruptions due to the West Asia conflict.

India's procurement of Venezuelan crude oil has picked up momentum since April and the South American nation has already emerged as the third largest oil supplier to the country.

In the meeting, the Venezuelan leader indicated that her country looks at In-



dia as a "preferred energy partner" given the size of the Indian economy and the fact that it will be stable buyer in the energy market for many years to come, Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs Rudrendra Tandon said.

The response by the prime minister was that India looks forward to building this energy relationship and it will cover both upstream

and downstream activities, he said at a media briefing.

"The discussions focused on forging an energy partnership. They (Venezuela) see India as a stable demand for many years to come. Therefore, there exists a perfect complementarity for India and Venezuela to work in the energy sector, in both upstream and downstream," Tandon said.

In the talks, the Indian

side also raised the issue of Venezuela owing over USD 500 million in dividends to ONGC Videsh.

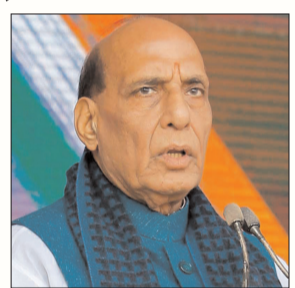
"It is our money. They (Venezuela) are very sensitive to the issue," Tandon said responding to a question. The Modi-Rodriguez discussions also went into broadening the overall bilateral economic partnership to other areas.

Cont. on P9 >

Def Min enhances AFs' spending powers, boosts efficiency

NEW DELHI, JUNE 04: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today approved a "revised delegation of financial powers for the defence services", enhancing the spending authority and operational efficiency of field commanders to expedite procurement and project execution.

The Ministry of Defence said in a statement that the revised financial powers, which also cover medical and works projects, have been enhanced by up to 100 per cent and, in some cases, more than doubled. The move is expected to



strengthen the operational efficiency of field commanders and enable faster execution of contracts and projects.

Although the statement did not provide a break-up of the amount involved, the increase, according to sources, is from the existing

limits wherever applicable.

The financial powers for defence indigenisation and research and development have been doubled to boost self-reliance and minimise dependence on foreign original equipment manufacturers.

"The revised delegation of financial powers will facilitate procurements of more than Rs 1.25 trillion through the revenue route, as per current-year budgetary allocations," the statement said.

In another change, special financial powers avail

Cont. on P9 >

BJP announces candidates for RS polls in 5 states

NEW DELHI, JUN 04: BJP today announced candidates for upcoming Rajya Sabha polls in five states, fielding party national general secretary Tarun Chugh from Madhya Pradesh and Satish Poonia from Rajasthan.

The names of Union ministers Ravneet Singh Bittu and George Kurian did not figure in the list of BJP candidates. Both ministers' term in the Upper House ends on June 21.

While Bittu is a Rajya Sabha member from Rajasthan, Kurian represents Madhya Pradesh currently

Cont. on P9 >

Portugal, Austria among 5 nations elected to UNSC

UNITED NATIONS, JUN 04: Austria, Kyrgyzstan, Portugal, Trinidad and Tobago, and Zimbabwe were elected as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council for the 2027-28, with India saying it looks forward to working closely with them during their two-year tenure.

In a closely watched and contested election on Wednesday, the 193-member UN General Assembly elected the five new non-permanent members who will replace Denmark, Greece, Pakistan, Panama,

Cont. on P9 >

Israel, Lebanon agree to new ceasefire framework

NEW DELHI, JUNE 04: Israel and Lebanon have agreed to implement a new ceasefire framework aimed at reducing hostilities along their border, according to a statement issued by the US State Department.

The agreement is contingent on a complete cessation of attacks by the Iran-backed Hezbollah group and the evacuation of Hezbollah operatives from areas between the Litani River and the Israeli border.

The United States said it would assist in establishing pilot zones where the Lebanese Armed Forces

Cont. on P9 >

Public employment must be given to eligible candidates: SC

NEW DELHI, JUN 04: Observing that public employment must be made available to eligible candidates in accordance with the prescribed qualifications, the Supreme Court has held that allowing a person with higher qualifications to secure a job intended for those with lower qualifications deprives a genuinely eligible and deserving candidate.

A bench of Justices Ashanuddin Amanullah and R Mahadevan made the observation while setting aside a Madras High Court

order that had reinstated a temporary bank attendant. The top court said the high court had overlooked that the employee had secured an appointment to a post earmarked exclusively for candidates with qualifications up to Class 10 by concealing the fact that he was a graduate.

"Public employment must be made available to all eligible candidates in accordance with the prescribed qualifications....

"When the post was specifically intended for candidates possessing

lower educational qualifications, permitting a person with higher qualifications to secure such employment would necessarily result in depriving a genuinely eligible and deserving candidate of the opportunity," the bench said.

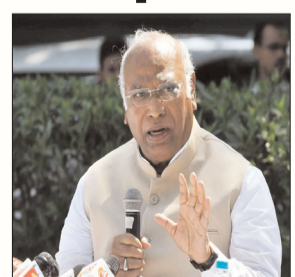
The top court said the rationale behind prescribing an upper limit of qualification is both reasonable and equitable, namely, to provide employment opportunities to persons who, owing to circumstances of life, could not pursue higher ed

Cont. on P9 >

NFHS-6 data exposes BJP's 'absolute incompetence': Kharage

NEW DELHI, JUNE 04: Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge today alleged that the Modi government had betrayed India's women and children on healthcare and nutrition, claiming that the BJP's "absolute incompetence" had been unmasked by the findings of the sixth round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-6).

Citing NFHS data, he said, "One in five children suffer from acute malnutrition, one-third of children are underweight, more than 84 per cent of children aged 6 to 23 months



do not receive adequate nutrition, 57 per cent of women aged 15-49 are anaemic, and one in five women is undernourished."

"Not only does the Modi government betray India's women and children on healthcare and nutrition, but it also deliberately

hides crucial data which exposes its failures," Kharge said in a post on X.

The Congress chief accused BJP of following a five-step formula to conceal its failures, alleging that it buries selected data, abandons vulnerable groups, promotes slogans such as "Sabka Saath" and "Amrit Kaal", manipulates the narrative, and protects Prime Minister Narendra Modi's public image at all costs.

The remarks came days after the Union Health Ministry released findings from NFHS-6, conducted

Cont. on P9 >

Diversity natural rhythm of life in India; LG

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, JUNE 04

Saying that the idea of honouring all faiths has been woven equally into the fabric of India's philosophy for millennia, LG Manoj Sinha today said that 'diversity is natural rhythm in the life of India'.

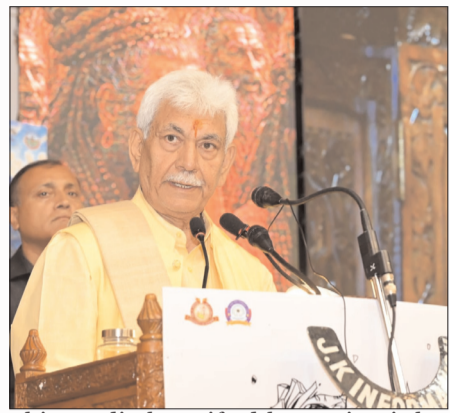
"The idea of honoring all faiths has been equally woven into the fabric of India's philosophy for millennia. While many nations today struggle with the challenge of coexistence, diversity has been our natural rhythm of life," he said in his address at 'Rishiwar' Inter-Faith Conference in Srinagar.

"While many societies have devised measures to safeguard unity, India embraced ethos and value of coexistence and practiced it seamlessly for thousands of years," the LG said.

"Respecting all ideas & beliefs has always been tradition of Sanatan Dharma," he said and added, "India has consistently emphasised unity in diversity and shown respect to every faith that emerged thousands of years after Sanatan Dharma."

He said the Rigveda also teaches that hearts and minds should be aligned, our aim should be the same, our feelings in harmony, and our thoughts united.

"Scholars and researchers worldwide agree that the spirit of equal regard for all religions finds its philosophical roots in the ancient traditions of our great country. When I reflect on the ideals and philoso-



phies India has gifted humanity, it becomes evident that through both thought and deed, our Vedas, Upanishads, saints and seers have illuminated a path toward lasting world peace," the LG added.

He said every thread of society must be woven together, advancing with a shared commitment to the welfare of humanity.

"That is precisely what humanity needs most today. The ethos of equal respect for all religions is India's most precious gift to the world. We must continuously nurture it so that we can move forward together in unity and bring prosperity to every community," he said.

Highlighting Jammu & Kashmir's exceptional performance during the three phases of the Vande Mataram initiative, Sinha described the achievement as extraordinary and a testament to the people's enduring patriotic spirit.

Cont. on P9 >

INDIA Bloc in disarray DMK boycotts meet citing 'betrayal' by Congress

NEW DELHI, JUNE 04: Still seething with anger at the Congress party for ditching them to switch over to the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) of Vijay

immediately after the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, the DMK on Thursday announced its decision to boycott the INDIA bloc meeting slated for June 8 in the national capital.

In a strongly-worded statement, the DMK noted that the decision was taken to honour the sentiments of its cadres, who remain deeply hurt by the "betrayal" committed by the Congress

following the recent Tamil Nadu Assembly elections.

"It is decided not to attend the consultation of the INDIA bloc, in which the Congress is also participating, respecting the sentiments of the party cadre, deeply hurt and anguished at the betrayal of the Congress soon after the Assembly poll," said a statement from the DMK headquarters, putting the future of the Opposition conglomerate into question.

In an attempt to isolate the Congress at the national level, the DMK, once a pillar of the INDIA bloc, made it clear that it would join

forces with the non-Congress Opposition on all vital issues confronting the nation. Having accused the Congress of backstabbing, the DMK clearly indicates that it is no longer prepared to break bread with its former ally.

The development came close on the heels of the DMK seeking a separate seating arrangement in Parliament so that the party MPs need not sit together with Congress in the Opposition benches. DMK parliamentary Party leader Kanimozhi wrote to Speaker Om

Cont. on P9 >

Par Panel flags sluggishness in private investment

NEW DELHI, JUN 04: Members expressed concern at a parliamentary standing committee meeting on Thursday over the falling value of the rupee and sluggish private investment in the country even as the government said despite challenges India's economy was emerging stronger.

At a meeting of the parliamentary standing committee on finance, headed by BJP leader Bhartruhari Mahtab, Economic Affairs Secretary Anuradha Thakur and Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha

Nageswaran made a presentation about the economic situation of the country and discussions took place on the evolving dynamics.

"Issues such as rising prices, inflation, the conflict in West Asia, and China's recent stringent laws aimed at protecting its industries were deliberated upon. While there are still certain headwinds, I would say that despite these serious challenges, India's economy is emerging in a stronger position," committee chairman Mahtab told reporters after the

meeting.

He said there are several encouraging indicators as household savings have increased compared to last year, and investment is also rising. "However, the challenge is that while the government investment and capital expenditure are increasing, private investment has not been picking up at the same pace. This is an issue that we need to address," he said. Mahtab said the committee decided to meet again in the third week of the month.

"We will also prepare a

Cont. on P9 >

'Cong chooses Sharia' BJP reacts to 'Islam-friendly gym' in Kerala

NEW DELHI, JUNE 04: BJP today accused Kerala's ruling Congress of choosing "sharia over Constitution" in response to a youth's announcement about opening an "Islam-friendly gym."

"The Congress in Kerala is being pressured by its ally, the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML)," BJP spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari alleged.

"In Kerala, Congress is being remote-controlled by IUML. It is allowing sharia-compliant gyms on IUML's

directions. This clearly shows that the Congress has chosen sharia over Constitution," Bhandari said in a video on his X account.

"It is proven clearly that because of Muslim appeasement, the Congress party is now keeping Constitution on back, and believing in sharia over Constitution...Because of Muslim appeasement, the Congress party is becoming a threat to security and safety of Hindus in Kerala," he added.

IUML, with 22 MLAs, is

the second-largest constituent of the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) in the southern state. The UDF holds 102 seats in the 140-member Kerala legislative assembly.

The controversy centres on a fitness facility in Puthunagaram, in Palakkad district. It recently announced plans to transform itself into an "Islam-friendly gym" operating under "Sharia-based guidelines."

The announcement,

Cont. on P9 >

