

IN BRIEF



Priyanka gets leader weighed in 'laddoos'

AMETHI
Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra wriggled herself out of her party workers demand to get herself weighed in 'laddoos', making the local leader who had planned the event to sit on the scales instead. Ms. Vadra is on a three-day visit to the State and will visit Ayodhya Friday. PTI

Speeding car knocks down three dead

JAIPUR
Three persons, including a 70-year-old man, was killed on Thursday when a speeding car hit them in Rajasthan's Bhilwara district, the police said. The incident occurred on Kishangarh-Udaipur national highway when the car going to Chittorgarh from Ajmer first hit a youth standing by the roadside and then rammed a motorcycle, said Rayla police station in-charge Devendra Singh. PTI

Farmer killed by honeybees in Rajasthan

JAIPUR
A 60-year-old farmer died after being stung by a swarm of honeybees in Rajasthan's Sirohi district, the police said on Thursday. The incident happened in Barewada village on Wednesday when Ukharam Meghwal was taking rest under a tree in the fields and a bee hive fell on him. PTI

450 kg poppy seized from truck in J&K

BANIHAL/JAMMU
A truck driver was arrested and 450 kg of poppy seeds were seized from his vehicle on Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Ramban district, officials said on Thursday. Acting on a tip-off, a police team intercepted the truck on its way to Punjab from Kashmir in Banihal on Wednesday night, they said. PTI

In full flow



Artistes from Northeast performing during the '4th Ethnic Cultural Meet' in Guwahati on Thursday. •PTI

NHRC seeks report from Odisha DGP on missing women, girls

'The number of those missing had touched a figure of 11,000 till November 2015'

STAFF REPORTER
BHUBANESWAR

The National Human Rights Commission has directed Odisha Director-General of Police to furnish detailed information on girls and women who have gone missing from the State.

Taking cognisance of a petition filed by Sangita Swain, secretary of the Human Rights Watch (HRW), an Angul-based voluntary organisation, the commission ordered submission of the report by the end of May. Ms. Swain had moved the

rights panel based on a newspaper report which had quoted an RTI source that 3,200 women and girls had gone missing in 2015 alone while the total number of those missing had touched a figure of 11,000 till November 2015.

'High in tribal areas'

She said the cases were high in the tribal-dominated districts of Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Sundergarh, Rayagada and Kandhamal.

Coastal districts such as Ganjam and Kendrapara al-

so had a sizeable share in the missing list.

"A total 4,439 missing reports had been registered in different police station in 2014. The State police had failed to rescue women and girls who were trafficked to other States," Ms Swain charged.

She had urged the NHRC for intervention in the rescue of missing girls and women and initiation of criminal action against police officers responsible for non-action.

Responding to the first

notice of the commission, the crime branch of the State police had initiated measures and programmes to check crimes against women and children and termed the statistics as grossly exaggerated.

However, Ms. Swain said the crime branch remained silent on the number of missing girls and women. Subsequently, the rights panel asked the State police to furnish a report detailing number of missing girls and women so that a true picture could emerge.

SSC stir ends after CM's assurance

STAFF REPORTER
KOLKATA

The 29-day-old hunger strike by School Service Commission (SSC) candidates was withdrawn after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee assured them of "just action", strikers said.

"The Chief Minister assured us that action will be initiated and we would be getting our appointments in June. Accordingly, we are postponing our agitation till the first week of June," said Sheikh Insan Ali, president of the SSC Youth Students' Rights.

Ms. Banerjee, along with State Education Minister, Partha Chatterjee, visited the candidates outside the Kolkata Press Club on Wednesday night and had a meeting with the strikers. No written assurance, however, was given.

Ex-editor gets one-month jail for defamation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
GUWAHATI

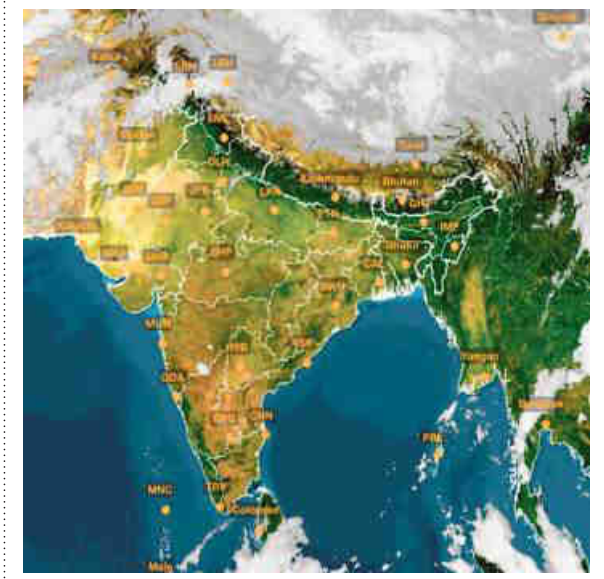
A district court of Assam has sentenced a former editor of a Guwahati-based English daily to simple imprisonment of one month in a defamation case filed by State Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma nine years ago.

Judicial Magistrate 1st Class of Kamrup district, U. Borh, also imposed a fine of ₹5,000 on Bikash Sarma, the then editor of *The Sentinel*.

Upon failing to pay the fine, the journalist would undergo another month of imprisonment, the court noted.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: No weather warning

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala.....	1.8	32.2	17.5	Kozhikode.....	.....	35.8	26.9
Ahmedabad.....	42.0	23.2	Kurnool.....	.....	41.6	27.0
Aizawl.....	30.2	17.2	Lucknow.....	.....	34.3	18.2
Allahabad.....	36.0	16.2	Madurai.....	.....	38.0	23.4
Bangaluru.....	36.2	21.4	Mangaluru.....	.....	35.6	25.2
Bhopal.....	37.6	19.4	Mumbai.....	.....	32.6	22.6
Bhubaneswar.....	37.6	24.9	Mysuru.....	.....	36.5	21.2
Chandigarh.....	31.5	15.4	New Delhi.....	.....	35.5	16.2
Chennai.....	33.0	25.0	Patna.....	.....	34.4	19.0
Coimbatore.....	38.0	23.2	Port Blair.....	55.8	31.8	23.7
Dehradun.....	31.4	15.6	Puducherry.....	.....	34.0	24.2
Gangtok.....	20.2	10.0	Pune.....	.....	39.7	19.0
Goa.....	33.6	26.0	Raipur.....	.....	37.5	22.8
Guwahati.....	33.0	16.0	Ranchi.....	.....	32.5	16.2
Hubballi.....	36.0	24.4	Shillong.....	4.2	22.5	9.9
Hyderabad.....	38.9	24.7	Shimla.....	.....	22.9	11.9
Imphal.....	28.9	11.7	Srinagar.....	.....	22.6	9.3
Jaipur.....	38.5	20.2	Trivandrum.....	.....	36.7	26.2
Kochi.....	34.6	24.6	Tiruchi.....	.....	38.0	24.4
Kohima.....	6.8	24.0	12.0	Vijayawada.....	.....	37.5	24.6
Kolkata.....	33.7	24.4	Visakhapatnam.....	.....	33.0	24.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE	Yesterday
Ahmedabad.....	94	105	25	..211	In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Loni-Dehat, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 302 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Maihar, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 51
Bangaluru.....	..4	..31	..37	..209	.....	.....
Chennai.....	13	26	31	..113	.....	.....
Delhi.....	32	110	94	..263	..324	.....
Hyderabad.....	..3	..71	..40	..131	..124	.....
Kolkata.....	11	79	20	..167	..143	.....
Lucknow.....	13	26	56	..273	.....	.....
Mumbai.....	60	15	77	..53	..100	.....
Pune.....	34	17	39	..140	..124	.....
Visakhapatnam	19	42	25	..50	..90	.....

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)
SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.
CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.
PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease