

IN BRIEF

Panama Papers: ED seizes ₹41 cr assets

NEW DELHI: The ED has seized three offices situated at a prime location in Mumbai, valued more than Rs 41 crore, under the FEMA, as part of its probe against a businessman, whose name figured in the Panama Papers. The ED has said the action had been taken against Zaveresh Soli Poonawalla and his family. They are accused of 'permitting foreign exchange to flow by mis-selling the provisions of Liberalised Remittance Scheme to...

2 Naxals killed in Sukma encounter

NEW DELHI: The security forces have neutralised two Left-wing extremists, including a woman, in an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district. A cache of explosives and an automatic weapon were seized from the encounter site. The two slain Left-wing extremists were carrying a collective reward of Rs 11 lakh on their heads, the officials said.

5 more cheetahs to be released into wild

NEW DELHI: The Environment Ministry on Monday announced that five more cheetahs would be released from the acclimatisation camps into the free-roaming conditions of Kuno National Park. The cheetahs — three females and two males — are likely to be released before the onset of the monsoon in June.

RSS target of fake news: Sangh official

NEW DELHI: RSS' media co-ordinator Naretna Thakur on Monday said the RSS had emerged as the top target of fake news, even as he called upon journalists to play their role in nation-building like the media in the pre-independence era. He...

At least 40% cases by Central, state govts frivolous, says SC

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 8

As courts struggle to clear the backlog of cases, the Supreme Court on Monday said at least 40 per cent of litigation pursued by the Central and state governments was frivolous.

"At least 40 per cent of litigation by Centre and states is frivolous. Filing to deny 700 rupees per month to someone and spending Rs 7 lakh of taxpayers' money," a Bench led by Justice BR Govea said.

Justice Govea said two young women lawyers appeared for the Union of India in two matters, and he told both of them that if these matters were to be argued by an Additional Solicitor General...

URINATION CASE: DGCA, CENTRE GET NOTICE

The SC on Monday agreed to consider a petition filed by the Air India (AI) urination case victim seeking a direction to the DGCA and the airlines to frame SOPs to deal with such incidents. The top court issued notices to the Centre, DGCA and all airlines, including AI, on her petition. The matter has been posted in July 195

BIHAR GETS NOTICE OVER RELEASE OF MOHAN

The SC on Monday issued a notice to the Centre and the Bihar Government on a petition challenging the Nitish Kumar government's decision to prematurely release criminal-politician Arvind Mohan, who was serving life term in the 1994 murder case of then Gopalganj District Magistrate G Krishniah at Muzaffarpur. 175



"we would have dismissed it with costs of Rs 10 lakh..." As on April 1, 2023, there were 68,847 cases pending in the Supreme Court, while 60.76 lakh cases were pending in the 25 high courts across the country.

The Bench, which also included Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sanjay Karol, said the government should try to weed out such unnecessary litigation. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who was present in the court, said, "We are now conservative."



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhary during the inauguration of the Indian Air Force Heritage Centre in Chandigarh on Monday.

China, Pak resolve to make Af part of BRI

NEW DELHI, MAY 8

In yet another effort to build trust with the Taliban government, China and Pakistan agreed to make Afghanistan part of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Sources here pointed out that China had issued a joint statement with the earlier regime of Hamid Karzai. The latest reiteration comes soon after the Taliban government inked an MoU with a Chinese firm to prospect for oil in the Annu Darya basin in northern Afghanistan.

It is estimated that Afghanistan has mineral resources estimated at \$1 trillion. Seven Indian companies headed by SAIL had been allocated a huge iron ore mine in Bamyan district by the previous regime but the project now appears to have been mothballed.

India is also building a communication route into Afghanistan from Iran's Chabahar port. It has also built a road connecting Afghanistan's Garlad Highway with a town on the border with Iran. Another enduring road or rail link from that town of Zahedan to Chabahar will make it the shortest route from the sea into non-Pashtun areas.

The latest announcement, however, did not involve the Taliban side because it is under economic sanctions. With Taliban Interim Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi was also part of the deliberations, the decision was presented as one taken between Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang and his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhattu Zardari in Islamabad on Saturday. —TNS

ED chief's tenure up till November, Centre tells SC

NEW DELHI, MAY 8

Defending the third extension given to Enforcement Directorate chief Sanjay Kumar Mishra, the Centre on Monday told the Supreme Court he would not continue in office beyond November.

"This officer is not some DGP of a state but an officer representing the country in a UN-like body and is in the midst of something. This court must not interfere with his tenure and from November onwards, he will not be there," Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told a three-judge Bench led by Justice BR Govea. "Mishra was given extension as FATF peer review is taking place and there are some guidelines which need to be followed," Mehta said. FATF is a global anti-money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog that sets international standards aimed to prevent illegal activities, including terror financing. —TNS

Doval in Saudi, talks Gulf-India link project

SANDEEP DIKSHIT

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 8

National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval met his counterparts from the US and the UAE at a quadrilateral meeting hosted by Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MBS) "to advance their shared vision of a more secure and prosperous Middle East region interconnected with India and the world," said a US White House readout.



The idea for the new initiative came up during talks held over the past 18 months in a form called the IZUJ, which comprises India, Israel, the UAE and the US. Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen will begin his visit to India on Tuesday and sign several agreements to promote bilateral interaction in several segments, many of them in the IZUJ rubric.

SUDAN CRISIS DISCUSSED

Ajit Doval arrived in Saudi Arabia on Sunday amid hectic activity by Saudi and US NSAs to broker a ceasefire and talks between the warring sides in Sudan. Doval is also among the few of the world's top interlocutors to have frequently interacted with his counterparts from Iran, Russia, the US, France and the UK. He had recently met his Iranian and Russian counterparts and also called on Presidents of both countries who are off limits for the Western side which has elected back Kyrivins conflict with Moscow. Sources said the interactions at various levels are important in the context of EAM S Jaishankar's observation that India has tried to be useful in the Ulaque conflict.

But there was much more on the agenda. Doval arrived in Saudi Arabia on Sunday evening amid hectic activity by Saudi and US NSAs to broker a ceasefire and talks between the warring sides in Sudan.

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Cong 'sovereignty' remark: EC serves notice on Kharge

NEW DELHI, MAY 8

A BJP delegation led by Union Minister Bhupendra Yadav on Monday petitioned the Election Commission to revoke the registration of the Congress for "violating the oath of upholding the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India" and to take action against its former chief Sonia Gandhi for promising to safeguard Karnataka's sovereignty during an election speech in the state.

Meanwhile, the EC on Monday served a notice on AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge asking him to clarify and take corrective steps in respect of a tweet mentioning "Karnataka's sovereignty", which was attributed to Sonia Gandhi. —TNS

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GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB Tender Reference No. XEN (O&M)/4 Dated: 8.5.2023 The Department: Municipal Corporation, Amritsar Closing Date and Time: Closing Date for NIT No. XEN (O&M) 3 is 22.5.2023 Till up to 5.00 p.m. For detail login to: www.eproc.punjab.gov.in Note:- Any corrigendum/s/Addendum shall be published on the above said website only.

रिजल्टी कर्मि... [Bilingual notice regarding recruitment or tender results]

CORRIGENDUM This is in continuation to Auction Notice published on dated 04.05.2023 for Auction of Trees, now the date has been postponed due to administrative reasons...

CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF EXCISE & TAXATION Notice for inviting e-tenders for allotment of remaining 20 licenses for Retail sale vends (L-2/L-14A) from the general public for Excise Policy 2023-24 in U.T., Chandigarh.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Board/Corporation, Old Reference No., Nature of Corrigendum, Date Extended.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Board/Corp./Auth., Name of Work/Notice/Tender, Opening Date, Amount.

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CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION HEALTH DEPARTMENT E-Tenders (Online tenders) are hereby invited for Licencing out of Chemist Site No. 9, Sarai Building, GMSH-16, Chandigarh, as per details given below.

DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA Government of Haryana vide notification dated 20th May, 2022 has introduced the new award in the name of prominent social activist and environmentalist of Haryana, Shri Darshan Lal Jain for recognizing excellence efforts towards environment conservation and promotion in the areas of pollution control (water and air), conservation of natural resources, management of different types of wastes, creation of awareness among general public on the environmental issues and related subjects.

HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION BAYS NO. 67-70, SECTOR-2, PANCHKULA-134151 (Website: www.hssc.gov.in) PUBLIC NOTICE Reference Advertisement No. 3/2023 published on 07.03.2023 and as amended on 20.03.2023 which is available on the Commission website...

CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION HEALTH DEPARTMENT E-Tenders (Online tenders) are hereby invited for Licencing out of Chemist Site No. 9, Sarai Building, GMSH-16, Chandigarh, as per details given below.

Schedule of dates for allotment of liquor vends:- 1. Starting Date and time for bid submission From 08th May, 2023 (12.00 noon)