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Shekhawat charged in Sanjeevani co-op scam, alleges CM

Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has been charged by the SOG following an investigation into the Sanjeevani Co-operative Society scam, alleged CM Ashok Gehlot on Tuesday, claiming that the minister was trying to mislead people. **P7**

Shah floats Afsa hope in Nagaland

PM Modi's initiative to take the Nagas peace talks to fruition should pave the way for the total exit of Afsa from Nagaland within 3-4 years, Union home minister Amit Shah said Tuesday during a poll rally. **P14**

4-yr-old mauled to death by dogs

A four-year-old boy was mauled and killed by a pack of stray dogs in Amberpet in northeast Hyderabad on Sunday. **P8**

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Ex-BJP MLA Rajpurohit sentenced to 10 years in 20-yr-old rape case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jaipur: A Nagar ADJ court sentenced former BJP MLA from Makrana (Nagar) Bhanwarlal Rajpurohit to 10 years imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 1 lakh in a 20-year-old rape case on Tuesday. The money will be given to the rape survivor.

The 86-year-old former MLA Rajpurohit came in a wheelchair to the court when the verdict was pronounced. As soon as the verdict was announced, the police arrested him and sent him to Parbatsar Jail.

Rajpurohit was elected MLA on a BJP ticket about a year-and-a-half after the incident that dates back to April 2002. He was given a party ticket from the Makrana seat for the 2003 assembly elections which he won. He was

Hry Police books '30-40' Raj cops over raid at accused's house

Rioting, Causing Miscarriage Among Charges Invoked

Bajaj, Jha at timesgroup.com

Gurgaon: Nuh police have registered a case against "30-40" unnamed personnel of Rajasthan Police under several IPC sections that include rioting and house trespass for allegedly pushing a pregnant

FULL COVERAGE: P5

woman, the wife of one of the accused in the alleged murder of two men in Bhiwani, during a raid on February 17. The woman, Kamlesh, had a miscarriage. The fetus was exhumed by Nuh police on



The protesters were removed in 10 mins but snarls lasted longer

(causing miscarriage) 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 354 (assaulting a woman) and 422 (house trespass) of IPC have been invoked in the FIR.

► Continued on P5

Hry vigilante's supporters block highway to Jaipur

Gurgaon: Hundreds of protesters blocked traffic on the Delhi-Jaipur highway on Tuesday after Rajasthan Police landed up at the house of gau rakshak leader Monu Mansoor, who is on the run, to serve him a notice to join the probe into the deaths of two men from Rajasthan whose charred bodies were found in Bhiwani on February 16, reports Akanksha Gupta.

The Bajrang Dal member, who leads a network of gau rakshaks, has been booked for abduction.

► Continued on P5

Union min blames state govt for delaying Barmer refinery project

Ajay Parmar / TNN

Barmer: Union minister of petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri on Tuesday held the Rajasthan government responsible for evading contribution to the escalated cost of refinery coming up in Pachpadra in Barmer. The state government has a 26% stake in the refinery.

Puri said this while speaking to the media during his visit to the Pachpadra refinery. He said the state government was apprised about the cost overrun on the refinery's expenditure in August 2021. This had led to an increase in the state's share by Rs 2,500 crore.

"But we have not received a clear nod on bearing this escalated cost from the state government," Puri said, adding



Union petroleum and natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri at refinery in Pachpadra in Barmer district on Tuesday

that no further delay could be allowed due to this reason. The cost of the refinery-cum-petrochemical complex had increased from Rs 43,000 crore to Rs 72,000 crore due to the delay caused by the Covid pandemic.

► Continued on P7

SC to hear plea of Uddhav group today

The Supreme Court granted urgent hearing on Wednesday to the Uddhav Thackeray group's plea for a stay on the EC order declaring Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde's faction as the

real Shiv Sena, reports Dhanraj Mahapatra. The Thackeray group said the Shinde faction was set to take over Sena properties and accounts. "We will disrupt the Constitution bench hearing on Wednesday, and give you 30 minutes to argue your case at 3.30pm," the CJ said. **P14**

Jharkhand rogue jumbo kills 4 more

Four people were killed and one left critically injured near Ranchi by a suspected rogue elephant Tuesday, a day after the same animal killed five in Lohardaga. **P8**

Joshimath cracks are up to half-km long, 2 feet wide: Survey

Dehradun: A ground survey by a four-member panel from state-run Sri Dev Suman Uttarakhand University has revealed that Joshimath has cracks up to "2 feet wide and half-km long". This is the first time government officials have disclosed the dimensions of the cracks, revealing the vulnerability of the area, reports Shivani Azad.

► Joshimath to have BRO team during yatra, P14

The panel was formed to "assess the ground situation", and studied the fissures from January 25 to 28.

The panel members submitted the report to university vice-chancellor M S Rawat on Tuesday. It will now be forwarded to the Uttarakhand government.

The panel included D C Goswami, professor of geog-

raphy; Krishna Goswami and Arvind Bhatt, assistant professors of geology.

► Related report, P14

EAM: BBC docu is politics by another means

Foreign minister S Jaishankar hit out at BBC for its documentary on the 2002 Gujarat riots and PM Modi's alleged role, calling it "politics by another means". "Don't know if election season has started in India, but for sure it has started in London and New York," Jaishankar said. **P8**

Putin delivers N-threat, scraps pact with US

Russian President Putin on Tuesday delivered a nuclear warning to the west over Ukraine and suspended the last remaining nuclear arms control pact with the US. In Poland, US President Biden pledged that the US and its allies "have Ukraine's back" as the war enters its second year. **P10**

Guhila Dynasty idols of Hindu gods, smuggled to US in 60s, on way back to Raj

shoebkhan@timesgroup.com

Jaipur: Rajasthan is set to receive five stone idols belonging to the 6-7th century from the US authorities in the coming months. These idols of Lord Ganesha and Hindu goddesses were smuggled to the US from an archaeologically protected Faneer Mahadev temple in the Udaipur district between 1965-68 through the sea route. The Department of Archaeology and Museology (DAM), Rajasthan, took almost a year to convince the Antiquities Trafficking Unit (ATU), New York County Attorney's Office that the idols were stolen from the Indian temple and these date back to the Guhila Dynasty (7th century).

These idols came to light after an Indian cultural body spotted pictures of them in a magazine in the US some years ago. They demanded the



Pictures of smuggled idols from Rajasthan provided by the Antiquities Trafficking Unit, New York County Attorney's Office to the state Department of Archaeology and Museology

Idols in 23 museums across the US be repatriated to India.

► Continued on P7

In a first, SC starts live transcription of arguments

Dhanraj Mahapatra @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: In a historic step, the Supreme Court on Tuesday began live transcription of proceedings before a five-judge Constitution bench hearing petition filed by the Shiv Sena faction led by Uddhav Thackeray.

CJJD Chandrachud said, "We had to do it (transcribing) in a live environment. So, it is an experiment. We will see how it works, to begin with in Constitution bench matters. It will create a permanent record of arguments. It will help the lawyers and judges. But it will also benefit law students who can analyse how matters are argued in the Supreme Court. It will build a huge resource base."

► Continued on P8

India, Singapore link digital payment systems

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: India and Singapore on Tuesday linked their Unified Payment Interface (UPI) network with Singapore's PayNow, enabling instant fund transfers between users in both countries, at a much lower cost than going through banks.

► How Singapore-India UPI works, P15

With the link in place, money in bank accounts or e-wallets can be transferred using UPI-ID, mobile number or Virtual Payment Address (VPA).

After today, people in Singapore and India will be able to transfer money from their mobile phones in the same way as they do in their countries. This will especially benefit our overseas brothers and sisters, professionals, students and their families.

— PM MODI

The new mechanism will allow Indians to transfer up to Rs 60,000 (SGD 1,000) a day.

► Continued on P15

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