obituaries

Rescue teams work to clear path to reach the trapped

PTI, NAGARKURNOOL (TELANGANA): Rescue teams working to save eight people trapped for over five days in a partially collapsed SLBC tunnel in the district have started cutting parts of the tunnel boring machine and other obstacles hindering their access to the area where the victims are believed to be.

TELANGANA TUNNEL ACCIDENT

Nagarkurnool Superintendent of Police Vaibhav Gaikwad said the damaged part of the conveyor belt in the tunnel is expected to be repaired during the day to facilitate the transportation of debris.

"Yes, it's already (gas cutting machines went inside). (even during) Nights they did some cutting. Yes, it has already started last night," the official told PTI to a query if the gas cutters started working.

Telangana Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy



Rescue teams at the Srisailam project site where a portion of the tunnel collapsed, in Nagarkurnool district

said the rescue and relief the work is in full swing," he work is in full swing, and the told reporters when asked operation would be comabout the status. pleted in two days. He further said national

"I can assure you two things. In two days, the rescue and relief operation will be complete and in about two or three months, we will restart the (SLBC project) work and complete this project in record time. It is a natural accident. The debris and the machine will be removed.

Whether it is one day, two days or two and half days, ers engaged in the tunnel work have started leaving the place out of fear. A senior government official said 800 people are working on the Srisailam

Left Bank Canal project, out of which 300 are locals, while the rest are from states like Iharkhand, Odisha and UP.

eight persons who are miss-

ing, without compromising

Replying to a query, the SP

said he can't answer if the

trapped individuals will be

located today. According to

sources, some of the work-

their own safety.

Responding to reports that labourers panicked following the accident and are planning to leave, the official said there will be apprehension among the workers.

"The company constructed residential camps also for the workers. The initial panic will be there. Maybe some individuals want to go back. But we have no reports of workers leaving en masse," the official said.

Manipur: Meitei group Arambai Tenggol surrenders 246 firearms

PTI, IMPHAL: Meitei group Citizens (NRC) with 1951 Arambai Tenggol on Thursday surrendered 246 firearms before security forces in Manipur, police said.

With these, a total of 307 firearms have been surrendered to the security forces before the end of the deadline set by Governor Ajay Bhalla in this regard on Thursday, a police statement said.

Among the 307 firearms, 246 were handed over by the Arambai Tenggol group at the 1st Manipur Rifles campus, while 61 firearms were surrendered at various locations in both Imphal Valley and hill districts by both Meitei and Kuki village volunteers. Arambai Tenggol leader Saikhom Munindro Man-

gang said, "Our decision was influenced by key assurances provided by Governor Bhalla. These assurances included the complete eradication of illegal opium poppy cultivation across the state, implementation of border fencing to enhance security, implementation of the National Register of

as the base year, ensuring that Kuki militants do not launch further attacks, and safeguarding the territorial

integrity of Manipur." Representatives of the outfit had called on the governor on February 25. Munindro said Arambai Tenggol representatives had

also requested for a general amnesty for its members, a request which authorities have agreed to consider. Additionally, the group secured an agreement allowing its unarmed members to move freely across the state, he said. Officials said the voluntary

surrender of illegal firearms would contribute to the restoration of peace, communal harmony, and the rule of law in the state which has been rocked by ethnic violence for

around two years. The police have urged people still in possession of looted or illegal firearms to come forward and surrender those at the nearest police station or outpost, or camps of security forces before the end of the deadline.



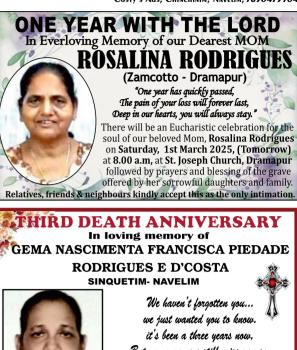
MONTH'S MIND In everloving memory of

JOSE INACIO ROSARIO FERNANDES

SARVODEM / AQUEM BAIXO- NAVELIM

There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of ved JOSE on 01/03/2025 (Tomorrow) at 8.15 a.m. at Our Lady of Rosary Church, Navelim, followed by prayers & blessing of the grave.

Offered by his sorrowful wife Fatima Fernandes. Children Dawson/Persima, Myron/Queency. Grandchildren Keona, Kaylee and Ava & family Relatives, neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimatio Costy's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9850473904



But, mummy, we still miss you so. we think of you often, Life has gotten crazy and busy, memories of you we will always recall. There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of

our beloved Mother on 01/03/2025 (Tomorrow) at 7.15 a.m. at Our Lady of Rosary Church, Navelim, followed by prayers & blessing of the grave.

Offered by her sorrowful children Ellis, Edina/Jose, Elizabeth/Cajetan, Ezilda/Elvis, Benny/Rachel. Grandchildren Snizel, Aldrich, Schaffer, Adoncia, Valenster, . Alaska, Valrica, Vancisca & Luvella. RELATIVES, FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION

Costy's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9850473904

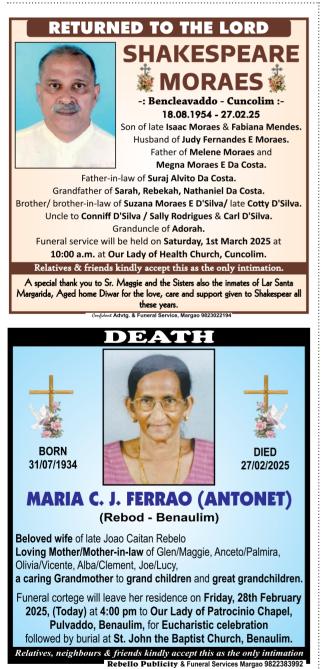


Relatives, neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

Jharkhand police bust gang duping people with false job promises

PTI, JAMSHEDPUR: The police in Iharkhand's East Singhbhum district on Thursday busted a gang that duped people with false promises of providing them employment in government organisations such as railways and army, an officer said.

Four people, including and duped over Rs one crore



the head of the racket, were on false promises to give arrested, Senior Superintenjobs in the armed forces, dent of Police (East Singhb-RPF and other government hum) Kishore Kaushal said. agencies. A case against the Addressing a press conferaccused in this regard was ence here, the SSP said the registered with Bistupur accused people impersonpolice station here in June ated themselves as officers last year on the statement of a victim, a resident of Seof the army and railways

raikela-Kharswan district. A special police team was formed and, based on military intelligence input, the district police identified the culprits, Kaushal said.

and international agencies

and experts in tunnels are

working in a coordinated

On Wednesday, he had

said the TBM that is stuck

inside will be cut into piec-

es using gas cutters and re-

moved. After this, the Army,

Navy, Rat Miners and NDRF

teams will make another

serious effort to rescue the

and unified manner.

The four were arrested Bokaro and Ranchi of Iharkhand and East Champaran of Bihar, he said.

About their modus operandi, the SSP said they used to carry fake identity cards of army and railway officers and move around in vehicles with army logo to convince their soft target.

PTI, NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has expressed displeasure on the responses of the Delhi, Kolkata and Hyderabad authorities on how they stopped manual scavenging in their respective cities.

A bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Aravind Kumar directed the municipal commissioner of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), director (S&DM) of the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and managing director of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board, Telangana, to remain present on the next hearing.

The apex court noted KMC, DJB and the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board did not explain how some

cities due to manual scavenging and manual sewer cleaning.

Manual scavenging: SC says it is

dissatisfied with affidavits

missioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagra Palike to also remain present saying neither an affidavit nor any representation was made in the court.

"Meanwhile, of the five affidavits, which are given before this court, two of the affidavits filed on behalf of Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Delhi Jal Board are not at all satisfactory," the bench said on February 19.

While hearing a plea against the practice of manual scavenging, the apex court said there was no clarity whether manual scavenging and man-

deaths occurred in their ual sewer cleaning were stopped in these cities. Regarding KMC's affidavit, it recorded the claim that the practices had

It also directed the comstopped there.

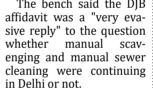
The bench said the DJB in Delhi or not.

CAG report exposes major irregularities in Delhi liquor policy, referred to PAC for probe

PTI, NEW DELHI: The CAG highlighted serious irreguattention due to the finan- of public funds. The report report on the Delhi liquor larities in the implementa- cial losses incurred by the said that a revenue loss of

al sewer cleaning was stopped as per their claim, three deaths have occurred

on February 2, 2025 due to manual scavenging as we have been informed at the Bar," the bench said.



... yet there is no explanation from them which has come forward to explain to this court as to why even after manual scavenging and manu-



tion of the excise policy by policy has been referred to the Public Accounts Comthe Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) mittee (PAC) for examinagovernment.

tion, with the committee Following discussions in expected to submit its rethe assembly, the report has port within three months, been referred to the PAC for assembly Speaker Vijender a detailed probe, with find-Gupta said Thursday. ings expected within three The Comptroller and Aumonths

Gupta made the anditor General (CAG) report on the regulation and supnouncement, stating that ply of liquor in Delhi has the matter required urgent

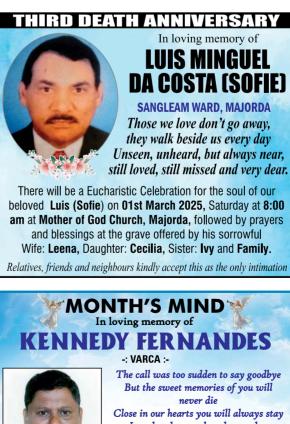
government. The audit, conducted for

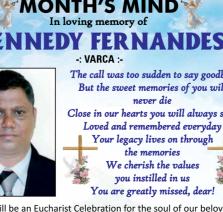
the period between 2017 and 2021, pointed to significant lapses in the licensing process, pricing mechanisms, and regulatory oversight.

It alleged that the policy led to substantial revenue losses, benefiting private companies at the expense

Rs 2,002 crore was recorded due to various irregularities, including failure to re-tender surrendered licences, excessive discounts, and waivers in license fees. During the assembly ses-

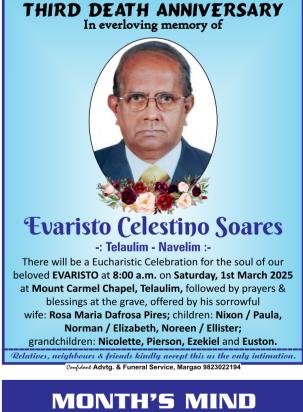
sion, several members expressed serious concerns over the findings, demanding strict action against those responsible.





There will be an Eucharist Celebration for the soul of our beloved Kennedy Fernandes, on Saturday, 1st March 2025 at 7:30 a.m., at Out Lady of Gloria Church, Varca, followed by prayers and blessings at the grave. Offered by his sorrowful parents: Mariano M. Fernandes/ Clara N. Noronha, Brother/brother-in-law of Melanie/Tome & Lafisha

Relatives, Neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.





Article 370 abrogation proved to be good for JK's development: Athawale

PTI, JAMMU: The Centre's terrorism and generated employment opportunities besides establishing peace and paving the way for unfurling the tricolour," Athawale said.

Earlier, people were

the situation changed There was a time when tourists were afraid of visiting Jammu and Kashmir but that has changed after the revocation of Article vear, he said.

370, the minister of state for social justice and empowerment said at a press was a very good decision

On August 5, 2019, the to revoke Article 370. Now Centre abrogated Artithe people want us to give cle 370, which accorded the status of a state to J&K. When (Home Minister) a special status to the erstwhile state of Jam-Amit Shah announced the mu and Kashmir. The removal of Article 370, he government also divided also announced that J&K's Jammu and Kashmir into statehood would be retwo union territories -stored at an appropriate time. Jammu and Kashmir Jammu and Kashmir, and will get the status of a state "The (PM) Narendra soon and all of people's problems will be resolved,"

government he added. has taken a lot of important decisions and The minister lauded the highest voter turnout in

the abrogation of Article 370 was a very big step Jammu and Kashmir in the which strengthened deassembly elections held velopment in J&K, ended last year.

decision to revoke Article 370 of the Constitution proved to be "good" as it strengthened development and "ended" terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, Union

said on Thursday.

conference here.

Ladakh.

Modi-led

Minister Ramdas Athawale afraid of visiting J&K but

after Article 370 was revoked and more than 2.5 million tourists visited the union territory last

"The increase in tourism means more development for the region. It