



8th year in row Japan's birth rate fell to a new low as number of marriages also dropped

Sunak, Starmer spar over tax, inflation in TV debate

Farage contesting July 4 polls is bad news for the Conservatives

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and opposition Labour Party leader Keir Starmer sparred on Tuesday over tax, the cost of living and the country's creaking health system in an inconclusive televised debate ahead of a July 4 election expected to make one of them the country's next leader.



Rishi Sunak

Keir Starmer

Nigel Farage

Sunak tried to boost his center-right party's dismal outlook by urging voters to back the stability of continued Conservative government. Starmer hoped to cement his status as favorite by arguing that Britain desperately needs change. Both acknowledged the country's many problems, from fraying public services to a broken immigration system. But neither could say outright, when asked, where the money would come from to fix them.

Sunak stressed his stewardship of the economy, which has seen inflation fall to just over 2% from a peak of more than 11% in late 2022. He said should stick with him because his "clear plan" for the economy was working.

Starmer said the election was a choice between more "chaos and division" with the

Conservatives and "turning the page and rebuilding with Labour." Polls currently give center-left Labour a double-digit lead. To win, Starmer must persuade voters who previously backed the Tories that Labour can be trusted with the UK's economy, borders and security.

Speaking in front of a live audience, both Starmer and Sunak appeared nervous.

Voters may have got the impression their choice is between two cautious and rather dull managers. Both stuck to familiar themes. Sunak argued Labour would raise taxes because "it's in their DNA."

The debate came a day after populist firebrand Nigel Farage roiled the campaign, and dealt

a blow to Sunak's hopes, by announcing he will run for Parliament at the helm of the right-wing party Reform UK.

Farage kicked off his campaign on Tuesday. His return, a key Brexit player, is bad news for Sunak's party.

Reform look likely to siphon off votes of socially conservative older voters, a group the Tories have been targeting.

Farage claimed the Conservatives, who have been in office since 2010, had "betrayed" Brexit supporters because immigration had gone up, rather than down, since the UK left the European Union.

He urged voters to "send me to Parliament to be a bloody nuisance." AP



People in Washington gather during a candlelight vigil to mark the 35th anniversary of the Tiananmen | AP

Chinese govt is as ruthless as it was in 1989: US Congress

WASHINGTON

MEMBERS of the US Congress on Tuesday said the ruling Chinese Communist Party that sent in tanks against peaceful student protesters 35 years ago in the heart of Beijing is as ruthless and suppressive today as it was in 1989, a stark warning as they commemorated the anniversary of China's bloody crackdown in Tiananmen Square. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, the ranking Democratic member of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party, warned that Chinese leader Xi Jinping would resort to violence, as his predecessors did, to achieve his goals.

"We have to remember that when Chairman Xi Jinping says he will crack down hard on subversion and separatist activities... he's telling the world that the (party) will send those tanks again against anyone that stands up for freedom," the Illinois congressman said, with the iconic image of a lone man facing down a line of tanks nearby. The Tuesday commemorations, which included former student leaders of the Tiananmen movement and younger activists from mainland China and Hong Kong, come as Washington has shifted its China policy from engagement to competition meant to curb China's growing influence, which the US sees as potentially upsetting the world order. The two countries also are clashing over Beijing's militarization of the South China Sea and its increasing military threats against the self-governed island of Taiwan. AP

Slovenia recognises Palestinian state

GAZA

SLOVENIA is the latest European country to recognise a Palestinian state. The country's parliament voted on Tuesday in support of the move, following in the recent steps of Spain, Ireland and Norway—a move condemned by Israel. Slovenia's prime minister has said he sped up efforts to recognise a State of Palestine in reaction to Israel's expanding invasion of the southern Gaza city of Rafah. The monthslong offensive has largely cut off the flow of food, medicine and other supplies to Palestinians who are facing widespread hunger.

Slovenia's government endorsed a motion last week to recognise a Palestinian state and had sent the proposal to parliament for final approval, which was needed for the decision to take effect. Parliament on Tuesday voted 52 for with no one against recognition in the 90-seat parliament. The remaining lawmakers were not present for the vote.

Previously only seven members of the 27-nation European Union officially recognised a Palestinian state. Five of them are former East bloc countries that announced recognition in 1988, as did Cyprus, before joining the EU. Sweden's recognition came in 2014. In central Gaza, the Israeli military said on Tuesday that its troops backed by airstrikes have launched a ground operation into the Bureij refugee camp. Local hospital officials say a strike in the urban camp killed 11 Palestinians, including three children and a woman. The Israeli airstrikes and ground offensives across the Gaza Strip come as international mediators wait for Israel and Hamas to respond to a new ceasefire and hostage release proposal, according to Qatar, which has played a key role in negotiations alongside Egypt and the US.



Israeli activists scuffle with Palestinian freelance journalist Saif Kwami during a march commemorating Jerusalem Day on Wednesday | AFP

JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited Corporate Identity Number: U67190MH2007PLC47287 Registered Office: 7th Floor, Chery, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025 Contact Person: 1. Mallikarjun G. Hadagali - 9620686817 2. Vishal Ketele - 9584966653 3. Akshay Hassija - 022 - 6224 1676 Website - www.jmfinancialarc.com

CHANGE OF NAME I. MOHAMMAD RAMEES MOOLE ABDULKADAR (old name), S/o Abdul Kadar Moole Abbas, resident of No 172 Hodavada Village, Madikeri Taluk, Kodagu District - 571201, Karnataka, have changed my name as MOHAMMAD RAMEESH MOOLE ABDULKADAR (new name) for all purposes vide affidavit dated 05-06-2024 sworn before Notary M. S. Jayachandra, Madikeri.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಯಂಸೇವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಯಂಸೇವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಯಂಸೇವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ...

CHANGE OF NAME I. NIKHILRAJ (old name), S/o Madhukara, residing at House No. 2-83, Paddayidettu House, Sarapady Post and Village, Dakshina Kannada District - 574211, Karnataka, have changed my name as NIKHILRAJ MADHUKARA CHOWTA (new name) for all purposes vide affidavit dated 01-06-2024 sworn before Notary K. Narayana Shetty, Udipi.

CHANGE OF NAME I. B. Shankara Puthran (Old name) S/o Late Rama Naik, residing at Chapparamane, Halladi, Harkadi, Kundapura, Udipi 576210, have changed my name as SHANKARA MOGAVEERA (New name) for all purposes on my own accord here after vide affidavit dated 04th June 2024 sworn before the Notary Prabhakar Nayak Udipi.

CHANGE OF NAME I. NIKHILRAJ (old name), S/o Madhukara, residing at House No. 2-83, Paddayidettu House, Sarapady Post and Village, Dakshina Kannada District - 574211, Karnataka, have changed my name as NIKHILRAJ MADHUKARA CHOWTA (new name) for all purposes vide affidavit dated 01-06-2024 sworn before Notary K. Narayana Shetty, Udipi.

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Only through e-Procurement Portal, two cover system) Tenders are invited for Supply of Plant Tissue Culture (PTC/Lab) grade chemicals and other consumables to the Deputy Director of Horticulture, Tissue Culture Division, Biocentre, Hulimavu under the development of departmental laboratories and KSHDA Revolving Fund Scheme. The tender documents may be obtained as per KPPP act 1999 and 2000 through KPP portal website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 03.06.2024 to 17.06.2023 as per KPPP act 1999 and 2000.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II, BANGALURU 4th Floor, BSNL Building, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001. DRC NO: 12380 Bank of Baroda, Ladyhill Branch, Ground Floor, Poojan Krishna Nikethan, Near Chillymbi Dwara, Kulur Ferry Road, Ashok Nagar Post, Mangalore - 575 006. ... Certificate Holder Versus

DEMAND NOTICE 1. M/s. D.J. Trading Corporation, Represented by its Proprietor: Sri. Vinayaka Acharya G.K. And Sri. Gautham Pangal, No. 410, Baikampady, Mangalore - 575 011. 2. Mr. Vinayaka Acharya G.K., S/o. Sri. Krishna Moorthy, Partner of M/s. D.J. Trading Corporation, No.292, 7th Block, Krishnapura, Surathikal, Mangalore - 575 014. 3. Mr. Gautham Pangal, S/o. Sri. Somanath Pangal, Partner Of M/s. D.J. Trading Corporation, No. 3-5/5, Abhiman, Kulai, Mangalore - 575 019. ... Defendants/Certified Debtors In View of the Recovery issued in OA No. 1008/2015 passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT Bangalore an amount of Rs. 29,08,850/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Only) is due against you along with interest and costs from date of filing of O.A. till realization.

CLASSIFIED

PUBLIC NOTICE CHANGE OF NAME I. MOHAMMAD ANAS (Old name), S/o FAIYYAZ AHAMED GAIMA, resident of MAGDEMIYA MOHALLA, NEAR POST OFFICE, MAVALLI-1, MURDESHWARA- 581350, UTTARA KANNADA, KARNATAKA have changed my name to MOHAMMED ANAS GAIMA (New Name) for all purposes vide affidavit dated 05-06-2024 sworn before Notary N. M. Hegde, Bhatkal.