



BRIEF



A man carries a large kite on a bike on the eve of Lohri, a winter folk festival, in Amritsar, Wednesday.

Hacked

New Delhi: The official Twitter account of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) was hacked for a brief time on Wednesday and was restored later. According to officials, some posts tagging entrepreneur Elon Musk were tweeted from the ministry's Twitter handle.

Mandatory

Mumbai: The Maharashtra Government on Wednesday decided to make it mandatory for shops with fewer than ten employees to use Marathi signboards, a senior minister said here. The Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act will be amended for this, Industries Minister Subhash Desai told reporters.

Reopen

Kendrapara: The Bhitarkanika National Park in Odisha reopened for visitors on Wednesday after being closed for ten days to carry out the annual census of estuarine crocodiles. The basic objective behind the closure of the national park in Kendrapara district was to avoid human interference during the exercise, Rajnagar Mangrove (Wildlife) Divisional Forest Officer J D Pati said.

Notice

Jalna: The district authorities in Maharashtra's Jalna have issued show-cause notices to 17 health officers for "dereliction of duty" in the COVID-19 vaccination programme, an official said on Wednesday. The District Health Officer (DHO) has issued these notices. They include three teshil health officers in Ambad, Ghansawangi and Mantha.

Weather

High 21 Low 15

MARKET

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| NIFTY | 18,212.35 |
| SENSEX | 61,150.04 |

BULLION

| | |
|--------|--------|
| GOLD | 47,775 |
| SILVER | 61,501 |

DISPROPORTIONATE ASSETS CASE

Court grants two-day remand of GP Singh to EOW

Was held from Gurugram on Tuesday Raipur, Jan 12:



EOW police team reached Raipur by road in the evening and produced suspended IG GP Singh in the Court, seeking police remand. While on way to the Court GP Singh said that the property under scrutiny does not belong to him and is that of his father and he has got nothing to do with it and he charged that all the proofs in the FIR are fabricated. After hearing points of both the EOW and Singh's advocate, the Court finally granted two-day remand of GP Singh to EOW. It is notable here that

EOW has sought 7-day remand and put up an application in the Court of Special Judge Leena Agrawal. EOW's Advocate Mithilesh Verma and advocate of accused party Kamlesh Pandey presented their version before the Judge. But in place of 7 days, EOW was granted only two-day remand. The EOW had registered an FIR against Singh, a 1994-batch IPS officer, under Prevention of

Corruption Act on June 29 last year, after preliminary findings into complaints that he had allegedly amassed disproportionate assets. Later, the state anti-graft agency carried out searches at 15 locations linked to the officer from July 1 to July 3 and claimed to have discovered movable and immovable assets worth Rs 10 crore. Despite being served notices multiple times asking to appear during the investigation in the case, the suspended ADGP neither cooperated in the probe nor appeared in the EOW office. He did not get any relief from the Supreme Court in the case either, said Arif Sheikh, Director of the state's ACB and EOW.

ANOTHER JOLT TO BJP

OBC leader quits Yogi cabinet

Gain for SP Lucknow, Jan 12 (PTI):



Dara Singh Chauhan

In another jolt to the ruling BJP in poll-bound Uttar Pradesh, OBC leader Dara Singh Chauhan resigned Wednesday from the Yogi Adityanath cabinet and appeared to be headed towards the Samajwadi Party. A day earlier as BJP leaders brainstormed in Delhi on the UP assembly polls state Labour Minister Swami Prasad Maurya quit. Three other BJP MLAs also announced their resignation from the party on Tuesday. Though Maurya, a prominent Other Backward Class (OBC) leader, has not made it

clear that he is joining the Samajwadi Party, the SP has tweeted a welcome message. The recent developments appear to strengthen the SP's influence among the non-Yadav OBCs in the state, less than a month before the crucial elections that will also have an impact on the 2024 parliamentary polls. Chauhan said he had worked with dedication for the past five year but

Arrest warrant issued against Maurya

A local court on Wednesday here issued an arrest warrant against BJP MLA Swami Prasad Maurya, who recently resigned as cabinet minister, in a seven year old case. The case was lodged against Maurya in 2014 for allegedly making objectionable comments against Hindu gods. The MP-MLA court Judge Yogesh Kumar Yadav issued the warrant against him after he did not attend the court hearing on Wednesday. In 2016, an arrest warrant was issued against him in the same case which was stayed by the Lucknow bench of Allahabad High Court.

Dalits, the OBCs and the unemployed did not get justice from the BJP government. It was the poor who had made the government but others took all the advantage in the past five years," he said, after sending the resignation letter to Governor Anandiben Patel. Chauhan, the minister for Forests and Environment, said he had been inform-

ing the party high command about the problems all through. But he was ignored as he was talking about the backward and Dalits, he claimed. Like Swami Prasad Maurya, he did not give a categorical answer when asked whether he was joining the SP. Chauhan said he would consult his supporters before deciding on a future course of action.

Naxals kill villager in Bijapur

5th murder by ultras in one week Bijapur, Jan 12:

Naxals thrashed a 50-year-old villager to death in Bijapur district, police said on Wednesday.

This is the fifth killing by rebels in the district in one week.

The latest incident took place on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday in Ketulnar village under Kutru police station limits, Inspector General, Bastar Range,

Sundarraaj P said. The victim, Jagat Sodi (50), who ran a small grocery shop, was beaten to death by a group of unidentified Naxals, he said without divulging any motive behind the killing.

After carrying out an investigation at the scene of the crime, the body was sent to a primary health centre for an autopsy, the official said.

In the last one week, Naxals have killed five people, including two of their cadres, in Bijapur, which comes under Bastar division.

TRIAL OUTCOME

Covaxin booster shot over 90% effective against Omicron, Delta variant

New Delhi, Jan 12:

Bharat Biotech on Wednesday said that trials have indicated that a booster shot of Covaxin neutralises the Delta and Omicron variants of Covid.

"The neutralisation activity of Covaxin-boosted sera was comparable to what has been observed in mRNA vaccine-boosted sera against the Omicron variant," Bharat Biotech said in a statement. Citing

a study conducted at US' Emory University, the vaccine manufacturer said that over 90% of subjects who received a booster shot six months after their second dose of the Covaxin vaccine, showed neutralising antibodies.

The Covaxin maker had earlier said that an analysis showed that a third dose of the vaccine was safe and also increased the immunity against the virus. "Neutralising antibodies

against homologous and heterologous SARS-CoV-2 variants increased from 19 to 265 folds after a third vaccination," Bharat Biotech had said.

In the last two weeks, India has witnessed a surge in daily Covid cases led by the Omicron variant. India recorded 1,94,720 new infections today to its tally of COVID-19 cases pushing it to 3,60,70,510, according to the Union Health Ministry data.

REMARKS AGAINST MAHATMA

Wardha police arrest Kalicharan Maharaj

Wardha, Jan 12 (PTI):

The Wardha police arrested Hindu religious leader Kalicharan Maharaj on Wednesday in connection with a case registered against him here in Maharashtra for allegedly making derogatory remarks against Mahatma Gandhi.

The seer was brought here around 5 am from Raipur in Chhattisgarh,

where he was lodged in a jail in connection with a similar case registered against him there, sub-divisional officer of police Piyush Jagtap said.

He was produced before the court of a local magistrate who remanded him in judicial custody.

The case against the religious leader was registered at Wardha city police station on December 29, 2021.

LOHRI CELEBRATION



Members of a trust celebrate Lohri festival at Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex in Jammu, Wednesday.

Nawab Malik gets bail

Mumbai, Jan 12:

A court here on Wednesday granted bail to Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik in a criminal defamation complaint filed against him by local BJP leader Mohit Bharatiya. The NCP leader tried to link Bharatiya with the NCB's drug raid on a cruise ship off the Mumbai coast last year, the complaint alleges. In December 2021, the Mazgaon metropolitan magistrate had issued a summons to Malik, asking him to appear before it. On Wednesday, Malik remained present in the court, following which the magistrate granted him bail on a surety of Rs 15,000.

FREE FOODGRAINS DISTRIBUTION

Chh'garh rated as best performing state

Under Phase III & IV New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Nearly 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains have been distributed for free so far to eligible beneficiaries under the fifth phase of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). In March 2020, the Centre had launched the scheme to provide free foodgrains to over 80 crore beneficiaries covered under the National

Food Security Act (NFSA) as part of its effort to reduce the hardships of people during the coronavirus pandemic.

The additional foodgrains of 5 kilograms per person per month is over and above the normal quota provided under the NFSA at a highly subsidised rate of Rs 2-3 per kg.

The scheme has been extended several times and is now valid till March 2022.

Under the fifth phase, which is from December 2021 to March 2022, the food ministry had allocated 163 lakh tonnes foodgrains to all States/UTs, for the four-month distribution period.

"Since the distribution of only second month has started recently, the reports available from the States/UTs, shows a distribution of about 19.76 lakh tonnes foodgrains to the beneficiaries so far," an official statement said on Wednesday.

OMICRON IS NOT COMMON COLD

Weekly case positivity in 300 districts over 5%

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

As many as 300 districts in India are reporting weekly Covid case positivity of more than 5 per cent, the Union government said on Wednesday as it urged people not to treat infection due to Omicron variant as common cold and get vaccinated.

It said Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Gujarat are emerging as

states of concern due to the rise in Covid cases there. Addressing a press conference, Joint Secretary in Health Ministry Lav Agarwal said a sharp rise in COVID-19 infections has been noted in India with the case positivity climbing to 11.05 per cent on Wednesday from 1.1 per cent on December 30.

Concurrently, Covid cases have been rising globally with January 10 recording the highest ever single-day rise of 31.59 lakh

cases worldwide, he said. The official said that currently, 300 districts in India are reporting weekly case positivity of more than 5 per cent.

Informing the press conference that 19 states have over 10,000 active Covid cases, Agarwal said Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Gujarat are emerging as states of concern due to the rise in Covid cases there.

Stressing on the importance of getting inoculated, he quoted the World Health Organisation to say that vaccine effectiveness against hospitalization appears to be substantially higher than against symptomatic COVID-19 disease.

NITI Aayog Member (Health) V K Paul said, "Omicron is not the common cold, cannot take it lightly. We need to be vigilant, get vaccinated and follow Covid-appropriate behaviour."

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- PAN Card
- Address proof
- Cancelled cheque

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भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Har Pal Aapke Saath

Collector inspects Covid care centre and Oxygen Plant in Jheet

INC candidates secure posts of all five Zone Presidents

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: On Wednesday, Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure visited Patan block to inspect the covid care and other health related infrastructure in health centers of Patan and Jheet. Jheet Centre in Patan Block has been specially prepared for covid care. Special arrangements have been made here for the patients and to keep them in isolation.

BMO Dr Ashish Sharma informed that special arrangements have been made for the treatment of Covid patients and suspected patients at Jheet Center. There is a facility of 26 beds for Covid patients. There is also a facility of 25 isolation beds for suspected patients having symptoms of Covid 19.

Oxygen plant facility is available in both the hospitals. Oxygen concentrator,



jumbo cylinder etc are also available here. Health workers have been identified for deployment in these centres. Collector said that there should be complete arrangements for the treatment of patients in both the centres.

SDM and BMO must work in coordinated manner. He said that apart

from the treatment of patients, special attention should also be paid to the food and hygiene facilities of the patients. BMO said that complete preparations have been made and the patients will not face any kind of problem.

He also witnessed the ongoing infrastructure work at the Community

Health Center, Patan. Collector also inquired about the functioning of NRC here. He said that NRC plays an important role in nurturing the malnourished children. He asked the officials to ensure that the bed occupancy of NRC is always full.

He said that for keeping the beds fully occupied,

the officials need to continue working in coordination with the officers of the Department of Women and Child Development. He also inquired about other arrangements of the hospital.

He assured that there will be no shortage of infrastructure and staff. Collector asked the BMO to coordinate and work towards providing the best health facilities to the people. Collector also saw the additional OT room being built in the hospital.

Here patients can be kept for the observation period after the operation. He also inspected the under construction site of "Hamar Lab". Construction agency officials said that its work is expected to be completed by the end of January. SDM Vipul Gupta and other officers were also present during inspection.



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: The corporators of Indian National Congress have won the President's post in all the five Zones of Bhilai Municipal Corporation. In the elections held on Wednesday, INC candidates Ramanand Maurya, Santoshnath Singh alias Jalandhar, Bhupendra Yadav and Rajesh Chaudhary have been declared winners of various

zones of BMC.

As per the Municipal Corporation Act, the Speaker Giriwar Bunt Sahu was declared President of Zone 01. In Zone 02 Vaishali nagar, Ramanand Maurya was elected as Zone President by securing eight votes. The BNP candidate Santosh Maurya got only five votes.

In Zone 3 Mother Teresa Nagar, Santosh Nath Singh won the election by

securing eight votes. The BNP candidate Vinod Chelak got only five votes. In Zone 4, the Congress and BNP candidates secured an equal number of votes and hence the zone president was elected through a toss. BNP suffered loss as INC candidate Bhupendra Yadav won this post. In Zone Number 5, INC candidate Rajesh Chaudhary won the post of Zone President.

BJYM celebrates National Youth Day



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: The activists of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha celebrated the National Youth Day on Wednesday. Covid protocol was followed while organising this event. The birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, the source of inspiration of youth, was held at Sector 1, BSNL Chowk.

Nitesh Mishra informed that they have been organising rallies and other public events on the occasion of National

Youth Day. But due to surging cases of Covid 19, such bigger programmes were not organised. Only a small gathering was organised while following the Covid protocol.

State Convenor, Government Schemes and Self Studies Branch, Nitesh Mishra said that on the occasion of 153rd birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, the youth of the nation should take a pledge that they would follow the path of Swamiji and lead the nation towards the ultimate glory.

Senior BJP leader Anil

Mishra said that Swamiji proved in Chicago's Dharma Sabha that Hindutva is the cornerstone of all religions, and without following Hindutva the concept of Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam is meaningless.

Nitesh Mishra, Anil Mishra, Ashok Jain (District Working Committee member, Swachhata Cell BJP), Rishabh Dubey, Rajkumar Taskar, Jai Prasad, Ayush Singh, Joyce, Tika Ram, Kishan Chauhan, Srijan Pandey and others were present.

30 lakh quintals of paddy procured so far in Durg District

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure inspected the Patan and Selud Paddy Procurement Centers on Wednesday. He inquired about the status of paddy lifting from the centres. He said the lifting has been hampered due to bad weather. He asked the officials to accelerate the lifting process as soon as the weather gets cleared.

He said that in the next one week, large-scale procurement would be done in paddy procurement centres. He asked the officials to make necessary arrangements for procurement. Patan SDM Vipul Gupta was also present during the inspection.

Collector said that arrangements of paddy lifting should be made in all the procurement centers in according to the



purchase of paddy and storage facility. He said that a plan should be prepared for this process so that the system can be operated smoothly in all the centres. He asked the official to identify the centres where paddy lifting is very necessary and keep those centres in priority list.

He also oversaw the arrangement of gunny bags etc in the procurement centers. Committee managers informed that adequate arrangements

for gunny bags have been made in the procurement centres. Dr Bhure also saw the status of the paddy stacking. The committee managers informed that proper arrangements have been made for the storage of paddy.

District Co-operative Central Bank Chairman Jawahar Verma also visited the procurement center at Selud. Describing the innovation of Selud Kendra, he said that food is also arranged for the



farmers here. It is noteworthy that so far 2.97 lakh metric tonnes of paddy has been procured in the district and out of this 1.33 lakh metric tonnes of paddy has been lifted.

SDM Vipul Gupta informed that the plan for lifting in all paddy procurement centers has been given to the DMO. The potential procurement and availability of space in all the centers has been taken into consideration for mak-

ing this plan. Collector said that due to the bad weather, there has been a problem in the lifting.

He instructed to once again plan afresh and implement it effectively, speed up lifting at all centers. He said that the current week is very important for paddy procurement. Procurement will be done on a large scale and accordingly proper arrangements should be made so that farmers do not face any kind of problem.

Steel Melting Shop 2 creates new record of casting 71 Heats



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant's Steel Melting Shop 2 (SMS 2) has created a new record of casting 71 heats on January 11, 2022 with total tonnage at 8660 Tonnes (T), surpassing the previous best tonnage of 8420 Tonnes achieved on March 20, 2019. Crude Steel produced in Converter Shop of SMS 2 is cast into slabs and blooms in the slab casters and bloom casters in

Continuous Casting Shop (CCS) of SMS 2. Slabs are then sent to Plate Mill for rolling into plates while blooms are further rolled in Rail & Strl Mill for producing rails. Director I/c BSP, Anirban Dasgupta, Executive Director (Works) Anjani Kumar and senior officers of the Plant have congratulated the leadership and collective of SMS 2 as well as associated shops and departments for the record-breaking performance.

Risali Mayor Shashi Sinha constitutes Mayor-in-Council

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: Shashi Sinha, Mayor, Risali Municipal Corporation, on Wednesday constituted the Mayor-in-Council, handing over the responsibility for the same to eight corporators. The MIC has been constituted on the seventh day of Mayor having assumed office. In the council, the responsibility of water works, law and general administration department has been given to Chandrabhan Singh Thakur, senior councillor from Risali Sector West. The health and sanitation department will be headed by Govind Chaturvedi, councillor from Newai Bhatta. Vilas Rao Borkar has been made the in-charge of Revenue, Market and Vehicles Department. Councillor from Ispat Nagar, Anup Dey, will be in charge of Housing, Environment and Public Works Department.



Chandrabhan Thakur



Govind Chaturvedi



Vilas Borkar



Anup Dey



Sanir Sahu



Parmeshwar



Sonia Dewangan



Ishwar Sahu

Sanir Sahu from Naroda Sector West will be in charge of Education, Sports and Youth Welfare Department. Rehabilitation and Town Planning, Horticulture and Communication Department

will be looked after by Newai Basti East Councillor Parmeshwar Kumar. Food, Civil Supplies and Electricity Department in-charge will be Sonia Dewangan, corporator from Vijay Chowk Station

Maroda Sonia Devangan and last but not the least Ishwari Sahu, councillor Mauhari Bhatta will be in-charge of Women, Child Development and Social Welfare as well as Livelihood Department.

St Thomas College students visit Govt Primary School, Hanoda

Bhilai, Jan 12: The students of PG Department of Psychology, St Thomas College, visited government primary school Hanoda, Durg and organized an awareness program on mental-hygiene, physical -hygiene, good touch-bad touch and self defense. Both girl and boy students were sensitized on the issues.

The sessions were done in a participative manner where students were made to take part in the demonstrations. The college Administrator Dr Fr Joshi Varghese and Principal Dr MG Roymon always encourage such field trips and experiential learning for the students



and promote practical learning. The program was conducted under the guidance of Head, Department Psychology, Dr Debjani Mukherjee, Assistant Professor Dr Sumita Singh and Assistant Professor Dr Ankita Deshmukh.

News anchor dies in road accident

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: A young news anchor was killed in a road accident which occurred near Highway Restaurant in Power House on Wednesday. The female news reader was run over by a speeding truck. Chhawani Police have lodged a complaint.

Inspector Vishal Sone (SHO, Chhawani) informed that the deceased was Mahima Sharma, a resident of ACC Jamul. She works as an anchor in a news portal of Raipur.



According to information, she returned from Raipur on her TVS Jupiter Scooter (CG07-BL-7690) and stopped at Highway Restaurant for snacks. Then she proceeded towards ACC Jamul on the

scooter. On the way, the vehicle slipped and she fell down. She was run over by a petroleum tanker coming from behind. Police have seized the tanker bearing registration number CG07-CB-0181 and have lodged an offence against the driver. Police team reached the spot and the body was sent for autopsy after performing inquest. New Press Club of Bhilai Nagar President Bhavana Pandey expressed grief and mourned the untimely death of a young media person.

Madhulika honoured with Karmaveer Chakra (White Medal)

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Jan 12: Madhulika Dutta have been honoured with Karmaveer Chakra (White Medal) and is now a Global Youth Fellow instituted by iCongo in partnership with United Nations.

The Karmaveer Chakra Award is the global civilian honours given by the international confederation of NGO (iCONGO) in partnership with United

Nations to the people across the globe for relentless courage. The award is tribute to APJ Abdul Kalam. She is a published author, TEDx Speaker, and also a food blogger. She is currently pursuing B Sc (Hons) Psychology from Jain University, Bangalore. She started writing when she was in class 8th. In 2019, she published her first book named 'Glittery Dreams.' She received an award for 'best debut writer in 2019.'

She represented India in the International Poetry

Competition that was held in New York and became the First Indian Under 20 to receive that award. She was invited to World Poetry Fest as a Guest Speaker in New York in both 2019 and 2020. Her poems are mainly focused on mental health awareness.

She always had an idea about how her writing connects with people and how people feel after reading her. This is what helped her to communicate with people more effectively.



RICH TRIBUTES

CM holds talks with three Ministers

For pre-budget discussions at his official residence



Raipur, Jan 12:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on third day of pre-budget discussions and preparations with Ministers of different department held talks with three Ministers of his cabinet on Wednesday. CM first convened meeting with administrative officers about the departments under his portfolio viz. GAD, Finance, Energy, Mineral Resources, PR,

Electronics, IT and Aviation Department and gave necessary inputs.

In this meeting Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain, Addl. CS Subrata Sahoo, Secretary Finance Alarmelmangai D, Secretary Mineral and PR Depts Siddharth Komal Pardeshi, Secretary Energy Ankit Anand, CEO CHIPS Samir Bishnoi, Commissioner PR Deepanshu Kabra, Director Finance Sharda Verma and other con-

cerned officers. After this CM Bhupesh Baghel held talks with portfolio of Cabinet Minister TS Singh Deo for his departments viz. Panchayat and Rural Deptt; PHE, Medical Education, 20-point programme implementation; Commercial Tax (GST) Department. In this meeting Addl. CS Renu Pillai, Principal Secretary Gaurav Dwivedi, Dr Alok Shukla, Secretary Health Shahla Nigar, CR Prasanna, Panchayat and

Rural Devp Deptt Secretary Prasanna R; Commissioner Avinash Champawat, MNREGA Commissioner Mohammed Kaiser Abdul Haq, Director Health Deptt Neeraj Bansod, Director National Health Mission Dr Priyanka Shukl, Director Finance Sharda Verma and others officers were present.

After this CM held talks with Minister for Home, Jail, Religious Trust and Endowment, Tourism Deptt Tamradhwaj Sahu through video-conferencing.

In this meeting DGP Ashok Juneja, Secretary Finance deptt Alarmelmangai D, PWD Secretary Siddharth Komal Pardeshi, Tourism Secy Ambalgan P, Director Finance Sharda Verma and other concerned officers were present.

11 flights cancelled due to adverse weather

Raipur, Jan 12:

Eleven flights coming to Swami Vivekanand Airport were cancelled due to adverse weather condition on Wednesday. Airport officials said that flights were cancelled due to operational problems. As per the information Indigo Airlines have cancelled its 10 flights and Vistara Airlines cancelled its 1 flight. Indigo have cancelled its 2 Delhi, 2 Mumbai, 2 Hyderabad, 2 Kolkata and one Prayagaraj



flight, whereas Vistara cancelled its Delhi flight. Earlier Indigo cancelled its 8 flight on Tuesday. As per the sources apart from weather condition the flights were cancelled due to passenger short-

age viewing the hike in corona cases. On the other hand Airport Traffic Controlled Rakesh Sahay said that flights were cancelled due to operational reason.

Governor inspects various departments of IKSU Khairagarh

Raipur, Jan 12: Governor Ms. Anusuiya Uikey during her one-day stay at Indira Kala Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya, Khairagarh at the inauguration of the theater. She inspected various departments of the University. Governor Ms. Uikey visited painting departments, where an exhibition of sculpture and painting was organised by the students. They expressed happiness on seeing the various artefacts. Also, interacting with the stu-

dents encouraged them. After this, the Governor inspected the exhibition organised in the Department of Fashion Designing and took information from the students about new dimensions regarding fashion designing. Along with this, she also inspected the Department of Folk Music, where the students welcomed her with folk songs and folk dance. Karma song and Gedi dance. The Governor reached the historical library of the universi-

ty, where 5000 records (tawa) are stored and kept. She also appreciated the collection made by the University. Also Ms. Uikey viewed the portraits of the late Birendra Bahadur Singh, the king who founded the university, and his ancestors. During this, the Vice Chancellor of the University, Padmashree Mamta Mokshada Chandrakar, Registrar Professor I.D. Tiwari including all the heads of departments and university teachers were present.

Role of the Kotwars in the exchange of information is important: Akbar

Forest Minister and Kawardha MLA Akbar inaugurated 'Kotwar Community Sadan'



Raipur, Jan 12:

Forest and Climate Change Minister and Kawardha MLA Mohammad Akbar inaugurated the newly constructed "Kotwar Community Hall" at District Headquarters Kawardha through video conferencing. It has been constructed with the sanctioned amount of Rs.14.35 lakh under the MLA fund. Inaugurating it, he said that Kotwar Sangh of Kabirdham district has got its own well-equipped Kotwar Community Hall at District Headquarters Kawardha. Forest Minister Akbar said that Kabirdham is the first district of Chhattisgarh after the formation of the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel's government in the state, where a fully

equipped Kotwar community house has been constructed for the Sangh, fulfilling the demands of the district Kotwar union. Forest Minister Akbar said that good facilities have become available to the Kotwars after getting their own Kotwar Sadan. Efforts will be made to provide such facilities in all the districts for the Kotwars in the entire state. During this, Forest Minister Akbar held discussions one by one with all the district panchayats of Kawardha, Bodla, Sahaspur, Lohara and Pandariya, Kotwar unions through video conferencing. During the discussion, he assured for proper initiative on the demands of the Kotwars. Forest Minister and Kawardha MLA Mr. Mohammad Akbar, while

addressing the Kotwar unions across the district on the inauguration, said that the role of the Kotwars is important in the exchange of information between the village and the administration. They render their services round the clock with full responsibility. They also play an important role in bringing the smallest incidents of the village to the notice of the government through the district administration. To solve the problems of the people, the Kotwars always have to come from Vananchal to plain villages to Tehsil and District Headquarters. In such circumstances, sometimes they have to take rest for the night. The Kotwars had to face a lot of difficulties in such a situation. Now the Kotwars

have got a concrete solution to their problems by getting their own fully equipped new building. The benefit of this building will now be available to the Kotwars of the entire district. He said that we will continue to make efforts to fulfill the demands and problems of the people. On the occasion of the inauguration of Kotwar Community Sadan, Agamdas Anant along with Forest Minister Akbar was specially present. In Kawardha, Collector Ramesh Kumar Sharma, Rajesh Makhijani, SDM Vinay Soni, Corporator Santosh Yadav, Executive Engineer PWD Mr Chaurasia, SDO Mr Chouhan and Kotwar Bodla, Sahaspur Lohara and Pandaria across the district through video conferencing. attended from District President of Kotwar Sangh, Suraj Das Manikpuri, President of Bodla, Roshan Das Manikpuri, Dharamdas Manikpuri, President of Pandaria, Lakhandas Manikpuri, Jeevandas Manikpuri, Tulsidas Manikpuri, Devdas Manikpuri, Kamalkant Banjare presented the building of Kotwar Sangh through the stage.

Three-tier Panchayat general-bye-election: Liquor shops to remain closed

Raipur, Jan 12:

The Chhattisgarh State Election Commission has fixed the polling date for the general-bye-elections of three-tier panchayats on January 20, 2022. Instructions have been given to keep liquor shops closed from 2 days prior the date of polling and on polling day. A letter to this effect from Mantralaya Mahanadi Bhawan Nava Raipur has been issued by the Commercial Tax (Excise) Department to all the Collectors of the state. The letter issued by the Commercial Taxes Department states that as per the provision contained in section 135C of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, for any election in a polling area, during the period of 48 hours ending with the time fixed for the close of poll, that no spirit, fermented or alcoholic liquor or other substance of a like nature shall be sold, given or distributed in any hotel, restaurant, school shop or in any other public or private place within the polling area. It has been said in the issued letter that the polling date is fixed on January 20 for the conduct

of the general-bye-election 2021 of the three-tier panchayats, after the completion of the polling by the stipulated time period, the counting of votes is to be done in the polling stations itself. Therefore, from 48 hours before the end of the counting of votes on the polling date, all the country-foreign liquor retail shops, hotels, bar clubs etc., located in the respective polling-counting place area, were declared dry day keeping the license beer bars closed. It has also been said in the letter that in the restricted areas, no shop, hotel, restaurant, club etc. of Mandira and other establishments selling and serving liquor, should not be allowed to sell and serve liquor to individuals. Non-proprietary clubs, restaurants, star hotels and private hotels should also not be allowed to sell and serve liquor on the declared dry days. During the said period, the personal storage of liquor and storage of liquor in unlicensed premises should be strictly prohibited and action should be taken to confiscate them.

CM pays tribute to the great philosopher Swami Vivekananda

On his birth anniversary

Raipur, Jan 12:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Wednesday paid floral tributes to the portrait of the great philosopher and world famous spiritual leader Swami Vivekananda on his birth anniversary—which is observed as 'National Youth Day'—at his residence office here. Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey was also present on the occasion that Swami Vivekanandaji's thoughts have given a new direction to the entire society. He showed the country and the world the path to serve mankind through his preaching and eloquent lectures. His famous sayings like "utho, Jaago aur tab tak nahi ruko jab tak lakshya prapt na ho jaye" (Arise, wake up and don't stop till the goal is



achieved) continues to inspire youth and fill them with new energy even today. "It is a matter of honor and pride for Chhattisgarh that Swami Vivekananda spent most of his life in Raipur after Calcutta. He spent his childhood in Budhapara here. In a bid to preserve and give a face-lift to his invaluable memories, the state government is developing Swamiji's residence, Rai Bahadur Bhoothnath De Bhawan, as a memorial. The Budha Talab of Raipur is now known as Vivekananda Sarovar and the

Vivekananda ji's meditation posture idol installed here introduces the future generation to his glorious history", said Mr. Baghel. He added that the Airport at Nava Raipur named after Vivekanandaji, introduces Swamiji's association with Raipur all over the world. The incredible legacy of Swamiji's thoughts which he handed down to us at the young age of forty-nine years is important and relevant even today. His invaluable thoughts and teachings will continue to encourage upcoming generations.

Interactive meeting of CSWC with National Commission for Women held in HP



Raipur, Jan 12:

Intense action is also being taken regarding the rehabilitation of the victim women in Chhattisgarh. In a year, more than 1500 cases have been heard and more than 500 cases have been resolved by the Chhattisgarh State Commission for Women. Along with this, 100 cases are being monitored regularly by the commission. This information was given by Dr. Kiranmayi Nayak, Chairperson of CSWC, Chhattisgarh State Women's Commission (CSWC) in an interactive meeting between the State Women's Commission with the 2-day National Commission for Women held in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh. In the meeting, the efforts being made in the states on the issue of rehabilitation and assistance to the victim women and the problems faced were discussed. Giving information about the work being

Discussion on the topic of rehabilitation and compensation of needy and suffering women
Dr. Kiranmayi Nayak, chairperson of CSWC demanded the passage of 33% women's reservation bill in Parliament and Vidhan Sabha

women coming into politics and what is the view of the commission on the work being done in it" was discussed. After detailed discussion in the meeting, it was decided that efforts should be made to make a proposal at the central level to make 33 percent reservation mandatory in the Legislative Assembly and Parliament to empower women. In the panel discussion, the chairperson of Chhattisgarh State Women's Commission, Dr. Nayak also gave her views. She said that on the demand of the Commission for All Women, the Chairperson of the National Commission for Women should send the letter to the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, should immediately pass and implement the bill pending for many years for 33 percent women's reservation in the Parliament of India and the Legislative Assembly of each state.

IIT Bhilai and ISRO Inertial Systems Unit sign an MoU

Raipur, Jan 12: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhilai and ISRO Inertial Systems Unit (ISU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding for collaboration on the development of LIDAR using direct Time-of-Flight sensor based System-on-a-Chip. IISU Thiruvananthapuram will be responsible for the research, design and development of Inertial Systems for Launch Vehicles and Spacecraft programmes of ISRO. The Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) department, IIT Bhilai will be involved in the training and research activities in the areas including Analog/Digital/Mixed signal VLSI circuit design, semiconductor devices, hardware security, and wireless networks. This collaboration aims to develop vision based navigation systems for aiding inertial sensors for landing missions. Both parties are motivated towards the advancement of mutual interests and more specifically to develop a time-of-flight LIDAR with system-on-chip CMOS image sensor targeted for space missions with robots or humanoids. With this objective and mission in mind, IISU Thiruvananthapuram and IIT Bhilai have agreed to collaborate for the development of the required components and technologies. From IISU Thiruvananthapuram, the MoU was signed by Dr D Sam Dayala Dev (Director, IISU), while Mr. K.S. Nandankumar, Ms. Usha K, Ms. Nisha Datnan (PI from IISU) and Ms. Sreeja I. were present. On behalf of Prof. Rajat Moona (Director, IIT Bhilai), Dr. Barun Gorain signed the MoU, while Prof. Santosh Biswas and Dr. Kapil Jainwal (PI from IIT Bhilai) were present on the occasion.

Divisional Comm and Collector to take decision as per the local circumstances

Raipur, Jan 12:

To prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 infection, State Government has issued guidelines regarding the operation of offices and has directed all the Divisional Commissioners and Collectors to ensure the implementation of these guidelines. In the guidelines issued by State Government, all the Division Commissioners and Collectors have been directed to make the use of masks and sanitizers compulsory for all the officers/employees in all the government offices under their jurisdiction. District Collectors can assess the local circumstances in the

- **COVID-19 infection: State Govt releases guidelines for conducting official works in the offices**
- **Officials works to be conducted through 'work from home' and 'minimum attendance' in office**

respective districts and accordingly direct the officers-employees to 'work from home' ensuring minimum attendance in the offices. After the evaluation of the situation in their districts, Collectors will also be able to implement 'work from home' and 'minimum attendance' rule in private organiza-

tions, public establishments and Centre-government offices such as banks, post offices, insurance company etc. COVID vaccination should be made compulsory for all the officers/employees. All the officers/employees should be directed to strictly follow the COVID protocol, so that they may set an example for common people. Crowded places should be totally avoided. And as far as possible, all the meetings should be held virtually via video conferencing. State Government has given instructions to ensure strict adherence to the guidelines issued for prevention and control of COVID-19 infection.

'Education for all' campaign by IIIT-Naya Raipur



Raipur, Jan 12: National Service Scheme, Institute Social Responsibility Wing of IIIT-Naya Raipur in collaboration with UNICEF Blue Brigade Action Innovation Scheme has been running "Education for all" campaign in Uparwara village with the help of institute students under the leadership of Faculties of IIIT-Naya Raipur Dr. Lakhinder Murmu, Dr. Maifuz Ali, Dr. Mithilesh Kumar Chaube, Pt. RSU student Pooja Sharma and IIIT-NR students Ajeet Ram Verma, Sudhanshu

Tripathi, Himanshu Yadav, Govind Prasad, Kamal Kishore Sinha, Deepraj Choudhary, Anand Singh and may other NSS active volunteers. The campaign has been running for the last one month at Sahu Bhawan near Mata Karma temple at the Uparwara village. Classes are conducted here every Saturday and Sunday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Under this campaign, about 100 to 150 students from class 5th to 12th are getting benefitted.

WASTE NEAR DIVIDER



The cut of pieces of plants and shrubs in the divider has been left by the side of it, posing problems for riders.

Chandan- Sushil win Press Club Badminton double' championship



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jan 12: Team comprising Chandan Sahu of Navabharat and Sushil Agrawal from Central Chronicle on Tuesday won the Press Club Badminton double' championship defeating the former Champions Satendra Kar and Vijay Mishra with the score of 15-12, 15-13 in the final match played at Union Club Badminton

here. Superintendent of Police (Traffic Raipur) Maravi and DSP Satish Singh Thakur were present as special guest of the Badminton final whereas Chhattisgarh Olympic Association (COA) General Secretary Gurucharan Singh Hora presided over the function. Press Club office-bearers were present on the occasion.

RDA's new 3BHK LIG flats scheme in Kamal Vihar

Subsidy of 91 thousand to be adjusted in EWS flats of Indraprastha Raipur

Raipur, Jan 12:

Raipur Development Authority (RDA) will soon launch a new scheme of 1120 flats of 3BHK with modern facilities under Affordable Housing in its Kamal Vihar project. The decision to launch this new scheme was taken at the meeting of the board of directors today. The board of directors also approved adjustment of Rs 91 thousand of subsidy to the first allottees of the registry of EWS flats of Indraprastha Raipur Project.

It was informed in the meeting that RDA sold assets worth Rs 17 crore since November 25. Chairman Subhash Dhupad presided over the meeting of the Board of Directors and the proposal was presented by Rituraj Raghuvanshi, Member Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

It was informed that 832 and 288 flats of Kamal

- **RDA's property sales accelerated, property worth 17 crores sold in one and a half months**

Vihar Project would be prepared in Sector 12 and 13 respectively under Affordable Housing. In the eight-storey flats, the built-up area of each flat will be 812 square feet. The 1120 flats with covered parking will be built in the fully protected campus with boundary.

Underground drains, water distribution with hydropneumatic technology, underground cables, two lifts, covered and open parking, gardens, open gym, fire equipment, 25 meter concrete driveway as well as community hall will also be provided under modern facilities. The price of the flats has been fixed at Rs 19 lakh, which will be sold through tender. The Board of Directors in

Indraprastha Raipur has given a big relief to the allottees by unanimously approving the adjustment of their last installment before the subsidy registry of Rs 91 lakh. This decision has been taken considering the constant demand of allottees before RDA Chairman Subhash Dhupad.

In this, an amount of Rs 1.50 lakh is to be given in the subsidy given by the Central Government in EWS flats, in which the allottees will be given possession of the flat after adjusting the subsidy amount of Rs 91 thousand provided at present.

It was also informed in the meeting that the sale of RDA properties has increased significantly. Between November 25, 2021 to January 11, 2022, property worth about Rs 17 crore has been sold in just 46 days.

Similarly, shops in the old complex located at Vivekananda Ashram have also been sold for about Rs 7 crore.

Delegation of Jain Samaj expresses gratitude to SP

- **On recovery of stolen silver crown & other ornaments by Bastar police**

Jagdalpur, Jan 12:

A delegation of Jagdalpur Jain Samaj (JJS) under leadership of Oswal Jain Shwetamber Jain Samaj (OJSJ) President Manohar Lunia met SP Bastar Jitendra Singh Meena and expressed gratitude towards District Police for recovery of crowns and other decorative items of idols from temples. Jain Samaj informed SP that the crown and other silver items recovered by Bastar Police belongs to Jaini Mandir



in Nagari under Dhatmari district. In this regard, Anil Maloo of Jain Mandir Nagri informed that the crown of idol and other ornaments in the temple were stolen and complaint in this regard was lodged with Nagri Thana.

It is notable here that Bastar police recovered 4.350 kg of silver crown and other ornaments from a thief of Odisha under

Nagarnar Thana last on Monday and the accused arrested was Dhanpati Randhari and he was sent to jail.

The delegation under leadership of President OJSJ Jagdalpur Manohar Lunia comprised of Kishore Parekh, Ramesh Jain, Somermal Delariya, Devichand Sancheti, Ganesh Lunkad and others.

SP Deepak Jha felicitates Sonali

- **For winning gold medal in Karate competition**

Katagi, Jan 12:

Sonali Baghel R/o Kahada brought laurels to her city and state winning Gold Medal in Karate competition held in Agra and she was felicitated by SP Balodabazar Deepak Jha by presenting her with the medal.



Sonali Baghel, R/o Kahada, represented the state in Karate competition held in Agra and won International Gold Medal. She is D/o Kamta

Prasad, and mother - Sukumari Baghel and is an ex-student of Govt Primary School Bhavanipur. On her winning the Gold medal, SP Balodabazar, members of Youth Club, teachers, school students and villagers have extended greetings to her and wished her all the best in all her future endeavours.

Meeting on child marriage prevention and adolescent empowerment



Konta, Jan 12:

In the review meeting of Gram Panchayat Secretaries held in the meeting room of Janpad Panchayat Konta of Sukma district, along with Panchayat level points, child marriage prevention and adolescent empowerment were also discussed. In the meeting, Janpad Panchayat CEO Kailash Kashyap instructed the secretaries to implement all the schemes at the village level in a smooth and successful manner. Along with this, the villagers of all the villages under the Panchayat are directed to ensure that 100% benefits of various

government schemes are made available as per eligibility. Mahesh Jharkar, District Coordinator of Center for Catalyzing Change, provided guidance to all the secretaries present in the meeting, along with other people to effectively implement the Village Level Child Protection Committee, prevent child marriage, and provide school development training to the youth. Along with this, while giving guidance for adolescent empowerment, Janpad Panchayat CEO Kashyap emphasized on working to encourage adolescent youth to join various schemes.

CU launches three refresher courses

Bilaspur, Jan 12:

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) under the able leadership and guidance of Vice Chancellor, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal, launched three refresher courses in a grand manner. These are being organized by Department of History, Department of Commerce, and Department of Physical Education with UGC-HRDC, Guru Ghasidas University, Bilaspur from January 10, 2022. Of these the refresher course on "Global Change in Consumerism: E-Commerce and E-Learning" was inaugurated by the Department of Commerce on 10 January 2022 at 1 PM and the Chief Guest was Professor Dr.

Manish Shrivastava, Dean, School of Studies in Management and Commerce, GGV. Welcome address was delivered by Dr. Ashutosh Singh, Assistant Director, UGC-HRDC and Dr. Bhuvana Venkataraman, Course Coordinator, gave a brief introduction about the course. The program ended with a vote of thanks. The UGC-HRDC Director, Dr. Ratnesh Singh gave an introduction. The duration of the course is 12 days, from 10th January to 22nd January 2022 in online mode from 10:30 AM to 05:30 PM each day. 33 participants from different states of the country like Maharashtra, West Bengal, MP, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana, Karnataka and



Chhattisgarh are participating. Experts from different states of the country including Delhi, Mizoram, Bihar, Mumbai, Haryana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Pondicherry, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are being invited as speakers in the course. 40 lectures have been

planned, covering aspects like emerging trends in the Indian marketing environment, reverse migration and consumerism, privatization in e-commerce, innovative entrepreneurial trends in emerging economies, handling of customer complaints, e-negotiation, auctions and contracts, cloud based learning, e-commerce,

learning in the post-pandemic era, e-learning provisions in NEP 2020 etc.

Program coordinator Dr. Sanjit Sardar gave detailed information about the course from 10.01.2022 to 22.01.2022. There will be approximately 45 sessions including two ICT based teaching sessions and two seminar presentations. A total of 34 candidates are participating from across the country.

He also said that, eminent resource persons from different universities are going to deliver lectures on various subjects, which will surely benefit the participants in shaping their teaching skills. The third Refresher Course is being organized by the Head of the Department of

82 kg 'Ganja' worth Rs 4.10 lakh seized



Jagdalpur, Jan 12:

The Bastar police has got a major breakthrough in seizure of 82 kg 'Ganja' worth Rs 4.10 lakh and arrested two accused at mobile check-post in Darbha last on Tuesday.

It was under supervision of SDOP Keshlur Aishwarya Chandrakar

and leadership of TI Darbha Shishupal Sinha a suspected 'Chota Hathi' (small transport vehicle) bearing No. CG 12-S-2998 was stopped at mobile check-post near Darbha and when searched they found 82 kg 'Ganja' inside it. Both the accused viz. Pintu Yadav and KP Gautam disclosed that they are from UP and tak-

- **Was taken from Malkangiri via Jagdalpur to UP**

ing the 'Ganja' from Malkangiri via Jagdalpur to UP. Both the accused could not produce any valid documents in support of this transportation of illegal drugs. A case under section 20 (K) of NDPS Act was filed against Pintu Yadav and KP Gautam at Darbha thana and 82 Kg 'Ganja', 1 'chota hathi' vehicle, 2 mobile phones, Rs 2630 in cash and vehicle documents were seized from the two and were taken on police remand and sent to jail.

Raipur, Jan 12:

Food Minister Amarjit Bhagat reviewed the control of corona infection in the border districts of Gariaband and Rajnandgaon at his residence office. He said that people coming from outside in these border districts should be compulsorily tested for corona. He said that a team of Health Department should be set up on the border of both the districts for corona test.

Bhagat was reviewing the arrangements made for corona control in these districts through video conferencing from his residence office. Minister said that in the event of corona infection, employment arrangements should be made compulsorily for the

labourers. He instructed the officials to follow the Corona guidelines. People should not stay without masks in public places. It should be strictly followed. He said that all necessary facilities should be kept in all primary and sub-health centers apart from district hospitals to facilitate the treatment of corona affected patients. He said that all necessary medicines including oxygen beds, ventilators should be available for the treatment of serious patients. He directed the collectors of both the districts to increase the number of corona tests as well as ensure the vaccination of all the people.

Collector of Gariaband district, Mr. Nilesh Kshirsagar informed that all necessary preparations have been made



for the prevention of corona infection as well as for the treatment of patients. The number of corona tests has also been increased. He said that the first dose has been given to 100% eligible people in the district. More than fifty percent people have had a second dose. School children in the age group of 15 to 18 years have been vaccinated 100%. All preparations have also been

made to provide employment to the poor sections in the event of Corona infection. During the review of Rajnandgaon district, Collector Taran Prakash Sinha informed that the situation of corona infection in the district is under control. Being a border district, all the people entering from the Maharashtra border are being screened. Rajnandgaon is at number two in the state in

terms of Corona test. He informed that the Chamber of Commerce, industrial establishments, voluntary organizations and public representatives and various social organizations are giving cooperation in the prevention of Corona infection and treatment of Corona patients in the district. He said that all arrangements have been made for employment to the poor and weaker sections.

They will be provided employment through MNREGA. Arrangements have also been made for oxygen beds, oxygen concentrators, ventilators, medicines etc. in hospitals. Local public representatives and officials of both the districts participated through video conferencing.

Minister Akbar takes initiative in the interest of new market traders

Action in Konta Nagar against those without masks

Central Chronicle News



Sharma that at present, the place where the business of vegetable and fish traders is going on should be continued. He also directed that keeping in view the increasing number of corona cases the corona guidelines issued by the state government should be followed. Similarly fish businessmen Mukesh Mallah and Dinanath Mallah requested the cabinet minister for shops to be allotted on a permanent basis. Taking

closure of recovery of temporary encroachment fee done by the contractor through the contract by the Municipal Council. While directing the concerned officer, the minister said that a resolution should be passed in the council to stop the temporary encroachment fee collection going on in the urban area and cancel the contract of the contractor concerned. In the virtual meeting,

Collector Ramesh Kumar Sharma, Municipal President Rishi Kumar Sharma, Mohit Maheshwari, Ashok Singh, Sunil Sahu, Rajesh Makhijani, Hires Chaturvedi, Chief Municipal Officer Naresh Kumar Verma, Executive Engineer ML Kurre, Deputy Engineer Virendra Navagre, R.N.N. Santosh Wankhede, representatives of vegetable and fish traders were present.

Konta, Jan 12: In view of the increasing cases of corona in the state of Chhattisgarh, under the guidelines of Sukma District Collector Vineet Nandanwar, special emphasis is being given in Konta Nagar to follow the Corona Protocol under all possible efforts to control the corona. Special action is being taken against those who roam in public places without wearing masks. So that people can be saved from the danger of corona. Necessary strictness is being taken for effective control of Corona.



employees of the Police Department are regularly sensitizing the general public to follow the rules to protect against Covid, as well as taking strict action against those who do not follow the instructions. From January 01, 2022 till date, fine is being collected by taking action in various places under Konta Nagar area.

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Jan 12: Cabinet Minister Mohammed Akbar, in view of the corona infection, had a virtual discussion with the representatives of retail vegetable and fish traders in the Collectorate NIC room today and gave necessary directions to the higher officials and asked them how to keep the city safe from corona infection. For this, suggestions were also taken from traders. Sanjeev Kurre informed the minister that everyone's business has been affected in the lockdown, only by doing business around the new market, we can run our business and have to face a lot of problems due to transfer of business elsewhere. The Cabinet Minister, after listening seriously to the demands of the traders, directed the District Collector Ramesh Kumar

Police arrest murder accused within 24 hrs



Central Chronicle News

Kondagaon, Jan 12: An accused in the murder case of Jan 9 was arrested by Kondagaon police within 24 hours. As per information in this regard, the complainant Sohanlal Netam, S/o Dhaniram Netam, caste-Goud, age-28 yrs; R/o

Gram Bohar Gohan, Thana Vishrampuri district Kondagaon had come to Vishrampuri thana on Jan 9 that his neighbour Sonaram Netam over some trivial controversy with kids at around 5:00 pm had beaten his father Dhaniram Netam with bamboo with intentions to kill

him. After this his father received lot of injuries and failed to respond to home-treatment and succumbed to injuries. A case under section 302 of IPC was filed against him and Dhaniram was taken into arrest just in few hours and was produced in the court and sent to jail.

Non-payment of minor forest produces beneficiaries

Central Chronicle News

Dongargarh, Jan 12: The issue of non-payment of minor forest produce to many forest dwellers in the forest produce committee Bortalao, even after 1 year has come to light. Whose complaint has been made by the forest dwellers to the Forest Divisional Officer Khairagarh.

A complaint made by Paniyajob resident Bhagwati husband Sher Singh Gond and Munna father Rajaram Gond said that produce was sold to forest produce committee Bortlav manager in the year 2020, but the payment was not received. According to reports Managers and Forest Officers are earning profits by buying and paying contrary to the rules as various schemes are being run by the government to bring economic change in the lives of forest dwellers. This is the reason that



many beneficiaries have not been able to get the forest produce sold by them even after 1 year. Bodra Tola, a dependent village of Lebor Talav Panchayat, which comes under the Bor Talav area, were paid offline by the manager instead of online, but many beneficiaries have not got the

amount. The complaint has been made to the officials of the Forest Department. With the aim of earning economic profit, Salicyra or Chiraita, a minor forest yield was purchased from the forest dwellers from Kharka Tola, the area of the committee manager of another area, by the man-

ager of Bor Talao area, but the amount in the group was made by RTGS by not paying the amount online to the beneficiaries as per rules after purchase. In which the beneficiaries have disclosed the non-payment of thousands of rupees. Deputy Ranger Shailesh Ujwane has been posted as Nutrition Officer by the committee. With the joint signature of Nutrition Officer and Manager, there is a rule to do RTGS of the amount directly in the account of the beneficiaries. But by withdrawing the amount directly

from the bank, many beneficiaries are being paid offline instead of online. Umashankar Mankar, the manager of Bor Talav Laghu Vanopaj Sahakari Samiti, accepted the difference in payment of offline instead of online and non-payment of amount to many beneficiaries and payment of absinth purchase. It has been told to be so due to technical reason. Shailesh Ujwane, the deputy ranger of the area and the feeder officer of the committee, under whose joint signature the amount is credited to the RTGS beneficiaries, it has been said that there was no intentional wrong done by the manager, whatever has been done was done in accordance with the rules.

Civic Action Program organized by CRPF 65 Battalion

Central Chronicle News

Mandir Hasoud, Jan 12: A Civic Action Program was organized by Central Reserve Police Force 65 Battalion, located near Mandir Hasoud, in Dabnai Village Chhindaula, Manpur, District Gariaband and was inaugurated in the presence of Battalion Commandant Vijay Kumar Singh.



On this occasion, saris, blankets and medicines were distributed to the rural women, shovel and medicine were distributed to rural men and terawater filters were installed for the villagers to drink pure water. Apart from this, food

items were distributed. The Commandant of 65 Vahini, Vijay Kumar Singh, while appraised about the activities being carried out by the Naxalites, encouraged the surrounding villagers to live a fear-free life,

and while discussing the achievements of the Battalions companies, he assured all possible help to the villagers. In addition, the Corps Commandant apprised that such programs, on the one hand, are helpful in establishing better relations between the Central Reserve Police Force and the local people, while on the other hand the activities being carried out by the Naxalites should be checked. The main goal of organizing the Civic Action Program is to end the Naxalite activities happening in the area and to maintain the law and order situation, he said. Commandant Vijay Kumar Singh, Deputy Commandant Ravindra Singh, Assistant Commandant Bhudev Dhamania and other personnel of Central Reserve Police Force were also present on the occasion.

KAA greets Chandrashekhar Yadav



Vibhash Singh, Suresh Thakur, Suryadaman Singh, Suresh Bhatt, Dipesh Thakur, Ramkumar Jangde, Sandeep Das Vaishnav, Vikram Yadu, Chandrashekhar Verma, Rajendra Janghel, Shankar Yadav, Amar Yadav, Gyandas Banjare, Sabra Bano extended greetings to Chandrashekhar Yadav for the new responsibility.

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Jan 12: The newly elected corporator of ward No. 19 Naya Tikrapara Gokul Nagar (Advocate) Chandrashekhar Yadav as extended greetings and best wishes by the Khairagarh Advocates' Association (KAA) and he was welcomed as well. It was on Jan 7, senior advocate Tirath Chandel, Sunil Kant Pandey, Kamalkant Pandey, Altaf Ali,

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Controlling Office: Axis House, Bombay Dyeing Compound, Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400025.

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable & Movable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the constructive/physical (Physical) possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 15.02.2022 for recovery of Rs. 20,37,234.00 as on 28.07.2021 along with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of actual payment and/or realization) due to the secured creditor from Mohd. Islam, S/o. Shahmat Ali & Mohammad Irfan, S/o. Mohd. Shahmat Ali. The Reserve Price for the Property: Rs.17,83,260.00 and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) will be Rs.17,83,260.00.

| Account Number | Location / Details of the Immovable Property (as applicable) / Secured Assets possessed and put for sale | Encumbrances, if any known to the Bank |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Loan No. PHR013901335280 | All that Piece and Parcel of diverted residential Land with Building Constructed on part of Khasra No. 131/6, Nagar Nigam No. 9, New Chanderp Khata Serial No. 1284, admeasuring 1003 Sq.ft. or 0.029 Hectares. Title Sale Deed No. 2031(Ka), Dated 27.03.2014, in the name of Mohd. Islam, S/o. Shahmat Ali aged about 35 Years, situated at Mauza and Gram - Gudiyari, Patwari Circle No.107/37, Thakur Bappa Ward No. 9, P.S. - Gudiyari, Sub Registrar and Dist - Raipur, Chhattisgarh, Pin - 492 001. Bounded by : North - Property of Tijja Bai, South - Property of Dewangan, East - Road, West - Property of Lalit Dewangan. | No Encumbrances as per knowledge of Bank. |

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the Secured Creditor's Website L.e. : <https://www.axisbank.com/auction-notices/>

Date : 13.01.2022 / Place : Raipur Authorized Officer / Axis Bank Ltd.

शेखर बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

Central Bank of India
Regional Office, Raipur (C.G.)

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISIO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Central Bank of India- Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date and time specified hereinbelow, for recovery of due to the Central Bank of India- Secured Creditor from the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit of the respective properties is mentioned hereinbelow:-

| Sr. No. | Name of the Borrowers | Description of the property | Outstanding Amount (Secured debt) Demand Notice Date | Reserve Price EMD Bid Increase Amount |
|---------|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | M/s Shiva Dall Industries Prop. Shri Ashok Kumar Lalwani, Guarantor- Smt. Sheela Devi Lalwani w/o Shri Shyamal Lalwani BRANCH - FAFADIH, RAIPUR | 1. Equitable Mortgage of diverted open land at Kh. No. 96/2(part) - Area-0.389 Hect (41871 sq. ft.) Gram Sirve PH no 12, Tehsil Tilda, Zila Raipur, (CG) in the name of Shri Ashok Kumar Lalwani. Boundaries are as under: North: Kharora road, South: Ghas Land, East: other land, West: Kharora Road. (Physical Possession) 2. Equitable Mortgage of Factory land and building at Kh. No. 96/3(part) - Area-0.235 Hect (25295 sq. ft.) Gram Sirve PH no 12, Tehsil Tilda, Zila Raipur, (CG) in the name of Shiva Dall Industries. Boundaries: North: Land of Ashok Lalwani, South: Govt. Ghas Land, East: Land of Tarachand Lalwani, West: Land of Dauji Firm. 3. Equitable Mortgage of Diverted open land at Kh. No. 96/4(part) - Area-0.093 Hect (10000 sq. ft.) Gram Sirve PH no 12, Tehsil Tilda, Zila Raipur, (CG) in the name of Shiva Dall Industries. Boundaries:North: Land of Tarachand Lalwani, South: Govt. Ghas Land, East: Land of Suresh Lalwani, West: Land of Ashok Lalwani. 4. Equitable Mortgage of Diverted open land at Kh. No. 96/4(part) - Area-0.237 Hect (25700 sq. ft.) Gram Sirve PH no 12, Tehsil Tilda, Zila Raipur, (CG) in the name of Shri Ashok Kumar Lalwani. Boundaries:North: Land of Tarachand Lalwani, South: Govt. Ghas Land, East: Land of Suresh Lalwani, West: Land of Ashok Lalwani. 5. Fixed assets like plant & machineries on above land. (Total area of above 3 (three) properties 0.565 Hect. (60,995 sqft) (Symbolic Possession) | Rs. 12,88,65,713/- (+) interest & expenses thereon Demand Notice Date 03.04.2018 Possession Notice Dated 24.08.2018 | Rs. 62,81,000/- Rs. 6,28,100/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 2,01,42,000/- Rs. 20,14,200/- Rs. 25,000/- |
| 2 | Borrower- M/s Shri Ram Enterprises Prop. Mr. Mukund Mishra S/o Shri Laxman Prasad Mishra, and Guarantors- 1. Mr. Mukund Mishra S/o Shri Laxman Prasad Mishra, 2. Mrs. Sujata Mishra W/o Mr. Mukund Mishra, 3. Smt. Laxmi Pandey W/o Late D N Pandey and 4. Mr. Ashish Diwan S/o Rajendrarath Diwan BRANCH : RAIPUR MO | All the Part & Parcel of Residential Property Situated at H. No. 25/67, Kh. No. 949, Area 1739 Sq.ft., Bramhanpara Basti, Ward No. 58, Raipur (C.G.) in the name of Ashish Diwan. Boundaries : North - Land of Ashish Diwan, South - Road, East- Shyamdar & Ramadhar Diwan's House, West- House of Shiv Kumar (Symbolic Possession) All the Part & Parcel of Commercial Property Situated at Shop No. 9, First Floor, Kankali Para Aspatal Vyavsaik Parisar, Area 412.96 Sq. ft. in the name of Smt. Laxmi Pandey. Boundaries : North - Shop No. 8, South - Shop No. 10, East- Corridor, West- Other's Shop. (Symbolic Possession) All the Part & Parcel of Open Land Situated at Kh. No. 745 (Part), New Kh. No. 745/9, Ph. No. 135/14, Area 9685 Sq. ft. (0.09 Hec), Gram Khilora, RNM-Abhanpur, Tehsil-Abhanpur, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) in the name of Mr. Mukund Mishra. Boundaries : North - Other's Land, South - Land of Amrita Pandey, East- Other's Land, West- Nistari Road. (Physical Possession) All the Part & Parcel of Open Land Situated at Kh. No. 45/3 (Part), Ph. No. 15/19, Area 0.036 Hect. Gram Dushera, RNM-Abhanpur, Tehsil-Abhanpur, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) in the name of Mr. Mukund Mishra. Boundaries : North - Road, South - Kh. No. 45/02, East- Land of Punit Mishra, West- Seller's Land. (Physical Possession) All the Part & Parcel of Open Land Situated at Kh. No. 45/3 (Part), Ph. No. 15/19, Area 0.093 Hect. Gram Dushera, RNM-Abhanpur, Tehsil-Abhanpur, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) in the name of Mr. Mukund Mishra. Boundaries : North - Road, South - Kh. No. 44, East- Land of Punit Shrinivas Mishra, West- Kh. No. 10. (Physical Possession) | Rs. 54,73,000/- Rs. 5,47,300/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 28,72,000/- Rs. 2,87,200/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 23,08,000/- Rs. 2,30,800/- Rs. 10,000/- Rs. 2,79,68,469.00 (+) interest & expenses thereon Demand Notice Date 07.05.2019 Possession Notice Dated 18.09.2019 & 15.07.2020 | |
| 3 | M/S Shihwa Minerals, Partners 1. Mr. Vikas Chand Dewangan & 2. Mr. Shyam Sundar Dewangan and Guarantors - 1. Mr. Bhupendra Kumar Lenwar 2. Mr. Vikas Chand Dewangan, & 3. Mr. Shyam Sundar Dewangan, BRANCH : DHAMTARI | 1. All the Part and Parcel of Land and Building embedded Plant & Machinery situated at Khasra No. 49/12, Ph. No. 21, Sihawa, Teh. Nagri, Dist.-Dhamtari (C.G.) Total Area 0.07 Hect. in the name of M/s Shihwa Minerals, Partners Mr. Vikas Chand Dewangan & Mr. Shyam Sundar Dewangan. Boundaries : North : Road, South : Land of Harik Lal, East : Land of Harik Lal, West : Sihawa Poha Mill (Seller's Land at earlier). (Symbolic Possession) | Rs. 67,39,521.00 (+) interest & expenses thereon Demand Notice Date 01.08.2019 Possession Notice Dtd. 17.10.2019 | Rs. 46,03,000/- Rs. 4,60,300/- Rs. 10,000/- |

Terms & Conditions : 1. Date & Time of E-Auction - 29.01.2022 From 12.00 pm to 02.00 pm 2. Last Date And Time of submission of EMD And Documents on or before 28.01.2022 till 4.00 PM. 3. For participating in the E-auction sale, the intending bidders should register their details with the service provider <https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> well in advance and shall get user ID & password. Intending bidders advised to change only the password. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale and, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>, and Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.centralbankofindia.co.in. The interested bidders who require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may contact to www.mstcecommerce.com on their Central Helpdesk Number - 033-22901004. 4. Bidder will register on website <https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp> and upload KYC documents and after verification of KYC documents by the service provider, EMD to be deposited in Global EMD wallet through NEFT/transfer (after generation for Challan from <https://mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp>). 5. For Any Property Related Query, Bidders May Contact for Lot No. 1-2. Mr. Hukum Chand, CM, Branch Fafadih, Raipur, Mob. No. 8419056626, Email Id: bmrpa0802@centralbank.co.in, Lot No. 3-7. Mr. Virendra Tiwari, CM, Branch Raipur Main, Mob. No. 7310179092, Email Id: cmrpa0803@centralbank.co.in, For Lot No. 8. Mr. Natwar Soni, CM, Branch-Dhamtari, Mob. No. 9665512909, Email Id: bmrpa0805@centralbank.co.in, in at any working day during office hours. 6. Property under sale is also loanable and loan may also be obtained from our bank subject to fulfillment of rules. 7. If Bank/authorized officer fails to handover the physical possession of the sold secured assets to the purchaser, within 6 months from the date of auction, the amount deposited by the auction purchaser shall be refunded to the purchaser if request is made by him/her to the Authorised officer of Bank. 8. The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/ additional stamp duty/ transfer charges, fee etc. and also all the statutory/ non-statutory dues, taxes, TDS (bidding for properties of more than Rs. 50.00 lacs in value will be required to pay 1% of the bid price towards Income Tax), rates, assessment charges, fees etc. owing to anybody.

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Date : 12.01.2022, Place - Raipur Authorized Officer, Central Bank of India

BRIEF

Smuggling thwarted

Ferozepur: The BSF thwarted an attempt of Pakistan-based smugglers to push narcotics and ammunition inside the Indian territory by recovering 22 kilograms of heroin in three separate incidents in Ferozepur sector in Punjab. One pistol along with a magazine and eight live cartridges was also recovered. Troops of 103 Battalion of the BSF recovered 10 packets of heroin weighing 19.375 kg.

Eleven rescued

Morigaon: A total of 11 youths from Assam were rescued from Andhra Pradesh where they were allegedly kept in confinement by traffickers. The youths from Morigaon district who were on their way to Chennai and sold to a trafficking network have been rescued in a joint effort by the police forces of the two states. The youngsters of Borchal village under Lahorighat police station had left for Chennai by train last week in search of jobs.

Ugandan held

New Delhi: A Ugandan woman was arrested by customs officials at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport here for allegedly trying to smuggle in heroin worth over Rs 7 crore. The passenger was intercepted after her arrival from Entebbe in Uganda via Sharjah, officials said. Heroin weighing 1.06 kg, concealed in 107 capsules kept inside clothes in baggage has been seized, they said, adding that the passenger was arrested.

Retrieves land

Jammu: The Jammu Development Authority (JDA) retrieved prime land worth crores of rupees from encroachers here, officials said. An anti-encroachment drive was jointly launched by the district administration, police and JDA in Roonagar. The encroached land in posh area measuring over five acres was retrieved during five hour long drive. During the drive, 17 structures raised upon JDA land were also demolished.

Lease out

New Delhi: South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has prepared a plan to lease out heritage buildings currently being maintained for commercial use such as opening of restaurants, guesthouses, banks and retail shopping centres. Civic authorities said move is aimed at bringing more revenue to cash strapped civic body.

Gang busted

Noida: With the arrest of eight people, the Noida Police claimed to have busted a gang of cyber cheats that has duped hundreds of people across the country of crores of rupees in the name of insurance policies. The gang, which included a woman also, had made around Rs 8 crore to Rs 9 crore since it started the con job five years ago and spent the duped money to purchase properties and maintain a luxurious lifestyle, police said.

'Oppn parties need to think of alternative against Modi's leadership'

For TMC to expand, it has to go to other states

Panaji, Jan 12 (PTI):

TMC MP Sushmita Dev has said the opposition parties in the country need to think of an alternative against the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi before going to the people to seek votes. Talking to PTI in Goa, Dev claimed that Trinamool Congress (TMC) president Mamata Banerjee is coming up as a "formidable force" against Modi.



Sushmita Dev

Dev also said the TMC has not entered the Assembly poll fray in Goa to cut the Congress's votes, and that the Banerjee-led party has to go to other states to expand the organisation. The Assembly polls to all 40 seats in Goa will be held on February 14. Targeting the Congress, Dev said there are issues with the Sonia

Gandhi-headed party. "It is the oldest party, it has the strongest base, but why do they fail against Modi?" she asked. "There is a big question in this country, Modi versus who? We have to answer that question. Unless we answer that question, we cannot go to the people," the Rajya Sabha member said. Dev said the need of the hour at the national level is to find an alternative be-

cause the "Congress has not answered the question, Modi versus who?"

Asked whether the TMC wants to pitch Mamata Banerjee as the prime ministerial candidate (in the next Lok Sabha polls), Dev said the prime ministerial face of the opposition has to be a collective decision.

When people expected Sonia Gandhi to be the prime minister, she sacrificed (the post) for Dr Manmohan Singh. So, Mrs Gandhi is capable of making big sacrifices, that is her plus point.

She may chose to sacrifice for anybody, and I think Mamata Banerjee is coming up as a leader at the national level- a formidable force against Narendra Modi, she said. Dev said what the future holds for the country is not known.

WB CS, DGP skipping two meetings in three days 'constitutional lapse'



Jagdeep Dhankhar

Kolkata, Jan 12 (PTI):

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday said that Chief Secretary HK Dwivedi and Director General of Police Manoj Malaviya skipping two scheduled meetings with him in three days was a "constitutional lapse". Dhankhar's statement came after the two top offi-

cials of the state did not attend a meeting called by him earlier in the day to know details on why Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari of the BJP was allegedly stopped by the police from visiting Netaji in Jhargram district on January 7 to attend a programme despite a Calcutta High Court order that there shouldn't be any restriction on his movement. "CS @MamataOfficial DGP @WBPolice 'boycott' WB Guv meeting (Re:LOP @SuvenduWB Netaji visit) for second time in 3 days - actionable in condonable constitutional lapse by top officials @IASassociation @IPS_Association bearing out observation @India_NHRC in WB 'Law of Ruler not of Law'," Dhankhar tweeted.

BSP will launch blitzkrieg digital campaign after EC reviews guidelines

Lucknow, Jan 12 (PTI):

The BSP will not lag behind other parties in online public outreach in Uttar Pradesh and a blitzkrieg digital campaign will be undertaken after assessing the poll panel's guidelines post-January 15, its leader SC Misra said on Wednesday. Announcing elections in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa with a strong focus on digital and virtual modes of campaigning, the Election Commission has banned physical rallies and roadshows till January 15 due to Covid concerns.

It said the ban on rallies and roadshows will be reviewed on January 15.

"The BSP is connecting with the people through



BSP is seeking to revive Dalit-Brahmins social engineering formula

Facebook Live and YouTube. Preparations are afoot to install LED screens in different assembly constituencies to livestream party supremo Mayawati's campaign speeches," BSP General Secretary S C Misra told PTI in an interview.

Her audio and video messages would be sent to

the people, he said, adding Mayawati has asked party members to focus on using social media platforms under the changed scenario following the surge in Covid cases.

Misra said, "The BSP will give a final shape to its digital poll campaign plan when the Election Commission reviews its guidelines after January 15." He asserted that his party would not lag behind others in the virtual outreach drive in the politically crucial state.

Asked if the digital medium would be effective in taking Mayawati's message to the voters, particularly in the rural areas, Misra said, "Today, mobile phones are in every household and people keenly watch her speeches on Youtube."

Rise in mugger crocodile population in Ghodahada

Berhampur, Jan 12 (PTI):

The population of the mugger crocodile increased by four at the Ghodahada reservoir and its adjoining water bodies in Odisha's Ganjam district, an official said on Wednesday.

Improvement of the habitats in the water bodies and protection to the animal by locals can be the main reasons behind the increase over the past three years, Berhampur Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Amlan Nayak said.

The number of the muggers in and around the irrigation reservoir was counted at 76 in the census, which was conducted recently by the Forest Department through the direct-sight method, Nayak said. Fifty-eight muggers were found in around the 5-

sq-km reservoir, while 18 others were detected in the nearby 10 water bodies near Digapahandi, 190 km south of Bhubaneswar, the official said. Last year, the reptile's population was 72, including 53 in Ghodahada reservoir and 19 in the ponds. The count was 65 in 2020.

The Ghodahada reservoir is considered as one of the potential habitats for the muggers in the state after Satkosia and Similipal. Mugger is one of the three crocodile species found in the state. The others are the gharial and the saltwater crocodiles.

It is designated as vulnerable in the International Union for Conservation of Nature's red list of threatened species and under Schedule I of the country's Wildlife Protection Act.

Fertilizers' price hike' will hurt farm sector: KCR

Hyderabad, Jan 12 (PTI):

Accusing the NDA government at the Centre of trying to break the farming community's back by increasing the price of fertilizers, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao on Wednesday warned that the move will push the agriculture sector into a crisis. According to an official release from Rao's office, the CM will write to Prime Minister Narendra Modi registering his protest against the "increase of fertilizers' prices." The CM expressed his displeasure over the central government's tall promises that it would increase the farmers income double fold by 2022 and



K Chandrashekhara Rao

said "it now increased the prices of fertilizers at an all time high to break the farming community's back." He alleged that the NDA government is totally against the farmers and it is proved right beyond any doubt. Rao further alleged there is a deep conspiracy behind the Centre's policies and actions that are making the lives of farm-

ers miserable and decisions such as installing meters to motor pump sets to collect the power charges, not linking MGN-REGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) with the farm sector, increasing the fertilizers prices to all time high and not purchasing the Paddy cultivated by the farmers, have made farmers life difficult to survive.

The CM gave a clarion call to people in the state and across the country to root out BJP government which is weakening the rural economy, hereditary trades, playing havoc with the farm sector only to hand over agriculture sector to the corporates, the release said.

HC asks Congress to furnish permission taken for its 'padayatra'

Bengaluru, Jan 12 (PTI):

The Karnataka High Court on Wednesday asked the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) to submit before it by January 14 whether they had taken any permission to hold the 'Walk for Water' demanding a balancing reservoir across Cauvery river at Makedatu in Ramanagara district. Hearing a petition, the division bench of Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi and Justice Suraj Govindaraj also directed the state government to submit before it on Friday how the permission was granted to the KPCC to hold the rally.

The Bench asked the government what measures were taken to restrain the KPCC from holding the rally. The



High Court of Karnataka

court directed the Congress to explain whether they were adhering to COVID norms such as wearing face masks, and maintaining social distancing.

The petition was filed by AV Nagendra Prasad through advocate Shridhar Prabhu. On January 4, following a surge in COVID-19 cases in

the state, the Karnataka government had banned protests, demonstrations and congregation of people.

Yet, the Congress went ahead with its 'padayatra' (march) saying that the government was inflating the number of COVID-19 cases, and alleging that it's trying to scuttle the party's programme.

The Congress started its 10-day padayatra demanding implementation of the Makedatu project across Cauvery river, despite COVID-19 restrictions, on January 9.

Led by Congress' state president DK Shivakumar and Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly Siddaramaiah, the padayatra with the theme 'Namma Neeru Namma Hakku' (Our water, Our right) began at the Sangama, the confluence of Cauvery and Arkavathi rivers at Kanakapura in Ramanagara district, and will be spanning a distance of nearly 139 km.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has accused the Congress party of playing politics on the Makedatu issue, instead of behaving like a responsible opposition.

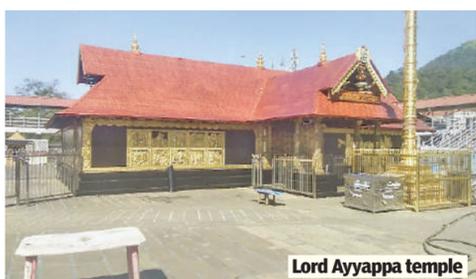
HC says strong officer needed at Sabarimala 'bhandaram'

To prevent theft incidents

Kochi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Two thefts from the 'bhandaram' of Lord Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala within a gap of barely a month prompted the Kerala High Court on Wednesday to remark that there should be a "strong officer" there to prevent such crimes.

Earlier on December 16, 2021, an employee of the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) engaged to count currency in the 'bhandaram' Sabarimala Sannidhanam was found stealing money from there and a search of his rooms had resulted in recovery of Rs 42,470. Subsequently, on January 8, 2022, another employee — engaged for counting currency, was



Lord Ayyappa temple

caught red-handed stealing Rs 3,500 from the 'bhandaram'. The second incident occurred despite the high court's December 21, 2021 directions to have "a constant vigil of the entire activity in the 'bhandaram' at Sabarimala Sannidhanam in order to prevent any theft of money, offerings, etc., by the employees engaged for counting currency notes, coins, offerings, etc". "Stringent action shall be

taken against commission of any such offence by the employees. Such incidents shall be brought to the notice of the Special Commissioner, Sabarimala, forthwith, who shall bring it to the notice of this court by filing reports. "The action taken against such employees shall also be brought to the notice of the Special Commissioner, so as to enable him to file proper reports before this

court," the high court had said in its earlier order. On Wednesday, a bench of Justices Anil K Narendran and P G Ajithkumar reiterated its directions of December 21, 2021, and closed the petition initiated by it based on the latest incident of theft. While reiterating its previous directions, the bench further said, "A strong officer should be there. The crimes were registered only because we passed some orders." During the hearing of the matter, the bench was told that an FIR has already been registered in connection with the latest incident and the errant TDB employee is in judicial custody. Similar action has been taken against the TDB employee who was caught stealing money from the 'bhandaram' in December last year, the court was told.

'Form special teams for probing UA(P)A, NDPS Act cases'

Law-abiding people should be respected

Jammu, Jan 12 (PTI):

Director General of Police Dilbag Singh has called for setting up special teams in all districts of Jammu and Kashmir for investigation of cases of special nature such as those registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The DGP directed police officers to ensure close surveillance on anti-social and anti-national elements and said every step should be taken to neutralize attempts of "anti-peace elements". "Special



Dilbag Singh

teams under the direct supervision of district Senior Superintendents of Police (SSPs) should be constituted for investigation of the NDPS, UA(P)A and other cases of special nature," Singh said at a divisional-level police meeting to analyze the performance of 2021 and prepare the plans and strategies for 2022 for Jammu zone. He directed the officers to follow the

SoPs while investigating the UA(P) A cases and asked Additional Director General of police (ADGP) Jammu to circulate the copies of SoPs to all district SSPs. While directing for setting the targets for immediate disposal of pending UA(P)A and NDPS cases, the DGP stressed the need for improving the quality and techniques of investigation to ensure the conviction of the guilty.

According to officials, 497 people were booked under UA(P)A cases in Jammu and Kashmir in 2021. The DGP said more public support should be gained for prevention of crimes, noting that both modern and traditional policing are equally important in dealing with crimes at different fronts.

BRIEF

Province retaken

Cairo: Forces of Yemen's internationally recognised government have reclaimed the entire southern province of Shabwa from Iran-backed Houthi rebels. The development is a blow to the rebels after government forces earlier this month made significant advances in the country's south. The government, aided by allies from a pro-government militia, the Giants Brigades, and airstrikes from Saudi led coalition pushed rebels.

Pakistan refuses

Islamabad: Pakistan Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin has said that he has refused to agree with the International Monetary Fund's new proposal to the cash-strapped country to renegotiate its loan programme, fearing that the global lending agency might impose new conditions.

Credit fund

Vilnius: Taiwan will set up a USD 1 billion credit program aimed at funding projects by Lithuanian and Taiwanese companies amid economic pressure from China over an office that the island opened in the European Union country. It follows Taiwan's announcement last week about creating a USD 200 million investment fund to help Lithuania amid a diplomatic row with Beijing.

Israel donates

Jerusalem: Israel has donated 500,000 to the United Nations for food, medical aid and other assistance for Afghan refugees in Tajikistan, the Foreign Ministry said. Alon Ushpiz, director general of the ministry, said Israel is proud to be part of the international effort to help Afghans who fled from the Taliban takeover of the country in August.

Once COVID free utopia, Australia sees omicron surge

Sydney, Jan 12 (AP):

Like millions of others in the most locked-down place on the planet, Melbourne resident Rav Thomas dutifully spent 262 days confined to his home as the COVID-19 pandemic raged. He got vaccinated. And the single father of two found ways to pay the bills as Melbourne's lockdowns the longest imposed by any city in the world battered his entertainment and events company.

Then in October, the city's restrictions began to lift, along with Thomas' spirits. His company once again began booking events as Melbourne's nightclubs and bars reopened. And then, omicron arrived. The coronavirus variant has swept across



Empty shelves of dairy products are seen at a supermarket in Sydney, Wednesday.

Australia despite its high vaccination rate and strict border policies that kept the country largely sealed off from the world for almost two years. Those measures, which turned Australia into a virtually COVID-19-free

utopia early in the pandemic, have garnered fresh scrutiny as the government has battled to deport unvaccinated tennis star Novak Djokovic ahead of the Australian Open. And they have prompted questions from

frustrated and fatigued Australians about why their country which seemingly did everything to stop the spread of the virus now finds itself infested with it.

Tell your population, Stay in your houses, you can't go past your letter-box after 8 p.m. for days and months on end.' And then you're told, OK, we've put in the hard yards,' says Thomas, whose company, Anthem Entertainment, is now facing its 23rd consecutive month of financial loss as bookings once again dry up. But then here we go again. Again. Again! Officially, there are now more than 600,000 active cases across Australia's population of 26 million, though experts believe the actual number is far higher.

China's Tianjin orders more testing on 14 million residents



A worker wearing protective equipment stands inside a temporary COVID-19 testing laboratory in northern China's Tianjin Municipality.

Beijing, Jan 12 (AP):

The northern Chinese city of Tianjin ordered a second round of COVID-19 testing on all 14 million residents Wednesday following the discovery of 97 cases of the omicron variant during initial screenings that began Sunday. Residents were asked to remain where they are until the results of all the nucleic acid tests are received, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Xinhua said authorities have carried out almost 12 million tests so far, with 7.8 million samples returned. Infections were first reported on Saturday in the city that

is only about an hour from Beijing, which is to host the Winter Olympics from Feb 4. High-speed rail service and other forms of transportation between the cities have been suspended, leading to some disruptions in supply chains, including for packaged food items sold in convenience stores.

Tianjin's COVID-19 prevention and control office said all who have tested positive in the initial testing round were found to have the omicron variant, of which China has so far only reported a handful of cases. The source of the outbreak is still unknown and many who are

spreading the strain may be doing so unwittingly because they show no symptoms.

Also in the north, two college students who traveled earlier this month by train from Tianjin tested positive for the virus Wednesday in the city of Dalian, city officials said. There was no word on what variant they had contracted.

The omicron variant spreads even more easily than other coronavirus strains, and has already become dominant in many countries. It also more easily infects those who have been vaccinated or had previously been infected by prior versions of the virus. However, early studies show omicron is less likely to cause severe illness than the previous delta variant, and vaccination and a booster still offer strong protection from serious illness, hospitalization and death.

Millions more Chinese are under lockdown in cities under the strict 'dynamic zero-case policy' that has allowed China to largely contain major outbreaks, although at considerable cost to local economies.

Crime wave grips Arabs in Israel



Protest against crime by Arabians in Israel.

Violence had been driven by a growing loan shark trade

Tel Aviv, Jan 12 (AFP):

Sami Abu Shamsia's wrists were swathed in bandages covering wounds he says were inflicted by mobsters who kidnapped him in October, part of an unprecedented Arab crime wave in Israel. Still bruised, he pointed out bullet holes in the gate outside his east Jerusalem home, a reminder of the drive-by shootings that preceded his abduction. Recalling his five days as a hostage, Shamsia, 47,

told AFP he was held in the central city of Lod, one of the areas hit by the violence wracking Israel's 20 percent Arab minority. "I was blindfolded. My hands were tied behind my feet. My feet were tied with ropes, and I was lying on the ground. They beat me and threatened to fire bullets into my legs," he said. Officials have blamed the spate of violence on Arab crime families which have accumulated power and weapons over the past two decades.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett has specifically pointed the finger at organised crime groups he accused of committing murder and running "protection rackets".

India's second year at UNSC to be period of consolidation

Council expects India to bring to bear its experience

United Nations, Jan 12 (PTI):

India's second year of its tenure as a non-permanent member of the UNSC will be a period of consolidation and reinforcement of its priorities, and New Delhi will finish off its term at the horseshoe table on a high-note as it presides over the Council in December, according to Ambassador TS Tirumurti. Tirumurti, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, told PTI that during the first year of its two-year United Nations Security Council tenure, India has taken a firm but constructive stand on a range of issues, including Afghanistan and Myanmar. We are halfway through our eighth tenure as an elected member of the Security Council. During the last one year, we have brought renewed focus of the Security Council to our priorities, especially maritime security, UN peacekeeping, protection of peacekeepers, combatting terrorism in all its forms and man-



TS Tirumurti

ifestations. Consequently, when we talk about India's plans for the next year in the Council, I believe that this will be a period of consolidation and reinforcement of our priorities. We will continue to play the role of a bridge between diverse interests within the Council, he said.

India is currently a non-permanent member of the 15-nation Security Council and its two-year term will end on December 31, 2022, the month India will also preside over the powerful UN body for the second time in its tenure. India was the Security Council President in August 2021. India will also be the President of the Security Council later in December. So we expect to finish off on a high note, he said.

European archaeologists back in Iraq after years of war



German-Iraqi archaeological expedition follow up at Al-Hirah.

Baghdad, Jan 12 (AFP): After war and insurgency kept them away from Iraq for decades, European archaeologists are making an enthusiastic return in search of millennia-old cultural treasures. "Come and see!" shouted an overjoyed French researcher recently at a desert dig in Larsa, southern Iraq,

where the team had unearthed a 4,000-year-old cuneiform inscription. "When you find inscriptions like that, in situ, it's moving," said Dominique Charpin, professor of Mesopotamian civilisation at the College de France in Paris. The inscription in Sumerian was engraved on a brick fired in the 19th century BC. "To the god Shamash, his king Sinsidnam, king of Larsa, king of Sumer and Akkad," Charpin translated with ease. Behind him, a dozen other European and Iraqi archaeologists kept at work in a cordoned-off area where they were digging.

कार्यालय आयुक्त आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास इन्द्रावती भवन, अटल नगर रायपुर छत्तीसगढ़

क्रमांक/निर्माण/737/2022-23/7500 अटल नगर रायपुर, दिनांक 10/01/2022

ई- प्रोक्यूमेंट निविदा सूचना

Website https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

| सिस्टम निविदा क्रमांक/दिनांक | कार्य का नाम | कार्य का अनुमानित लागत |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 90498 | प्रयास आवासीय विद्यालय भवन निर्माण जशपुर, जिला-जशपुर | 1726.40 लाख |

निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि- 03.03.2022 निर्धारित है। निविदा में भाग लेने की प्रक्रिया एवं निविदा के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी विभाग के उपरोक्त वेबसाइट में देख सकते हैं।

(श्रीमती शर्मा आविदी) आयुक्त आदिम जाति तथा अनुसूचित जाति विकास नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)

G-66728/6

EAST COAST RAILWAY

LEASING OF FSLR FIRST COMPARTMENT IN THE FOLLOWING 11 TRAINS EX. VISAKHAPATNAM FOR A PERIOD OF 05 YEARS

| Sl. No. | Tender Notice No. | Train No. | From & To | Reserve Price (per Trip) |
|---------|---------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | eT-SRDCM-20805-2021 | 20805 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO NEW DELHI | ₹23,173/- |
| 2 | eT-SRDCM-12717-2022 | 12717 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO VIJAYAWADA | ₹3,385/- |
| 3 | eT-SRDCM-18518-2022 | 18518 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO KORBA | ₹10,286/- |
| 4 | eT-SRDCM-22801-2022 | 22801 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO CHENNAI CENTRAL | ₹11,774/- |
| 5 | eT-SRDCM-12861-2022 | 12861 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO KACHEGUDA | ₹5,655/- |
| 6 | eT-SRDCM-18519-2022 | 18519 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO LOKMANYA TILAK TERMINUS | ₹10,981/- |
| 7 | eT-SRDCM-18567-2022 | 18567 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO KOLLAM | ₹16,981/- |
| 8 | eT-SRDCM-17488-2022 | 17488 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO CUDDAPAH | ₹6,629/- |
| 9 | eT-SRDCM-18573-2022 | 18573 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO BHAGAT KI KOTHI | ₹13,639/- |
| 10 | eT-SRDCM-12783-2022 | 12783 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO SECUNDERABAD | ₹7,854/- |
| 11 | eT-SRDCM-20803-2022 | 20803 | VISAKHAPATNAM TO GANDHIDHAM | ₹13,864/- |

Days of Operation : Daily (For Sl. No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 8), Friday (For Sl. No. 4), Thursday (For Sl. No. 7, 9 & 11), Sunday (For Sl. No. 10).

EMD : ₹1,00,000/- (for all Tenders), Cost of Tender Document : ₹1,180/- (Including GST 18%) (for all Tenders), Period of Completion : 05 Years (for all Tenders).

Tender Submission End Date & Time : 31.01.2022 upto 11:00 hrs. (for all Tenders).

Tender Opening Date & Time : 31.01.2022 at 11:30 hrs. (for all Tenders).

Complete details & tender documents will be available at website: <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

PR-718/M/21-22 Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Waltair

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रायपुर संभाग क्र. - 1, रायपुर

मैनुअल पद्धति से द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

विज्ञापित क्रमांक 132/एन.आई.टी.-38/टी.सी./21-22/ रायपुर, दिनांक 06/01/2022

| कार्य का विवरण | अनुमानित राशि (लाखों में) |
|--|---------------------------|
| Hardning of Shoulder at Boriyakhurd Kandul Datrenga Road Km 1/2 to 1/8-50 Raipur under Sub Division No.-1 Raipur | 9.11 |
| Approach of Bridge at Mana Dhaneli Dhushera Dewar Bhata Mana Basti Road Km 9/10 Raipur under Sub Division No.-1 Raipur | 6.70 |

निविदा प्रपत्र प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि - 17.01.2022

2. उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापित, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। साथ ही यह जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाइट www.cg.nic.in/pwdraipur/ में Live Tender के अंतर्गत निविदा प्रपत्र में उपलब्ध। इनका अवलोकन संबंधित संभाग कार्यालय में किया जा सकता है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक निर्माण विभाग संभाग क्र.-1 रायपुर

G-66722/2

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda

Regional Office, Jeevan Prakash, L.I.C. Building, Pandri, Raipur (C.G.), PH: 0771 - 4222611, 4222612 E-mail: recovery.raipur@bankofbaroda.com

(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to the following borrowers / guarantors calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The under mentioned Borrower / Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Guarantors and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002.

| S. No. | Branch Name/Ph.No. | Name of Borrower / Guarantor | Description of Property | Demand Notice Date, Amount & Symbolic / Physical Possession Date |
|--------|--|---|--|--|
| 01 | Avanti Vihar Branch, Raipur 9752410719 | M/s Prakash Enterprises and its Proprietor Mrs. Maya Devi Shrivastava | Kh. No. - 227/11, 228/38, 230/38, 231/37, 256/37, Area of land 1305 sqft. Near Masjid, Ramayan Nagar, Village - Koni, P. H. No. - 17, Tahsil & District Bilaspur (C.G.) in the name of Mrs. Maya Devi Shrivastava. | 13.10.2021, Rs. 24.94 Lakh + interest + other charges 07.01.2022 Symbolic |
| 02 | Tatibandh Branch, Raipur 9752410786 | Mrs. Pooja Agrawal W/o Late Mr. Sanjay Agrawal | Flat No. - 28, 3rd Floor Asra Parisar, Total Area - 636 sqft., Swami Atmanand Ward No. - 15, P. H. No. - 106(B), Chiruldih, Choubey Colony Raipur (C.G.) in the name of Late Mr. Sanjay Agrawal. Bounded: On the North by : Open area, On the South by : Passage then Flat no. 27, On the East by : Open Area, On the West by : Flat no. 29. | 01.11.2021 Rs. 8,14,067.62 + interest + other charges 07.01.2022 Symbolic Possession |

The Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagees in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the above mentioned property and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for above mentioned amount interest and other charges thereon.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 12.01.2022, Place: Raipur, Chhattisgarh **Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda**

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda

Regional Office, Jeevan Prakash, L.I.C. Building, Pandri, Raipur (C.G.) PH: 0771 - 4222611, 4222612, E-mail: recovery.raipur@bankofbaroda.com

(Publication in the Newspapers in case of return/failure of service of 60 day's Notice U/s.13 (2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002).

The Authorized Officer, Bank of Baroda had issued 60 day's Notices to under mentioned borrowers / Guarantors U/s.13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 by Registered A/D/Specd post. But these Notices were returned by the Postal authorities due to the reason of refusal to take delivery/wrong address/person left the place/city. These borrowers/guarantors have given their under mentioned movable/immovable assets by way of hypothecation / mortgage as security to secure the various credit limits granted by the Bank to the borrower(s).

Due to non-payment of Bank's dues and non-fulfillment of terms and conditions of the loan, default has been committed by the borrower (s) / guarantor (s) in payment of bank loan and interest and the loan account has become NPA as per RBI guidelines.

In view of the above, a 60 days Public Notice is given to the following borrower(s)/guarantor(s) to pay the bank dues as stated below alongwith interest till payment failing which the bank will be constrained to enforce its security interest without intervention of Court or Tribunal by taking recourse to one or more of the measures under Chapter - III of the Act. The borrower/guarantors are also directed by this Notice that in terms of Section 13(13) of the Act they shall not transfer by way of sale/lease or otherwise (other than in ordinary course of business) any of the secured assets charged to the bank without prior consent of the bank. The details of borrower/guarantors and secured assets is as follows, against whom the bank will start initiating action after 60 days in the event of non-payment of banks' dues by them.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Bank Branch & Phone No. | Name of the Borrower & address | Name and address of guarantor(s) | Notice No. and date | Amount due inclusive of interest upto (date mentioned) | Details of Secured assets |
|---------|--|--|--|------------------------------------|---|---|
| 01 | Avanti Vihar Branch, Raipur 9752410719 | Mrs. Radha Namdeo & Mr. Manish Kumar Namdeo, Nandi Chowk, Sahu Mohalla, Tikrapara, Raipur (C.G.) | Mr. Jayarajan Vellu Kandy Mahadeo Ghat Road, Sunder Nagar, Raipur (C.G.) | BR/AVANTI/2021-22 Date: 06.01.2022 | Rs. 1.38 Lakh + interest + other charges up to 05.01.2022 | Equitable mortgage of residential Flat bearing Flat No. Q -114 Ground Floor, Area 290 sqft. P.H. No.104, located in Kh. No. -128/1, 128/3 under Raipur Development Authority Raipur Through CEO Raipur C.G. Tahsil & Distt. Raipur C.G. in the name of Mrs. Radha Namdeo. |

Date: 12.01.2022, Place: Raipur, Chhattisgarh **Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda**



CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 47 No. 101

Rude shock for BJP

In a blow to the BJP in Uttar Pradesh ahead of the 2022 Assembly election, Swami Prasad Maurya has resigned from the State Cabinet, accusing the Yogi Adityanath led state government of neglecting Dalits, OBCs, farmers and the youth. Exit of Swami Prasad Maurya to the Samajwadi Party does seem to have been rude shock for BJP in Uttar Pradesh. This was clear from deputy chief minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's tweet urging Swami Prasad Maurya to "sit and discuss" and not take any "decision in haste". Maurya feared shrunken political space for himself and his loyalists if the party comes back to power in 2022. When Maurya joined the BJP in 2016, he played a key role in bringing certain caste groups into the BJP fold. Those groups voted for the BJP in 2017 and again in 2019. Maybe he feared that his clout would reduce now that the party is confident of retaining support on its own. Swami Prasad Maurya was an influential leader in BSP before joining BJP during the so called 'Modi wave' period. Challenge for BJP is now to minimise damage from perception generated as being not an accommodating party for certain communities. Uttar Pradesh is a 20-20-20-40 state, where 20 percent is upper caste, 20 percent is Dalit, 20 percent is Muslim and 40 percent is OBC. Some communities are a bit smaller (Muslims, for example, are 19.2 percent of the state), others slightly larger (Dalits are roughly 21 percent), and the upper caste and OBC figures are sample-based estimates. But, overall, the 20-20-20-40 division is a good for analysing political trends. The notion of 'party base' does not imply that the entire caste would vote for a single party. That does not normally happen. All that means is that a vast majority of the caste, roughly 70 percent and above would vote for a given party or alliance. Uttar Pradesh, has the highest number of assembly constituencies in India at 403. Rather than waste into the guessing game around the number of seats various formations will lose or gain, readers can learn much by focusing on three issues critical to sealing the final UP outcome of voter mobilization, voter consolidation, and rural anxiety about the economy.

The novelty associated BJP's governance model has dimmed, as have citizens' perceptions of the BJP's economic performance and management of COVID-19 pandemic. The UP electorate is notoriously fragmented by caste and religion. While UP voters do not determine their political preferences solely on the basis of caste, caste identity does serve as an important filter for political behaviour. Although Uttar Pradesh is India's most populous state, its residents are not primarily concentrated in urban centres. BJP's political success can be attributed to its resilience in carefully crafting social alliances by incorporating electorally significant castes and sub-castes in its modules of political representation and mobilisation, thereby garnering political mileage out of its uniquely created social capital. Most importantly, the BJP's success lies in its ability to detect changing voter behaviour and discontent among the masses. The BJP successfully found itself a political space among the castes and subcastes unsatisfied with and abhorrent to the hegemony of the dominant intermediaries. While the BJP's overarching narrative centred on a hyper-nationalistic discourse, the party has been able to craft innumerable micro coalitions at the social level with perks of political representation to castes other than the politically dominant ones and the targeted distribution of the government's welfare schemes. Any claim that economic development can generate a decisively large multi-caste, multi-religious coalition and deliver election victories runs up against the basic political realities of UP. BJP is learning this the hard way after exit of Swami Prasad Maurya.

Better estimate for growth

Global economic growth will dip sharply from 5.5 percent in 2021 to 4.1 percent in 2022 and 3.2 percent in 2023, according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects Report, but the challenge will remain to actually verify growth with estimates. To be sure, there is no single, well-defined metric for judging the quality of a country's growth estimates. But the traditional approach in the economics literature is to look for correlation between estimates obtained using different data sources. Estimates based on three distinct sources of the System of National Accounts (SNA), household survey data, and newly available satellite data (mainly on nighttime light, and occasionally on vegetation) can point to better method. Such comparisons show that the differences in average growth rates across the three data sources are small, typically around 1.5 percentage points or less. Though gaps of this magnitude might be considered large for high-income countries (where annual growth rates have recently been in the 3-4 percent range), they are relatively modest for many fast-growing developing economies. An average error margin of about 1.5 percentage points does not seem grave in view of the uncertainty surrounding these estimates. Moreover, a new database assembled by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank shows no evidence that SNA data from low-income countries are systematically manipulated for political reasons.

Interestingly, it is middle-income countries that seem more problematic, suggesting that politically motivated manipulation may be more feasible above some threshold level of statistical capacity and sophistication. To a certain extent, these findings are a reason for optimism, because they show that statistics generated in developing countries are indeed meaningful, and that it would be ill-informed to dismiss them out of hand. Nonetheless, poorer countries could obviously benefit from greater statistical capacity. As Shanta Devarajan of the World Bank argued that low-income countries, especially in Africa, suffer from a 'statistical tragedy' Owing to a lack of resources for data collection, management, and dissemination, and to an absence of coordination among relevant agencies and stakeholders, policymakers in many low-income countries must resort to using old data and outdated methods. In fact, several highly publicized cases of unreliable growth estimates resulted from outdated methods rather than politically motivated manipulation. Better method for evaluating actual growth rate will give a true perspective of economy.

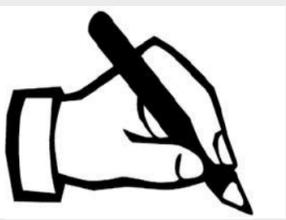
Central Chronicle welcomes, articles, write ups, comments on different issues for editorial page (800-900 words), Letter to editor for this page. It can be sent by e-mail at: editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com
The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity of thoughts.

PPE DURING TRAVEL



A passenger (L) wears a personal protective equipment (PPE) kit as a precaution against spread of COVID-19 during travel from another state at a railway station in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Classroom of future may become truly global

**YONG ZHAO**

School education has for a long time been one size fits all, criticised for its inability to meet the needs of all students. Reform measures have generally failed to improve learning in even the most basic subjects of math and reading. Students have often been left out of attempts to improve. Then COVID-19 happened. School closures forced the entire industry to create new ways of teaching and learning. Caught in the chaos, students, teachers, administrators, policymakers and parents all had to adjust, inventing new policies and practices in just days. Not surprisingly, results varied. With the disruption came the possibility for schools to rethink education. All teachers and students have now experienced remote learning, the resources to support it have grown and new more innovative ways of teaching and learning have emerged. Many schools have been eager to return to 'normal' but normal no longer exists. Out of the disruption could come more personalised learning. Learning that is strengths-based and passion-driven, with students at the centre. Online learning during COVID was reportedly 'hell' for many parents and teachers. But for tens of thousands of students around the world, attending face-to-face classes is not an option, even when a pandemic isn't occurring. They rely on virtual schooling to achieve their educational aspirations.

Students like these are catered for by virtual schools. Large-scale virtual schools with enrolments of tens of thousands of students exist in many

countries around the world. Virtual schooling with specially qualified teachers can not only be highly effective, it can be a vital part of an education system, providing equity and opportunity for students who would otherwise miss out. It works because teachers working in virtual schools do things differently from teachers who were required to shift to online teaching as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic paved the way for student teachers to undertake virtual placements, developing the knowledge, skills and capacities to become effective online teachers. The basic psychological needs of students are the same, regardless of whether learning is in-school or virtual. In challenging scenarios, such as school closures, social distancing and lockdown, providing ample emotional support and connection through digital media is even more important for students.

Although teachers tried to deliver curricula online, feedback from students showed their efforts did not go as planned. Around 80 percent of students felt they could not understand subject content solely by watching video lessons. Teachers need support to produce multimedia learning materials. These could be mobile-friendly (optimised for smaller screens and lower bandwidths) so students can more readily access them, and presented in different formats (video, infographics, text) to cater for students with different learning styles. Contemporary teachers need professional development activities to address personal privacy and data is-

issues, and sustain teacher growth and student wellbeing. Digital education needs to actively build in opportunities for students to connect with their classmates and teachers. Timetables designed with space for teachers-and-students and students-and-students to interact socially in a safe and casual online environment can foster a stronger sense of student belonging and connection. Education policy should also evolve: curriculum guidelines could incorporate 'connect more, support more' instructional approaches and 'learn more, evaluate less' assessment strategies. Equipping teachers with tailored techniques and resources can enhance their digital communication skills. These can be simple, such as sending warm, friendly audio messages, and using appropriate emojis for feedback and comments on student work. When compared with teachers who were required to rapidly shift to online learning, teachers in virtual schools have a complex and interconnected understanding of the use of technologies. They manage their relationships with students differently and actively critique their own teaching practice and the technologies they use.

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting school closures were unprecedented. But the lessons we can take from this rapid pivot to digital education will be valuable as education becomes increasingly digital. The transformation was already underway, COVID has provided signposts to a better online future. They also understand online instructional design principles, since they're so critical to their job. If remote learning can take place globally, there is no need to constrain students to the traditional classroom where teachers are the only knowledge authority. Students could personalise learning based on their own interests and strengths using globally available resources. A student in Vietnam could join a French classroom for language lessons; or an Australian student could join a Japanese art class. Personalisation of learning is not only

about students being the owner of their learning. It also sees the learning process shift to problem-based, where learning starts with identifying problems worth solving and ends with solutions to the problems. Students learn for a purpose and exercise self-determination. This process enables students to develop an entrepreneurial orientation, emphasising solving problems for others and the world. Personalisation of learning is not learning alone. To solve problems, students must work with each other. And in the age of global learning, students can collaborate with students in other schools, other states, or other countries. This global collaboration makes it possible for students to learn from, with, and for others on a global scale.

This doesn't mean local schools are unnecessary. Schools deliver vital in-person contact and interactions with peers and adults, where students can get guidance and support in their pursuit of strengths and passions. More importantly, students need a local community to learn how their unique talents and strong interests can be of value to others. Personalisation of learning requires schools to be flexible with curriculum, student organisation, and teacher instruction. Modern schools could divide curriculum into three parts: national and state common courses for all students, school specific courses for all students, and personalised learning for individual students. Schools can also be flexible with how students are organised, without necessarily placing all students into subject-matter based classes based on biological age. And teachers could be encouraged to change their roles from instructor to personal consultant and project manager, focused on the growth of students instead of prepackaged curriculum content. Education reform in the past has been slow and difficult. But COVID has demonstrated schools can be nimble when required. The lessons COVID delivered educators could drive an education transformation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mistrust prevailing

International flights have once again been suspended indefinitely due to fear of the Omicron variant of Covid-19. At present, mistrust is prevailing in the market and people are not lending. Many people died during the second wave, leaving the money of suppliers and buyers stuck. Entrepreneurs that have adopted the digital methods and brought their business to online mode, are moving ahead. Instead of physical meetings, zoom meetings are being held now. The foreign buyers used to come here to understand everything, before making the deal. Now they ask to show the sample on the phone itself. Video calls are proving to be effective. Earlier the buyer's agent used to come here, which increased the cost up to 5 percent, now this is not the case. Things are moving fast and business has grown. Looking at the results of the last two quarters, you will see that the textile sector has achieved up to 40 percent growth. There are high expectations from exports. It looks like India will touch the target of USD 400 billion this time. Why this is happening is because people are turning towards India. Industries suffered a lot in the first lockdown. The situation was worsened by the exodus of labourers. Exporters were hit not only by raw material cost but also by shipping costs rising by five to ten times. During the first and second waves, cargos remained stuck; transport came to a standstill, increasing the cost of shipping. There are many fears if the new variant spreads. There is an atmosphere of confusion and fear in the market. Buyers are hesitant to enter into bigger and long-time contracts. In such a situation, if there is an increase in GST, then the textile industry will be especially adversely affected. In such a situation, it would be really good if all the councils come together and help small weavers, designers and MSMEs to go digital.

Narvijay Yadav, via email
Soft drinks

Amitabh Bachchan once disclosed at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmadabad about his not advertising for cola-drinks after a school-student at Jaipur drew his attention about harmful ingredients in cola-drinks. Even cola-companies voluntarily stopped selling cola-drinks in schools worldwide in view of increasing obesity in school-going children. Indian government should not only ban advertisements but even sale of cola drinks in the country. Earlier also, soft-drink manufacturers were asked to remove an oil from their products which was found to be harmful for health. It is noteworthy that cola-drinks are prohibited even in Parliamentary canteens. It is time that Union government, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and soft-drink manufacturers should revive drinks like old and famous rose-flavoured ones, which can not only replace cola-drinks in India but even dominate global-market by breaking monopoly of harmful cola-drinks in tune with ambitious -Make in India-concept of Prime Minister. It will rather earn foreign-revenue for the country rather than Indian money being drained out to multinational cola-manufacturers. It may be recalled that almost half-century back, a famous rose-drink manufactured by a famous private confectionary company registered at Gwalior was a popular drink for persons of all ages.

Madhu Agrawal, Delhi



WHAT THEY TWEET!

**Akshat Shrivastava**
@Akshat_World

It is very easy to term anything we don't understand as crazy talk and move on. At one point in time, people use to chuckle at 'meme makers'. Now guess what, corporates are hiring them. They are making more money than degree holders.

AK47@NoFilterAnjali

At this stage of my life I am no longer impressed by the car you drive, your address, designation, financial statement or your vacation destinations. I only see how you treat others and how genuine you are as an individual.

**Patralekha Chatterjee**
@patralekha2011

An elderly woman hawker in an open air market in South Africa danced to the theme song of Kal Ho Na Ho when she heard I was from India. It didn't stop there. Another woman joined in. And they insisted that three of us get photographed together coz I was from @iamsrk's country.

Bjorn DeNiese@BjornDeniese

What's better than these stunning sights at Arunachal?

**JosephWoony**
@JoeAgneya

When will the Amaravati marbles be returned to India @britishmuseum Amaravati was India's most magnificent Stupa. It's ruins were barbarically dismantled and its sculptures smuggled to London in 1859. We forgive the iconoclasm, but return our stolen heritage!

**sanjoy ghose@advsnjoy**

Always wondered why bong kids been more obsessed with TinTin. Harangued by Bong Mothers while growing up, I guess the idea of a kid globetrotting Belgian Reporter turned detective with no mother figure breathing down his neck & a drunk seaman for company was pretty alluring!

Saurav Das@OfficialSauravD

3 years since India got its Lokpal. Zero path-breaking orders passed. Very few complaints received. Despite no workload, one complaint is STILL pending with the Lokpal since 2019. Crucial posts of Dir of Prosecution and Dir of Inquiry still vacant. A govt was toppled for this?

BRIEF

Double presence



New Delhi: WoodenStreet on Wednesday said it will invest Rs 50 crore in 2022 and plans to double its on-ground presence from 45 to 100 stores. Co-founder Lokendra Ranawat said, we were able to expand our reach to almost every city in the country last year.

To offer

Mumbai: Quiklyz, the vehicle leasing and subscription arm of Mahindra Finance, has said it will offer the widest range of electric vehicles (EVs) for leasing and subscription to potential customers. Quiklyz digital platform provides a subscription programme for both retail and corporate customers. It also allows customers to access new cars without the hassle of car ownership, as the company takes care of registration.

Investment platform



New Delhi: Artha Energy Resources on Wednesday announced the launch of RenewShare, a renewable energy investment platform. RenewShare CEO Animesh Damani said RE segment carries the tag of being an extremely expensive asset class to own for investors.

5G solutions

New Delhi: Nokia and Tech Mahindra have joined hands to deploy 5G-based solutions for business organisations. Under the collaboration, Tech Mahindra will leverage Nokia's private wireless DAC (digital automation cloud) solution for customers across industries and facilitate in automating 5G private wireless network management on a cloud computing system and enabling them deploy internet of things like technology.

To invest



New Delhi: RattanIndia Enterprises Ltd (REL) on Wednesday announced a Rs 350-crore investment in its arm Cocoblu Retail Ltd to drive its e-commerce business. REL Chairperson Anjali Rattan Nashier said Cocoblu will be well-positioned to provide value.

NCD issue

New Delhi: Kalpataru Power Transmission Ltd on Wednesday said it has raised Rs 200 crore through the issuance of non-convertible debentures (NCDs). It raised Rs 200 crore through allotment of 2,000 NCDs of the face value of Rs 10,00,000 each on private placement basis.

General Govt fiscal deficit estimated at 10.4% in FY-2022

■ Potential net loss of revenue receipts of Rs 1 lakh crore

Mumbai, Jan 12 (PTI):



Rating agency ICRA on Wednesday said it expects a miss in the disinvestment target to cause the government's fiscal deficit to print at Rs 16.6 lakh crore or 7.1 per cent of the GDP in FY2022, overshooting the budgeted target.

With the state governments' fiscal deficit projected at a relatively modest 3.3 per cent of GDP in FY2022, the general government fiscal deficit is estimated at around 10.4 per cent of the GDP, the agency said in a report.

In the base case for FY2023, it sees the government's fiscal deficit moder-

ating to Rs 15.2 lakh crore or 5.8 per cent of GDP.

Although the planned ceasing of GST compensation could cause the state governments' fiscal deficit to rise to the cap of 3.5 per cent of the GSDP set by the Fifteenth Finance Commission, the general government deficit will still compress to 9.3 per cent of the GDP in FY2022, it said. Its Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said that with a palpable buoyancy in tax collections, the government's gross tax receipts is expected to overshoot the

budgeted amount by a healthy Rs 2.5 lakh crore in FY2022.

However, the net tax revenue gains to the government will be nullified by the expected large miss on receipts from disinvestment and back-ended spending, especially on those items that were included in the Second Supplementary Demand for Grants, such as food and fertiliser subsidies, equity infusion into Air India Assets Holding Limited, etc, she said.

"Consequently, we expect the government's fiscal deficit to print at Rs 16.6 lakh crore in FY2022, exceeding the budgeted amount of Rs 15.1 lakh crore," Nayar said.

Nayar said the Union Budget for FY2023 will face some constraints, owing to

an expected slowdown in the growth in indirect taxes following the excise relief provided recently, and the moderation in nominal GDP growth to around 12.5 per cent from the 17.5 per cent expected in FY2022.

Besides, macroeconomic uncertainty will linger on account of the potential emergence of new mutations and fresh waves of COVID-19, which may eventually necessitate additional spending by way of extension of free foodgrains scheme and higher spending on MGNREGA. "Given this backdrop, the government's ability to cement higher growth in direct taxes and garner disinvestment receipts would play a critical role in determining the extent of the fiscal consolidation that is feasible in FY2023," she said.

Sresta Natural Bioproducts Limited files DRHP with SEBI

Mumbai, Jan 12:

Sresta Natural Bioproducts Limited, which owns the largest brand in the packaged organic food segment, '24 Mantra', has filed draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with capital markets regulator, SEBI to raise funds through an initial public offering (IPO).

The Initial Public Offering of the Hyderabad-based organic food company comprises fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to 750 crore and an offer sale of up to 70.3 lakh equity shares by the selling shareholders.

The company proposes to utilise the net proceeds from the fresh issue towards Funding the working capital requirements of the

Company; Repayment or pre-payment in full or part, of certain outstanding unsecured / secured borrowings availed by the Company; and General Corporate purposes.

Incorporated in 2004 by one of its promoters and MD, Rajashekar Reddy Seelam, Sresta Natural Bioproducts is engaged in the business of procuring, processing, manufacturing, marketing and research and development of organic food products. As of September 30, 2021, company has a presence in a total of 34 countries.

According to a Technopak report, Sresta is also one of the leading Indian organic food brands in the USA with presence in 39 states across Indian Ethnic Stores and Mainstream Stores.

Sensex climbs over 500 pts on earnings optimism

Mumbai, Jan 12 (PTI):

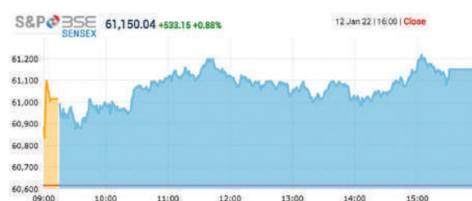
The BSE gauge Sensex surged over 500 points to recapture the key 61,000-level on Wednesday as participants pinned hopes on robust quarterly results by companies.

Extending its winning run for the fourth straight session, the 30-share Sensex settled 533.15 points or 0.88 per cent higher at 61,150.04. Intra-day, the index touched its highest point at 61,218.19.

Similarly, the NSE benchmark Nifty rose 156.60 points or 0.87 per cent to end at 18,212.35.

On the Sensex chart, M&M, Bharti Airtel, RIL, IndusInd Bank, ICICI Bank and Tata Steel were among major gainers -- rising as much as 4.68 per cent.

In contrast, TCS, Titan, HDFC Bank, Tech



Mahindra, Wipro and Nestle closed in the red.

Analysts said the short-term momentum reflects the market is in complete control of the bulls and the expected good results from the three IT majors are likely to impart resilience to the benchmarks.

Results from leading banks starting Saturday are also expected to be good thanks to declining provisioning and rising net interest margins, they added. Elsewhere in Asia, most markets closed higher in line with a positive Wall Street.

NEW LAUNCH



Actress Subhashree Rayaguru during the launch of Xiaomi 11i HyperCharge 5G smartphone at CellBay Mobile Store in Hyderabad, Wednesday (PTI).

Rupee almost flat at 73.93 against USD, gold rallies Rs 228

Mumbai, Jan 12 (PTI):

The rupee inched higher by just 1 paise to close at 73.93 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday as elevated crude oil prices offset the impact of weak American currency and positive domestic equities.

Forex traders said the less hawkish-than-expected statement from Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell calmed fears of aggressive Fed policy tightening and supported emerging market currencies. However, appreciation bias was capped as crude oil prices continued to strengthen. At the inter-bank forex market, the local unit witnessed an intra-day high of 73.78 and a low of 74.04 against the US dollar. It finally settled at 73.93, a rise of just 1 paise over its previous close. On Tuesday, the rupee surged 11 paise to close at an over three-

month high of 73.94 against the US dollar. On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 533.15 points or 0.88 per cent higher at 61,150.04, while the broader NSE Nifty advanced 156.60 points or 0.87 per cent to 18,212.35. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against the basket of six currencies, fell 0.02 per cent to 95.60. Gold in the national capital on Wednesday jumped Rs 228 to Rs 46,812 per 10 grams, reflecting overnight gains in international precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious metal settled at Rs 46,584 per 10 grams. "Spot gold prices for 24 carat in Delhi rose by Rs 228 reflecting overnight gains in COMEX gold prices," HDFC Securities Senior Analyst (Commodities) Tapan Patel said.

India EdTech Consortium to uphold code of conduct by edtech cos

■ Creation of guidelines that help students

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):



The Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) on Wednesday announced the formation of the India EdTech Consortium (IEC) that includes leading edtech companies like Byju's, Simplilearn, Unacademy, upGrad, Vedantu and others.

Aligned with the government's recent advisory, the IEC will ensure that every learner shall have access to quality and affordable education, which not only improves their academic performance but also makes them future-ready, a statement said. With consumer interest at the core

of the consortium, the edtech companies have committed to observe and adhere to a common 'Code of Conduct' and establish a two-tier grievance redressal mechanism to ensure that the positive impact of the industry reaches every deserving consumer while protecting their interests and promoting their rights, it added.

"IAMAI and members of the IEC are deeply committed to ensuring ethical standards to protect learners on online educational

platforms. IEC seeks to empower the learners by not just helping them make informed decisions but by also having their grievances redressed timely," IAMAI President Subho Ray said. He added that the formation of this self-regulatory body is an important step towards protecting learners as more and more students, teachers and stakeholders are becoming a part of the online education ecosystem.

Several edtech entities have joined the IEC such as Byju's, Careers 360, Classplus, Doubtnut, Great Learning, Harappa, Times Edutech & Events Ltd, Scaler, Simplilearn, Toppr, Unacademy, upGrad, UNext Learning, Vedantu and WhiteHat Jr have joined the consortium.

India's palm oil imports fall 29% in December 2021

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

India's imports of palm oils declined by 29.15 per cent to 5.44 lakh tonnes in December 2021, but the rise in shipments of RBD palmolein is threatening the survival of domestic refineries, Solvent Extractors Association (SEA) said on Wednesday.

India, the world's leading vegetable oil buyer, had imported 7.68,392 tonnes of palm oils in December 2020. In December last year, palm oil imports fell to 5,44,343 tonnes. The country's total vegetable oil imports declined by 10 per cent to 12.26 lakh tonnes in December 2021 compared to 13.56 lakh tonnes in the year-ago period. The share of palm oil is more than 60 per cent of the country's total vegetable oil imports.

HMSI launches new bike CB300R at Rs 2.77 lakh

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India (HMSI) on Wednesday launched its new bike CB300R priced at Rs 2.77 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi).

Bookings for the bike are open from Wednesday for the new CB300R at Honda's exclusive premium BigWing and BigWing Topline dealerships across India, HMSI said in a statement.

The new CB300R is powered by a 286cc 4-valve liquid cooled single cylinder engine. It comes equipped with an assist and slipper clutch, which provides an assist function for clutch operations requiring less load compared to a regular clutch mechanism.

The slipper function re-



duces unpleasant shocks caused by sudden engine braking during downshifts, ensuring less fatigue and more comfort for a variety of rides, the company said. "With distinctive features and dynamic road presence, we are confident customers will be delighted with the new CB300R," HMSI Managing Director, President & CEO Atsushi Ogata said. The Neo-Sports Cafe inspired 2022 CB300R

was unveiled in December at the India Bike Week.

The braking units are the same as well. That said, the new bike has a slightly longer wheelbase at 1,352mm versus 1,344mm of the outgoing bike. Kerb weight has also been reduced by 1kg to 146kg.

Honda has given the new one a few tweaks for a fresh appeal. The updates include new colours - Matte Steel Black and Pearl Spartan Red, gold finish on the fork and blacked-out headlight bezel and radiator shrouds. Honda has also tweaked the design of the exhaust end can for a sportier look. As for its features, the bike gets all LED lights and a new LCD display with a gear position indicator and shift light.

World Bank retains India's growth forecast at 8.3%

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

The World Bank has retained India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal at 8.3 per cent as the recovery is yet to become broad-based. As per the first advanced estimates of the national income released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) last week, the economy is projected to grow at 9.2 per cent in 2021-22, surpassing pre-COVID level in actual terms, mainly on account of improved performance, especially in farm, mining and manufacturing sectors.

"India's economy is expected to expand by 8.3 per cent in fiscal year 2021/22 (ending March



2022), unchanged from last June's forecast as the recovery is yet to become broad-based. "The economy should benefit from the resumption of contact-intensive services, and ongoing but narrowing monetary and fiscal policy support," the World Bank said in its latest Global Economic Prospects report released.

Toyota drives in new Camry Hybrid at Rs 41.7 lakh

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) on Wednesday launched new version of its premium sedan Camry Hybrid in the country priced at Rs 41.7 lakh (ex-showroom).

The sedan now comes with a new front bumper, grille and alloy wheels, a floating type bigger 9-inch infotainment system, among others.

Further, the self-charging hybrid electric sedan is now available in a new exterior colour of Metal Stream Metallic in addi-



tion to the existing colours of Platinum White Pearl, Silver Metallic, Graphite Metallic, Red Mica, Attitude Black, and Burning Black.

"The Camry Hybrid is an amazing amalgamation of power and luxury that has been designed to provide seamless driving experience to our customers. At the same time, it has been designed for a greener and

sustainable future as the self-charging hybrid technology delivers a unique combination of exemplary dynamic performance, acceleration, and lower emissions," TKM Associate Vice President (Sales and Strategic Marketing) Atul Sood said in a statement.

Over the years, the model has endeared itself to thousands of customers and the company is confident the new Camry Hybrid will attract many more with its carefully thought-out design and luxurious features, he added.

KTM launches 2022 edition of 250 Adventure bike

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Premium motorcycle maker KTM on Wednesday launched the 2022 edition of KTM 250 Adventure bike priced at Rs 2.35 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi).

Bookings for the new 2022 KTM 250 Adventure has commenced at its showrooms across the country, the company said in a statement.

The bike is powered by a 248cc four-valve single cylinder liquid cooled engine that delivers 30PS power and 24 Nm of torque.

The 2022 KTM 250 Adventure is a travel-enduro motorcycle that appeals to a wide spectrum of



bikers across the country, Bajaj Auto Ltd President (Probiking) Sumeet Narang said.

"The KTM 250 Adventure is an accessible motorcycle that offers an enjoyable riding experience for daily tarmac commutes and weekend off road escapes," he added.

Tech start-up 'Hammer' grabs an investment of 1 crore



An acclaimed television actor, host and a predominant name in every household Arjun Bijlani will soon be seen wearing the hat of a host on Sony Entertainment Television's highly anticipated talent reality show, India's Got Talent that is set to premier starting 15th January at 8:00 PM. Sharing his emotions and excitement and the opportunity to host this season, here is Arjun talking about this experience and chemistry with the judges, contestants and viewer expectation:

You will be seen hosting this season of India's Got Talent, are you excited?

I am definitely excited but at the same time, I also feel that I have a huge responsibility on my shoulders when it comes to maintaining the standard and mark that India's Got Talent has made all over India. I am glad to be hosting this season of the show and I promise that I will do my best to entertain my fans and viewers alike.

Can you elaborate your role as a host on the show?

My primary role will be to introduce the aspirant contestants to the show and in my own way, keep their spirit and motivation levels high. To put it simply, I will be a moderator of moods and confidence and I am glad to be doing this.

What sets India's Got Talent apart from other reality shows?

Not here to compare but, as a show, India's Got Talent has been loved as adored by the audience all over. It is also a show that is respected for the kind of content and talent it churns out. The scale is very high this year too, so it definitely stands out from other reality shows. I think it's remarkable and that is what makes it unique.

Celebrating entrepreneurship, Sony Entertainment Television's Indian adaptation of the globally renowned business reality show - Shark Tank has fired up the entrepreneurial ecosystem growth in India. Putting the spotlight on Badalte Bharat Ki Nayi Soch, this revolutionary show has given a golden opportunity to budding entrepreneurs to fulfill their dreams by pitching their innovative ideas to business experts a.k.a The Sharks and get their desired investment. Additionally, not only has the show left the audience astonished with the extraordinary pitches but has proved to be a perfect start-up crash course for millions who aspire to start a venture of their own. Adding to the list of the promising ventures is the Flipkart seller, Rohit Nandwani's tech start-up



'Hammer' - India's first Athleisure tech brand that delivers high-quality audio gadgets and fitness bands at a smart price. This small town based direct to consumer brand got a whopping investment of 1 crore for 40% equity from Shark Aman Gupta. Founded in 2019, by Rohit Nandwani, Hammer provides a stylish and extraordinary range of audio and fitness devices for a healthy lifestyle and comfort. In a span of 2 years, the Panipat based tech start-up has served around 1.5 lac customers and is aiming to grow further. With a variety of audio and wearables accessories at smart price, Hammer is available on Flipkart, reaching out to millions of consumers across India, in addition to their own website.

Tune into Shark Tank India every Monday to Friday at 9 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.

'I am glad to host India's Got Talent'

Riya Soni enters 'Aggar Tum Na Hote'

'Wagle Ki Duniya' actress Riya Soni is the new entrant in 'Aggar Tum Na Hote'. The actor, who will play the role of Shagun, says that she finds the title of the show unique. Given that it is based on a superhit song, it also catches the attention of the viewers. "Shagun is a very reserved girl, introvert and thinks a lot before speaking. She doesn't like to involve much into anything and gets nervous easily. A doctor by profession, she is very simple, soft-hearted and innocent. The similarity between Shagun and me is that we both are ambitious and career-oriented," she says. Riya is happy to collaborate with the producer trio - Jatin Sethi, Mahesh Pandey and Piyush Gupta on this show. "All the producers are very good as they explain the character in detail, which is really helpful for the artists."



Twists and turns in &TV shows



After starting the new year with new zeal, &TV's shows Baal Shiv, Ghar Ek Mandir-Kripa Agrasen Maharaja ki, Aur Bhai Kya Chal Raha Hai?, Happu ki Ultan Paltan and Bahaji Ghar Par Hai are all set to entertain the viewers with zabardast twists and lots of drama.

Parvati ki bhakti ya Anusuya ki mamta aakhir kisse tootega Baal Shiv ka dhyani?

In &TV's Baal Shiv, Devi Parvati (Shivya Pathania) plans on getting Baal Shiv (Aan Tiwari) back from his meditation with her devotion and starts telling him the story of Sati and Lord Shiva. She is reminding him of how even after her father, Daksh (Tej Sapru) have severe hatred towards Mahadev (Siddharth Arora), she is attracted to him in their first meet itself. Meanwhile, Mahasati Anusuya (Mouli Ganguly) is adamant about getting her son back by breaking his deep meditation process. Mahasati Anusuya (Mouli Ganguly) says, "To save the universe, she has endangered the life of her son Baal Shiv and now when he is into meditation, she fears she will lose her child forever and tries to wake him up. Devi Parvati tries to warn her against it, but will she listen to her, or will everyone face repercussions of waking Baal Shiv?"

Varun ka purana pyaar layega Genda ki zindagi mein toofan!

In &TV's Ghar Ek Mandir- Kripa Agrasen Maharaja ki viewers will see Ishita Ganguly's entry as Sandhya Gupta, a young free-spirited girl who belongs to a traditional conservative family. She and Varun (Akshay Mhatre) have had an intense love affair five years ago, but they broke off the relationship as she was not ready to settle. Even though Sandhya decided to never come back into Varun's life, she accidentally ends up at Agarwal's house as she is Nisha's (Kenisha Bhardwaj) cousin. On her entry into the show, Ishita Ganguly (Sandhya Gupta) shares, "Sandhya's entry will stir new hurdles and challenges in Genda's life as she has a past with her husband, Varun. It will be interesting to see how Genda reacts to Sandhya entering their married life?"

Amrita Tanganiya delighted to make her Bollywood debut

'Kumkum Bhagya' actress Amrita Tanganiya is delighted about her Bollywood debut. She will be seen as a nomad in upcoming thriller 'Dreamy Singh' which also features Kashmiri Shah and Ashmit Patel and is directed by Sameer Bhatnagar. Revealing about her role she says: "I will be seen portraying the character of Mrudula, who is a 'banjaran' (nomad). It is something very creative and interesting role I'm enjoying acting for. My audience will get to see me in a completely new role. We are currently shooting in Haridwar for the same." The actress who was last seen playing a Naagin in the show, 'Phir Laut Aayi Naagin' dreams to make her name in Bollywood and wishes to work with super-



stars. She adds: "After acting in television and web shows, finally I'm enjoying working for a Bollywood movie. I'm delighted to feature on the big screen and looking forward to exploring it more with time. I hope to work with popular actors like Ayushmann Khurrana, Salman Khan, Ajay Devgan, among others. Hope my hard work and dedication will make my dreams come true."



Nushratt Bharuccha to return with 'Chhorii' sequel

Nushratt Bharuccha has been locked for the sequel of Vishal Furia's 'Chhorii'. The actress will be returning to play the lead role as 'Sakshi' in the sequel. The first film was based on the struggles of a pregnant couple moving into a new house with a paranormal presence. Commenting on the development, the film's director Vishal said, "Nushratt Bharuccha is one of the most underrated actors of our industry. Films like 'Chhorii' and 'Ajeeb Daastaans' are testimonies to her talent. The sheer versatility which she possesses is extremely rare, which is one of the many reasons why I had decided to approach her for the supernatural thriller last year." Revealing how he was confident about casting the actress for the part from the very start, he said, "I had full faith in her that she would be able to do justice to this role and that is exactly what happened. When I had the idea of continuing the story I couldn't imagine doing it with any other actor."

HOROSCOPE THURSDAY JANUARY 13

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18
You always see the larger picture, and desire to channelise all your energies towards making things better. Such positive approach makes you an excellent team player, and enables you to bring novel ideas and effective solutions to the table, says Ganesha. You will be the life of every party you go to today.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20
This day promises to be filled with much romance, laughter, and fine dining, says Ganesha. You may even find yourself falling for someone. A breath of fresh air could waft into old relationships, or new ones could be formed. However, this is likely to be a drawn out process.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20
If you are aiming to marry soon, you can start making preparations today. However, before you take the final decision, it would be better to look at both sides of the coin. Activities related to such an alliance will dominate today, and by the end of the day you may feel very elated.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21
This day has been earmarked for beautification, a makeover, says Ganesha. You are likely to remain preoccupied with ways to enhance your looks and appearance. A new, stylish hair do, face packs and massages, trendy outfits and accessories could be in store. You will, subconsciously, be doing all that you can do, to get noticed by others.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21
You will feel lonely and unwanted today. You may feel the need for someone who can calm your troubled mind. Meditation and yoga will help you calm yourself. It is a good day to receive love from that someone special, says Ganesha.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22
You will succeed in a new venture and will brim with radiance and energy. Ganesha says this is the best time for get-together and kindle contact with friends and relatives.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23
You will look to give your house a new appearance by decorating it or undertaking some renovation projects. You will make the best out of waste and produce some truly marvellous pieces of art for improving the ambience of your nest. You will be able to save up on some money. Laudable, says Ganesha.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22
You will excel remarkably in whatever work you prefer to engage yourself in today. Ganesha says your aspiration to start a business endeavour in a foreign country will bear fruit. To considerably enhance your self-image, it is necessary to make required improvements in your personal appearance.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23
Ganesha says that on the work front you may be in the midst of meetings or negotiations, which will work out favorably for you. This will help ease your tension and you will feel mentally free. Today you will feel more vibrant and active too and hence will be able to get more done.

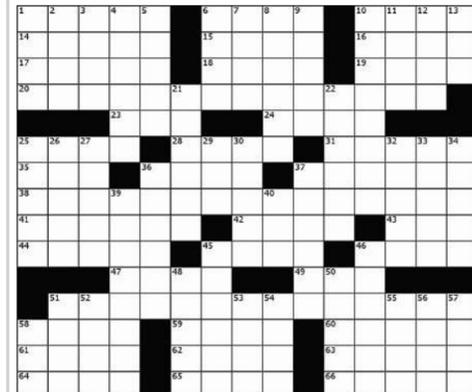
Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22
According to Ganesha, your new business venture is likely to keep you on toes today. You may even neglect your personal life to meet expectations at work. A feeling of disappointment may surround you as things do not go according to planning and your efforts may go in vain. No pains, no gains reminds Ganesha.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 21
You are in a dilemma today. You may find yourself standing at crossroads, and your decision power does not seem to help you much, says Ganesha. You are likely to become controversy's favourite child; this may add fuel to the fire. Be wise, and take guidance of experienced people.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20
God helps those who help themselves, likewise, your sincere efforts will be paid off well, today. If you're dealing with shares and stocks, it may be your day, today. Your life partner will prove to be lucky for your success, so give him/her the credit he/she deserves, suggests Ganesha.

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- Burnsian hillsides
- A distant point
- Negative entry
- It may lead to the cabin
- Carbonated quaff
- Type of pilot
- The going rate?
- Taj Mahal, e.g.
- Pierce with a point
- "Golly gee!"
- Part of B.C.E.
- Attempt a number
- Malicious
- It has a fly for a door
- Vertebrae formations
- Hockey legend who wore #4
- Ranch menace
- Moves at an unnatural speed
- "Golly gee!"
- Gas pump word
- Round of applause

- Seek redress
- Rudder's locale
- Vague amount
- It separates money and everything
- A very long period of time
- Sham locks
- "Golly gee!"
- White-hat wearer, stereotypically
- Neck of the woods
- Word with mouth or home
- Oppositionist
- County on the Strait of Dover
- Some hardware purchases
- "The Right Stuff" group
- Fusses
- Sea interrupter
- Build, as a monument
- Glacial aftermath, perhaps
- Abbr. on an ambulance
- Often cheesy munchie
- Game played with men and a board
- It can give you a sense of déjà vu
- Valuable possession
- Put in ink
- Pays for more time
- Irrational distrust
- Golden Fleece source
- Trapped
- Arctic abodes
- City in Japan
- Poetic metrical feet
- Entertainer Horne
- They may be fine or graphic
- Lotto cousin
- Consumes
- "___ be a pleasure!"
- Exercise a political right
- Prefix for while
- Solo of some sci-fi films

DOWN

- Uptown shindig
- Harvest-ready
- Under sail
- Number of pipers piping
- Meal at which the Haggadah is read
- Pretexts
- Travel agent?
- Just about
- One who keeps things kosher
- Kind of effort
- Thee in a triple play
- Reprieve from the governor
- Type of story
- Word with human or second
- Came next
- Magic spells

SOLUTION 184



Saina, Prannoy, Sen enter second round of India Open

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Top Indian shuttlers Saina Nehwal, Lakshya Sen and HS Prannoy progressed to the second round of the India Open with contrasting wins here on Wednesday.

Former world no. 1 Saina, who missed a lot of tournaments last year due to multiple injuries, moved to the second round after her opponent Czech Republic's Tereza Svabikova suffered a back injury and retired midway while lagging 20-22 0-1 in the opening round match.

"Playing after so long gives you the match confidence, how to pull out those points, because in practice you don't have the privilege to play points with the same intensity as you do in tournaments."

"The quality of some of the points I got today...I hope it somehow helps me tomorrow," Saina said after her match. Saina, seeded



Saina Nehwal in action during her opening round of the India Open 2022 at IG Stadium.

fourth, will next meet compatriot Malvika Bansod, who defeated fellow Indian Samiya Inad Farooqui 21-18

I've a point to prove, I can be in top 5: Prannoy

New Delhi: Indian male shuttler H S Prannoy believes he can still break into the world's top 5 and said he is looking to add new dimensions to his game to achieve his target this year. A former world no 8, Prannoy's performance suffered after he was diagnosed with gastroesophageal reflux disease (a digestive ailment in which stomach acid or bile irritates the food pipe lining) during the 2018 World Championships. Once he somewhat recovered from it, the Indian was hit by coronavirus in November 2020 and ever since, he has been battling the after-effects of the infection, which continued to disturb his game and soon his ranking plummeted to world no 26. "There was a time when I was not physically alright and that was main issue for performance not happening on court," Prannoy said after winning his opening match at the season-opening India Open here on Wednesday.

21-9 in another women's singles match. In men's singles, eighth seed Prannoy, a former world top 10 player, got the better of Spain's Pablo Abian 21-14 21-7 and will next face Mithun Manjunath, who eked out a hard-fought 21-16 15-21 21-10 victory over France's Arnaud Merkle.

Third seed Sen, who claimed the world championships bronze on debut

last month, thrashed Egypt's Adham Hatem Elgamel 21-15 21-7 to set up a face-off with Sweden's Felix Burestedt. Commonwealth Games bronze medallists Ashwini Ponnappa and N Sikki Reddy, seeded second, also entered the second round after prevailing 21-7 19-21 21-13 over compatriots Janani Ananthakumar and Divya R.Balasubramanian.

Indian pacers bring team back in contest as SA go into tea at 176 for 7

Cape Town, Jan 12 (PTI):

Mohammed Shami bowled a magical over to get two wickets in three balls as India forced South Africa to press the panic button going into tea at 176 for 7 on an interesting second day of the third and final Test here on Wednesday.

South Africa still need 48 runs to cross India's first innings score of 223 and a lot will depend on South Africa's find of the series Keegan Petersen (70 batting), who remained solid at one end despite three wickets tumbling at the other. The session also turned out to be a good one for Indian captain Virat Kohli, who also completed a personal milestone of 100 catches in Test cricket with a couple of smart pouches in the slip cordon.

If Umesh Yadav (12-3-50-2) set up the session with an conventional outswinger that saw Rassie van Der Dussen (21) edging one to Kohli at second slip, Shami (16-4-39-2) removed the dogged



Keegan Peterson in action during the second day of the third and final test match between South Africa and India in Cape Town Wednesday.

Temba Bavuma (28) and Kyle Verreyne (0) with two ideal Test match deliveries in the 56th over.

The deliveries had everything, upright seam and pitched fuller on the off-stump with just about adequate movement. Bavuma was caught low

by a diving Kohli while Rishabh Pant had a smart take to remove his opposite number. At stroke of tea, Jasprit Bumrah (17.2-6-29-3), who has been incredible in the two sessions, settled his scores with Marco Jansen sending his off-stump for a walk.

Starc on returning to IPL

'It's certainly on the table'

Hobart, Jan 12 (PTI):

Australian pacer Mitchell Starc is contemplating making a comeback to the IPL after a lengthy hiatus despite a hectic schedule that includes touring the subcontinent and the T20 World Cup title defence at home later this year.

Starc, who last played in the IPL in 2015, said he hasn't made the decision yet but entering his name for the league's mega auction, the nominations for which close on Friday, is "certainly on the table." Starc clinched a contract worth Rs 9.4 crore with Kolkata Knight Riders in 2018 but had to be released because of an injury.

The mega-auction ahead of the upcoming season is scheduled to be held on February 12 and 13 in Bengaluru.

"I've got two days to get my paperwork in, so that might be something to do today before training," Starc was quoted as saying by cricket.com.au.

"I've not put my name down just yet, but I've got a couple more days to decide on that. It's certainly on the table regardless of what the schedule has got coming up," he added.

Despite being one of the most valuable T20 bowlers, the left-arm pacer has featured in just two seasons of the IPL due to injury and workload management.

Jayant, Saini added to India ODI squad for South Africa tour

Mumbai, Jan 12 (PTI):

Indian off-spinner Washington Sundar was on Wednesday ruled out of the upcoming three-match ODI series against South Africa after testing positive for COVID-19 and Jayant Yadav was named as his replacement for the assignment starting January 19.

Pacer Navdeep Saini was also added to the ODI squad as a backup for pacer Mohammed Siraj, who is recovering from a hamstring injury. "Team India off-spinner Washington Sundar has been ruled out of the forthcoming ODI series against South Africa after testing positive for COVID-19 during the camp in Bengaluru," the BCCI said in a statement.

"Sundar was supposed to travel to Cape Town with the ODI members on Wednesday and join the rest of the squad ahead of the ODI series starting January 19th," it added. The five-member selection panel, headed by former India pacer Chetan Sharma, has named Jayant as Washington's replacement.

Siraj is still recovering from his hamstring injury that he sustained in the second Test against South Africa in Johannesburg. The ODI series against South Africa begins in Paarl on January 19. The second ODI is scheduled at the same venue on January 21, following which the team will travel to Cape Town for the series-finale.

Need to be more consistent with work we did in last 12 months: Mithali Raj

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

India skipper Mithali Raj has stressed on the need to be "more consistent" in the areas they worked on over the last 12 months besides talking about the scope of improvement in her own batting ahead of the Women's World Cup in March-April. To cap off the "best possible" preparation for the ODI World Cup amid COVID times, India will play a five-match series against hosts New Zealand, starting February 11.

The World Cup will begin in the same country from March 4. India intro-



duced plenty of fresh faces in England and Australia. The likes of Sneha Rana, who made successful comeback into the team, Meghna Singh, Yastika Bhatia and Richa Ghosh were tried in those two series. Top-order batter Yastika, wicketkeeper batter Richa and pacer

Meghna made their ODI debuts Down under and all of them made an impact.

"Though India lost the three-match series 1-2, they were able to push the mighty Australians to the limit. Speaking to PTI from Vijaywada where she is training, Mithali looked back at the positives from the two tours and what her side needs to do in New Zealand.

"We will definitely be looking to fix our combinations for the World Cup (in ODIs against New Zealand) and try out a few compositions and also get a little more consistent in the things that worked for us in the last year," said

the captain after being named Jacob's Creek brand ambassador.

India needed more firepower in the middle and lower order, which has been provided by Ghosh and Pooja while swing bowlers Meghna and uncapped Renuka Singh have been a welcome addition to the pace department.

"The lower middle order contributed in Australia and we would want it to be a little more consistent. And it definitely showed that they have the potential to contribute and all-rounders like Pooja and Sneha Rana have done well in England and in Australia.

Olympic medallist wrestler starts Queens Baton Relay in India

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Tokyo Olympics silver medal winning wrestler Ravi Dahiya kicked off the India-leg of the Queens Baton Relay for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games with a symbolic run in the National Capital here on Wednesday.

The Queens Baton for the Birmingham Games arrived here on Monday.

"It feels great to be a part of the Baton Relay. My preparations for the Commonwealth Games are going on in full swing and I am confident of winning a gold in Birmingham," Dahiya



Olympic Silver medallist Ravi Dahiya takes part in a relay of the Queens Baton for the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, at Dhyan Chand National Stadium.

said. The Games are scheduled to be held from July 28 and August 8. Unlike other edition of

the Games, this year's QBR will be held as a symbolic event because of the pandemic. In Delhi, the

QBR was attended by Indian Olympic Association officials, including President Narinder Batra and Secretary General Rajeev Mehta among others.

Also present on the occasion was British High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis. "I am delighted to be here at the start of the Baton Relay in India. The relationship between India and England is very good and sport is absolutely fundamental to it. It is 75th anniversary of India's independence this year and I think sport is one thing that brings both the countries together," Ellis said.

You don't need to sledge or try to impress someone, just be yourself: Cummins

Melbourne, Jan 12 (PTI):

Australia Test skipper Pat Cummins has told his players to just be themselves instead of resorting to sledging just because "it might have been done like that in the past."

Ever since the 2018 ball-tampering scandal, the Australian cricketing culture has undergone a serious review for its win-at-all-cost approach in the past. Not a single untoward incident has been witnessed in the ongoing Ashes series, for which Cummins credited his teammates and not just his leadership style.

The England players applauded Usman Khawaja's



effort of two hundreds in the Sydney Test and likewise the Australians appreciated the good performers in the visitors camp.

Cummins, the first Australian fast bowler to lead a Test side, said his

approach to leadership is quite similar to England's Eoin Morgan.

"I look at different leaders and someone like Eoin Morgan. I like his outlook on captaincy and how he brings the team together. I have worked with Eoin in

the IPL for the last couple of years and we have very similar outlooks on life," Cummins was quoted as saying by the 'Sydney Morning Herald'.

"You have to be aware of it. From a couple of years ago it was obvious the world wanted all cricket teams, particularly the Aussie cricket team, to tone it down a little bit.

"I keep encouraging all of our players to be themselves. They do not have to try to impress anyone or sledge just because it might have been done like that in the past. Just be themselves.

Cummins said he has been quite proud of the team's conduct.

Prajnesh exits Australian Open Qualifiers after second round defeat

Melbourne, Jan 12 (PTI):

Prajnesh Gunneswaran lost rhythm and energy before staging a mini comeback but eventually bowed out of the Australian Open Qualifiers with a second-round defeat against Germany's Maximilian Marterer, here on Wednesday.

Up against a rival, who served big and packed a lot of power in his strokes but placed seven places below him at 228, Prajnesh lost 2-6 6-7(8) in one hour and 26 minutes.

With Prajnesh losing the battle of the left-handers, Yuki Bhambhani is now the only Indian surviving in the Qualifiers. Ramkumar Ramanathan and Ankita Raina have already exited the competi-

tion. Down 2-6 2-4, Prajnesh managed to stretch it to a tie-breaker but squandered many a set point to lose the match.

Prajnesh handed the German two break chances in the fourth game of the match when he made a volley error after setting up the point and followed that up with wide forehand.

The Indian saved the first chance with a big serve while Marterer's backhand slice landed just outside the baseline on the second.

An engrossing rally, that put Prajnesh's backhand to test against the German's forehand, ensued in the sixth game.

A smart backhand slice by Marterer, after no less than a 20-shot exchange ended the rally as

Prajnesh hit the pick-up out, looking for a cross court forehand winner.

Prajnesh's strokes began to lose power and precision after losing that energy-sapping rally and the German began to dictate terms.

Marterer hit a forehand winner to earn two break chances and converted the second for a 4-2 lead when Prajnesh made a forehand error.

The German came out serving big in the next game to consolidate his lead but Prajnesh seemed to have lost energy as unforced errors flew from his racquet as he surrendered the opening set.

Early in the second set, Prajnesh went from 400 to deuce and was down a breakpoint when he sent another shot long.

PCB chief Raja proposes 4-nation T20 series involving India, Pak

Karachi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Ramiz Raja says he will propose to the ICC, an annual four-nation T20 International series involving his country, arch-rivals India, Australia and England, the revenue from which will be shared by all members of the world governing body.

Raja said as per his proposal, the tournament will be hosted on a rotational basis by the four participating countries. "Hello fans. Will propose to the ICC a Four Nations T20i Super Series involving Pak Ind Aus Eng to be played every year, to be hosted on rotation basis by these four. "A separate revenue model with profits to be shared on percentage basis with all ICC members, think we have a winner," Raja tweeted. The

PCB chief's proposal can be seen as an attempt to revive India-Pakistan cricket rivalry on a regular basis.

However, there is no space for such a tournament in the next Future Tours Program cycle, which has already been finalised, and India have stopped playing tri-nation and quadrangular series for close to a decade now.

The two neighbouring countries have not played against each other outside ICC tournaments or the Asia Cup since 2013.

The last bilateral series between India and Pakistan was held in 2012-13 when India hosted their neighbours for a T20 rubber.

Most recently, the two teams played each other last year in the ICC T20 World Cup in the UAE, where Pakistan beat India for the first time in an ICC event.

Savita named captain of Indian women hockey team for Asia Cup

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Experienced goalkeeper Savita will lead India at the upcoming women's Asia Cup in Muscat as Hockey India on Wednesday named a strong 18-member squad for the event, including 16 players that featured at the Tokyo Olympics.

Since regular skipper Rani Rampal is recovering from an injury in Bengaluru, Savita will lead the side in the tournament, which is scheduled to be held between January 21-28 at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex.

India have been placed in Pool A along with Japan, Malaysia and Singapore. They will open their title defence against Malaysia on the opening day. They will next take on



Japan (Jan 23) and Singapore (Jan 24).

The semifinals will be played on January 26 and the final on January 28.

The top four-teams will qualify for the 2022 World Cup, to be held in Spain and Netherlands.

Experienced defender Deep Grace Ekka will be Savita's deputy. The team includes goal-

keeper Rajani Etimarpu and defenders Gurjit Kaur, Nikki Pradhan, and Udita.

The midfield includes Nisha, Shuhila Chanu Pukhrambam, Monika, Neha, Salima Tete, Jyoti and Navjot Kaur while the forwardline will see Navneet Kaur, Lalremsiami, Vandana Katariya, Mariana Kujur and Sharmila Devi.

The team also has Deepika (Junior) and Ishika Chaudhary as replacement athletes.

"This is a very important tournament for us and I am happy with the team we have chosen which is a mix of some very experienced players along with talented youngsters who have shown great potential at the international level," chief coach Janneke Schopman said.

ON WAY TO PILGRIMAGE



Gangasagar pilgrims after crossing the Muri Ganga river rush to board a bus at Kachuberia bus stand to reach Sagar Island, ahead of Makarsankranti in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, Wednesday.

'COVID pandemic has reaffirmed importance of health sector'

Chennai, Jan 12 (PTI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated 11 government medical colleges in Tamil Nadu and said the future will belong to societies that invest in healthcare. After virtually inaugurating the medical institutions, Modi said the covid-19 pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of the health sector and listed out the various health and medical education related initiatives of his government.

"The once in a lifetime covid-19 pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of the health sector. The future will belong to societies which invest in health care. The government of India has brought many reforms in the health sector," he said in his virtual address.



"Learning from the pandemic, we keep working to ensure inclusive, quality health services to all our countrymen," said. India's covid-19 vaccination programme was making "remarkable progress," he said, while pointing to the expansion of the campaign by including the 15-18 years age group and the adminis-

Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Nagapattinam, Dindigul, Kallakurichi, Ariyalur, Ramanathapuram and Krishnagiri districts in the state and these institutions would have a cumulative capacity of 1,450 medical seats. Noting that it was important to address regional imbalances, Modi pointed out that two of the colleges have come up in the "aspirational districts of Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar," which need development attention.

Besides, one campus has been established at the remote, hilly Nilgiris. The government had earlier said establishment of these medical colleges was in line with the prime minister's constant endeavour to promote affordable medical education and improve health infrastructure in all parts of the country.

CHOPPER SCAM

Middleman flight risk with no roots in society

CBI tells HC opposing his bail

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

The CBI Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that Christian Michel James, the alleged middleman in the AgustaWestland chopper scam, was a flight risk with no roots in the society and cannot be granted bail in the case. Although James' passport was impounded, there are examples in Indian history of persons escaping through Nepal, the CBI said. Special public prosecutor (SPP) D P Singh, appearing for the CBI, claimed before Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri that James, who was extradited to India from Dubai in December 2018, did not join the investigation in the case in either in India or Italy.

The day he came to know that the matter was taken up by the authorities, he took the flight back (to Dubai), never to come back, said the SPP who informed the court that the agency has filed two charge sheets in the case, citing approximately 280 witnesses. The case is at the stage of Section 207 of Criminal Procedure Code for the supply of documents to the accused persons before the trial court and statements

of over 230 witnesses were recorded, he added. Singh alleged that James was in the thick of things and said that he would take the court through the flow of money on the next date of hearing. The alleged Rs 3,600-crore scam relates to the purchase of 12 VVIP helicopters from Italian firm AgustaWestland. Lawyer Aljo K Joseph, representing James, told the court that he was not related to any of the allegedly illegal transactions as there is no money movement from any of his accounts.

James had earlier told the court that he has already spent three years in judicial custody and even if he is found guilty, he could only be given maximum imprisonment of five years. He contended that he had nothing to do with the purchase of VVIP choppers and said that even after years of investigation, which started in 2013, nothing has come out. Singh had earlier said that James received 42 million euros pursuant to certain purported contracts concerning the scam and claimed that the trial would finish in six months if day-to-day proceedings are ordered by the trial court.

'Stable Covid hospitalisation, positivity rate indicate wave has peaked'

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Delhi Health Minister Satyendra Jain on Wednesday said the number of hospital admissions in the national capital due to COVID-19 has stabilised over the last five days which indicates that the current wave of the pandemic has peaked and cases may start declining in two-three days.

The number of daily cases has been hovering around 20,000 for the last few days, and the positivity rate has consistently been around 25 per cent, he said. "We have observed that the number of hospital admissions has stabilised in the last four to

five days and only 2,209 of the 14,621 beds are occupied and 85 per cent of the beds are vacant," the minister told reporters.

"Plateauing of hospital admissions is an indication that the wave has peaked. We may see a decline in cases in two to three days," he said. Cases have started declining in Mumbai and Delhi is likely to follow the same trend, Jain added.

"This, however, does not mean that the threat of Covid has passed. People should strictly adhere to all guidelines so that the spread can be controlled as soon as possible," he said. He also assured that if cases come down in the



Satyendra Jain

next couple of days, restrictions will be lifted.

The Delhi government recently issued an order requiring all private organisations to 'work from home'. In addition, all restaurants and bars have been closed, and only

home delivery is available. The minister added that most of those who have died in the ongoing surge of infections had comorbidities and very few deaths have taken place due to coronavirus.

"People with comorbidities are facing more problems, not many people are coming to hospital for treatment of coronavirus," he said. Jain said doctors at the Lok Nayak Hospital informed him on Tuesday only six out of the 36 patients in their ICU had "severe" Covid infection.

"Thirty patients had other problems as primary reason and not COVID-19-induced issues like pneumonia or lung failure like

last time," he said. On Tuesday, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said that out of the 136 Covid patients at the Lok Nayak Hospital (till Tuesday), 130 had come for treatment of other problems and tested positive at the time of admission.

The national capital had reported 23 fatalities on Tuesday. It has already recorded 93 fatalities in the first 11 days of the month. It had logged 54 fatalities in the last five months -- nine in December, seven in November, four in October, five in September and 29 in August. In July, the virus had claimed 76 lives in the national capital.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



Devotees take part in the Thiruvabharanam procession carrying the holy caskets containing the sacred ornaments proceed towards Sabarimala, in Pathanamthitta, Wednesday.

JNU to hold admissions through CUET from 2022-23

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

The Jawaharlal Nehru University in its Academic Council meeting on Wednesday decided to hold admissions through the Common Universities Entrance Test (CUET) from the next academic session. The decision was "overwhelmingly endorsed" by the members, read the statement issued by Jayant K Tripathi, Director of Admissions.

"During the deliberations in the Academic Council, a large number of members including the Deans of Schools, Centre Chairpersons, and External Members of the Council emphasized that CUET would provide a level playing field to numerous eligible students from across the coun-

try reducing the burden of taking several entrance examinations," it said. Recently, the Delhi University has also decided to hold admissions from the next academic session through the CUET.

The statement said that the university had earlier in its academic council meeting held in March last year, also decided that whenever the National Testing Agency would hold the CUET, the university would go by it. "In fact, since 2019 Jawaharlal Nehru University has been successfully conducting JNU Entrance Examination at various centres of the country to admit students in its various programmes of studies in collaboration with NTA in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode," read the statement.

Assam doc well ahead of time met tragic outcome

25-yrs before US heart transplant with pig's organ

Guwahati, Jan 12 (PTI):

Global recognition for a medical experiment to use a pig's heart as a transplant in a human body, now being claimed by US surgeons could have been in an Assam doctor's name, and that too 25 years ago, had he submitted his findings for a crucial peer review and sought requisite permissions before his path-breaking operation.

Dr Dhaniram Baruah, a man 'ahead of his times', had achieved the near-impossible in 1997 when he had "successfully" transplanted a pig's heart and other organs

into a person.

However, his refusal to place his findings and procedures before scientific peer scrutiny cost him not only with lack of recognition but also an arrest after the patient in whom he fitted the pig's heart died after seven days.

"Dr Baruah perhaps thought ahead of his times, but he had to play by the rules of the game. People's lives are at stake and one has to go through the correct process (of peer review and seeking of permissions before actual transplant)," Dr A Goswami, a leading cardiac consult-

ant surgeon here, said speaking to PTI. He underlined that research on critical surgeries involving the heart takes years and are constantly evolving.

A team from University of Maryland School of Medicine, near Washington DC on Monday said on Monday it had successfully transplanted a genetically modified pig heart into a 57-year-old patient with terminal illness.

"The US doctors who performed the procedure now have 25 years of more research to work on than Dr Baruah did," Goswami pointed out.

Guwahati, Jan 12 (PTI):

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday alleged that the Congress high command and his Punjab counterpart had conspired to assassinate the prime minister through the security breach' on January 5 while Narendra Modi was visiting the northern state. He demanded that Charanjit Singh Channi, the chief minister of Punjab, should be arrested for his role in the alleged conspiracy.

Addressing a press conference here, Sarma said, All evidence makes it clear that Congress high command and Punjab CM conspired to kill Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Himanta Biswa Sarma

He was referring to a purported sting operation by a television channel in Punjab which claimed that the police there had intelligence report on January 2 regarding an attempt to kill the prime minister. Sarma also claimed that statements by Congress leaders following the incident indicated that they knew of the "conspiracy". Modi, who landed in

Bathinda in Punjab on January 5 and had to take the road route to Hussainiwala in Ferozepur because of inclement weather on Wednesday, was stuck on a flyover for 15-20 minutes due to a blockade by some farmers, an incident the Union Home Ministry described as a major lapse in his security. Guwahati, Jan 12 (PTI) Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday alleged that the Congress high command and his Punjab counterpart had conspired to assassinate the prime minister through the security breach' on January 5 while Narendra Modi was visiting the northern state.

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BRIEF



A man carries a large kite on a bike on the eve of Lohri, a winter folk festival, in Amritsar, Wednesday.

Hacked

New Delhi: The official Twitter account of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) was hacked for a brief time on Wednesday and was restored later. According to officials, some posts tagging entrepreneur Elon Musk were tweeted from the ministry's Twitter handle.

Mandatory

Mumbai: The Maharashtra Government on Wednesday decided to make it mandatory for shops with fewer than ten employees to use Marathi signboards, a senior minister said here. The Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act will be amended for this, Industries Minister Subhash Desai told reporters.

Reopen

Kendrapara: The Bhitarkanika National Park in Odisha reopened for visitors on Wednesday after being closed for ten days to carry out the annual census of estuarine crocodiles. The basic objective behind the closure of the national park in Kendrapara district was to avoid human interference during the exercise, Rajnagar Mangrove (Wildlife) Divisional Forest Officer J D Pati said.

Notice

Jalna: The district authorities in Maharashtra's Jalna have issued show-cause notices to 17 health officers for "dereliction of duty" in the COVID-19 vaccination programme, an official said on Wednesday. The District Health Officer (DHO) has issued these notices. They include three teshil health officers in Ambad, Ghansawangi and Mantha.

| Weather | |
|---------|-----------|
| High | 21 |
| Low | 15 |
| MARKET | |
| NIFTY | 18,212.35 |
| SENSEX | 61,150.04 |
| BULLION | |
| GOLD | 47,775 |
| SILVER | 61,501 |

DISPROPORTIONATE ASSETS CASE

Court grants two-day remand of GP Singh to EOW

Was held from Gurugram on Tuesday Raipur, Jan 12:

EOW police team reached Raipur by road in the evening and produced suspended IG GP Singh in the Court, seeking police remand. While on way to the Court GP Singh said that the property under scrutiny does not belong to him and is that of his father and he has got nothing to do with it and he charged that all the proofs in the FIR are fabricated. After hearing points of both the EOW and Singh's advocate, the Court finally granted two-day remand of GP Singh to EOW. It is notable here that



EOW has sought 7-day remand and put up an application in the Court of Special Judge Leena Agrawal. EOW's Advocate Mithilesh Verma and advocate of accused party Kamlesh Pandey presented their version before the Judge. But in place of 7 days, EOW was granted only two-day remand. The EOW had registered an FIR against Singh, a 1994-batch IPS officer, under Prevention of

Corruption Act on June 29 last year, after preliminary findings into complaints that he had allegedly amassed disproportionate assets. Later, the state anti-graft agency carried out searches at 15 locations linked to the officer from July 1 to July 3 and claimed to have discovered movable and immovable assets worth Rs 10 crore. Despite being served notices multiple times asking to appear during the investigation in the case, the suspended ADGP neither cooperated in the probe nor appeared in the EOW office. He did not get any relief from the Supreme Court in the case either, said Arif Sheikh, Director of the state's ACB and EOW.

ANOTHER JOLT TO BJP

OBC leader quits Yogi cabinet

Gain for SP

Lucknow, Jan 12 (PTI):

In another jolt to the ruling BJP in poll-bound Uttar Pradesh, OBC leader Dara Singh Chauhan resigned Wednesday from the Yogi Adityanath cabinet and appeared to be headed towards the Samajwadi Party.

A day earlier as BJP leaders brainstormed in Delhi on the UP assembly polls state Labour Minister Swami Prasad Maurya quit. Three other BJP MLAs also announced their resignation from the party on Tuesday.

Though Maurya, a prominent Other Backward Class (OBC) leader, has not made it



Dara Singh Chauhan

clear that he is joining the Samajwadi Party, the SP has tweeted a welcome message. The recent developments appear to strengthen the SP's influence among the non-Yadav OBCs in the state, less than a month before the crucial elections that will also have an impact on the 2024 parliamentary polls.

Chauhan said he had worked with dedication for the past five year but

Arrest warrant issued against Maurya

A local court on Wednesday here issued an arrest warrant against BJP MLA Swami Prasad Maurya, who recently resigned as cabinet minister, in a seven year old case. The case was lodged against Maurya in 2014 for allegedly making objectionable comments against Hindu gods. The MP-MLA court Judge Yogesh Kumar Yadav issued the warrant against him after he did not attend the court hearing on Wednesday. In 2016, an arrest warrant was issued against him in the same case which was stayed by the Lucknow bench of Allahabad High Court.

Dalits, the OBCs and the unemployed did not get justice from the BJP government. It was the poor who had made the government but others took all the advantage in the past five years," he said, after sending the resignation letter to Governor Anandiben Patel. Chauhan, the minister for Forests and Environment, said he had been inform-

ing the party high command about the problems all through. But he was ignored as he was talking about the backward and Dalits, he claimed. Like Swami Prasad Maurya, he did not give a categorical answer when asked whether he was joining the SP. Chauhan said he would consult his supporters before deciding on a future course of action.

REMARKS AGAINST MAHATMA

Wardha police arrest Kalicharan Maharaj

Wardha, Jan 12 (PTI):

The Wardha police arrested Hindu religious leader Kalicharan Maharaj on Wednesday in connection with a case registered against him here in Maharashtra for allegedly making derogatory remarks against Mahatma Gandhi.

The seer was brought here around 5 am from Raipur in Chhattisgarh,

where he was lodged in a jail in connection with a similar case registered against him there, sub-divisional officer of police Piyush Jagtap said.

He was produced before the court of a local magistrate who remanded him in judicial custody.

The case against the religious leader was registered at Wardha city police station on December 29, 2021.

Naxals kill villager in Bijapur

5th murder by ultras in one week

Bijapur, Jan 12:

Naxals thrashed a 50-year-old villager to death in Bijapur district, police said on Wednesday.

This is the fifth killing by rebels in the district in one week.

The latest incident took place on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday in Ketulnar village under Kutru police station limits, Inspector General, Bastar Range,

Sundarraaj P said. The victim, Jagat Sodi (50), who ran a small grocery shop, was beaten to death by a group of unidentified Naxals, he said without divulging any motive behind the killing.

After carrying out an investigation at the scene of the crime, the body was sent to a primary health centre for an autopsy, the official said.

In the last one week, Naxals have killed five people, including two of their cadres, in Bijapur, which comes under Bastar division.

TRIAL OUTCOME

Covaxin booster shot over 90% effective against Omicron, Delta variant

New Delhi, Jan 12:

Bharat Biotech on Wednesday said that trials have indicated that a booster shot of Covaxin neutralises the Delta and Omicron variants of Covid.

"The neutralisation activity of Covaxin-boosted sera was comparable to what has been observed in mRNA vaccine-boosted sera against the Omicron variant," Bharat Biotech said in a statement. Citing

a study conducted at US' Emory University, the vaccine manufacturer said that over 90% of subjects who received a booster shot six months after their second dose of the Covaxin vaccine, showed neutralising antibodies.

The Covaxin maker had earlier said that an analysis showed that a third dose of the vaccine was safe and also increased the immunity against the virus. "Neutralising antibodies

against homologous and heterologous SARS-CoV-2 variants increased from 19 to 265 folds after a third vaccination," Bharat Biotech had said.

In the last two weeks, India has witnessed a surge in daily Covid cases led by the Omicron variant. India recorded 1,94,720 new infections today to its tally of COVID-19 cases pushing it to 3,60,70,510, according to the Union Health Ministry data.

Nawab Malik gets bail

Mumbai, Jan 12:

A court here on Wednesday granted bail to Maharashtra minister Nawab Malik in a criminal defamation complaint filed against him by local BJP leader Mohit Bharatiya. The NCP leader tried to link Bharatiya with the NCB's drug raid on a cruise ship off the Mumbai coast last year, the complaint alleges.

In December 2021, the Mazgaon metropolitan magistrate had issued a summons to Malik, asking him to appear before it. On Wednesday, Malik remained present in the court, following which the magistrate granted him bail on a surety of Rs 15,000.

LOHRI CELEBRATION



Members of a trust celebrate Lohri festival at Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex in Jammu, Wednesday.

FREE FOODGRAINS DISTRIBUTION

Chh'garh rated as best performing state

Under Phase III & IV New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Nearly 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains have been distributed for free so far to eligible beneficiaries under the fifth phase of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).

In March 2020, the Centre had launched the scheme to provide free foodgrains to over 80 crore beneficiaries covered under the National

Food Security Act (NFSA) as part of its effort to reduce the hardships of people during the coronavirus pandemic.

The additional foodgrains of 5 kilograms per person per month is over and above the normal quota provided under the NFSA at a highly subsidised rate of Rs 2-3 per kg.

The scheme has been extended several times and is now valid till March 2022.

Under the fifth phase, which is from December 2021 to March 2022, the food ministry had allocated 163 lakh tonnes foodgrains to all States/UTs, for the four-month distribution period.

"Since the distribution of only second month has started recently, the reports available from the States/UTs, shows a distribution of about 19.76 lakh tonnes foodgrains to the beneficiaries so far," an official statement said on Wednesday.

OMICRON IS NOT COMMON COLD

Weekly case positivity in 300 districts over 5%

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

As many as 300 districts in India are reporting weekly Covid case positivity of more than 5 per cent, the Union government said on Wednesday as it urged people not to treat infection due to Omicron variant as common cold and get vaccinated.

It said Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Gujarat are emerging as

states of concern due to the rise in Covid cases there. Addressing a press conference, Joint Secretary in Health Ministry Lav Agarwal said a sharp rise in COVID-19 infections has been noted in India with the case positivity climbing to 11.05 per cent on Wednesday from 1.1 per cent on December 30.

Concurrently, Covid cases have been rising globally with January 10 recording the highest ever single-day rise of 31.59 lakh

cases worldwide, he said. The official said that currently, 300 districts in India are reporting weekly case positivity of more than 5 per cent.

Informing the press conference that 19 states have over 10,000 active Covid cases, Agarwal said Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Gujarat are emerging as states of concern due to the rise in Covid cases there.

Stressing on the importance of getting inoculated, he quoted the World Health Organisation to say that vaccine effectiveness against hospitalization appears to be substantially higher than against symptomatic COVID-19 disease.

NITI Aayog Member (Health) V K Paul said, "Omicron is not the common cold, cannot take it lightly. We need to be vigilant, get vaccinated and follow Covid-appropriate behaviour."

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Attention, LIC policyholders:

It's best in life to be prepared.

Government of India has amended Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956, permitting the Corporation to reserve shares in its proposed public issue on a competitive basis, in favour of policyholders.*

To be able to participate, policyholders must take two steps:

- Update your personal records with LIC**
- Open a DEMAT account (if you do not have one)**

Visit www.licindia.in and click on the icon to register your Permanent Account Number (PAN) online.

Enter your date of birth, gender, email ID, PAN, full name, mobile number and LIC policy number.

Follow the instructions to update your PAN records for all your LIC policies.

Contact your LIC Agent for any assistance.

To open a DEMAT account, visit either of these websites for registered Depository Participants (DP):

NSDL: <https://sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=19>

CDSL: <https://sebi.gov.in/sebiweb/other/OtherAction.do?doRecognisedFpi=yes&intmId=18>

You must provide the following to the DP to open your DEMAT account:

- Recent photograph
- PAN Card
- Address proof
- Cancelled cheque

The DP may also seek further information.

Contact your banker or broker for any assistance.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

This notice or any information being shared with policyholders is not an offering of equity shares of the Corporation. Policyholders would have to approach the Depository Participant and be solely responsible for the DEMAT account and its functioning. All related costs would have to be borne by the policyholder. There is no assurance that policyholders will be allotted any or all of the equity shares they may apply for even in the event of a reservation of shares for policyholders in any proposed issuance. The Corporation does not guarantee the performance of its equity shares and investors need to be aware of the risks associated with any investments in a public offering. For important information regarding proposed reservation of shares for policyholders, visit <https://licindia.in/ipo>

*Details of proposed IPO will be intimated once finalised.

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LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Har Pal Aapke Saath

LIC/RS/2021-22/39/ENG

Minister Akbar takes initiative in the interest of new market traders

Action in Konta Nagar against those without masks

Central Chronicle News

Central Chronicle News

Kawardha, Jan 12: Cabinet Minister Mohammed Akbar, in view of the corona infection, had a virtual discussion with the representatives of retail vegetable and fish traders in the Collectorate NIC room today and gave necessary directions to the higher officials and asked them how to keep the city safe from corona infection.

For this, suggestions were also taken from traders. Sanjeev Kurre informed the minister that everyone's business has been affected in the lockdown, only by doing business around the new market, we can run our business and have to face a lot of problems due to transfer of business elsewhere.

The Cabinet Minister, after listening seriously to the demands of the traders, directed the District Collector Ramesh Kumar



Sharma that at present, the place where the business of vegetable and fish traders is going on should be continued. He also directed that keeping in view the increasing number of corona cases the corona guidelines issued by the state government should be followed.

Similarly fish businessmen Mukesh Mallah and Dinanath Mallah requested the cabinet minister for shops to be allotted on a permanent basis. Taking

immediate cognizance of their demands, the Minister directed Chief Municipal Officer Naresh Verma to take action on their demands as per rules. Instructions were given to inform after completion of the proceedings.

The representatives of the vegetable traders demanded that their sale and trade too should be allowed to be installed at a single place. The delegation of traders also demanded the

closure of recovery of temporary encroachment fee done by the contractor through the contract by the Municipal Council.

While directing the concerned officer, the minister said that a resolution should be passed in the council to stop the temporary encroachment fee collection going on in the urban area and cancel the contract of the contractor concerned.

In the virtual meeting,

Collector Ramesh Kumar Sharma, Municipal President Rishi Kumar Sharma, Mohit Maheshwari, Ashok Singh, Sunil Sahu, Rajesh Makhijani, Hires Chaturvedi, Chief Municipal Officer Naresh Kumar Verma, Executive Engineer ML Kurre, Deputy Engineer Virendra Navagre, R.N.N. Santosh Wankhede, representatives of vegetable and fish traders were present.

Konta, Jan 12: In view of the increasing cases of corona in the state of Chhattisgarh, under the guidelines of Sukma District Collector Vineet Nandanwar, special emphasis is being given in Konta Nagar to follow the Corona Protocol under all possible efforts to control the corona.

Special action is being taken against those who roam in public places without wearing masks. So that people can be saved from the danger of corona. Necessary strictness is being taken for effective control of Corona.

In order to make the common citizens aware and regularly follow the guidelines of prevention from Covid, taking action against those who roam without wearing masks in the major square-squares and border areas of the city, as well as to get out of the house by wearing



masks, is being given. Strict vigil is being kept on the people passing through Bus Stand Chowk.

People are being compulsorily advised to use masks and at the same time fines are being taken from those who roam without masks. The employees of Konta Nagar Panchayat, along with the

employees of the Police Department are regularly sensitizing the general public to follow the rules to protect against Covid, as well as taking strict action against those who do not follow the instructions. From January 01, 2022 till date, fine is being collected by taking action in various places under Konta Nagar area.

'Illicit sale of liquor worsening village's atmosphere'

Also putting future of children in dark by involving them

Central Chronicle News

Bazar Ataria, Jan 12: Illicit sale of liquor is going on openly in

Gram Udaipur of Chuikhadan block and it has worsened the peaceful atmosphere of the village. Sources informed that in the name of eggs and chicken shop, illicit liquor is being openly sold to customers daily.

When the press correspondent reached the village, at that time people in large number were found purchasing illicit liquor and were found standing in queue. In this illicit sell of liquor, not only men, but even aged persons and minors going to school were found standing in the queue and all of them were found purchasing liquor without any fear from this 'Egg-Chicken' outlet.

With illicit liquor being sold without any restrictions, it is posing big threat on lives of school children and there is no

Worsening atmosphere in village

It is worthwhile to mention here that with increase in illicit sale of liquor the villagers are made to face awkward situation, especially the women, who are made to encounter physical fighting and scolding among habitual drinkers. All the more with liquor being easily available, even the children and elders in the village are falling prey to intoxication and are ready to purchase liquor at higher prices, putting additional burden on their families. Due to sheer threat from the liquor lobby and illicit liquor sellers, the local denizens fear to lodge police complaint and no action is being taken by the Excise Department.

What officer says
"So far no complaint in this regard has been received and got information from this coverage and definitely strict action will be taken against those involved in illicit sale of liquor in villages."

Rameshwar Deshmukh-TI Chuikhadan.
action by the police and local administration against those selling illicit liquor openly. Rather the police is acting as silent spectator in such cases and are unaware of the fact that the illicit liquor sellers are involving innocent children in such bad work and putting their future in dark and are openly exploiting them.

Police arrest murder accused within 24 hrs

Central Chronicle News

Kondagaon, Jan 12: An accused in the murder case of Jan 9 was arrested by Kondagaon police within 24 hours.

As per information in this regard, the complainant Sohanlal Netam, S/o Dhaniram Netam, caste- Goud, age-28 yrs; R/o Gram Bohar Gohari, Thana Vishrampur district Kondagaon had come to Vishrampur thana on Jan 9 that his neighbour Sonaram Netam over some trivial controversy with kids at around 5:00 pm had beaten his father Dhaniram Netam with bamboo with intentions to kill him.



After this his father received lot of injuries and failed to respond to home-treatment and succumbed to injuries. A case under section 302 of IPC was filed against him and Dhaniram was taken into arrest just in few hours and was produced in the court and sent to jail.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed to the general public that **Shri Ravi Pannani S/o. Shri Mahesh Kumar Pannani**, Resident- Jabdapara, New Sarkanda, Bilaspur shop No.-101, area 557 square feet which is diverted land, Sheet No. 5, Block No.-4, Plot No.-168/6, Khasra No. 144/10, Area - 890 Sq. Ft. / 0.008 Hectare, which is being mortgaged to **Canara Bank, Branch Vyapar Vihar, Bilaspur** and availing loan facility.

The original previous sale document dated 29/03/2015 of the said property was lost/fallen somewhere between Sarkanda to Golbazar from **Shri Ravi Pannani** on 28/12/2021, whose information/report in City Kotwali Police Station Bilaspur have been filed on dated 05/01/2022. The registration details of which are as follows: Registration date 29/03/2015, Sub-Registration Office, Bilaspur, Book No. A-1, Book No. 26202, Page No. 34-44, Document No. 4884. Buyer- Smt. Vijaya Singh Thakur W/o. Shri Ajay Singh Thakur and Seller- Smt. Asha Gwalani W/o. Shri Kishore Gwalani.

Therefore, the above registered original sale deed dated 29/03/2015 should not be used in future, apart from this, if the said property is mortgaged in a bank / financial institution or if any person, bank or financial institution etc. has any objection, then this information should be published. The documents can be submitted at Canara Bank Branch, Vyapar Vihar Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) within 30 days, any objection made after the period will not be valid / binding. So get the information.

Branch Manager: Canara Bank Branch Vyapar Vihar, Bilaspur, (C.G.)
Mo.: 9516009439, 9801301302

बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र Bank of Maharashtra
कार्यालय/ शाखा - बिलासपुर शाखा, मध्यमार्गी चौक
Branch - Bilaspur, Madhyamargi Chowk,
देलीफोन/TELE : 7752-238412
ई-मेल/ e-mail : bom460@mahabank.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE
A notice is hereby given that the following (Borrower) and (Co-borrower) have defaulted in repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known address, but they have been returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

| Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower & Address | Nature & Amount of Credit Facility | Date of Notice | Present Outstanding (as on 11.01.2022) |
|--|---|--------------------------|---|
| Borrower- 1. Mrs. Rajani Seth W/o. Mr. Rajesh Set, R/o:Kanchan Vihar Ward No: 07, Nayapara Jhokra, Sirgitti Dist: Bilaspur, C.G. | Housing Loan of Rs. 3600000/- Account No. 80149925191 | 11.01.2022 31.03.2021 | Ledger Bal: Rs. 43,57,425/- + unapplied interest: Rs. 4,34,253/- Total: Rs. 47,91,678/- |
| CO- Borrower- 1. Mr. Rajesh Seth S/o: Mr. Kailash Seth. 2. Mr. Sanjay Kumar S/o: Mr. Kaleshwar Seth. Both Add.: R/o:Kanchan Vihar Ward No: 07, Nayapara Jhokra, Sirgitti Dist: Bilaspur, C.G. | All those piece and parcels of Land & Building admeasuring area 1800 sqft. Carpet area 2992 sq Ft built up area situated at Khasra No:822/18, P.H.No:22, Diverted land sheet No.27/5, Plot No.71/3, Ward No.15, Sanjay Gandhi Nagar Ward, Mouza: Juna Bilaspur, Tarbahar, RI-Circle-Bilaspur, Dist: Bilaspur, C.G. in the name of Mrs. Rajani Seth W/o: Mr. Rajesh Seth. Boundary - On or towards the North - Land of Gladiant, On or towards the East - Main Road, On or towards the West- House of Prem Mani, On or towards the South - House of Dinesh Gupta | | |

Hence, this Paper Publication for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and/or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

Date: 12.01.2022, Place: Bilaspur Chief Manager / Authorized Officer Bank of Maharashtra

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
E-auction Sale Notice For Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rules 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) & Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the secured creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the authorised officer the Canara Bank (secured creditor) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHAT EVER THERE IS" on 07.02.2022 from 12.00 am to 2.00 pm for recovery of bank dues to the Canara Bank (secured creditor).

| Name and address of the Borrower & Guarantors | Description of Properties & Name of Property Owner | Demand Notice Dt. | Reserve Price | Branch Manager Name |
|--|---|---|---------------|--|
| | | Possession Dt. | EMD Amt. | Branch Name/ Account No. & IFSC Code/E-mail |
| Mr. Sheikh Ishaque S/o Sheikh Nyamuddin and Smt Yasmin Begam W/o Shri Sheikh Ishaque. | Land & Building At Plot No. 2118, Khasra No. 947/2 Part, PH No. 19/29, Near Dhanmandi, Mopka, Bilaspur, Dist. Bilaspur, and State Chhattisgarh measuring an area of 1134 Sq.ft. Boundary: North: Nistari Road, South: Land of Vimala Ajmani, East: Rest Land of Seller, West: Land of Kishan Dhruv. | 11.05.2021 | 20,00,000/- | Mr. Prakash Gupta (Mo. 9516009453) Seepat Branch 797529600001 CNBR0007975 |
| | | 15.09.2021 | 2,00,000/- | |
| | | ₹ 21,44,372.44 as on 11.01.2022 + future interest + any other expenses. | 10,000/- | |

Terms and Conditions: a. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the security interest (enforcement) rules 2002 and to the following conditions: a. The property will be sold in "as is where is and as is what is" basis including encumbrances, if any. There is no encumbrance to the knowledge of the bank. b. Auction / bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website www.bankauction.com. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. c. The property can be inspected, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer. d. The property will not be sold below the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. e. EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer of above mentioned branches respectively OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account of above mentioned branches respectively on or before 05.02.2022, 5:30 pm. f. Intending bidders shall hold a valid digital signature certificate and e-mail address. For details with regard to digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in. Immediately on the same date of payment of the EMD amount the bidders shall approach the said service provider for obtaining digital signature (if not holding a valid digital signature). g. After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before 05.02.2022, 3:00 PM, to above mentioned branches respectively by hand or by email. (1) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount, if paid through RTGS/NEFT, acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No. (2) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount. (3) Bidders Name, Contact No, Address, E Mail Id. (4) Bidder's A/c details for online refund of EMD. h. The intending bidders should register their names at portal **www.bankauctions.com** (mention the website address of service provider) and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E-auction from the service **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in. I. EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them within 2 days of finalization of sale. The EMD shall not carry any interest. j. Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs. 10,000. The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the Reserve price) on closure of "Online" auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. k. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price within the period stated above, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. l. All charges for conveyance, stamp duty and registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. m. Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. n. In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating in the e-auction, they can approach concerned Circle office or above mentioned branches respectively who as a facilitating centre shall make necessary arrangements. o. For further details contact Branch Manager of respective branches OR Authorised Officer, E-mail id: eauction@ccsl.co.in OR the service provider **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in. p. For further details you may contact Canara Bank above mentioned Branch or **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in (Note: Auction will be held as per Terms & Condition of DIC)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CAUTION
Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back-up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Date : 12.01.2022 Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

Central Chronicle News

Kondagaon, Jan 12: An accused in the murder case of Jan 9 was arrested by Kondagaon police within 24 hours.

As per information in this regard, the complainant Sohanlal Netam, S/o Dhaniram Netam, caste- Goud, age-28 yrs; R/o Gram Bohar Gohari, Thana Vishrampur district Kondagaon had come to Vishrampur thana on Jan 9 that his neighbour Sonaram Netam over some trivial controversy with kids at around 5:00 pm had beaten his father Dhaniram Netam with bamboo with intentions to kill him.

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India
Vyapar Vihar Branch: Zone-1, Plot-22, Vyapar Vihar, Bilaspur - 495004 (C.G.) Phone: 07752-262404

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties)
[Under Rule-8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of India, Vyapar Vihar Branch under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of Powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued Demand Notice on the dates, mentioned against each Account (given below) calling upon the Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagees to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notices / date of receipt of the said notices. The Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagees having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagees and the public in general that the undersigned has taken of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned below.

The Borrowers' / Guarantors' / Mortgagees' attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.
The Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagees in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Bank of India for the amounts and interest thereon.

| Sr. No. | Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) | Description of the Propertie | Demand Notice | Amount Due |
|---------|--|---|---|--|
| 1. | Mrs. Nutan Bhardwaj W/o. Hitendra Bhardwaj & Mr. Hitendra Bhardwaj S/o. Mr. B.R. Bhardwaj, H.No. 1/40, Bhukhand No. 1522, P.H. No. 21/25, Dhuripara, Mangla, Bilaspur, Mouza- Mangla, Bilaspur, Tahsil- and Dist- Bilaspur (C.G.) | Equitable Mortgage of immovable property of freehold diverted land and Residential building situated at Khasra No. 305/19, Bhukhand No. 1522, P.H. No. 21/25, Dhuripara, Mangla, Bilaspur, Mouza- Mangla, Bilaspur, Tahsil- and Dist- Bilaspur (C.G.) | 02.03.2020 Possession Notice 11.01.2022 | ₹ 21,85,101.38 + uncharged interest thereon |

Bilaspur (C.G.) Owned by - Mrs. Nutan Bhardwaj W/o. Hitendra Bhardwaj Admeasuring 3000 Sqft. Boundaries: North- 30° Road, South- 30° Road, East- Salaria Land 100° East, West- 30° Wide Road.
Date: 12.01.2022, Place : Bilaspur (C.G.) Authorized Officer/Bank of India, Vyapar Vihar

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
E-auction Sale Notice For Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rules 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

E-Auction Date: 14.02.2022
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) & Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the secured creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the authorised officer the Canara Bank (secured creditor) will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHAT EVER THERE IS" on 14.02.2022 from 12.00 am to 2.00 pm for recovery of bank dues to the Canara Bank (secured creditor).

| Name and address of the Borrower & Guarantors | Description of Properties & Name of Property Owner | Demand Notice Dt. | Reserve Price | Branch Manager Name |
|--|---|---|---------------|--|
| | | Possession Dt. | EMD Amt. | Branch Name/ Account No. & IFSC Code/E-mail |
| M/s Tirupati Construction, Prop: Late Mr. Ramesh Singh, Ghansturu, Mr Snehanthu Roy. | Land & Building Plot / Khasra NO 818/7, PH NO 22, Vivekanand Nagar, Mopka Petrol Pump, Mopka, Bilaspur, Dist- Bilaspur, And State Chhattisgarh- 495006 measuring an area of 3185 Sq. Ft. Boundaries: North: Land of Seller, South: Land of Seller, East: Land of Bajrang, West: Nistari Road. | 08.04.2021 | 67,20,000/- | Mr. Sanjay Kumar Kadve (Mo. 9424204025) Bilaspur-II (Syndicate) Branch 797529600001 CNBR0007975 e-mail: dmrobsp@canarabank.com |
| | | 14.10.2021 | 6,72,000/- | |
| | | ₹ 41,34,054.62 as on 10.01.2022 + future interest + any other expenses. | 10,000/- | |
| M/s R.S.Traders, Prop : Mr. Murlidhar Rijhwani. Padampur Marg Bansula, Basna, Mahasamund Chhattisgarh - 493554. | EMT of Land situated at Village- Tulsil, Tehsil- Tilda, Survey No - 517/16. Area : 1151 Sq. Ft. Boundary : North : Road. South : Land of Sahu. East : Land of Seller. West : Land of Dipika Verma. | 20.11.2019 | 6,20,000/- | Mr. Taran Sharma (Mo. 9522559425) Simga Branch 514429600001 CNBR0005144 |
| | | 22.10.2020 | 62,000/- | |
| | | ₹ 12,62,995.42 as on 11.01.2022 + future interest + any other expenses. | 10,000/- | |

Terms and Conditions: a. The sale shall be subject to the conditions prescribed in the security interest (enforcement) rules 2002 and to the following conditions: a. The property will be sold in "as is where is and as is what is" basis including encumbrances, if any. There is no encumbrance to the knowledge of the bank. b. Auction / bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website www.bankauction.com. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings. c. The property can be inspected, with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer. d. The property will not be sold below the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process. e. EMD amount of 10% of the Reserve Price is to be deposited by way of Demand draft in favour of Authorized Officer of above mentioned branches respectively OR shall be deposited through RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to credit of account of above mentioned branches respectively on or before 11.02.2022, 5:30 pm. f. Intending bidders shall hold a valid digital signature certificate and e-mail address. For details with regard to digital signature please contact the service provider **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in. Immediately on the same date of payment of the EMD amount the bidders shall approach the said service provider for obtaining digital signature (if not holding a valid digital signature). g. After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before 11.02.2022, 3:00 PM, to above mentioned branches respectively by hand or by email. (1) Demand Draft/Pay order towards EMD amount, if paid through RTGS/NEFT, acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No. (2) Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount. (3) Bidders Name, Contact No, Address, E Mail Id. (4) Bidder's A/c details for online refund of EMD. h. The intending bidders should register their names at portal **www.bankauctions.com** (mention the website address of service provider) and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E-auction from the service **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in. I. EMD deposited by the unsuccessful bidder shall be refunded to them within 2 days of finalization of sale. The EMD shall not carry any interest. j. Auction would commence at Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs. 10,000. The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the Reserve price) on closure of "Online" auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor. k. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price within the period stated above, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again. l. All charges for conveyance, stamp duty and registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only. m. Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. n. In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating in the e-auction, they can approach concerned Circle office or above mentioned branches respectively who as a facilitating centre shall make necessary arrangements. o. For further details contact Branch Manager of respective branches OR Authorised Officer, E-mail id: eauction@ccsl.co.in OR the service provider **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in. p. For further details you may contact Canara Bank above mentioned Branch or **M/s Canbank Computer Service Ltd.** (Contact: 9480691777, 8023469665) E-mail ID: -eauction@ccsl.co.in (Note: Auction will be held as per Terms & Condition of DIC)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CAUTION
Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back-up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Date : 12.01.2022 Authorized Officer, Canara Bank



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 9 No. 283

Rude shock for BJP

In a blow to the BJP in Uttar Pradesh ahead of the 2022 Assembly election, Swami Prasad Maurya has resigned from the State Cabinet, accusing the Yogi Adityanath led state government of neglecting Dalits, OBCs, farmers and the youth. Exit of Swami Prasad Maurya to the Samajwadi Party does seem to have been rude shock for BJP in Uttar Pradesh. This was clear from deputy chief minister Keshav Prasad Maurya's tweet urging Swami Prasad Maurya to "sit and discuss" and not take any "decision in haste". Maurya feared shrunken political space for himself and his loyalists if the party comes back to power in 2022. When Maurya joined the BJP in 2016, he played a key role in bringing certain caste groups into the BJP fold. Those groups voted for the BJP in 2017 and again in 2019. Maybe he feared that his clout would reduce now that the party is confident of retaining support on its own. Swami Prasad Maurya was an influential leader in BSP before joining BJP during the so called 'Modi wave' period. Challenge for BJP is now to minimise damage from perception generated as being not an accommodating party for certain communities. Uttar Pradesh is a 20-20-20-40 state, where 20 percent is upper caste, 20 percent is Dalit, 20 percent is Muslim and 40 percent is OBC. Some communities are a bit smaller (Muslims, for example, are 19.2 percent of the state), others slightly larger (Dalits are roughly 21 percent), and the upper caste and OBC figures are sample-based estimates. But, overall, the 20-20-20-40 division is a good for analysing political trends. The notion of 'party base' does not imply that the entire caste would vote for a single party. That does not normally happen. All that it means is that a vast majority of the caste, roughly 70 percent and above would vote for a given party or alliance. Uttar Pradesh, has the highest number of assembly constituencies in India at 403. Rather than waste into the guessing game around the number of seats various formations will lose or gain, readers can learn much by focusing on three issues critical to sealing the final UP outcome of voter mobilization, voter consolidation, and rural anxiety about the economy.

The novelty associated BJP's governance model has dimmed, as have citizens' perceptions of the BJP's economic performance and management of COVID-19 pandemic. The UP electorate is notoriously fragmented by caste and religion. While UP voters do not determine their political preferences solely on the basis of caste, caste identity does serve as an important filter for political behaviour. Although Uttar Pradesh is India's most populous state, its residents are not primarily concentrated in urban centres. BJP's political success can be attributed to its resilience in carefully crafting social alliances by incorporating electorally significant castes and sub-castes in its modules of political representation and mobilisation, thereby garnering political mileage out of its uniquely created social capital. Most importantly, the BJP's success lies in its ability to detect changing voter behaviour and discontent among the masses. The BJP successfully found itself a political space among the castes and subcastes unsatisfied with and abhorrent to the hegemony of the dominant intermediaries. While the BJP's overarching narrative centred on a hyper-nationalistic discourse, the party has been able to craft innumerable micro coalitions at the social level with perks of political representation to castes other than the politically dominant ones and the targeted distribution of the government's welfare schemes. Any claim that economic development can generate a decisively large multi-caste, multi-religious coalition and deliver election victories runs up against the basic political realities of UP. BJP is learning this the hard way after exit of Swami Prasad Maurya.

Better estimate for growth

Global economic growth will dip sharply from 5.5 percent in 2021 to 4.1 percent in 2022 and 3.2 percent in 2023, according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects Report, but the challenge will remain to actually verify growth with estimates. To be sure, there is no single, well-defined metric for judging the quality of a country's growth estimates. But the traditional approach in the economics literature is to look for correlation between estimates obtained using different data sources. Estimates based on three distinct sources of the System of National Accounts (SNA), household survey data, and newly available satellite data (mainly on nighttime light, and occasionally on vegetation) can point to better method. Such comparisons show that the differences in average growth rates across the three data sources are small, typically around 1.5 percentage points or less. Though gaps of this magnitude might be considered large for high-income countries (where annual growth rates have recently been in the 3-4 percent range), they are relatively modest for many fast-growing developing economies. An average error margin of about 1.5 percentage points does not seem grave in view of the uncertainty surrounding these estimates. Moreover, a new database assembled by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank shows no evidence that SNA data from low-income countries are systematically manipulated for political reasons.

Interestingly, it is middle-income countries that seem more problematic, suggesting that politically motivated manipulation may be more feasible above some threshold level of statistical capacity and sophistication. To a certain extent, these findings are a reason for optimism, because they show that statistics generated in developing countries are indeed meaningful, and that it would be ill-informed to dismiss them out of hand. Nonetheless, poorer countries could obviously benefit from greater statistical capacity. As Shanta Devarajan of the World Bank argued that low-income countries, especially in Africa, suffer from a 'statistical tragedy' Owing to a lack of resources for data collection, management, and dissemination, and to an absence of coordination among relevant agencies and stakeholders, policymakers in many low-income countries must resort to using old data and outdated methods. In fact, several highly publicized cases of unreliable growth estimates resulted from outdated methods rather than politically motivated manipulation. Better method for evaluating actual growth rate will give a true perspective of economy.

Central Chronicle welcomes articles, write ups, comments on different issues for editorial page (800-900 words), Letter to editor for this page. It can be sent by e-mail at: editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com
The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity of thoughts.

PPE DURING TRAVEL

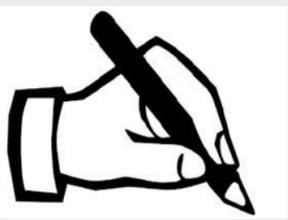


A passenger (L) wears a personal protective equipment (PPE) kit as a precaution against spread of COVID-19 during travel from another state at a railway station in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Classroom of future may become truly global



YONG ZHAO



School education has for a long time been one size fits all, criticised for its inability to meet the needs of all students. Reform measures have generally failed to improve learning in even the most basic subjects of math and reading. Students have often been left out of attempts to improve. Then COVID-19 happened. School closures forced the entire industry to create new ways of teaching and learning. Caught in the chaos, students, teachers, administrators, policymakers and parents all had to adjust, inventing new policies and practices in just days. Not surprisingly, results varied. With the disruption came the possibility for schools to rethink education. All teachers and students have now experienced remote learning, the resources to support it have grown and new more innovative ways of teaching and learning have emerged. Many schools have been eager to return to 'normal' but normal no longer exists. Out of the disruption could come more personalised learning. Learning that is strengths-based and passion-driven, with students at the centre. Online learning during COVID was reportedly 'hell' for many parents and teachers. But for tens of thousands of students around the world, attending face-to-face classes is not an option, even when a pandemic isn't occurring. They rely on virtual schooling to achieve their educational aspirations.

Students like these are catered for by virtual schools. Large-scale virtual schools with enrolments of tens of thousands of students exist in many

countries around the world. Virtual schooling with specially qualified teachers can not only be highly effective, it can be a vital part of an education system, providing equity and opportunity for students who would otherwise miss out. It works because teachers working in virtual schools do things differently from teachers who were required to shift to online teaching as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic paved the way for student teachers to undertake virtual placements, developing the knowledge, skills and capacities to become effective online teachers. The basic psychological needs of students are the same, regardless of whether learning is in-school or virtual. In challenging scenarios, such as school closures, social distancing and lockdown, providing ample emotional support and connection through digital media is even more important for students.

Although teachers tried to deliver curricula online, feedback from students showed their efforts did not go as planned. Around 80 percent of students felt they could not understand subject content solely by watching video lessons. Teachers need support to produce multimedia learning materials. These could be mobile-friendly (optimised for smaller screens and lower bandwidths) so students can more readily access them, and presented in different formats (video, infographics, text) to cater for students with different learning styles. Contemporary teachers need professional development activities to address personal privacy and data is-

issues, and sustain teacher growth and student wellbeing. Digital education needs to actively build in opportunities for students to connect with their classmates and teachers. Timetables designed with space for teachers-and-students and students-and-students to interact socially in a safe and casual online environment can foster a stronger sense of student belonging and connection. Education policy should also evolve: curriculum guidelines could incorporate 'connect more, support more' instructional approaches and 'learn more, evaluate less' assessment strategies. Equipping teachers with tailored techniques and resources can enhance their digital communication skills. These can be simple, such as sending warm, friendly audio messages, and using appropriate emojis for feedback and comments on student work. When compared with teachers who were required to rapidly shift to online learning, teachers in virtual schools have a complex and interconnected understanding of the use of technologies. They manage their relationships with students differently and actively critique their own teaching practice and the technologies they use.

The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting school closures were unprecedented. But the lessons we can take from this rapid pivot to digital education will be valuable as education becomes increasingly digital. The transformation was already underway, COVID has provided signposts to a better online future. They also understand online instructional design principles, since they're so critical to their job. If remote learning can take place globally, there is no need to constrain students to the traditional classroom where teachers are the only knowledge authority. Students could personalise learning based on their own interests and strengths using globally available resources. A student in Vietnam could join a French classroom for language lessons; or an Australian student could join a Japanese art class. Personalisation of learning is not only

about students being the owner of their learning. It also sees the learning process shift to problem-based, where learning starts with identifying problems worth solving and ends with solutions to the problems. Students learn for a purpose and exercise self-determination. This process enables students to develop an entrepreneurial orientation, emphasising solving problems for others and the world. Personalisation of learning is not learning alone. To solve problems, students must work with each other. And in the age of global learning, students can collaborate with students in other schools, other states, or other countries. This global collaboration makes it possible for students to learn from, with, and for others on a global scale.

This doesn't mean local schools are unnecessary. Schools deliver vital in-person contact and interactions with peers and adults, where students can get guidance and support in their pursuit of strengths and passions. More importantly, students need a local community to learn how their unique talents and strong interests can be of value to others. Personalisation of learning requires schools to be flexible with curriculum, student organisation, and teacher instruction. Modern schools could divide curriculum into three parts: national and state common courses for all students, school specific courses for all students, and personalised learning for individual students. Schools can also be flexible with how students are organised, without necessarily placing all students into subject-matter based classes based on biological age. And teachers could be encouraged to change their roles from instructor to personal consultant and project manager, focused on the growth of students instead of prepackaged curriculum content. Education reform in the past has been slow and difficult. But COVID has demonstrated schools can be nimble when required. The lessons COVID delivered educators could drive an education transformation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mistrust prevailing

International flights have once again been suspended indefinitely due to fear of the Omicron variant of Covid-19. At present, mistrust is prevailing in the market and people are not lending. Many people died during the second wave, leaving the money of suppliers and buyers stuck. Entrepreneurs that have adopted the digital methods and brought their business to on-line mode, are moving ahead. Instead of physical meetings, zoom meetings are being held now. The foreign buyers used to come here to understand everything, before making the deal. Now they ask to show the sample on the phone itself. Video calls are proving to be effective. Earlier the buyer's agent used to come here, which increased the cost up to 5 percent, now this is not the case. Things are moving fast and business has grown. Looking at the results of the last two quarters, you will see that the textile sector has achieved up to 40 percent growth. There are high expectations from exports. It looks like India will touch the target of USD 400 billion this time. Why this is happening is because people are turning towards India. Industries suffered a lot in the first lockdown. The situation was worsened by the exodus of labourers. Exporters were hit not only by raw material cost but also by shipping costs rising by five to ten times. During the first and second waves, cargos remained stuck; transport came to a standstill, increasing the cost of shipping. There are many fears if the new variant spreads. There is an atmosphere of confusion and fear in the market. Buyers are hesitant to enter into bigger and long-time contracts. In such a situation, if there is an increase in GST, then the textile industry will be especially adversely affected. In such a situation, it would be really good if all the councils come together and help small weavers, designers and MSMEs to go digital.

Narvijay Yadav, via email
Soft drinks

Amitabh Bachchan once disclosed at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmadabad about his not advertising for cola-drinks after a school-student at Jaipur drew his attention about harmful ingredients in cola-drinks. Even cola-companies voluntarily stopped selling cola-drinks in schools worldwide in view of increasing obesity in school-going children. Indian government should not only ban advertisements but even sale of cola drinks in the country. Earlier also, soft-drink manufacturers were asked to remove an oil from their products which was found to be harmful for health. It is noteworthy that cola-drinks are prohibited even in Parliamentary canteens. It is time that Union government, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and soft-drink manufacturers should revive drinks like old and famous rose-flavoured ones, which can not only replace cola-drinks in India but even dominate global-market by breaking monopoly of harmful cola-drinks in tune with ambitious -Make in India-concept of Prime Minister. It will rather earn foreign-revenue for the country rather than Indian money being drained out to multinational cola-manufacturers. It may be recalled that almost half-century back, a famous rose-drink manufactured by a famous private confectionary company registered at Gwalior was a popular drink for persons of all ages.

Madhu Agrawal, Delhi



WHAT THEY TWEET!



Akshat Shrivastava @Akshat_World

It is very easy to term anything we don't understand as crazy talk and move on. At one point in time, people use to chuckle at 'meme makers'. Now guess what, corporates are hiring them. They are making more money than degree holders.

AK47@NoFilterAnjali

At this stage of my life I am no longer impressed by the car you drive, your address, designation, financial statement or your vacation destinations. I only see how you treat others and how genuine you are as an individual.



Patralekha Chatterjee @patralekha2011

An elderly woman hawker in an open air market in South Africa danced to the theme song of Kal Ho Na Ho when she heard I was from India. It didn't stop there. Another woman joined in. And they insisted that three of us get photographed together coz I was from @iamsrk's country.

JosephWoony @JoeAgneya

When will the Amaravati marbles be returned to India @britishmuseum Amaravati was India's most magnificent Stupa. It's ruins were barbarically dismantled and its sculptures smuggled to London in 1859. We forgive the iconoclasm, but return our stolen heritage!



Bjorn DeNiese@BjornDeniese

What's better than these stunning sights at Arunachal?



sanjoy ghose@advsnjoy

Always wondered why bong kids been more obsessed with TinTin. Harangued by Bong Mothers while growing up, I guess the idea of a kid globetrotting Belgian Reporter turned detective with no mother figure breathing down his neck & a drunk seaman for company was pretty alluring!

Saurav Das@OfficialSauravD

3 years since India got its Lokpal. Zero path-breaking orders passed. Very few complaints received. Despite no workload, one complaint is STILL pending with the Lokpal since 2019. Crucial posts of Dir of Prosecution and Dir of Inquiry still vacant. A govt was toppled for this?

ON WAY TO PILGRIMAGE



Gangasagar pilgrims after crossing the Muri Ganga river rush to board a bus at Kachuberia bus stand to reach Sagar Island, ahead of Makarsankranti in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, Wednesday.

'COVID pandemic has reaffirmed importance of health sector'

Chennai, Jan 12 (PTI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated 11 government medical colleges in Tamil Nadu and said the future will belong to societies that invest in healthcare. After virtually inaugurating the medical institutions, Modi said the covid-19 pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of the health sector and listed out the various health and medical education related initiatives of his government.

"The once in a lifetime covid-19 pandemic has reaffirmed the importance of the health sector. The future will belong to societies which invest in health care. The government of India has brought many reforms in the health sector," he said in his virtual address.



"Learning from the pandemic, we keep working to ensure inclusive, quality health services to all our countrymen," said. India's covid-19 vaccination programme was making "remarkable progress," he said, while pointing to the expansion of the campaign by including the 15-18 years age group and the adminis-

tration of the precaution dose to persons aged 60 years and above with comorbidities. Thanks to the Ayushman Bharat scheme, the poor now have access to top quality and affordable health care, the Prime Minister added. Earlier, he inaugurated new medical colleges at Virudhunagar, Namakkal, Nilgiris,

Tiruppur, Tiruvallur, Nagapattinam, Dindigul, Kallakurichi, Ariyalur, Ramanathapuram and Krishnagiri districts in the state and these institutions would have a cumulative capacity of 1,450 medical seats. Noting that it was important to address regional imbalances, Modi pointed out that two of the colleges have come up in the "aspirational districts of Ramanathapuram and Virudhunagar," which need development attention.

Besides, one campus has been established at the remote, hilly Nilgiris. The government had earlier said establishment of these medical colleges was in line with the prime minister's constant endeavour to promote affordable medical education and improve health infrastructure in all parts of the country.

CHOPPER SCAM

Middleman flight risk with no roots in society

CBI tells HC opposing his bail

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

The CBI Wednesday told the Delhi High Court that Christian Michel James, the alleged middleman in the AgustaWestland chopper scam, was a flight risk with no roots in the society and cannot be granted bail in the case. Although James' passport was impounded, there are examples in Indian history of persons escaping through Nepal, the CBI said. Special public prosecutor (SPP) D P Singh, appearing for the CBI, claimed before Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri that James, who was extradited to India from Dubai in December 2018, did not join the investigation in the case in either in India or Italy.

The day he came to know that the matter was taken up by the authorities, he took the flight back (to Dubai), never to come back, said the SPP who informed the court that the agency has filed two charge sheets in the case, citing approximately 280 witnesses. The case is at the stage of Section 207 of Criminal Procedure Code for the supply of documents to the accused persons before the trial court and statements

of over 230 witnesses were recorded, he added. Singh alleged that James was in the thick of things and said that he would take the court through the flow of money on the next date of hearing. The alleged Rs 3,600-crore scam relates to the purchase of 12 VVIP helicopters from Italian firm AgustaWestland. Lawyer Aljo K Joseph, representing James, told the court that he was not related to any of the allegedly illegal transactions as there is no money movement from any of his accounts.

James had earlier told the court that he has already spent three years in judicial custody and even if he is found guilty, he could only be given maximum imprisonment of five years. He contended that he had nothing to do with the purchase of VVIP choppers and said that even after years of investigation, which started in 2013, nothing has come out. Singh had earlier said that James received 42 million euros pursuant to certain purported contracts concerning the scam and claimed that the trial would finish in six months if day-to-day proceedings are ordered by the trial court.

'Stable Covid hospitalisation, positivity rate indicate wave has peaked'

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

Delhi Health Minister Satyendra Jain on Wednesday said the number of hospital admissions in the national capital due to COVID-19 has stabilised over the last five days which indicates that the current wave of the pandemic has peaked and cases may start declining in two-three days.

The number of daily cases has been hovering around 20,000 for the last few days, and the positivity rate has consistently been around 25 per cent, he said. "We have observed that the number of hospital admissions has stabilised in the last four to

five days and only 2,209 of the 14,621 beds are occupied and 85 per cent of the beds are vacant," the minister told reporters.

"Plateauing of hospital admissions is an indication that the wave has peaked. We may see a decline in cases in two to three days," he said. Cases have started declining in Mumbai and Delhi is likely to follow the same trend, Jain added.

"This, however, does not mean that the threat of Covid has passed. People should strictly adhere to all guidelines so that the spread can be controlled as soon as possible," he said. He also assured that if cases come down in the



Satyendra Jain

next couple of days, restrictions will be lifted.

The Delhi government recently issued an order requiring all private organisations to 'work from home'. In addition, all restaurants and bars have been closed, and only

home delivery is available. The minister added that most of those who have died in the ongoing surge of infections had comorbidities and very few deaths have taken place due to coronavirus.

"People with comorbidities are facing more problems, not many people are coming to hospital for treatment of coronavirus," he said. Jain said doctors at the Lok Nayak Hospital informed him on Tuesday only six out of the 36 patients in their ICU had "severe" Covid infection.

"Thirty patients had other problems as primary reason and not COVID-19-induced issues like pneumonia or lung failure like

last time," he said. On Tuesday, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had said that out of the 136 Covid patients at the Lok Nayak Hospital (till Tuesday), 130 had come for treatment of other problems and tested positive at the time of admission.

The national capital had reported 23 fatalities on Tuesday. It has already recorded 93 fatalities in the first 11 days of the month. It had logged 54 fatalities in the last five months -- nine in December, seven in November, four in October, five in September and 29 in August. In July, the virus had claimed 76 lives in the national capital.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



Devotees take part in the Thiruvabharanam procession carrying the holy caskets containing the sacred ornaments proceed towards Sabarimala, in Pathanamthitta, Wednesday.

JNU to hold admissions through CUET from 2022-23

New Delhi, Jan 12 (PTI):

The Jawaharlal Nehru University in its Academic Council meeting on Wednesday decided to hold admissions through the Common Universities Entrance Test (CUET) from the next academic session. The decision was "overwhelmingly endorsed" by the members, read the statement issued by Jayant K Tripathi, Director of Admissions.

"During the deliberations in the Academic Council, a large number of members including the Deans of Schools, Centre Chairpersons, and External Members of the Council emphasized that CUET would provide a level playing field to numerous eligible students from across the coun-

try reducing the burden of taking several entrance examinations," it said. Recently, the Delhi University has also decided to hold admissions from the next academic session through the CUET.

The statement said that the university had earlier in its academic council meeting held in March last year, also decided that whenever the National Testing Agency would hold the CUET, the university would go by it. "In fact, since 2019 Jawaharlal Nehru University has been successfully conducting JNU Entrance Examination at various centres of the country to admit students in its various programmes of studies in collaboration with NTA in Computer Based Test (CBT) mode," read the statement.

Assam doc well ahead of time met tragic outcome

25-yrs before US heart transplant with pig's organ

Guwahati, Jan 12 (PTI):

Global recognition for a medical experiment to use a pig's heart as a transplant in a human body, now being claimed by US surgeons could have been in an Assam doctor's name, and that too 25 years ago, had he submitted his findings for a crucial peer review and sought requisite permissions before his path-breaking operation.

Dr Dhaniram Baruah, a man 'ahead of his times', had achieved the near-impossible in 1997 when he had "successfully" transplanted a pig's heart and other organs

into a person.

However, his refusal to place his findings and procedures before scientific peer scrutiny cost him not only with lack of recognition but also an arrest after the patient in whom he fitted the pig's heart died after seven days.

"Dr Baruah perhaps thought ahead of his times, but he had to play by the rules of the game. People's lives are at stake and one has to go through the correct process (of peer review and seeking of permissions before actual transplant)," Dr A Goswami, a leading cardiac consult-

ant surgeon here, said speaking to PTI. He underlined that research on critical surgeries involving the heart takes years and are constantly evolving.

A team from University of Maryland School of Medicine, near Washington DC on Monday said on Monday it had successfully transplanted a genetically modified pig heart into a 57-year-old patient with terminal illness.

"The US doctors who performed the procedure now have 25 years of more research to work on than Dr Baruah did," Goswami pointed out.

Guwahati, Jan 12 (PTI):

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday alleged that the Congress high command and his Punjab counterpart had conspired to assassinate the prime minister through the security breach' on January 5 while Narendra Modi was visiting the northern state. He demanded that Charanjit Singh Channi, the chief minister of Punjab, should be arrested for his role in the alleged conspiracy.

Addressing a press conference here, Sarma said, All evidence makes it clear that Congress high command and Punjab CM conspired to kill Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



Himanta Biswa Sarma

He was referring to a purported sting operation by a television channel in Punjab which claimed that the police there had intelligence report on January 2 regarding an attempt to kill the prime minister. Sarma also claimed that statements by Congress leaders following the incident indicated that they knew of the "conspiracy". Modi, who landed in

Bathinda in Punjab on January 5 and had to take the road route to Hussainiwala in Ferozepur because of inclement weather on Wednesday, was stuck on a flyover for 15-20 minutes due to a blockade by some farmers, an incident the Union Home Ministry described as a major lapse in his security. Guwahati, Jan 12 (PTI) Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday alleged that the Congress high command and his Punjab counterpart had conspired to assassinate the prime minister through the security breach' on January 5 while Narendra Modi was visiting the northern state.