



### BRIEF



Chief Minister Nitish Kumar with balloons during the inauguration of the 110th Bihar Diwas function, at Gandhi Maidan, in Patna, Tuesday.

### Rejected

■ **Lucknow:** Nomination papers of two Samajwadi Party candidates for the elections to the Legislative Council were rejected during the scrutiny on Tuesday, paving the way for the unopposed victory of BJP nominees. The nomination papers of Udayvir Singh and Rakesh Yadav besides that of an independent were rejected during the scrutiny, officials said.

### Denied

■ **New Delhi:** A court here on Tuesday rejected the bail plea of Mohd. Saleem Khan in connection with a case related to alleged larger conspiracy into the 2020 north-east Delhi riots, lodged under stringent UAPA, while deferring the order on bail application of Sharjeel Imam for March 26. Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat said the ground was not enough to grant the relief to Khan.

### Resign

■ **New Delhi:** Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday resigned as the member of Lok Sabha from Azamgarh constituency, deciding to retain the Karhal assembly seat he won in the recently held Uttar Pradesh polls. By quitting as a Lok Sabha member, Yadav has made it clear that he would now concentrate on state politics. Yadav met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla in Parliament House to put in his papers.

### Shot at

■ **Diphu:** A 54-year-old man, who was accused of raping two minor sisters, was shot at by police when he allegedly tried to escape from custody in Assam's Karbi Anglong district, a senior officer claimed on Tuesday. The person was absconding and apprehended on Monday, he said.

### Attached

■ **New Delhi:** The ED on Tuesday said it has attached assets worth Rs 6.45 crore of a company owned by the brother-in-law of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray in connection with a money laundering investigation. The Enforcement Directorate said in a statement that it has issued a provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to attach 11 residential flats in Neelambari project, located in Thane near Mumbai, of Shree Saibaba Grihanirmiti Private Limited.

**Weather**  
High 38 Low 22

**MARKET**  
NIFTY 17,315.50  
SENSEX 57,989.30

**BULLION**  
GOLD 51,183  
SILVER 67,382

### HORRIFYING VIOLENCE

# Eight charred bodies found in Birbhum

■ **11 arrested**

**Rampurhat, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Eight persons, including two children, died in the early hours of Tuesday after their houses were gutted in a fire at Rampurhat in West Bengal's Birbhum district, police said.

The incident took place hours after the murder of a Trinamool Congress panchayat leader on Monday, DGP Manoj Malaviya told reporters in Kolkata. Malaviya said seven charred bodies were recovered from one of the burnt houses, while one injured person died in hospital. Eleven people have been arrested in connection with the incident, he said. The top police officer said TMC panchayat deputy chief of Barshal village, Bhadu Sheikh, was murdered



### MHA seeks report from state govt

The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday sought a report from the West Bengal government after eight people were found burnt to death in Birbhum district, officials said. The move came after a nine-member delegation of BJP MPs from West Bengal met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and sought his intervention and action against the perpetrators of the crime. In a communication, the ministry asked the West Bengal government to maintain law and order and ensure security of common people in view of the killings, officials said.

### Arson Orgy: Guv

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhanekar strongly condemned the violence in the state's Birbhum district, saying human rights have been "decimated" and rule of law has "capsized". Offering condolence to the families of those who lost their lives, the Governor said that the state is in a "grip of violence culture and lawlessness". He said that he was pained and disturbed at the "horrifying barbarity" at Rampurhat in Birbhum, where eight people were burnt to death after a mob allegedly set houses on fire following the killing of Trinamool Congress leader Bahadur Shaikh.

## Cabinet nod to merger of 3 Delhi municipal corporations

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday gave its nod to a bill to merge the three municipal corporations in Delhi, a move that is likely to escalate the ongoing political tussle between the BJP and the AAP ahead of the high-stakes civic polls. The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill is likely to be introduced in the ongoing Budget session of Parliament, sources in the government said.

The unified municipal corporation, the sources said, will be a well-equipped entity for optimum and even utilisation of financial resources which will reduce mounting liabilities, expenditure on the functioning of the three municipal corporations and improve the

civic services of the national capital.

Some more amendments have also been cleared in the principal Act of 1957 to ensure more robust delivery architecture for greater transparency, improved governance and more efficient delivery of civic services for the people of Delhi, they said.

The amendment provides for a unified municipal corporation of Delhi by subsuming the existing three corporations.

The erstwhile Delhi Municipal Corporation was trifurcated into three municipal corporations - South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC), North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), and East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) in 2011.

## 'Over Rs 4,350 cr transferred to ineligible beneficiaries'

■ **Advisory issued to states for refunds**

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

More than Rs 4,350 crore has been transferred to ineligible beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN scheme and an advisory has been issued to states for getting refunds, the government said on Tuesday.

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN), which was announced in February 2019, is a central scheme that aims at providing financial assistance to landholding farmer families, subject to certain exclusion criteria, to enable them to take care of expenses relat-

### PM-KISAN Scheme

ed to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 6,000 per year is transferred in three four-monthly installments of Rs 2,000 directly into the bank accounts of the farmers. In reply to a written question in Lok Sabha, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said, "an amount of more than Rs 4,352.49 crore which is 2 per cent of the total amount transferred to all the beneficiaries has been reported to have been transferred to ineligible beneficiaries". He was replying to a query on "whether it is a fact that over Rs 2,500 crore of PM-KISAN scheme funds were transferred to ineligible

## Two missing boys found dead

**Balodabazar, Mar 22:**

The partially decomposed bodies of two minor boys were found in a field at a village in Chhattisgarh's Balodabazar district on Tuesday, two days after they went missing from outside their houses, police said. The deceased boys aged 7 and 8 were neighbours from Chakarbai village, Kasol Station House Officer (SHO) Ashish Rajput said.

The duo went missing on March 20 when they were playing outside their houses in the village, he said. As they did not return till Sunday late at night, their parents launched a search. On Monday, police were informed and a missing case was registered, Rajput added. Their partially decomposed bodies were found this morning in farmland in Kharve village, 3 km from Chakarbai village, the SHO said. The exact cause of the death will be known after the postmortem examination, he said. A case was registered under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Rajput said.

## Khairagarh Assembly Bypoll BCC chief Yashoda Verma is Congress nominee

**Rajnandgaon, Mar 22:**

Khairagarh Block Congress Committee (BCC) chief Yashoda Verma will contest the April 12 bypoll to the Khairagarh assembly constituency in Chhattisgarh on the ruling party's ticket, a spokesperson said on Tuesday.

The Khairagarh seat fell vacant after the death of sitting Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) MLA Devvrat Singh in November last year. Verma's name was approved for the bypoll by Congress president Sonia Gandhi, the spokesperson said. Verma comes from the Lodhi community which has a considerable presence in the constituency located in the Rajnandgaon district.

She had served as a member of the Rajnandgaon Zila Panchayat in the past.

Speaking to mediapersons, she exuded confidence about winning the by-election. The opposition BJP and JCC (J) are yet to announce their candidates for the electoral contest for



which the last day of filing of nominations is March 24. Polling will be held on April 12 and votes will be counted on April 16.

Devvrat Singh, who represented the Khairagarh assembly segment four times, belonged to the erstwhile royal family of Khairagarh. He was first elected as a legislator in 1995 on a Congress ticket.

In December 2017, he quit the Congress and later joined the late Ajit Jogi's Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) party.

Singh contested the last assembly election (2018) on a JCC (J) ticket and became MLA for the fourth time from Khairagarh.

## After Azad, Sonia meets G-23's Anand Sharma, Manish Tiwari

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Days after meeting Ghulam Nabi Azad, Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday met some more leaders of the G-23 grouping including Anand Sharma and Manish Tewari at her residence and held discussions on resolving internal party issues.

It is learnt that during the meeting, the leaders suggested ways to strengthen the party and revive it to help take on the BJP in the next round of elections.

According to the party sources, Gandhi is likely to meet some more leaders of the G-23 in the coming days.

Tuesday's interaction was part of the series of meetings that the Congress top leadership is having with some of the leaders who have raised critical organisational issues and

have suggested measures to revamp the party.

These meetings are being held amidst indications that some of the G-23 leaders may be accommodated in the Congress Working Committee or a new body like the Parliamentary Board, which will be responsible for all policy decisions including finalising chief ministerial candidates and tie-ups with like-minded parties in states.

The group is also reportedly seeking the ouster of some Rahul Gandhi loyalists from key AICC positions and top on their target are AICC general secretary Organisation KC Venugopal, chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala and general secretary Ajay Maken. Sources said one or more may be shifted to placate the dissident group.

## LPG at record high after Rs 50 rise

■ **Petrol, diesel price hiked by 80 paise**

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Petrol and diesel prices were on Tuesday hiked by 80 paise a litre each while domestic cooking gas LPG rates were increased by Rs 50 per cylinder as state oil firms ended an over four-and-a-half month election-related hiatus in rate revision.

Petrol in Delhi will now cost Rs 96.21 per litre as against Rs 95.41 previously while diesel rates have gone up from Rs 86.67 per litre to Rs 87.47, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. In Mumbai, the petrol price has been hiked



by Rs 0.84 per litre to Rs 110.82 per litre, and diesel by Rs 0.86 to Rs 95 per litre.

The rates, which differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes such as VAT, are likely to continue to rise over the next few days as state oil firms recoup losses from keeping prices on hold for a record 137 days. According to

CRISIL Research, a hike of Rs 15-20 per litre is required to fully pass through a USD 30 per barrel increase in the cost of raw material (crude oil).

Simultaneously, the price of non-subsidised LPG cylinders has been increased to Rs 949.50 per 14.2-kg bottle in the national capital and Mumbai, and to Rs 976 in Kolkata.

While LPG rates were last revised on October 6, 2021, petrol and diesel prices had been on a freeze since November 4 as five states, including Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, went to the polls.

LPG prices had gone up by close to Rs 100 per cylinder between July and October 6, 2021, before criticism halted

the monthly revision in rates. Non-subsidised cooking gas is the one that consumers buy after exhausting their quota of 12 cylinders at subsidised or below market price. However, the government pays no subsidy on LPG in most cities and the price of the refill that consumers, including the poor women who got free connection under the much-talked Ujjwala scheme, buy is the same as non-subsidised or market price LPG.

This is the highest rate ever that subsidised LPG users will pay. The non-subsidised rate had peaked at Rs 1,241 in January 2014, but at that time, the government provided as much as Rs 600 per cylinder subsidy.

### TRADITION AND FAITH



Devotees gather to hoist the flag as Jhanda Mela begins at Shri Guru Ram Rai Darbar Sahib, in Dehradun, Tuesday.

### OIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

## Pakistan again rakes up Kashmir issue



**Islamabad, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday again raked up the Kashmir issue at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) foreign ministers' meeting here, saying the 57-member body has not been

able to make any impact at all as it's a "divided house". Khan's comments came at a time when he is facing the toughest political test since assuming office in 2018 as a no-confidence motion has been introduced by the opposition parties against his government. "We have failed both the people of Palestine and Kashmir," Khan said in his keynote address at the 48th Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC at the Parliament House here as he sought to raise the issues of Palestine and Kashmir in the same breath.

## Lalu's health condition deteriorates, shifted to AIIMS New Delhi

**Ranchi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Incarcerated Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supreme leader Lalu Prasad's health condition has deteriorated and he has been shifted to AIIMS, New Delhi for better treatment, officials said on Tuesday.

A medical board of the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) here referred him to AIIMS New Delhi, they said.

"RJD chief Lalu Prasad has been taken to Delhi in an air ambulance," Ranchi's Birsra Munda Airport



Director Vinod Sharma told PTI.

Dr Vidyapati, who heads a seven-member team of doctors formed by RIMS to treat Prasad, earlier said,

"The medical board has recommended that Prasad be referred to AIIMS New Delhi as his condition has deteriorated."

Prasad was sentenced by a special CBI court to five years imprisonment and slapped with a fine of Rs 60 lakh on February 21 after being convicted in the embezzlement of Rs 139 crore from Doranda treasury in the fodder scam.

The court had convicted Prasad on February 15 and pronounced the quantum of the sentence after virtually hearing the arguments.

## Stage set for grand swearing-in ceremony for second Yogi Govt

**Lucknow, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The stage is set for a grand swearing-in ceremony of the second Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh at the sprawling Atal Bihari Vajpayee Iкана stadium in the state capital on March 25.

According to sources, an all important meeting of the BJP legislature party to elect its leader will be held Thursday evening, in which Union Union Home minister Amit Shah and former Chief Minister of Jharkhand Raghubar Das will take part as observer

and co-observer. The formality of electing Yogi Adityanath as the new chief minister will be done in the meeting, they said on Tuesday. Shah will also deliberate on the constitution of the ministry in the meeting with the newly elected MLAs, they said.

On Monday, state unit president of the party Swatantra Dev Singh and general secretary (organisation) Sunil Bansal had held a meeting with party office bearers, during which they were assigned with responsibilities for the swearing-in ceremony.

# Fake call center busted, four arrested from South Delhi

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** With the arrest of four fraudsters, Police claimed to have busted a fake call centre which was operational in South Delhi. The accused targeted the elderly people and duped them in pretext of insurance policy settlement, taxes, GST, processing charges etc. Police have recovered ATM cards of different banks and have sealed dozens of bank accounts of the accused.

The accused are identified as Sajid Jaffer (29) son of Late Ziaur Rehman a resident of Kilokari Village, Maharani Bagh, South Delhi; Salim Zafar (36) son of Late Ziaur Rehman a resident of Kilokari Village, Maharani Bagh, South Delhi; Raju Yadav (32) son of Vijay Singh Yadav a resident of Shahpurajaat, South Delhi; and Ranjan

Kumar Yadav (30) son of Mahesh Prasad Yadav a resident of Taimur Nagar extension, South Delhi.

While addressing media persons here at the Police Control Room on Tuesday, SSP Badri Narayan Meena informed that a victim Prabhakar Rao Danikar of Sikola Bhattha had submitted a written complaint in Mohan Nagar Police Station. Some unidentified people contacted him on mobile phone and duped about Rs 16.15 lakhs in the pretext of an insurance settlement.

An FIR was lodged under sections 420, 34 of IPC. Taking the matter into serious cognizance, Durg Police conducted technical analysis of the mobile numbers and the transaction flow. Police team discovered that people were being cheated through the Call Center. The victim Prabhakar Rao Danikar had received calls



from different numbers continuously for the last three years from the South Delhi area. He was given wrong information regarding a group insurance of Rs 4 lakhs. The fraudsters were introducing themselves as representatives of CGIS (Group Insurance Company). The amount transferred by Prabhakar Rao Danikar was withdrawn from different places of Delhi and the amount deposited in the accounts of people of Delhi.

On the basis of technical inputs, a special team led by Inspector Jitendra Verma (SHO, Mohan Nagar) and Inspector Gaurav Tiwari (in-charge Cyber Cell) was constituted and sent to Delhi and Uttar Pradesh for trapping the accused. After reaching Delhi, the team kept a constant eye on the possible locations of the accused. The cops under the guise of common people looking for rented houses collected information regarding the accused. Later,

three different teams conducted raids and managed to arrest Sajid Zafar, Salim Zafar, Raju Yadav and Ranjan Kumar Yadav were arrested.

During preliminary interrogation, they confessed to have committed the crime. The bank accounts of the accused were frozen in which a total of Rs 1,56,672 has been held.

Detailing about the modus operandi, SSP Badri Narayan Meena informed that the accused misused the name of Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme (CGIS). On the pretext of getting a larger amount of insurance final settlement, the accused contacted the people on various mobile numbers.

They illegally acquired data from private companies and duped money from people on the pretext

of pension, maturity amount, etc. In the preliminary investigation, the accused had targeted people of Punjab, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. The cyber cell team is establishing contact with its counterparts in states for collecting information about the victims.

Inspector Gaurav Tiwari, ASI Shamit Mishra, Head Constable Chandrashekhar Banjeer, Constable Javed Hussain Khan, Vikrant Yadu from Cyber Cell and Inspector Jitendra Verma, Sub-Inspector Rajiv Tiwari, ASI Ashok Sahu, Head Constable Santosh Mishra, Constable Jugnu Singh, Anup Sharma, Rinku Soni, Upendra Yadav, Keshav Sahu, Pradeep Singh, Farooq Khan and Tilleshwar Rathor from Mohan Nagar Police Station played vital role in arresting the accused.

# BSP wins laurels in AIMA Corporate Management Olympiad 2022

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Two teams from SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant won laurels at the Corporate Management Olympiad 2022 conducted by All India Management Association (AIMA) from March 15-17, 2022 in online mode. In the Case Study competition module, Rajat Sarkar; AGM SMS-III along with Himanshu Verma, Mgr SMS-III won the 2nd Position winning Silver Medal. In Business Simulation competition, Vikas Piprani, Sr Manager SP-III & Ashish Agrawal, Sr Mgr T&D won the 3rd Position winning Bronze Medal.

Bhilai Steel Plant had nominated 5 teams to participate in various events organised under the Olympiad. The events were Quiz, Case study



Competition, Business Modelling and Business Simulation under varied topics. This is a yearly event conducted by AIMA in which reputed Corporates from Public and Private Sectors participate to provide opportunities to their Managers to enhance Managerial skill and competitive zeal.

Bhilai Steel plant nominated the winner teams of Bhilai Steel plant in various events of similar nature organized at Plant as well SAIL level to participate in the event. Out of five teams, two teams won medals in different categories.

# BJP Corporators dump garbage at BMC's main gate; stage demonstration

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Alleging corruption and discrimination in the city sanitation services, the Corporators of Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday staged demonstration at BMC Head Quarters, Ward 38 Corporator Piyush Mishra accompanied by Ward 53 Corporator Shakuntala Sahu, Ward 58 Corporator Ishwari and others staged a demonstration. They dumped a rickshaw full of garbage at the main gate of the Corporation Headquarters.

Piyush said that the wards of BJP Corporators are suffering discrimination over cleanliness services and other development works. If any em-



ployee responds to the complaint made by BJP Corporator, he is transferred to some other place or is illegally retrenched.

Mishra further alleged that the sanitation workers are being engaged in the plot purchased by the elder brother of Bhilai MLA. A number of employees have been deployed from MLA's residence

in Sector-5 as well as the Housing Board Colony. Apart from this, BMC's Health Officer to the Zone Sanitary Inspector have no control over the cleanliness workers. The sanitation workers are working like the private staff of some people. Piyush further alleged that the number of employees is being gradually reduced and the

leaders are busy in generating income through unfair means. The rickshaws and vehicles used for cleaning works exist in dilapidated state, due to which regular sanitation works are being affected.

Piyush added that the former General Body of Bhilai Municipal Corporation had ordered an enquiry against the sanitation agency. Now the same agency has been given a contract of city sanitation which itself proves corruption. Now, not a single officer of BMC is able to gather courage and make a complaint against the agency. BJP Corporator Piyush Mishra said if the BMC fails in improving the city sanitation system, they will resort to aggressive agitation.

# BJYM protests against deteriorating law and order condition

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** On Tuesday, BJYM staged a demonstration against the deteriorating law and order situation in the district. They alleged that the criminal incidents are on rise but the cops are busy imposing fines on traffic violators instead of tightening the noose on the criminals. The demonstrators led by Nitesh Mishra collected donations from the general public and presented the collection box to the SSP.

BJYM leader Nitesh Mishra said that the listed and habitual criminals are roaming freely in the city. On the other hand, the police are busy in taking plenary action against petty



traffic violations. BJYM demanded an immediate improvement of the law and order system immediately.

They submitted a charter of four demands which includes regular maintenance of traffic signals and deployment of traffic jowans at major traffic junctions; increasing po-

lice patrol in residential areas in view of increasing criminal activities; strict action against the ruffians who gather at public places and traffic junctions and get involved in boozing and creating troubles for other people; and strengthening the emergency response system Dial 112.

Nitesh Mishra, Rahul Parihar, P Raj, Ravi Kashyap, Deepak Tripathi, Rajdeep Namedev, Ritesh Singh, Ajay Thakur, Rajkumar, Anurag Naidu, Vikas Singh, Wahid Raja, Prakash Mishra, Narendra Verma, Raj Mishra, Somnath, Nitish Roy and others were present.

# Padda honoured with Innovative Farmer Award

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2022 was organized by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi during March 09 to 11. In this fair, the achievement of farmers of different states was displayed. Durg based Rajinder Singh Padda was the only farmer from Chhattisgarh state who was honoured during this event.

He was honoured with the Innovative Farmer Award for his significant contribution in the field of agriculture and allied activities. He has been producing Napier grass on a large scale for cattle fodder. He received this honor from BS Tomar (Joint Director, Extension), JPS Dabas (I/c CATAT) and AK



Singh (Director) during the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2022. While addressing media persons here at Supela on Tuesday, Padda informed that he has increased per acre production of Napier grass and Berseem grass from 70 tonnes to 100 tonnes per year. He cultivates Napier Grass and Berseem Grass in 200 acres of farms in Jeorasira, Kachandur. He said that normally only 70

tonnes is produced, but he is practicing organic farming and has increased the yield up to 100 tonnes without using chemical fertilizers. Apart from this, he runs a dairy farm and is also engaged in fisheries. Padda added that he has a contract of supplying 5000 tonnes of fodder to a milk processing establishment.

He is producing Napier Grass and Berseem Grass for this purpose. He has created this record by producing 100 tonnes per acre rising above the average of 70 tonnes. Padda is a qualified engineer and is using state-of-the-art machines in farming. The grass produced here is also being sent to Raipur; Dharmajaygarh and Rajnandgaon. He said that the demand for cattle fodder is very high but the production is very low in the state.

# First Budget of Bhilai-Chaorda Municipal Corporation on Mar 24

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** The Bhilai-Chaorda Municipal Corporation Mayor Nirmalkar Kosare will be presenting his first budget since assuming office on March 24, informed a press communique. All the officials of the corporation including Corporation Commissioner Kirtiman Singh Rathore will be present in the meeting and the councilors of all 40 wards will also be present in the general meeting.

The Speaker Krishna Chandrakar will preside over the budget meeting to be held on March 24, 2022. The budget will be presented at 12:00 hrs. Vikas Chandra Tripathi, PRO, revealed this information.

# International Forest Day celebrated in St Thomas

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** The PG Department of Zoology, St Thomas College, in collaboration with department of Zoology TKM college, Kollam, Kerala, organized a National Webinar on "Forests and Sustainable production and consumption" to celebrate The International Day of Forest, on March 21, 2022.

Dr Kunhamu TK, Professor and Head in the Department of Silviculture and Agro-forestry at College of Forestry, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala and Dr Utkarsh Ghate, Director, Village Herbs Co Ltd Madhurai & Durg were the eminent resource persons in the webinar. While speaking on the topic "Forest for



Ecological Resilience" Dr Kunhamu mentioned about the alarming carbon emission all over the world and the need to increase carbon sink by planting more trees. Dr Utkarsh Ghate spoke on the relevance of Agro-forestry and organic farming for carbon neutrality.

Dr Chitra Gopinath, Principal, TKM College, Kollam, Kerala presided

# Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav: CO & CCD celebrates Swachhata Pakwada

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Swachhata Pakwada was inaugurated at SAIL-BSP's Coke ovens and Coal Chemical department (CO & CCD) under banner of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. GA Rao, CGM (CO & CCD), GM Incharges, GM's and Personnel officers took the Safety and Swachhata Oath. GA Rao, CGM (CO & CCD) in his address said that Safety and cleanliness should be brought into our daily routine. We must always strive to improve in the field of Safety and cleanliness, for which regular drives are being conducted at Coke ovens and Coal Chemical department. BC Mandal, GM (Safety) gave a brief about near miss cases in CO & CCD. Various other activities will be held at Coke ovens and Coal Chemical department during the Swachhata pakwada being organised during March 16-31, 2022.

# International Forest Day celebrated in St Thomas

**Central Chronicle News**

over the function and Dr Jayasree Balasubramanian, Head Department of Zoology, St Thomas College, welcomed the guests. Vote of thanks was proposed by Rohini Krishna, Assistant professor, Department of Zoology, TKM College. The program was conducted by Dr Joyamma John, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, St Thomas College.

# Hockey players from city to represent SPSB in National Championship

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** The 2nd Inter Departmental Senior Women's National Hockey Championship 2022 is scheduled to be held from March 23-30, 2022 at National Stadium, New Delhi under the aegis of Hockey India. The Steel Plants Sports Board Senior Women's Hockey Team will be participating in the said championship and competing against Railway Sports Promotion Board, Sports Authority of India, Sashastra Seema Bal, UCO Bank Women's Hockey Academy and All India Police Sports Control Board.

Selection trials for formation of SPSB Team were held on March 16 at Pant Stadium wherein 18 players were shortlisted and coaching camp was conducted at Bhilai from March 17 to 20 March 2022.

The players who will be representing SPSB in the said championship are Pooja Bhatt, Mamta Bhatt, Kajal Rathore, Devshree, Anuradha, Payal, Manisha Dhawal, Shivangi, Dipti, Pooja, Jyoti, Arti Kashyap, Mayuri Rai, Karishma, Anima, Ekta, Radha Negi and Kushboo. The Coach of the team is Sudarshan Singh, NIS Hockey Coach and Advisor, Sports, SAIL and Manager of the team is



Dennis Christy, Asstt Manager (Personnel), BSP. On the other hand, the SPSB Inter Steel Plant Hockey Championship 2022 is scheduled to be held from at Jamshedpur under the aegis of SPSB and is being organized by TATA Steel. Bhilai Steel Plant Men's

Hockey Team will be participating in the said championship and competing against the following teams of the nation:-Rourkela Steel Plant, TATA Steel, RINL, Visakhapatnam. The players who will be representing SPSB in the said championship are as

under:- Mohd Aslam, T Kujur, GC Jain, Naresh Sinha (BSP Players), Chumman, Fanish, Toufique Ahmed, Sukhdev, Kartik, Arjun, Khushal, Praveen, Aditya Netam, Vishnu, Khogeshwar Bagh & Aditya (local Youth).

The Coach of the team is Ajitesh Masih and Manager of the team is Nitin Singh Kashyap. Sahee Ram Jakhar, DGM (S,C&CA), Abhijit Bhowmik, Asstt Manager (S,C&CA) and Shri Dennis Christy, Asstt. Manager (Personnel) and Secretary, BSP Hockey wished the team good luck for participation in the said championship.

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Ispat Fitness Centre was inaugurated in Ispat Bhavan by Director In-Charge Bhilai Steel Plant, Anirban Dasgupta on March 22, 2022. Set up as part of Govt of India's Fit India Movement, the Fitness Centre is a well-equipped gym with various facilities to enable those working in Ispat Bhavan to take time out for fitness. Such slogans as Fitness@Work and Dont Sit, Get Fit adorned the entrance to the Fitness Centre. It is the first such Fitness Centre at workplace in any SAIL unit. A separate space for Yoga has also been ear-



marked inside the fitness centre. Present on the occasion were Manas Biswas, ED (Mines & Rowghat), Dr SK Issar, ED (M&HS), AK Bhatta, ED (Projects), KK

Singh, ED (P&A), Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), AK Panda, CGM I/c Finance, NK Banchor, President OA & SEFI Chairman, other CGMs and senior officers of the Plant.

## Govt making continuous efforts for displacement of affected shopkeepers: Daharia

From Oxyzone in front of Khalsa School

Raipur, Mar 22:

The issues of lack of proper displacement of 70 shopkeepers from Oxyzone area opposite Khalsa School was raised in the VS by Congress MLA Satyanarayan Sharma and BJP MLA Brijmohan Agrawal through call attention motion. The Minister for Urban Administration in his written reply informed the House that efforts in this direction is being regularly taken. Congress MLA Satyanarayan Sharma and BJP MLA Brijmohan Agrawal through a call attention motion said that 70 shops were constructed by RMC

in front of Khalsa School, near New Bus Stand and through this mall shopkeepers were earning livelihood. But after construction of Oxyzone in its place, all these shops were demolished on 26 Dec 2017. Right since then in last four years the affected shopkeepers have not been displaced or properly rehabilitated.

In this case Chief Minister and urban administration Minister have given verbal orders for their rehabilitation, but so far it has not been implemented. On 26 Nov 2021, a proposal for rehabilitation of the affected shopkeepers was passed in GBM of RMC and it was



after inspection by The Minister for Urban Administration, Mayor and RMC Commissioner a place near the 'Haat Bazar', near the Avanti Bai Chowk, in Pandri was finalized, but thereafter no action has been taken till date. The affected shopkeepers are still wander-

ing in search of rehabilitation and displacement and their shops and source of livelihood is lying closed for last 4 yrs and due to which the all are facing serious financial problems.

On this the Minister for Urban Administration Dr Shiv Kumar Daharia in his written reply informed the House that the affected shopkeeper in front of Khalsa School were informed about their rehabilitation and displacement near Best Prize Shop in Bhanpuri and on which the shopkeepers disagreed and file a petition in the High Court. The HC rejected the petition saying that if the shopkeeper agree in shops to be provided in

Bhanpuri then next course of action be taken. On this the shopkeeper did not showed any interest and therefore no displacement was done. Last on 26 Nov. in GBM of RMC, a proposal of displacement of these shopkeepers in front of Crystal Arcade at Lodhipara Chowk on RMC land near 'Haat Bazar' was approved. Since the proposal of RMC was not as per the guidelines of Mukyamantri Swalamban Yojana and therefore a clear-cut opinion on this was sought and after which final decision in this regard will be taken and the government is taking regular efforts for their displacement.

## WATER CRISIS



It is just start of summer season and denizens are waiting for refill from public water tap connections and gives hint of likely crisis with sheer wastage of water in public places and no accountability by RMC authorities in days to come.

## House Committee to probe into payment to black-listed Company

Speaker makes declaration in the House

Raipur, Mar 22:

The Vidhan Sabha Speaker made a declaration to carry out inquiry into payment made to black-listed firms by 'Beej Nigam' through Vidhan Sabha's samiti. Speaker intervened when the member of the Opposition turned aggressive over a question during question-hour session in VS here on Tuesday. Prior to this Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey said that he does not have any objections over the inquiry and



added that the government simply would not tolerate any wrong with the farmers.

The Leader of Opposition in the VS Dharamlal Kaushik raising a question during the question-hour session in VS charged that a banned company Trimurti was made payment for pur-

chase of Hybrid Paddy and maize sidelining all the rules and regulations. Senior BJP leader and MLA Ajay Chandrakar held this as a serious issue and termed it as sheer injustice with farmers and demanded inquiry through VS samiti.

The Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey said that on 1 Jan 2019 to 31 Jan 2022, the 'Beej Vikas Nigam' has not banned or debarred any of the Companies. He accepted that without DNA test, no payment should have been made to the Company and added that so far no complete payment has been made to the Company.

## Six policemen suspended on charges of taking bribe

Kawardha, Mar 21: SP Lal Umed Singh has taken firm action against the policemen involved in writing of case related to liquor smuggling and in this has suspended 1 ASI, 2 constables and 3 jawans. Actually on March 10, thana Kotwali Policemen nabbed few persons involved in illicit selling and smuggling of liquor. Later a video of this case became viral when the case was written off taking some cash from the accused. When complaint in this regard reached SP Lal Umed Singh, then immediately action was taken and six policemen were suspended with immediately effect. Among the policemen suspended included Asst. SI Dinesh Jharia, head constable Sohan Verma and Sanjay Gupta and constables Sandeep Shukla, Sudhir Sharma, and Harendra Sahu of Chowki Damapur.

## Collector, SSP discuss law and order



Raipur, Mar 22:

Collector Sourabh Kumar and Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Kumar Agrawal today held a meeting of senior officers of district administration and police department at the conference hall in Collectorate to discuss measures to maintain peace and security in the district. The Collector took note ongoing agitation of various associations of part-time school teachers, contractual workers and farmers near Budhatalab and gave necessary instructions to the

officials to maintain law and order situation. Acting on information about agitation of Chhattisgarh Contract Employees Welfare Association and Chhattisgarh Agents and Investors Welfare Association, the Collector told the concerned officials to hold talks with the representatives of both the associations. The Collector also discussed with the officials the possible traffic problem during the dharnas, demonstrations and rallies to be organized in the current week. He asked the revenue and police officers

to maintain constant contact with each other. He said that common citizens should not face any kind of inconvenience and law and order should also be maintained. He also instructed to keep a close watch on anti-social elements. The meeting was also attended by Additional District Magistrate NR Sahu, Additional Collectors Gopal Verma, BB Panchbhai and BC Sahu, Additional Superintendent of Police Tarkeshwar Patel, all Sub Divisional Magistrates (Revenue) and other senior officers.

## Speaker announces names for Outstanding MLA and journalists

Raipur, Mar 22: Vidhan Sabha Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant has made declaration of names for Outstanding MLA and journalists (print and electronic media) award for maintaining decorum in the House and Vidhan Sabha reporting here on Tuesday.

On behalf of the ruling party, the award for Outstanding MLA went to Congress MLA Santram Netam and from the Opposition to BJP MLA Ajay Chandrakar. Similarly from Print Media the name of Yashwant Dhote of daily 'Nav Pradesh' was announced for Outstanding Journalist and from Electronic Media name of Zulfiqar Ali for Hindi news and award for Outstanding Cameramen will be presented to Shashikant Verma (Hindi news).

## Contract power workers continue indefinite strike



Stage half-naked demonstration

Raipur, Mar 22: Contractual electricity employees have launched movement against Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company (CSPDCL). A large number of contractual electricity employees in the capital staged half-naked demonstration against the company and the state government on Tuesday and raised slogans in support of their demands. Contractual electricity employees are on strike here for the last 12 days under the banner of Chhattisgarh

Samvida Vidyt Karamchari Sangh. On the 13th day of their protest on Tuesday, about one thousand employees demonstrated semi-naked demanding regularisation in the company with permanent appointment on vacant posts and abolition of contract system in the company. According to them they raised their demand by going to the company office but in vain. Considering company's indifference towards their demand, they staged demonstration in a different way. They said that they would continue to stage protest till their demands are met.

## Heavy rush at Registry Office

Target increased for the second time in this financial year, from Rs 1,700 to Rs 1,800 crore



Raipur, Mar 22: About one and a half months before the end of the financial year, the annual target had been met in the registration offices. In view of this, the Inspector General of Registration Office has once again increased the target. Raipur office were given a target of collecting 100 crore revenue within a month. The department has also achieved the target of 96.45 percent. Not only the common people are availing the benefit of 40 percent rebate in the registry of land by the state government, but due to this the government has also started getting huge revenue. The common public's dream of becoming an owner of a house is also

coming true. Due to the exemption, there has been a huge jump in the sale and purchase of land across the state. If the collector guideline rate is Rs 500 sq ft for buying one thousand square feet of land without exemption in the state, then at the rate of guideline, he will incur a stamp duty of Rs 5 lakh at 6.25 percent, then he has to purchase a stamp of Rs 31,250. If 40 percent discount is available on the same property, then only Rs 18,750 stamps will have to be purchased at the rate of 6.25 percent on Rs 6 lakh. Now the public is

getting the benefit of Rs 25000 in stamp duty on buying land up to Rs 10 lakh. The registration department has achieved 96.45 percent of its annual target across the state. The government had given a target of Rs 1650 crore to the registration offices across the state for the first time in this financial year. After getting exemption in the registry, the target was increased to 1700 crores. If the target is achieved before the stipulated time in the registration offices, then it has been increased to 1800 crores.

## Raipur Airport: More than 41000 air passengers boarded flight in seven days

Flights schedule to change from March 27 or 28 next week being prepared by the Raipur Aviation Authority



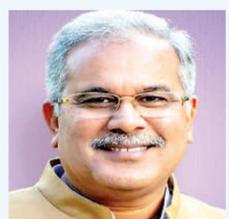
Raipur, Mar 22: With the drop in corona infection in Chhattisgarh, now the movement of air travelers to and from Raipur has also increased. It is notable that in the last seven days during the festive days, the number of air passengers going to and from Raipur airport has crossed 41 thousand. At the same time, the movement of aircraft flights from Raipur has also increased. At the same time, the schedule of flights is also likely to change from March 27 or 28. According to the information received from aviation officials, the number of air

passengers in and out of Swami Vivekananda Airport in Raipur stood at 41,570 during the period from March 14 to 20. There was a total of 378 flights with an increase of three percent in flights and two percent increase in the number of air passengers. On the one hand, the movement of air passengers is increasing. At the same time, the schedule of flights to and from Raipur is going to change from March 27 or March 28 next week and for this a schedule has also been made by the Aviation Authority. As per the sources there will be a

change in flights schedule from 15 minutes to half an hour. It is notable that every year in the summer, the schedule of flights is changed and if the temperature rises, then the number of passengers is also reduced. In the 11 months of the financial year 2021-22, there has been a significant increase in the number of air passengers going to and from Raipur airport. In the period from April 2021 to February 2022, a total of more than 12.80 lakh passengers movement were reported from Raipur airport. Aviation officials said that now there is a steady increase in the movement of air passengers as soon as the infection of Corona is down. In the coming days, the movement of flights will also increase and flights to new cities will start.

## State in revenue surplus due to better fin management: CM

Raipur, Mar 22:



On passing of the Appropriation Bill in the House for state's annual budget for 2022-23 for Rs 1.12 lakh crore for FY 2022-23 with voice vote, the budget session of the Assembly concluded here on Tuesday.

Replying to the debate on state's budget for 2022-23, CM and Finance Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that the state's economy is in better shape compared to the state's established earlier. There has been constant rise in the capital expenditure and even the financial loss has been reduced with good financial management and discipline. This year there is situation of revenue surplus in Chhattisgarh. CM

Baghel further said that due to Covid-19 pandemic, there has been fall in the state's revenue, but with better financial management, the state is also taking loan.

Right from 2012-13 the state government has taken lowest of loan this year and which in the existing FY 2021-22 is just Rs 1000 crore.

Baghel said that it is the central government which says that the state government should take loan against GST and not

Appropriation bill of Rs 1.12 lakh cr passed with voice vote

this in 2019-20, the state took loan of Rs 3109 crore and in the year 2021-22, it took loan of Rs 8071 crore. In this GST loan is Rs 4965 crore and special central assistance loan of Rs 282 crore. Baghel informed the House that in the first quarter of 2021-22, a loan of Rs 4000 cr was taken and in the second quarter the capital expenditure was Rs 7629 cr and there was revenue surplus of Rs 1103 cr.

In this way the financial loss was Rs 6591 cr and which is just 1.65 of the GSDP. CM said that the state government working on the concept of benefit of common men and for their well-

fare, would definitely fulfill all schemes launched for the poor, farmers, tribals, women and youth and adopting policy is lower expenditure would make all possible initiatives to lower non-productive expenditure.

CM during discussions on demands of members of the House, made declaration of formation of new tehsil of Piparia and Kunda in Kabirdhaam district; of Bacharapoudi and Balrampur in Koriya district; of Hasudi in Janjgir-Champa district and of Sargaon in Mungeli district. Seeing the problems being faced by the journalists in press accreditation card rules, made amendments into the same and allowed for its validity for period of two years from the next FY.

## Rural economy model and better work management has resulted in significant decline in State's unemployment rate: Baghel

Raipur, Mar 22:

According to the latest data report released by the Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Chhattisgarh ranks third among the states with the lowest unemployment rate in the country. Policy decisions and better management of the state government has been creating various employment opportunities for youth, which led to decline of the unemployment rate to 1.7 percent. As per the data released by CMIE as of February 2022, Odisha has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, and the highest unemployment rate is of Rajasthan i.e. 32.3 and Haryana i.e. 31 percent. In line with Mahatma Gandhi's vision of 'Gram Swaraj', Chhattisgarh adopted a new model of

- Ch'garh ranks third among the states with lowest unemployment rate in the country
- CMIE releases the data: Unemployment rate in Chhattisgarh is 1.7% while national rate is 7.4%
- Policy-based decisions and better management have decreased the unemployment rate in Ch'garh

development three years ago with the goal of inclusive development. This model emphasized on increasing economic connectivity between the villages and the cities. Under this model, initiatives such as Suraji Gaon Yojana, Narva-Garva-Ghurva-Bari program, Godhan Nyay Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Gramteen Bhumiheer Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana, establishment of Rural Industrial Parks, collection, procurement and value addition of

Minor Forest Produce were taken for the economic empowerment of villages. These schemes, programmes and initiatives of the State Government have created plethora of new employment opportunities in rural areas. These schemes are giving impetus to the development of the state, due to which state's unemployment rate is continuously declining. Even during the first and second wave of COVID-19, the economy of Chhattisgarh remained

untouched by the nationwide economic slowdown. Despite the challenges of this phase, the unemployment rate in Chhattisgarh remained completely under control. Chhattisgarh ranks third among states with low unemployment with 1.7 percent, while neighboring Odisha ranks first with one per cent, according to the newly released data. Meghalaya is second with 1.4 percent and Karnataka is fourth with 2 percent. The unemployment rate is 32.3 percent in Rajasthan, 31 percent in Haryana, 15 percent in Jharkhand and 14 percent in Bihar. According to the latest report of CMIE the unemployment rate in the country is 7.4 percent. The urban unemployment rate is 8.1 percent and the rural unemployment rate is 7.2 percent.

## All-round devp of any society only possible through unity: Rudrakumar

**PHE and Cottage Industries Minister inaugurates three-day Satgawan Satnam fair at Bhadra Dham**

**Janjgir, Mar 22:**

State Public Health Engineering and Village Industries Minister Guru Rudra Kumar inaugurated the three-day Satgawan Satnam fair at village Bhadra under Pamgarh block of Janjgir-Champa district. On this occasion, Guru Rudra Kumar offered his greetings and best wishes to the people of Sat Samaj by worshipping the 'Guru Gaddi' built under Jaiktham.

In his remarks, Guru Rudra Kumar expressed his happiness and thanked the villagers for the warm welcome received by the people on his arrival at Bhadra for the first time. He announced 20 lakh rupees from DMF head for



the basic facilities and development of Bhadra Dham in Bhadra Dham. Minister Guro Rudrakumar said that all-round development of any society can take place only through unity. He called upon the people of Satnam society to stay united because only or-

ganized society is powerful. He said that 60% devotees of Satnam Samaj and 40 percent other communities visit Giroudpuri fair every year. Similarly, people participate in the Satnam Sandesh Yatra in about the same proportion and participate in making the

Yatra a success and get the blessings of Baba Guru Ghasidas ji. He called upon the people of the society and said that they should make their personality clean, beautiful and spotless, only then life can be successful and meaningful.

On this occasion MLAs Ramkumar Yadav, Mrs. Mamta Devi Patle, Dr. Amit Miri, Rajeshwar Bhargava, Dasheram Khande, Munnu Jangde, Dinesh Sharma, Raghavendra Pratap Singh, Chhabilal Ratre, Ram Vishwanath, Gorelal Burman and Saroj Sarathi, Mrs. Mamta Devi Patle, Ram Vishwas Sonkar and a large number of followers of Satnam Panth were present.

## Ten day 'Aakar' traditional craftsmanship training camp concludes

**Raipur, Mar 22:**

The 10-day "Aakar" traditional craftsmanship training camp by the Department of Culture concluded on Monday. The camp was organized from March 13 to March 21 at Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum premises. This training camp is being organized by the department for the last 21 years.

It is worth mentioning that Aakar-2022 was organized by the Culture Department in collaboration with Aryabhata Research Institute for the preservation, propagation, awareness and interest of traditional crafts and various arts by the state government. The camp



includes traditional crafts and various arts like bamboo craft, Madhubani art, wood art, painting, Rajwar mural, tattoo art, drama, dance, terracot-

ta, Japan paper cutting, clay art, para art, glass painting, dry flower making, paddy jewellery. Training was given on subjects like making and mural art

etc. After the training, the art made by the trainees was also displayed. The main objective of this event is to preserve and expand the traditional arts and make the new generation aware of these arts, so that art remains alive forever.

A total of 139 trainees of Raipur received training in this 2022 training camp. Training was given in 18 genres in the camp. During this, specially Chhattisgarhi traditional musical instruments were also displayed and performed. Extending this event, along with Raipur it will also be organized in four divisions including Bastar, Surguja, Bilaspur and Durg.

## GSS offers financial assistance to budding players



**Raipur, Mar 22:** 8th Federation Cup National Thai Boxing Championship is scheduled from March 25-27 in Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra). State team will be represented by Vaibhai Dama, Shivang Dama (both from Shri Gujarati English Medium) and school coach Tikeswari Sahu will also form part of the team. Shri Gujarati Shikshan Sangh(GSS) as a noble gesture handed over Rs 9,000 to the players and coach representing the state

team. The assistance was given by Ashok Bhai Patel, Secretary of GSS. The selected members will leave for Mahabaleshwar on March 23. After handing over assistance amount Secretary wished for the better performance of players. On this occasion SGEMS Principal V K Mishra, Hindi Medium Principal Anis Memon, GSS Registrar Ashok Jachak and future Principal of Shri Gujarati English Medium School Dr Shailesh Sharma.

## NTPC Talaipalli celebrates World Water Day

**Raigarh (Talaipalli), Mar 22:**

NTPC Talaipalli Coal Mining Project celebrated World Water Day on March 22 with various water conservation awareness activities. The programme started with NTPC Geet. On this occasion, Surjya Kanta Ray, Business Unit Head of NTPC Talaipalli Project, while addressing all the officers and employees, emphasized the importance of water conservation. He mentioned that NTPC Talaipalli accords high priority to water conservation. With the initiative of the United Nations, World Water Day is celebrated every year on 22 March all over the world since 1993. Its main purpose is to explain the im-



portance of water conservation. Water is our basic resource. This year the theme on World Water Day was "Ground water; making the invisible visible". In the program, all the officers, employees, associates, and contract workers of NTPC Talaipalli took the oath of water conservation Today. On this occasion, various online competitions like essay, painting

and quiz competition were organized on the topic of water conservation and practice of water harvesting was propagated amongst the children in local schools. Utility and conservation of recharge structure for augmenting groundwater, 11 No's of ground water recharge borewells have been made within mine boundary Near village

## Placement camp to be organized on Mar 23

**Raipur, Mar 22:**

District Employment and Self-Employment Guidance Center, Raipur is organizing a placement camp on 23rd March in Old Police Headquarters with the objective of providing employment opportunities to the local educated unemployed youth in the private sector. Private Sector Employer Bluechips Jobs Pvt Ltd Raipur, will recruit various posts including MIS Executive, Relationship Manager (Sales), Supervisor, Cook, Baby Care, Electrician, Driver and maid for domestic work while Huntsmen & Borons, Pune (Maharashtra) will recruit

on posts in Axis & Indusland Bank. The above mentioned employers will recruit 257 posts from 8th to graduate pass applicants at the rate of pay scale of Rs 8 thousand to Rs 20 thousand per month. The qualifications have been fixed by the employers according to the post.

Deputy Director of District Employment Raipur said that eligible and interested applicants can attend the interview process by appearing on the scheduled date and place. He has urged the applicants to attend the placement camp following social distancing.

## 'Ghotuls' are the center of education: CM

Where rich information regarding education, health, culture is provided

**Raipur, Mar 22:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel addressed the 'Manjhis' and the members belonging to more than 50 'Ghotuls' of Bastar at the Vidhan Sabha Auditorium here today. The Ghotul members invited Chief Minister Mr. Baghel to the 'Jhalmalko Layor Ghotul Racha Utsav' to be organized on April 8 at Amakda in Antagarh. The Chief Minister gladly accepted the invitation saying that Bastar's unique and rich culture is the identity of Chhattisgarh. Bastar always had a distinct identity, be it Ghotul, Devgudi, cockfight, or the world-famous 'Dussehra' festival.

They all have given Bastar, recognition in the country and abroad. Bastar has a different identity due to its diverse culture, dialects, and food. 'Ghotul' has its distinct identity in the country and across the globe due to its unique culture. 'Ghotul' is a cultural education center where information about education, health, culture is provided. "When I went to Narayanpur, approval was given for the construction of Ghotul there. All possible assistance will be provided by the state government to preserve and promote 'Ghotul'. The state government is continuously working to promote the



rich culture of Bastar. 'Devgudi' is being constructed all over Bastar. The existence of 'Ghotul' is important to make youth aware of our culture. I am overwhelmed to see that you have come here in traditional attires, the deeper

the roots, the greater the fruits. We have to preserve and promote our unique culture, so we have also fixed honorarium of 'Sirha', 'Guniya', 'Baiga', and 'Moria' in this budget", said Chief Minister. Chief Minister also praised the

handmade invitation letter made using bamboo saying that it looks very beautiful. 'Ghotul' members presented 'Raila' dance on the request of Chief Minister. Under the leadership of State Planning Commission member Mrs. Kanti Nag, the Manjhi and members of 'Ghotul' presented 'Ghotul Racha' made of bamboo craft to the Chief Minister.

Industries Minister Kewasi Lakhma, Advisor to Chief Minister Rajesh Tiwari, Chairman of Bastar Area Tribal Development Authority Lakheshwar Baghel, and MLA Anoop Nag were present on this occasion.

## Members of SAS gherao Collector's office

**Konta, Mar 22:**

Huge resentment was witnessed by the members of Sarva Adivasi Samaj (SAS) against the Collector and DMC of Sukma district here on Tuesday. A few days ago, people of the tribal society had reached Sukma district to meet Sukma Collector Vineet Nandanwar, but the Collector refused to meet them. This led to lot of resentment among SAS members and so they gheraoed the Collector's office in large number today. The tribal community of SAS had opened front against the administration in support of their 14-point demands. It was through massive rally they gheraoed the Collector Collector Vineet Nandanwar and DMC Shyam Sunder Singh (Bablu Chauhan and are adamant to remove



him raising slogans of protest. Members of SAS said that it is unfortunate that the rights given to tribals are being violated indiscriminately under the protection of the Chief Minister. For the first time in the history of Chhattisgarh, in the name of officers like Sukma Collector and DMC, tribal community seems to be agitated, angry and eager to protest. Now it remains to be seen as to what action the gov-

ernment will be taking against such corrupt officials. In the state of Chhattisgarh, where Sukma district administration claims that many development works have been done for the tribals in the rural areas and they have also been given the benefits of many schemes of the state government. But today SAS members came out openly against the Collector outside his office and raised slogans in protest.

## CM unveils the statue of Dr. Khubchand Baghel in Balodabazar



**Raipur, Mar 22:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel unveiled the statue of Dr. Khubchand Baghel, the first visionary of Chhattisgarh state formation, at Balodabazar, the district headquarters. His seven feet high statue has been installed in Gauravpath. This idol is made from 'Ashtadhatu'. During the unveiling of the statue, Chief Minister Baghel paid tribute by garlanding the statue. Appreciating the life-size statue, he said that through this statue, the

new generation of Chhattisgarh would be familiar with the contribution of Dr. Khubchand Baghel. He congratulated the local public representatives and the entire team of Municipal Council Balodabazar for this. On this occasion, Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shivkumar Dabria, Municipal Council President, Chittawar Jaiswal and all the copro-rators, senior officials of Kurmi society, many public representatives and dignitaries were present.

## Major change in the lives of people in three years: CM

New doors of livelihood opened

**Raipur, Mar 22:**

Today in the Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha, the demands for grants of Rs 12681 crore 75 lakh 82 thousand for the departments of Chief Minister Mr Bhupesh Baghel were passed by voice vote for the financial year 2022-23. Out of this amount, Rs 339 crore 68 lakh 81 thousand for General Administration Department, Rs 429 crore 60 lakh 90 thousand for other expenditure related to General Administration Department, Rs 7734 crore 24 lakh 25 thousand for expenditure related to Finance Department, Rs 208 crore 65 lakh for expenditure related to district projects, Rs 2634 crore 17 lakh 38 thousand for expenditure related to energy department, Rs 751 crore 70 lakh 42 thousand for expenditure related to mineral resources department, Rs 329 crore 87 lakh 10 thousand for expenditure related to public relations department, Rs 192 crore 32 lakh 68 thousand for the Department of Electronics and Information Technology and Rs 61 crore 49 lakh 28 thousand has been allocated for the Department of Aviation.

Replying to the discussion held in the House, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that the state government is functioning with these two mottos of 'Seva, Jatan, Sarokar' and 'Gadbo Nava Chhattisgarh'. While, we have emphasized on providing relief to the people at the earliest, on the other hand we are taking all possible measures to make them partners in the development of the state.

The mineral resource is being properly utilized for the overall development of the state. Mineral revenue is increasing progressively. He said that the state government received Rs 5,517 cr in the form of mineral revenue in the financial year 2020-21. In the financial year 2021-22 from April to December, 2021, against the target of Rs.7800 cr, revenue of Rs.8200 cr has been achieved. In this way, mineral revenue of about Rs 11900 cr is expected to be received by the end of the financial year.

The Chief Minister said that many tales of misuse of DMF have resonated in this House. We have taken serious steps towards better utilization of DMF. It is now being used for



the development of the people and the area affected by the mining operations. After coming to our government, with the contribution of DMF, reducing the malnutrition rate of the districts, increasing the quality of health, education, promoting agriculture, processing, employment and beneficiary oriented works are being approved on priority. In the financial year 2021-22, from April to December, 2021, an amount of Rs 2 thousand 20 crore has been received as contribution under DMF head. A total amount of Rs 8 thousand 35 crore has been received

since 2015 as contribution from DMF. Chief Minister Baghel said that the State Government has made Information Technology a means of public convenience and mass empowerment.

In this sequence, an online advance platform 'Chief Minister CG Camp Portal' has been developed for monitoring the priority schemes of the state government. Major flagship schemes have been included in this portal. Like, Godhan Nyay Yojana, Mukhyamantri Haat-Bazaar Clinic Yojna, Chief Minister Suposhan Abhiyan, CG E-

District, Chief Minister Urban Slum Health Scheme, Narva-Garuva-Ghuruva-Bari Yojana, online monitoring is being done through this portal. He said that by fixing the accountability of government offices and public servants, we have enabled Lok Seva Kendras, through which more than 25 lakh 21 thousand citizens have been benefited from various government services this year. At present 132 services of various departments are available online.

The Chief Minister said that in the field of energy, we followed efficient management and proper discipline. This is the reason that despite all the obstacles like corona, coal crisis, lockdown, we made records of maximum production, availability and supply. When the state was formed, the demand for electricity in Chhattisgarh was only 1 thousand 334 MW. At the end of 2018, it reached 4 thousand 559 MW and today we have touched the peak of 5 thousand 57 MW. He said that in terms of transmission, we have brought transmission loss close to 3 per cent with efficient management, which is less than the

target of 3.22 per cent set by the regulatory commission. Due to good arrangement, the transmission system availability was 99.79 per cent, which is a record.

The Chief Minister said that the State Government has decided to restore the old pension which had been discontinued, so that the officers and employees will not have to worry about old age as they will receive pension.

Regarding the development of aviation facilities in the state, the Chief Minister said that Jagdalpur and Bilaspur airports have been developed and licensed under the Regional Connectivity Scheme as 3C-VFR airports. Regular air service is now operating from Maa Danteshwari Airport, Jagdalpur in Hyderabad-Jagdalpur-Raipur sector and from Bilasa Devi Kenwat Airport, Bilaspur (Chakarbatha) in Delhi-Jabalpur-Bilaspur-Prayagraj sector. Administrative approval of Rs 43 crore 98 lakh has been issued by the state government for the development of runway of Maa Mahamaya Airport, Ambikapur Darima.

# Stray cattle on roads bring reality of govt schemes!

# Guests take part in 'Fagun Utsav'

● Always posed threat of accident to vehicle riders

Central Chronicle News

Dongargaon, Mar 22:

The herd of stray cattle on state highway to main roads, lane & by-lanes in city is there in the region right from morning till evening and in the villages near the city, the stray cattle pose lots of problems in movement of traffic and bring out into open the outcome of schemes launched by the government to keep cattle in 'Gouthan' and in preparing 'Gauthalas or sewa kendra' in respective areas.

The state government always makes tall claims about opening of 'Gauthans' and 'Gau-sewa kendra' in the state and to



which the movement of stray cattle out in the open shows real picture to all.

At times due to stray cattle on roads, there are chances of accidents and which is high in urban areas, as in order to save these stray cattle, one generally falls prey to accident. At times these cattle suddenly start running or may cause huge dent in car or injury to those on two-wheeler.

**No campaign launched in city:**  
The urban administration in the city has not for-

mulated any concrete plans to catch stray cattle moving around in the roads and other parts of city and take them to 'Kanji House' for their safety. Since the Nagar Panchayat is having the facility of cow-catcher, but with lack of action, the animal owners are least bothered. On the other hand, the administration is not installing radium strip either in the neck or in the body of the cattle, so that they are easily visible during night hours and can save lives of

wheelers and in such cases accident to a great extent can be avoided. But in the roads of Dongargaon, there is always herd of stray cattle found sitting or moving on the road and pose big threat to lives of vehicle riders.

**No 'Gouthans' or 'Kanji House' in city:**  
In a city with population of 20000, neither there is any 'Gouthan' or 'Kanji House' made to house stray cattle. It is notable here that the public reps elected by the denizens of city too face the same problems of

stray cattle nuisance, but despite seeing it with their eyes, they have never bothered to find amicable solution to it till date.

Where are 'Gausewaks'? There is team of 'Gau Sewaks' operating in the city, but they do not seem to be serious about this problem. The passer-by as such are facing accidents due to stray cattle sitting on the roads and set aside this it also poses problems of injury to innocent cattle and other animals and about which nobody is bothered.

**What officer says:**  
"The work of 'Kanji House' in city has still not being completed and with no 'gauthan', it is only possible to remove stray cattle using 'cow-catcher'".  
- Rambahoran Tiwari  
CMO Nagar Panchayat  
Dongargaon.

District Panchayat 'Sabhapati' was chief guest



Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Mar 22:

On occasion of 'Fagun month' a 'Fagun Utsav' and tableau was organised and in this District Panchayat 'sabhapati' Ghamman Sahu was present as the chief guest. In the programme organised in Gram Reewaghaan, Boirdih, Allaha, Navagaon,

Shikaritola and Takam. District Panchayat 'Sabhapati' Ghamman Sahu, Bisesar Sahu, Balmukund Verma, Gorelal Verma took part in this and extended greetings to villagers on occasion of Holi. They made an appeal to the people to remove all bad qualities in them and bring a change of good over evil as it is done

during 'Holika Dahan' and be a source of motivation to other. On this occasion Yuwa Morcha President Bhuwan Verma, Trilokchand Jain, Jitendra Verma, Gulab Verma, Tikendra Verma, Subhash Verma, Mukesh Verma, Dr Sanjay Verma, Deepak Sahu, Thanu Sahu and others were present.

● Youth commits suicide hanging himself

Central Chronicle News

Khairagarh, Mar 22: A 22-year old youth of Gram Bafara committed suicide by hanging himself. One Minesh alias Madhav S/o Shiv Kumar Yadav (22), hanged himself from ceiling of fan on March 20 in his room. It is learnt that his mother and father used to work in a brick-kiln and after celebrating Holi, they had left for work after coming back. It was on Sunday, the youth created a knot and hanged himself from a hook in the room for reasons not known.

On getting information the Police took out body of youth from the hook and sent the body for post-mortem and after which it was handed over his family. The doctors say that it is only after receiving of the post-mortem report, the exact reason behind murder would be known. Presently the Police has filed a case and taken the matter under investigation.

# Cycle distribution ceremony organised



Central Chronicle News

Fingeshwar, Mar 22:

Cycle distribution program was organized here for female students of grade ninth and tenth under Saraswati Cycle Scheme, here in Government Higher Secondary School, Parsadakala.

The program was presided over by Principal NS Thakur, Chief Guest Mohan Nishad, members of school management team, special guest Nemichand Dewangan, Janpad Member, Sarpanch Kanti Nishad, Khuman Sahu and others.

Nemichand Dewangan, in his address said that in order to empower the girl child and aid to make traveling easy, the scheme has been started by the government. A total of 46 students were given the cycle. Also present were Narad Sahu, Yuvraj Sahu, Aarati Kosre, teachers and students.

# Crowd throng Rajiv Lochan temple to play Holi

Central Chronicle News

Rajim, Mar 22:

A big crowd was witnessed here in the famous Rajiv Lochan temple, to play holi, and display the colour of festivities, after a decline in COVID 19 cases. People freely celebrated Holi festival by applying gual on each other, and the festive revelry was seen since morning as the revered deity Rajiv Lochan attired in apparel of pearls and motifs, in baal awatar 'came out of the sanctum before 6:00 o'clock.

People decked in fineries of Radha and Krishna, danced in the tune of Phaag Geet. This supernatural sight enthralled everyone and the whole complex reverberated with the Jai Kara of Lord Rajeev Lochan. It is worth mentioning that every devotee



who comes to the temple first should go to the temple of Lord Rajeev Lochan and apply Gual to the deity.

The entire temple premises were colored in different hues of holi, along with thousands of devotees, who had come from far and near to celebrate the festival. On this occasion, Rajim MLA Amitesh Shukla reached with his convoy and was accompanied by District

Congress President Bhav Singh Sahu, Vikastiwari, Girish Rajani, Ramkumar Sahu, etc.

On the other hand, former MP of Mahasamund Lok Sabha constituency and National Vice President of Backward Classes Front, Chandulal Sahu, former MLA Santosh Upadhyay all reached the temple premises with their supporters and had dar-

shan of Lord Rajiv Lochan and met the general public and greeted them Holi. Shiv Singh Thakur, the server of the temple, Shrawan Singh Thakur, Chandrabhan Singh Thakur, Rajendra Manu, Mahendra Singh Thakur, temple trust manager Purushottam Mishra etc. and others were engaged in the arrangement.

It has to be told here that the way Lathmar Holi of Barsana is famous. In the same way as the colors of Vrindavan, playing Holi with Rajeev Lochan Bhagwan in Rajim has its own distinct enthusiasm. Meanwhile a day prior HoliKa Dahan was done in Mahamaya temple, Bhuteshwar Nath, Vishwakarma temple, Kuleshwar Mahadev temple and in all the major squares and interjections.

# DCC District President appoints new members



● Under party's Digital membership campaign

Central Chronicle News

Fingeshwar, Mar 22:

In the Congress party's Digital Membership campaign, the DCC District President Bhav Singh Sahu appointed members of Gram Teka. As per instructions from CM Bhupesh Baghel and the organisation and under guidance of MLA Amitesh Shukla, the membership campaign in the region is in full swing. On this occasion DCC District President Bhav Singh Sahu said that it is due to pro-people schemes and work of CM Bhupesh Baghel's government that people are getting associated with Congress in large number. At the same time they are also influenced by the works of MLA Amitesh Shukla in his Vidhan Sabha area. On this occasion Gauthan President Makhan Lal Sahu, Radhika Sahu, Chuneshwar Sahu, Dhaneshwari Sahu, Lalita

Dhritlahare, Surekha Sahu, Hembai Sahu, Manikpuri, Mukti Sahu, Triveni Sahu, Rajobai Sahu, Mangleen Dhritlahare and others were present.

**नाम परिवर्तन**  
मैं, इकराम रसूल उम्र 64 वर्ष पिता गुलाम रसूल निवासी- म.नं. 4234, वार्ड क्रमांक-55, कृष्णा नगर, मोली नगर, रायपुर छ.ग. कथन शपथ पूर्वक करता हूँ कि:-  
मेरे समस्त शासकीय, अर्धशासकीय, आधार कार्ड, पैन कार्ड, पासपोर्ट एवं मतदाता परिचय पत्र आदि में मेरा नाम इकराम रसूल दर्ज है जो कि सही है, परन्तु मेरे शैक्षणिक प्रमाण पत्र में मेरा नाम मोहम्मद इकराम रसूल एवं मेरे पिता का नाम मोहम्मद गुलाम रसूल दर्ज है, जो की त्रुटि पूर्ण है।  
मुझे इकराम रसूल पिता गुलाम रसूल नाम से जाना पहचाना एवं पुकारा जावे।  
सत्यापन:-  
मैं उपरोक्त शपथकर्ता सत्यापित करता हूँ कि उपरोक्त कथन मेरे जानकारी एवं ज्ञान से सत्य एवं सही है अतः आज दिनांक को रायपुर छ.ग. में अपना हस्ताक्षर कर सत्यापित किया।  
रायपुर छ.ग.  
दिनांक 22 मार्च 2022  
शपथकर्ता

**Chhattisgarh Engineering College**  
Borsi-Dhaora Road, Durg, (C.G.) PH: 0788-2344781-85

**APPOINTMENT**  
Application are invited for Appointment in Degree/Diploma Engineering

Post: Principal, Professor, Associate professor, Assistant Professor, Lecturer, Training & Placement Officer, Lab Technician, Office staff and Supporting staff  
Department: Mechanical, Civil, Computer Science, Applied Physics, Applied Chemistry, Mathematics & English.

All the appointments shall be done as per AICTE/CSVTU Norms. All the applicants are requested to submit Bio-Data along with copy of 10th, 12th, UG, PG, Experience, Aadhar Card, PAN Card & Passport size photographs. Application can be submitted either by Email (cecdurg@gmail.com), by post or by hand within 7 days from date of publication of this advertisement.

**बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा**  
**Bank of Baroda**

Main Branch Bhatapara - Gandhi Mandir Ward, Bhatapara, Dist. - Baloda Bazar - Bhatapara (C.G.) Pin-493118, PH: 07726-223322, 9752410737, E-mail: bhatap@bankofbaroda.com

**POSSESSION NOTICE**

(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. N.	Name of Borrower / Guarantor	Description of Property	Demand Notice Date, Amount & Symbolic / Physical Possession Date
01	Mr. Kawal Singh Thakur S/o Late Shri Kundan Singh Thakur (Borrower)	EM of residential property at Kh. No. - 785/8, Ph.No. - 02, Area - 810 Sq Ft, Village Kholwa, Bhatapara, Tehsil - Bhatapara, Dist. : Balodabazar-Bhatapara, C.G.-493118 in the name of Mr. Kawal Singh Thakur (as per sale deed). Boundaries as per sale deed: On the North by Road, On the South by Land of Prem Bhushaniya, On the East by Land of Seller, On the West by Land of Ranjita Garg.	07.01.2022 Rs. 10,37,009.60 + Interest + other Charges 17.03.2022 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 properties 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: 22.03.2022, Place: Bhatapara (C.G.)  
Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

**Bandhan Bank**  
Regional Office: Netaji Marg, Nr. Mithakhali Six Roads, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-6. Phone: +91-79-26421671-75

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer issued demand notice on the date mentioned against the account stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice. The borrower(s), having failed to repay the amount notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules 2002 on the date mentioned against the loan account. The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank for the amounts, interest, costs and charges thereon. The borrowers'/borrowers' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Name of borrower(s) & Loan Account No.	Description of property mortgaged (Secured Asset)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Symbolic Possession Notice	Outstanding Amt. as on Date of Demand Notice
Mr. Sheikh Akram Ali Mr. Sheikh Aslam Ali Mr. Sheikh Asraf Ali 851/2699	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property situated at Plot No. 47, Khasra No. 332/1, 332/2, 333/1, 333/2, 334 (Part), P.H. No. 113, RNM-Raipur, House No. 47, Khanij Nagar, Opposite Hotel Babylon International, VIP Road, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001 and bounded by: North: Open Land, East: Plot No. 48, West: Plot No. 46, South: Road	13.12.2021	21.03.2022	Rs.27,53,296.14
Mr. Dhananjay Verma Mrs. Dipti Nayak Mr. Govind Prasad Verma 851/3773	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property situated Khasra No. 98/3, PH No. 71, Mouja Boriya Khurud, Akshat Vihar, Kandul Road, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001 and bounded by: North: Land of Swati Singh, East: Land of Lodha, West: Road, South: Land of Anjali Verma	07.12.2021	21.03.2022	Rs.11,23,408.72
Mr. Ajitabh Yadu Mr. Amitabh Yadu Mr. Anil Yadu (Legal heir of Mr. Jiwan Lal Yadu) Mr. Avinash Yadu (Legal heir of Mr. Jiwan Lal Yadu) 851/2195, 851/2588 & 851/3018	All that piece and parcel of the immovable property situated at House No. B-50, Ramkrishna Paramhans Nagar, Housing Board Colony, Kota, Raipur, Chhattisgarh and bounded by: North: HIG Plot, East: B-51, West: B-49, South: Road	10.12.2021	21.03.2022	Rs.6,35,033.93 for Loan A/c No. 851/2195, Rs.4,80,993.47 for Loan A/c No. 851/2588 and Rs.1,74,389.99 for Loan A/c No. 851/3018 aggregating to Rs.12,90,417.39

Place: Raipur  
Date: 23/03/2022  
Authorised Officer  
Bandhan Bank Limited

**BRIEF**



Miss Universe 2021 Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu attends a homecoming party, celebrating her victory, in Mumbai.

**Rhino population**

**Guwahati:** The population of one-horned rhinoceros has increased by 24 over the last four years in Assam's Orang National Park, a forest official said. The rhino count now stands at 125 after the two-day census in the park which concluded on Monday, the official said.

**Chinese nationals**

**Nainital:** The Uttarakhand High Court has sought a reply from the state government on a petition filed by four Chinese nationals, seeking the court's permission to return to their homeland. Arrested by the Mumbai police on charges of smuggling gold in 2018, they were subsequently granted bail by the Bombay High Court on the condition that they would report to a local police station on a weekly basis.

**HC nod**

**Kolkata:** Pro-BJP lawyers will file a petition before the Calcutta High Court on Wednesday seeking a judicial enquiry and a CBI probe into the death of eight people near Rampurhat in West Bengal's Birbhum district. Advocate Tarun Jyoti Tiwari on Tuesday said that he and nine others, who belong to the BJP Lawyers' Cell, mentioned the incident before the division bench of Chief Justice Prakash Shrivastava and Justice R Bharadwaj and sought leave to file the petition.

**'Water scarce'**

**Jhabua:** The tribal-dominated Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh, bordering Gujarat, has been declared as 'water scarce', leading to a ban on digging of tube-wells and irrigation without prior permission, an official said on Tuesday. In an order issued during the day, the district administration declared Jhabua as water scarce under MP Peya-Jal Parirakshan Adhiniyam, an official said.

**Vote on Account**

**Puducherry:** Puducherry Assembly Speaker R Selvam on Tuesday said the House would be convened here on March 30 to adopt an interim vote-on-account to allocate funds for the first few months of 2022-2023. He said the Assembly session would begin at 9.30 am on March 30 and Chief Minister N Rangasamy, who is holding the Finance portfolio, would table the vote-on-account Bill on the day proposing to earmark funds for the upcoming financial year.

## Striking MSRTC workers should resume work: HC

Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday said the striking Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) workers committing suicide were not a solution to their problems and advised agitating employees to resume work pending a decision by the Maharashtra government on their demands.

A division bench extended the time given to the state government to place a report - prepared by a three-member committee that looked into the demands of the workers who are agitating for more than four months now - before the cabinet for approval.

The bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice M S Karnik directed the government to file its affidavit by April 1 and posted the matter for further hearing on April 5.

The court also directed the government to expeditiously decide on around 350 applications for compensation filed by the family members of MSRTC workers who died due to coronavirus.

The bench was hearing a petition filed by MSRTC seeking contempt action against its workers for continuing their strike despite orders from the court to call off the agitation. Thousands of MSRTC workers are on a strike since November 2021 demanding that they be treated on par with state government employees.

On Tuesday, government counsel S C Naidu sought 15 days time for a final decision to be taken on the demands of the workers, who, among other things, are seeking merger of the loss-making MSRTC with the state government.

"We have progressed a lot. I assure this court that

in 15 days the final decision/approval would be taken," Naidu said. To this, advocate Gunaratan Sadavarte, appearing for some of the striking workers, said till date 107 such staffers have committed suicide. He further claimed thousands of transport corporation workers are agitating at the Azad Maidan ground in south Mumbai in support of their demands.

At this, the bench noted that committing suicide was not a solution to any problem.

"Instead of creating a situation where workers are compelled to commit suicide, why don't you (Sadavarte) get the workers to resume work pending decision (on demands) from the state," Chief Justice Datta said.

The HC said Sadavarte should advise the workers that committing suicide wouldn't solve their problems.

## Kerala HC reserves order on plea seeking CBI probe into killing of RSS worker

Kochi, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday reserved its verdict on a plea seeking CBI probe into the killing of an RSS worker who was hacked to death in November last year in Palakkad district of the state.

After arguments from all sides concluded, Justice K Haripal reserved judgement in the matter.

The court had earlier opined that there were some aspects of the case which require an investigation by CBI.

The plea was moved by the slain RSS worker's wife seeking handing over of the case to CBI. The state had opposed the plea

saying it has arrested all the accused and that if any new agency comes in, it will have to carry out the entire process again which would delay filing of the final report and in the meanwhile, the accused might get out on bail.

A Sanjith (27) was hacked to death on November 15 last year while he was taking his wife to her workplace.

Police later arrested several persons, including an officer-bearer of the Popular Front of India (PFI), in the case.

It had said that the arrested PFI officer-bearer was directly involved in the killing of Sanjith who was hacked to death in front of his wife.

## CPI urges immediate withdrawal of fuel price hike

Erode (TN), Mar 22 (PTI):

The Tamil Nadu unit of the CPI on Tuesday demanded immediate withdrawal of the hike in prices of petroleum products and cooking gas, saying it will affect the people.

Noting that the rise in prices of petrol, diesel and LPG cylinder by the Centre would hit the poor and the middle class people, CPI Tamil Nadu unit secretary R Mutharasan said it would result in the prices of other products going up.

"The sudden hike in prices of petrol, diesel and LPG cylinders will affect the people, especially the poor and middle-class.



TMC activists participate in a protest rally against the central government over rising prices of LPG, fuel and other essential commodities, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

It will indirectly result in the increase of prices of other products," Mutharasan told reporters here while demanding withdrawal of the price increase.

Petrol and diesel prices were on Tuesday hiked by 80 paise a litre while domestic cooking gas prices were increased by Rs 50 per cylinder, ending an over four-and-half month election-related hiatus in rate revision.

He said there were practical difficulties in implementing total prohibition and hoped that the state government would be able to do so in future.

"The CPI is for total prohibition in Tamil Nadu and it was also supported by the DMK. But we know the practical difficulties of implementing it...but hope it would be implemented in the state in future," he added.

The CPI leader also urged the Centre to drop the idea of privatising public sector undertakings including the LIC. The trade unions of various parties would organise a stir at the national level on March 28 and 29 to press the Centre to drop such plans, he said, adding that trade unions affiliated to the CPI would participate in it.

The CPI's Tamil Nadu unit will conduct a state-level conference at Tiruppur from 4 to 7 August.

ported by the DMK. But we know the practical difficulties of implementing it...but hope it would be implemented in the state in future," he added.

The CPI leader also urged the Centre to drop the idea of privatising public sector undertakings including the LIC.

The trade unions of various parties would organise a stir at the national level on March 28 and 29 to press the Centre to drop such plans, he said, adding that trade unions affiliated to the CPI would participate in it.

The CPI's Tamil Nadu unit will conduct a state-level conference at Tiruppur from 4 to 7 August.

## Prez Kovind to award 'President's Colour' to INS Valsura

Ahmedabad, Mar 22 (PTI):

Indian Naval Ship (INS) 'Valsura' will be awarded the prestigious 'President's Colour' by President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony to be held at Jamnagar in Gujarat on March 25, an official release said on Tuesday.

The President's Colour is bestowed on any military unit, in recognition of exceptional service rendered to the nation, both in peace and in war.

INS Valsura is a premier training establishment of the Indian Navy.

On the occasion, a ceremonial parade with 150-men 'Guard of Honour' will be presented to the President, the supreme commander of the armed forces, stated the release. Established in 1942, INS Valsura is entrusted with

the responsibility of imparting training to officers and sailors of the Indian Navy, Coast Guard and Friendly Foreign countries in electrical, electronics, weapon systems and Information Technology.

INS Valsura has distinguished itself with notable and gallant service to the nation over nearly 80 years. The ceremonial parade will be followed by the release of a special cover by the President in the presence of other distinguished guests, the release said.

Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar, Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command along with other senior civil and military dignitaries will attend the ceremony.

## Constable killed in gunfight with terrorists

Srinagar, Mar 22 (PTI):

A constable was killed in a brief shoot-out between police and terrorists in the Soura area of Srinagar on Tuesday, officials said.

The terrorists fired on Constable Amir Hussain Lone of Kupwara at Balochipora in the Soura area during a cordon-and-search operation around 2.30 pm, they said.

Hussain sustained critical bullet injuries and was rushed to a hospital, where he died, a police official said.

The area has been cordoned off, and the search is going on, the official said. "In a brief #shootout



A security personnel enquires people during a search operation after a shootout with militants in the Soura area of Srinagar, Tuesday.

at #Soura area of #Srinagar City, Sg/CTO Amir Hussain Lone R/O Kupwara got injured & attained #martyrdom. We

pay rich #tributes to the #martyr & stand by his family at this critical juncture," the Kashmir Zone Police said in a tweet.

## Water supply to iconic Aga Khan Palace cut by Pune civic body over non-payment of dues

Pune, Mar 22 (PTI):

Pune's iconic Aga Khan Palace, where Mahatma Gandhi was kept as a prisoner during the country's freedom struggle, is facing acute water scarcity since last month as the city civic body has disconnected its supply due to non-payment of dues worth over Rs 1.70 crore.

An official of the Archaeological Survey of India, which manages the monument here in Maharashtra, on Tuesday said they have requested the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) to provide a new water connection in the ASI's name so that visitors are not in-

convenienced. On weekdays, the monument attracts 700 to 800 visitors, and on weekends, the number goes up to 1,200, Gajanan Mandaware, the ASI's conservation assistant at the palace, told PTI. After the launch of the 'Quit India' movement, Mahatma Gandhi, his wife Kasturba Gandhi and his secretary Mahadev Desai were kept in detention at the Aga Khan Palace, which was built by Sultan Muhammed Shah Aga Khan III in 1892.

Desai and Kasturba Gandhi died in detention and their 'samadhis' are located in the premises. The palace is one of the 17 heritage sites picked up

for 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' an initiative of the Centre to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

According to PMC water supply department's chief engineer Aniruddha Pawaskar, a three-inch water pipe connection for the palace garden was disconnected on February 5 due to an unpaid water bill amounting to Rs 1.72 crore.

Mandaware said the garden, spread across six acres, is largely affected due to the water scarcity and visitors are also facing hardship.

The water connection which was disconnected was in the name of superintendent, parks and gar-

den, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial. "According to the PMC, there is an water bill unpaid for the last 30 years. The bill suddenly popped up this year and the connection was disconnected," he said.

Mandaware said they have written a letter to the PMC to provide them a new water connection in the ASI's name, so that visitors do not face any inconvenience.

The issue pertaining to the present unpaid bill will also be handled at a higher level, he said.

The ASI official said they are also looking into making the old borewells functional to water the garden and trees in the premises.

den, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial. "According to the PMC, there is an water bill unpaid for the last 30 years. The bill suddenly popped up this year and the connection was disconnected," he said.

Mandaware said they have written a letter to the PMC to provide them a new water connection in the ASI's name, so that visitors do not face any inconvenience.

The issue pertaining to the present unpaid bill will also be handled at a higher level, he said.

The ASI official said they are also looking into making the old borewells functional to water the garden and trees in the premises.

HC tells Maha govt

## 'Produce files, data relied upon to bar unvaccinated persons from local trains'

Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday directed the Maharashtra government to produce all files and data relied upon by the state executive committee while deciding to not permit unvaccinated persons to travel in local trains in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice M S Karnik was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) that challenges the state government's decision to continue insisting that one must have received both doses of the COVID-19 vac-

cine to travel in local trains and use other modes of public transport in the city.

The bench also sought to know on what basis the government has said in its affidavit, filed in reply to the petition, that an unvaccinated person is more at risk of being infected with COVID-19 and, hence, more prone to spread the virus than a vaccinated person. "How can the state government say this? On what basis is this statement made? Vaccinated persons can also be affected by the virus," Chief Justice Datta said. "Show us the files and data relied upon by the state execu-

tive committee before taking this decision (to not allow unvaccinated persons in local trains)" the court added.

In reply to this, the state government's counsel S U Kamdar said vaccinated persons get infected but face milder symptoms. Kamdar said he was willing to produce and submit to the court all the data and files.

The court, while posting the matter for further hearing on Wednesday said it was only ascertaining if the law was followed while taking this decision.

The PIL, filed by one Firoze Mithiborwala through advocate Nilesh

Ojha, challenges a circular dated March 1, 2022 that was issued by the Maharashtra government to list out the standard operating procedures and safety measures for citizens in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The restriction on public transport, including local trains, for the unvaccinated was included in this circular.

Mithiborwala said in his PIL that such restriction was arbitrary and unconstitutional.

He said this restriction was an "indirect attempt" on the state government's part to make vaccination compulsory.

## Bihar Diwas: Scholars, conservation architects highlight plight of heritage buildings

Patna, Mar 22 (PTI):

Amid celebrations lined up at the historic Gandhi Maidan here to mark the 110th birth anniversary of modern Bihar on Tuesday, scholars, conservation architects and others highlighted the plight faced by the built heritage of Patna and other cities in the state, and appealed to the authorities to choose "preservation and not demolition" for holistic development.

From Dutch-era Patna Collectorate, marked for demolition since 2016, to Patna Medical College and Hospital (erstwhile Prince of Wales Medical College), Bihar & Orissa's first medical college set up in 1925, several old buildings of which have already been razed as part of a redevelopment project, heritage lovers underlined the

"vulnerability of architectural fabric" of the capital city in the face of rapid urban expansion.

As stage was all set here for three-day celebrations to commemorate the statehood day of Bihar, artists in Patna were busy giving finishing touches to mock-up models of various monuments and heritage sites of Bihar, including, 'Golghar', 'Mahabodhi Temple', 'Sher Shah Suri Tomb', 'Sun Temple, Deo' and 'Jal Mandir, Pawapuri' at the Gandhi Maidan, the main venue of the festivities, where several cultural programmes would also be hosted.

As images of these models were published in press and shared on social media, many city residents were upset over the "poor quality of craftsmanship" in depicting these sites which are "pride of

Bihar". Patna-based conservation architect Diptanshu Sinha, 25, said, Bihar Diwas should also be an occasion every year to "pause, ponder and reflect" on the "state of built heritage in capital Patna and elsewhere in Bihar".

"These anniversary celebrations, year after year, talk so loudly about Bihar and its heritage and history spanning thousands of years, and of Patna as the land of Pataliputra.

But, how much of Pataliputra have we been able to preserve? How much of modern Patna, we have been able to protect from the onslaught of insensitive development? On Bihar's birthday, we must also ask ourselves, what have we done to protect our heritage, that will be a meaningful celebration," he said.

BRIEF

Wildfires extinguished

Lviv: Ukraine's natural resources minister says wildfires have been extinguished in the area of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which is under the control of Russian forces.

Russian troops forced out

Kyiv: The Ukrainian army said it forced Russian troops out of Makariv, a strategically important Kyiv suburb, after a fierce battle.

Peace treaty talks

Tokyo: Japan denounced Russia on Tuesday over its decision to discontinue peace treaty talks over the disputed Kuril islands and withdraw from joint economic projects in retaliation for Tokyo's sanctions over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Pak, China sign agreements to further strengthen 'iron-clad friendship'

Islamabad, Mar 22 (PTI): Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi discussed ways to further strengthen the "iron-clad friendship" between the two countries as the two sides signed five agreements to deepen their bilateral cooperation in various fields, the Foreign Office said on Tuesday.

Wang. Wang is in Islamabad to attend the 48th session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Council of Foreign Ministers (OIC-CFM) as a special guest at the invitation of Qureshi. Qureshi and Wang reaffirmed the resolve to sustain and build upon the current momentum of bilateral relations, the Foreign Office said in a statement.

Memorandum of Understanding between China International Development Cooperation Agency and Pakistan Ministry of Economic Affairs on the Project of China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre (CPJRC) on Earth Sciences. Three separate Letter of Exchange (LOE) for agricultural equipment and materials; for joint agricultural technology laboratory equipment and materials; and for agricultural demonstration station equipment and materials were also inked.

India is a bit shaky in terms of dealing with aggression of Putin, says Biden

Washington, Mar 22 (PTI): India is a bit shaky in terms of showing support against the Russian invasion of Ukraine, US President Joe Biden has said, asserting that most of the friends and allies of America have presented a united front in terms of dealing with Vladimir Putin's "aggression".



as well as I, guess another leader can know one another, is that he was counting on being able to split NATO. He never thought NATO would stay resolved, stay totally thoroughly united. And I can assure you, NATO has never been stronger or more united in its entire history than it is today in large part, because of

(Russian President) Vladimir Putin, Biden told a business roundtable of CEOs on Monday. But in response to his aggression, there has been — he's pretty — we presented a united front throughout NATO and in the Pacific. The QUAD is, with the possible exception of India being somewhat shaky on some of this, but Japan has been extremely strong, so is Australia, in terms of dealing with Putin's aggression, Biden said.

Rohingya refugees welcome US calling repression genocide

Dhaka, Mar 22 (AP):

Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh have welcomed the announcement by the United States that it considers the violent repression of their largely Muslim ethnic group in Myanmar a genocide. As news of the announcement by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spread across the sprawling camps in Cox's Bazar district that are now home to about 1 million Rohingya, many residents expressed their enthusiasm. We are very happy on the declaration of the genocide; many many thanks, said 60-year-old Sala Uddin, who lives at Kutupalong camp. It has

CHERRY BLOSSOM TREES IN FULL BLOOM



A couple embrace and kisses under the Cherry Blossom trees at sunset, as the trees reach their peak bloom in Washington.



been 60 years starting from 1962 that the Myanmar government has been torturing us and many other communities including Rohingya, he said on Monday. I think a path to take action by the international community against Myanmar has opened up because of the declaration. The US made the determi-

nation Monday to call the repression a genocide based on confirmed accounts of mass atrocities on civilians by Myanmar's military in a widespread and systematic campaign against the Rohingya, Blinken said in a speech at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Intiaz Ahmed, director of the Centre for Genocide Studies at the University of Dhaka, said the declaration was a positive step, but it would be important to see what actions and concrete steps follow. Just by saying that genocide had been committed in Myanmar against the Rohingya is not good enough. I think we need to see what would follow from that statement, Ahmed said. He said it was too early to say how the new development would ensure the recognition of the Rohingya refugees, who have long been denied citizenship in Myanmar, and the fundamental questions remained how and when they would go back to Myanmar.

CORONA PROTECTION



Security guards wearing protective suits to help protect from the coronavirus prepare to transfer the goods to a barricaded residential area that was locked down for health monitoring following the COVID-19 case detected in the area, Tuesday, March 22, in Beijing, China.

Divide at UN over naming Russia aid resolution for Ukraine

United Nations, Mar 22 (AP): France and Mexico are pressing UN members to mention Russia's invasion in a resolution on the worsening humanitarian situation in Ukraine. But South Africa is arguing against that approach, saying that inserting political issues may block consensus on helping civilians. A French-Mexican draft resolution expected to be considered this week by the 193-nation UN General Assembly reiterates the world body's March 2 demand for Russia to stop its military offensive in Ukraine and with-

draw all its troops. It also demands the protection of all civilians and infrastructure indispensable to their survival. The draft, obtained Monday by The Associated Press, says the dire humanitarian consequences of Russia's aggression in Ukraine are on a scale that the international community has not seen in Europe in decades. It deplores Russia's shelling, airstrikes and besiegement of densely populated cities, particularly the southern city of Mariupol. A rival South African draft resolution circulated

later Monday and also obtained by AP makes no mention of Russia. Instead, it calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities as a first step in ameliorating the humanitarian situation, refers to all parties, and encourages political dialogue, negotiations, mediation and other peaceful means aimed at achieving lasting peace.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE. Tender Notice No.: E-R-T-05-22-23. Date: 17/03/2022. Name of work: Maintenance of water recycling plant at Coaching complex, Durg for two years.

कार्यालय - कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी, खण्ड - जशपुर (छत्तीसगढ़) ई-प्रोक्वैरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना. एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु आनलाईन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

POLICE HEADQUARTERS, CHHATTISGARH, ATAL NAGAR, NAVA RAIPUR Re-Tender Notice. No. PHQ/Sec-10/Kit-Clo/11-A/1119/2022 Nava Raipur, Dated : 17/03/2022. Sealed tenders are being invited from the OEM or authorized by OEM for the following item:-

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, CIRCLE NO-1 RAIPUR (C.G.) Tender Notice (1st Call). Contractors, Registered appropriate class in Unified Registration System [e-Registration] invited Online tenders for the following works:-

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता, लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र, रायपुर (छ.ग.) निविदांक 15.03.2022. एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु आनलाईन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय एवं समुद्री अनुसंधान केंद्र NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLAR & OCEAN RESEARCH Vasco-da-Gama, Goa-403804 INVITATION FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH PROPOSALS 42nd INDIAN SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA



## Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 47 No. 167

### Anti-war movement is gaining traction

Symon Hill There is a new joke going round Russia: "What's the easiest way to clear the snow from your street? Write No To War in the snow – and the police will clear it for you." Footage on social media shows police obliterating anti-war messages written in the snow. But the Russian peace movement will not be so easily stamped out. The size of anti-war protests in Russia has taken everyone by surprise. Russian police have carried out over 13,000 arrests of peace protesters since the invasion of Ukraine began. Over a million people in Russia have signed petitions against the war. Vladimir Putin accuses Russian peace groups of being friends of Nato. They are not. Antimilitarist groups in Britain are accused of supporting Putin. We do not. The imperialism of Nato and the imperialism of Putin are two sides of the same coin. The real division is not between Russian capitalists and Western capitalists but between the world's ruling classes – whether Russian oligarchs or US billionaires – and the mass of the population in all countries, who never benefit from war. As the Soldiers' Mothers of St Petersburg put it, "Any war is destruction, blood, violence, innocent victims." Presidents and prime ministers will not save us from war. Putin sits pompously at his absurdly long table, looking like he is auditioning for the role of a Bond villain. Zelensky is hero-worshipped by Western commentators who disregard his actual policies and record of militarism. Boris Johnson is sighing with relief that the headlines are no longer about Downing Street lockdown parties. Meanwhile, working-class people are resisting war in Russia, Ukraine and around the world. They, not politicians and generals, are the people who offer hope of an end to war. Like millions of people, I watched with horror as Russian tanks entered Ukraine on February 24.

I have no time for hypocritical ministers who condemn atrocities in Ukraine while providing weapons and military training to Saudi forces killing children in Yemen. Recognising this is no reason to feel less concerned about people in Ukraine. It was difficult to feel anything other than fear and sadness on the day the invasion began. At the Peace Pledge Union, we quickly published a statement condemning Putin's aggression and pointing to the background of militaristic policies pursued by both Russia and Nato. It was not until that evening that I was uplifted by glimmers of hope. News came through of anti-war protests in Russia. I was cautious, aware that US or Ukrainian authorities could exaggerate or even fabricate such stories. But soon long-standing Russian peace groups, known for opposing Nato as well as Putin, were posting footage of thousands of people protesting in Moscow and St Petersburg. In the Russian Duma, two members of the far-right Liberal Democratic Party have proposed a law to conscript anti-war protesters and send them to fight in Donetsk and Luhansk – so that they can "see with their own eyes" what the Ukrainian authorities have done. But Russian peace campaigners are already aware of such things. Among all the anti-war statements produced by peace groups in Russia, I have not come across a single expression of support for the Zelensky regime or Nato. As the Russian group Feminist Anti-War Resistance puts it, Putin has "never been concerned about the fate of people in Luhansk and Donetsk." Russian Communist MP Vyacheslav Markhaev, who initially supported the recognition of the separatist republics, now accuses Putin of being "motivated by entirely different intentions" leading to a "full-scale war." Meanwhile in Ukraine, Zelensky has handed out rifles to untrained volunteers, incorporated the neonazi Azov Battalion into the Ukrainian army and banned men aged 18 to 60 from leaving Ukraine, so they can be conscripted. Thankfully the resistance of Ukrainians on the ground has been much more creative and effective. "Reporting on conflict focuses on warfare and almost ignores non-violent resistance to war," notes Yurii Shelizhenko of the Ukrainian Pacifist Movement.

### America's loss due to Chinese move

In China, once again the news of a spurt in corona cases has started coming to the fore. There is an outcry in the media about this. The media says that the record of corona cases in China for the last two years has been broken. However, only a few hundred or thousand cases have been reported in this country with the world's largest population. Well, now the role of media in this issue seems intimidating. In fact, the way corona cases have suddenly come up in China and due to this the lockdown is being imposed in China, there seems to be a trick of China behind it. With this step, China is trying to get America in its clutches somehow. According to international affairs experts, as a strategic move, China has talked about an increase in the cases of corona in its cities, which have the world's largest and important buildings, where, in a way, there is a big center of economic activity. At the same time, electronic companies from all over the world work here in China's Shenzhen city, which has a population of around 17 million. The city has once again been locked down in the name of Corona. Apart from this city, there are many areas where China has imposed restrictions in view of the increasing cases of corona. In such a situation, all the arrangements in other areas including Shenzhen city have come to a complete standstill. Actually, China is far ahead in terms of electronic goods. Microchips, microprocessors and other electronic items are produced on a large scale here. Production in these companies has been affected due to Corona restrictions. Since China supplies its goods to most of the countries of the world including America. In such a situation, the supply of these goods from China is bound to be badly disrupted.

Now let us tell you how this move of China will harm America. Actually, at present America is battling with severe inflation. There is the highest inflation in the last 40 years. Now it has to be understood here that since America is already facing inflation. In such a situation, if the supply chain from China is disrupted, then it is bound to have an adverse effect on the US economy. Inflation will increase there and if this happens then it is natural to have an effect on the economy. Actually, the inventory (storage) of American industrial units is now on the verge of being exhausted. Actually, all companies keep additional storage of their products so that their work runs smoothly, which is called inventory. Since the supply chain had collapsed in the last two years due to Corona, this has affected the storage capacity of industrial units. By the way, during this period, the storage ratio in industrial units was being corrected after a slight softening in the cases of Corona. However, at the last moment, China has made its move under the policy of engaging America. It has stopped the supply coming from here. China did this by pretending to be Corona affected. The fact is that even America will not be able to say anything on this move of China because the whole world is doing what China is doing regarding Corona. By the way, this move of China will affect the supply not only in the US but also in the rest of the world. As a result, the prices of goods will increase, which will affect the common customers. However, the US economy will suffer the most in this game of China, because China supplies goods other than electronic goods to America on a large scale.

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](mailto:editor@centralchronicle@gmail.com)  
The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity of thoughts.

### PADMA AWARDEES POSE FOR PHOTOS



Padma awardees pose for photos during their visit to the National War Memorial, in New Delhi, Tuesday, March 22.

### Electoral benefits of welfare schemes

**DR. DUGGARAJU SRINIVASA RAO**

The election results of the five states, especially the Uttar Pradesh, are being critically analyzed by both the losing political parties and the media. Many reasons are attributed to the record breaking electoral victory of BJP in all the four states where it was in power. Overcoming the anti-incumbency itself is a great achievement these days for any party. BJP overcame that in not one state but in four states itself is a great political achievement. The Congress which lost Punjab, the only state where it was in power, attributed its defeat to its change of Chief Minister before the elections.

Compared to that BJP achieved victory in Uttarakhand despite changing the CMs not once but thrice during the last five years. This time around there is no visible Hindutva in the election campaign, especially in UP where Ayodhya which was dominant during past elections was found missing this time. The Hindutva has no value in Punjab, Goa and Manipur where Sikhs and Christians are in majority. So

the victory of BJP has to do more with the administration they gave to the people and the welfare schemes they implemented in earnest.

Welfare schemes are not exclusive for the BJP governments. The Punjab government of Congress has also implemented welfare schemes and promised many more schemes if voted to power. The SP when in power during the 2012-17 period was not lagging in the implementation of the welfare schemes. Now it is an accepted norm in politics where the ruling party in the state makes its own beneficiaries and firming up them as its vote banks. Indira Gandhi did this for Congress during her regime. V.P. Singh tried to build Mandal Vote Bank through reservations. At the state level such pampering a particular vote bank is in progress. It is these welfare schemes which is keeping Naveen Patnaik in power in Odisha for the last five terms.

His grip on the people through welfare is so firm that it is very difficult for opponents to dislodge him from power. Jagannathan Reddy of Andhra Pradesh is believing his nine welfare schemes, which he calls them as nine gems, to come back to power in 2024. He is sticking to the distribution of money to the voters through the welfare schemes at the cost of financial decline of the state and debt over burden on Andhra Pradesh. The Telangana CM KCR claims himself to be the innovator of welfare schemes which no other or even Modi government can ever think of. But KCR is not confident of

his return to the power in 2023 unless he goes back to the Telangana sentiment and presents the neighbouring Andhra people as the villains.

Then what makes the BJP governments so special in welfare schemes and its implementation. Narendra Modi as PM has initiated both development and welfare plans in equal measure. Since 2014 BJP government at the national level initiated social welfare schemes such as Ujjwala Yojana. PM Awas Yojana, pension scheme, direct cash transfers besides the free ration. Names may differ but similar schemes are implemented by other parties too. However the basic difference between the BJP lead governments and the other party led governments is the way the welfare message is taken to the masses through the party cadres. The BJP party cadre was in constant touch with the beneficiaries, assisting them in case of any delivery failure, and acting as the facilitators between the welfare schemes implementing authorities and the beneficiaries.

The BJP cadre saw that the welfare scheme beneficiaries are moved beyond caste and religions and formed into a government beneficiary community. The beneficiary aspirations beyond the social welfare benefits are also addressed and attended by the BJP cadre in a systematic way. The way the BJP cadre joined the families of beneficiaries on the festive days like Deepavali and shared their joys and in case of any problems faced by the family the local cadre of party are ready to

share the burden. Thus the thrust was making the marginalised and poor empowered through the schemes and through the personal touch make them part of the party. There was no distinction of caste and religion at the time of delivery of benefits and largely the woman of the family are targeted to receive and have control on the benefits. Thus a very loyal base among voters through the social welfare schemes was built.

This is contrast to the earlier governments headed by both Akhilesh Yadav and Mayavati where the beneficiaries were selected on the basis of caste and religion. Akhilesh doled out benefits largely to his own Yadav community and his supportive Muslims. Jatavs, the community to which Mayavati belongs were the large beneficiaries during the BSP regime. This narrative was changed by adopting neutrality in extending the benefits and nullifying the influence of caste heads and also religious preachers. The promised development is there for the electorate to feel and see. Yogi Adityanadh under the guidance of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah undertook the cause of huge developmental projects in the state to create the scope for employment generation and boosting the confidence of the educated. The confidence provided on the law order front is unmistakably felt by all sections. The social welfare schemes alone wouldn't have given such a resounding, record breaking victory, but for the cadre support and active role.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### One MLA, one pension

The MLAs and MPs are known to shamelessly reward themselves with hefty hikes in their own pays, perks and pensions at regular intervals. In a whiff of fresh air, the newly minted AAP government of Punjab is considering to put a stop to a ludicrous and morally corrupt practice with regard to the pension that the former MLAs in the state have entitled themselves to. Intending to do away with the 66 per cent additional monthly pension (amounting to Rs 50,100) that the MLAs have bestowed upon themselves for every subsequent term served in the Vidhan Sabha, the government is, in a welcome step, considering allowing only one pension – Rs 75,150 at the present monthly rate – to every former MLA, irrespective of the number of terms served by him/her. If the move is cleared, it will leave the treasury richer substantially. For, with nearly 80 MLAs losing their seats in the recent elections, there are now a record 325 ex-MLAs eligible for pensionary benefits and many among them have been public representatives multiple times. The other states' lawmakers must also consider scrapping such unethical rules. In 2018, the Haryana Assembly had commendably passed a Bill to rationalise the pension and allowances of its former MLAs, but it fell short of restricting them to the 'one MLA, one pension' formula. As of 2020, the 286 former MLAs of Haryana were costing the exchequer Rs 2.54 crore per month. Pension is a touchy issue among the ordinary people. They work all their life to earn their living and, yet, in the end often find themselves with peanuts for savings. No government has been able to formulate a reasonably dignified social security or pension scheme for the common man working in the private or unorganised sector. Government employees have been rendered ineligible for the old-age pension scheme and are now crying for its revival. In this scenario, for the MPs/MLAs, who claim to work for the people's uplift, to be unimposedly ensuring fat post-retirement emoluments for themselves after just a five-year term stands out as a sore thumb.

Emanuvel, Chennai

#### Hazardous air pollution

New Delhi has earned the unenviable distinction of becoming the world's most polluted capital city for a second consecutive year. Not only Delhi, but of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia in 2021, 12 were in India. Actually, there is not so much difference of breathing in Delhi is like smoking 50 cigarettes a day and other than India's 12 most polluted cities on Earth. Whether its Delhi or other most polluted cities is commonly accepted to be the most harmful (known as PM2.5), widely-monitored air pollutant and has been found to be a major contributing factor to health effects such as asthma, stroke, heart and lung diseases. From our Prime Minister Narendra Modi to most of the politicians and the political parties only chanting about 'development', but they have forgotten that economic development was important, but economic development by itself didn't solve the problem, because the people demanded cleaner air and cleaner water for clean and safe life. But not only in India, it is a shocking fact that no major city or country is providing safe and healthy air to their citizens according to the latest WHO air quality guidelines. One side PM Modi proudly announced eighty crore free ration for the poor on the other side the WHO projects that air pollution will continue to be a major killer in years to come, as result India and the world's poorest will be left gasping.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad

### WHAT THEY TWEET!

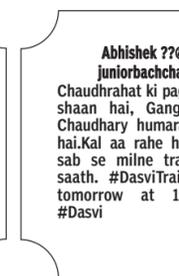


**Dharmendra Pradhan@dpradhanbjp**  
Birthday greetings to elder brother and senior leader from Odisha Shri @jualoram ji. His passion for the welfare of his constituents and upliftment of tribal population is admirable. May Almighty bless him with a healthy, happy and a long life.

**SHILPA SHETTY KUNDRA@TheShilpaShetty**  
How often have you wanted to take the plunge towards a dream or a passion, but feared failure? The one thing life taught me was that you can't explore the wonders of the sea if you never leave the shore. Go out there and pursue your dreams.



**Pritish Nandy @PritishNandy**  
Sometimes I'm so jealous of yThe way we are going, we will next apply Sin Tax on crypto. We are treating it like cigarettes, alcohol and lotteries. A new social evil! C'mon, it's just a New Age innovation that some are putting their money on, knowing fully well the risks involved.



**Abhishek ??@juniorbachchan**  
Chaudhrahath ki pagdi apni shaan hai, Ganga Ram Chaudhary humara naam hai. Kal aa rahe hain aap sab se milne trailer ke saath. #DasviTrailer out tomorrow at 11 am! #Dasvi



**Anand mahindra@anandmahindra**  
The power of yoga. A life spanning 125 years of dedication! The grace and dignity of Swami Sivananda is both humbling & inspiring. Proud to belong to the country of Yoga's origin.

**Neha Koul@KoulNeha**  
I am a #KashmiriPandit who migrated from the valley in Feb 1990 (7th exodus). I am married into a Kashmiri pandit family who migrated in 18th century. Each of us is #KashmiriFiles, a collective memory of what happened over the last 700 years. Thankyou @vivekagnihotri @Anupam PKher.



The Wall Street Journal@WSJ The Biden administration has concluded that the Myanmar military's violence against the Rohingya minority amounts to genocide.

**BRIEF**

**Jute MSP**

**New Delhi:** The government has increased the minimum support price (MSP) of raw jute by Rs 250 to Rs 4,750 per quintal for the 2022-23 season. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Tuesday approved the MSP for raw jute for the 2022-23 season. The approval is based on recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. "The MSP of raw jute (TDN3 equivalent to TD5 grade) has been fixed at Rs 4,750 per quintal for 2022-23 season with an increase of Rs 250 over the previous year."

**Cryptocurrencies**

**New Delhi:** Chartered accountants' apex body ICAI will be preparing a research paper on cryptocurrencies that will cover various aspects, including taxation implications. ICAI President Debashis Mitra on Tuesday said the institute is working on a research paper on cryptocurrencies, which is expected to be ready in one-and-a-half months. Currently, cryptocurrencies are unregulated in the country. Mitra said once the research paper is complete, it will be submitted to the government. "We are seized of the matter," Mitra told reporters here when asked about cryptocurrencies.

**Infosys oddity**

**New Delhi:** IT company Infosys will acquire oddity - a Germany-based digital marketing, experience, and commerce agency - in an all cash deal for USD 50 million (about Rs 380 crore), the company said on Tuesday. As part of Infosys' digital experience and design offering, oddity will become part of Wongdoody and join its network of studios across Seattle, Los Angeles, New York, Providence, Houston, and London, and design hubs in five cities in India, Infosys said in a statement.

**Global agreement**

**Chennai:** Industrial artificial intelligence and software as a service enterprise provider Detect Technologies on Tuesday said it has signed a global agreement with energy company Shell to deploy its integrated AI Solution 'T-Pulse' across operations of the Shell. This makes Detect - the first technology start up which was part of the Shell E4 programme to sign a global framework agreement with Shell.

**Brain Awareness**

**Mumbai:** Jindal Institute of Behavioural Sciences (JIBS), a value-based research Institute of O.P. Jindal Global University organised Brain Awareness Week in India from March 14-20. This year JIBS specifically focused on brain-related issues among children with special needs and the elderly population. The Brain Awareness Week is a worldwide campaign aimed at increasing public awareness and support for brain sciences.

## Fitch slashes FY23 India growth forecast to 8.5 pc on high energy prices, inflation

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Rating agency Fitch on Tuesday slashed India's growth forecast for the next fiscal to 8.5 per cent from 10.3 per cent, citing soaring energy prices and rising inflation on account of the Russia-Ukraine war.

It has revised upwards the GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal by 0.6 percentage points to 8.7 per cent.

"However, we have lowered our growth forecast for FY 2022-2023 to 8.5 per cent (-1.8 pp) on sharply higher energy prices," Fitch said.

For 2023-24, it is estimated at 7 per cent.

In its Global economic Outlook-March 2022, Fitch

said the post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery is being hit by a potentially huge global supply shock that will reduce growth and push up inflation.

"The war in Ukraine and economic sanctions on Russia have put global energy supplies at risk. Sanctions seem unlikely to be rescinded any time soon," the agency said.

Last week, another global rating agency Moody's had slashed India's growth estimate for the 2022 calendar year to 9.1 per cent from 9.5 per cent earlier, saying high fuel and fertiliser import bill could limit capital expenditure.

Russia supplies around 10 per cent of the world's energy, including 17 per

cent of its natural gas and 12 per cent of oil.

"The jump in oil and gas prices will add to industry costs and reduce consumers' real incomes...Higher energy prices are a given," Fitch said as it has reduced the world GDP growth forecast by 0.7 percentage points to 3.5 per cent.

International oil prices started rising this year and jumped to a 13-year high of USD 140 per barrel earlier this month as an aftermath of the Russia-Ukraine war. Brent was trading at USD 118.59 per barrel on Tuesday.

India relies on overseas purchases to meet about 85 per cent of its oil requirement, making it one of the

most vulnerable in Asia to higher oil prices.

Observing that Indian GDP growth was very strong in the December quarter, Fitch said the GDP is more than 6 per cent above its pre-pandemic level though it is still well below its implied pre-pandemic trend.

"High-frequency data indicate that the Indian economy has ridden out the Omicron wave with little damage in stark contrast with the two previous coronavirus waves in 2020 and 2021," it said.

Fitch now sees inflation strengthening further, peaking above 7 per cent in the December quarter of 2022, before gradually easing.

## Atmanirbhar mission not leading India towards closed economy, says Niti VC

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI)**

NITI Aayog on Tuesday sought to dispel the fear that India is favouring a closed economy by promoting 'Atmanirbhar' mission, and said the country can achieve better results for its people by having a deeper engagement with the global supply and value chain.

Inviting Japanese investors to set up companies in India on a larger scale under the recently launched production linked incentive (PLI) schemes, NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar said India remains very deeply committed to greater integration with global flows and the regional network.

"We would want the Japanese companies to come and make India an export hub to the rest of the world under the PLI scheme. I think the environment is there to develop it because on the Indian side we have done, and we will continue to do whatever is required to at-



tract Japanese investment into India.

"I do want to take this opportunity to dispel any fear at all that the production linked incentive scheme for the Atmanirbhar, the self-reliant India - a call given by the prime minister as a response to the Covid situation and for our economy to come out of it - I want to dispel the fear that it is in any sense leading us towards a closed economy," Kumar said while speaking at a webinar on the 10th ICRIER-PRI workshop on 'Policy Responses to COVID-19 in India and Japan and Prospects for Economic Cooperation Going Ahead'.

He said there is no question at all for India to move back from its engagement

with the global economy, trade, services, financial and technological aspects among others. "We are convinced that it is only by a deeper integration for India that we will achieve better results for our people as we go forward." "And I think what we have done points towards that, whether it is the liberalisation of our foreign investment in defense sector, whether it is opening up the defense sector to our private domestic enterprises or liberalisation of our services sector, all that I think points to the fact that India remains very deeply committed to greater integration with global flows and our regional network," Kumar said while inviting Japanese firms to invest more in India.

He said that Japan can contribute to every aspect of the Indian economy and help it grow the exports by taking advantage of the global demand and achieve a higher share in global trade and merchandise services growth.

## Govt closely monitoring global commodity price movements amid Russia-Ukraine war: FinMin

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The government is closely monitoring the global commodity price movements and their impact on the Indian economy through trade in the aftermath of global supply disruptions amid the Russia-Ukraine war, Parliament was informed on Tuesday.

Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhury said the government is also committed to supporting initiatives for releases from Strategic Petroleum Reserves to mitigate market volatility and calm the rise in crude oil prices. To a question on whether the government has made any review of the economy consequent upon the breakout of war



between Russia and Ukraine, the minister said the geopolitical tension between Russia and Ukraine has led to global supply disruptions, resulting in a steep increase in global commodity prices, including crude oil, gas, edible oils and fertilisers, among others. "Government of India is closely monitoring the global price movements and their impact on India's economy through trade," he said.

He said India's GDP in 2021-22 is estimated to grow at 8.9 per cent, which will take the country's GDP past the most recent pre-pandemic output of 2019-20 to complete the recovery process.

"In addition, Government is also committed to supporting initiatives for releases from Strategic Petroleum Reserves, for mitigating market volatility and calming the rise in crude oil prices," Chaudhury said.

International oil prices started rising this year and jumped to a 13-year high of USD 140 per barrel earlier this month as an aftermath of the Russia-Ukraine war. Brent was trading at USD 118.59 per barrel on Tuesday.

## Sensex, Nifty rebound to settle 1pc higher as RIL, Infosys gain

**Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty made a spirited recovery to close over 1 per cent higher on Tuesday, riding on gains in Reliance Industries, Infosys and TCS amid a recovery in global equities.

After opening lower, the 30-share BSE Sensex had plunged to a day's low of 56,930.30 points on concerns over inflation and growth as India hiked fuel prices after a 137-day hiatus.

However, the barometer rebounded in afternoon trade in line with gains in European and Asian stocks. The BSE Sensex closed up by 696.81 points or 1.22 per cent at 57,989.30 as 26 of its

constituents ended in green. The broader NSE Nifty climbed 197.90 points or 1.16 per cent to finish at 17,315.50.

"We witnessed good rebound in markets driven by buying in Reliance. Market recovery after the morning fall is a good sign for Indian market. In coming days, we still expect volatility to persist till the war situation between Russia and Ukraine and crude price stabilize," said Rahul Sharma of Equity 99. Gains in the broader market were marginal compared to the benchmark index, with the BSE midcap index gaining 0.17 per cent and smallcap gauge 0.15 per cent.

Tech Mahindra emerged

as the lead gainer with a jump of 3.83 per cent, followed by RIL (2.59 per cent), Bajaj Finserv (2.46 per cent), ITC (2.21 per cent), TCS (2.09 per cent), Kotak Mahindra Bank (1.88 per cent) and Infosys (1.87 per cent).

In contrast, Hindustan Unilever Limited, Nestle India, NTPC, and Sun Pharma were the laggards.

"The domestic market started with a negative bias taking cues from rising crude prices and hawkish signals from Fed on aggressive policy tightening. However, the trend reversed as European markets opened on a positive note buoyed by hope that Ukraine may consider

working towards a truce," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Among BSE sectoral indices, energy (1.96 per cent), oil and gas (1.94 per cent), IT (1.93 per cent) and Teck (1.76 per cent) were the biggest gainers.

"Markets posted strong gains and settled around the day's high amid mixed cues. Initially, the bias was slightly on the negative side in continuation to Monday's fall, however a strong surge in the select index majors from IT, energy, and banking space completely changed the tone in the latter half," Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd said.

## COMEDK- Uni-GAUGE entrance exam application dates announced



**Bengaluru, Mar 22:**

COMEDK UGET and Uni-GAUGE entrance examinations will be held on June 19, 2022, Sunday, as a combined examination for admission to over 190 Engineering colleges and 50+ reputed private and deemed universities, respectively. The entrance test will be held for admissions to B.E/B. Tech programmes for colleges affiliated with the Karnataka Professional Colleges Foundation Trust and Uni-GAUGE member universities. The exam will be conducted online in over 150 cities across India, with

over 400 test centers. This year, it expects over 80,000 students to appear for the examination. Applicants can register at www.comedk.org or www.unigauged.com. The application process is open online from 14th March 2022 to 02 May 2022. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Kumar, Executive Secretary COMEDK said, "Karnataka is the center for higher education for the last 5 decades and has been the most preferred destination for Engineering aspirants, because of the choice of colleges, quality of education and higher employability rate after completion.

## KN Agri IPO issues subscribed 144 times

**Mumbai, Mar 22:**

KN Agri Resources created a history by overall subscription and procurement in the SME becoming the highest subscribed IPO in terms of segment in FY. 2021-22. The '49.38 cr. initial public offer opened for subscription on March 15 with a price band of '71-75 per share and closed on March 17. Against the 12.49 lakh shares on offer, the net qualified institutional buyer (QIB) category (excluding Anchor investor portion) received bids for 3.33 crore shares (26.65 times); the non-institutional category received bids for 72.44 crore shares (771.28 times) against 9.39 lakh shares on offer. The retail category also saw a robust response as the quota was subscribed 87.52 times with total bids received of 19.15 crore against 21.88 lakh shares on offer. KN Agri Resources is an integrated, global agribusiness and food company operating in the farm-to-consumer.

## CCPA imposes Rs 10 lakh penalty for misleading ads of Sensodyne

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has ordered discontinuation of certain misleading advertisements of Sensodyne toothpaste within seven days and imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on the manufacturer.

An official release on Tuesday stated that advertisements of Sensodyne products which make the claims 'Recommended by dentists worldwide' and 'World's No.1 sensitivity toothpaste' have been ordered to be discontinued within seven days. The authority also directed payment of penalty of Rs 10 lakh.

Advertisements which show endorsements by foreign dentists have been ordered to be discontinued as per the earlier order passed by CCPA.

The CCPA, headed by

Nidhi Khare, "recently passed order against misleading advertisements of Sensodyne products which make the claims 'Recommended by dentists worldwide' and 'World's No.1 sensitivity toothpaste,'" the statement said.

Previously on February 9, 2022, the CCPA had passed an order directing discontinuation of advertisement of Sensodyne products which show endorsement by foreign dentists.

The CCPA had initiated suo-moto action against advertisement of Sensodyne products on various platforms including television, Youtube, Facebook and Twitter. The ads show dentists practising outside India (UK) endorsing the use of Sensodyne products namely Sensodyne Rapid Relief and Sensodyne Fresh Gel for protection against teeth sensitivity.

## I-T dept detects Rs 3,000-crore cash transactions after raids on Omaxe group

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The income tax department has gathered "evidence" that real estate group Omaxe allegedly indulged in "unaccounted" cash transactions with customers to the tune of over Rs 3,000 crore, officials said on Tuesday.

The CBDT issued a statement to say that it raided the premises of a leading real estate group active in north India on March 14.

"The search action covered more than 45 premises in Delhi and NCR, Chandigarh, Ludhiana, Lucknow and Indore," the statement issued by the policy-making body for the tax department said. Officials identified the searched group as Omaxe. The Omaxe group could not be reached for comments.

"Unaccounted" cash of Rs 25 crore and jewellery worth Rs 5 crore has been seized while 11

lockers have been put under restraint, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said. "A large number of incriminating evidences including hard copy documents and digital data have been seized during the search."

"The seized evidences contain unaccounted 'on-money' cash receipt data of the group from various customers for more than 10 years," it said.

The key employees and business heads of various projects have stated the modus operandi of the group and have "admitted" that the group has generated unaccounted income by accepting 'on-money' (cash) "unaccounted" cash from its customers which have not been recorded in the regular books of account, the CBDT claimed. "Evidence of receipt of such on-money exceeding Rs 3,000 crore has been gathered so far," it said.

## HANDICRAFT MELA



Artists from the country of Eswatini at the Surajkund Handicraft Mela, in Faridabad, Tuesday.

## Number of Indian workers requiring digital skills set to rise by 27.3 mn over next year: Report

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI)**

The number of Indian workers requiring digital skills for their jobs is set to rise by 27.3 million, representing seven per cent of India's workforce, over the next year, according to a report.

Amazon Web Services (AWS), an Amazon.com company, released findings from a new research report that revealed digital skills training needs have become more pronounced amid the pandemic.

About 95 per cent of workers surveyed in India acknowledged that they require more digital skills - the ability and knowledge to apply digital technolo-

gies for tasks in the workplace - in order to cope with changes in their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"...over the next year, the number of India workers requiring digital skills for their jobs is projected to increase by 27.3 million, representing 7 per cent of India's workforce," according to the report.

That said, only 45 per cent of employers in India have a training plan in place, which could affect their competitiveness in areas such as productivity, innovation and employee retention.

The 'Building Digital Skills for the Changing Workforce' report, prepared by strategy and economic

consulting firm AlphaBeta and commissioned by AWS, surveyed 1,012 digitally skilled workers in technology and non-technology roles, and 303 employers in India, with representation from public, private, and nonprofit sectors of different industries.

The ability to use cloud-based tools, such as cloud developer tools, as well as online collaboration, accounting, and customer relationship management (CRM) software will be the most in-demand skill required by employers by 2025, followed by technical support and cybersecurity skills. The findings also highlight the need for more advanced cloud computing

skills, including machine learning and cloud architecture design.

These skills are expected to be in high demand in businesses from healthcare to agriculture, fintech to media and entertainment, the report said.

"Over the course of the pandemic, we have seen organisations of all sizes accelerate their digital transformation plans, driving an increased need for employers and their workers to advance skills training for cloud computing, cybersecurity, and machine learning, noted Rahul Sharma, President, Public Sector Amazon Internet Services Private Limited (AISPL), AWS India and South Asia.



## Boris Becker accused of hiding tennis trophies during trial

**London:** Former tennis champion Boris Becker went on trial in London for allegedly concealing property including nine trophies from bankruptcy trustees and dodging his obligation to disclose financial information to settle his debts. Prosecutors said Becker, 54, acted dishonestly when he hid or failed to hand over assets before and after he was declared bankrupt in June 2017. He is on trial charged with 24 counts under insolvency laws. Prosecutor Rebecca Chalkley said the assets include trophies such as the 1985 and 1989 Wimbledon men's singles title, his Australian Open trophies from 1991 and 1996 and his 1992 Olympic gold medal. Becker is accused of concealing 1.13 million euros (1.25 million) from the sale of a Mercedes car dealership he owned in Germany.



## India is not far from having a Major winner: Gary Player



**New Delhi:** Golf legend Gary Player on Tuesday said Anirban Lahiri's second place finish at The PLAYERS championship just shows that India is not very far from having a Major winner. Lahiri finished sole second at the PLAYERS Championship in Florida, US on March 14 to walk away with a career-best USD 2.18 million in earnings. "Lahiri's performance was such an amazing effort against all the best players in the world," the nine-time Major champion Player told reporters on the eve of the DGC Open here. "He finished second in the fifth most important tournament and I wonder if the Indian population realise the publicity that he got for India is quite remarkable. "If Lahiri can finish second at The PLAYERS, he can definitely win a Major, no question and what a happy day it would be for me to see an African or a person from India winning a Major."

## Indian para club thrower Dharambir sets new Asian record

**Dubai:** Indian para athlete Dharambir set a new Asian record in the men's F32/51 club throw event en-route winning a silver on the opening day of the 13th Fazza International Para Athletics Championships here. India won three medals on the opening day with Devendra Singh also clinching a silver in the F44 men's discus throw event, while Jyoti Behera claimed a bronze in 400m women's final T37/38/47 final. In the club throw F32/51 men's final, Dharambir, the 2018 Asian Para Games silver medallist, threw the club to a distance of 31.09m in his second attempt to finish second behind Algeria's Walid Ferhah (37.42m) on Monday. In the process, Dharambir also set a new Asian record. Great Britain's Stephen Miller took the bronze with an effort of 29.28m. Later, Devendra clinched the silver in men's discus throw F44 after hurling the disc to a distance of 50.36m in combined F42/43/44 category.

## Cameroon and Ajax goalkeeper Onana OK after bad car crash



**Yaounde:** Cameroon goalkeeper Andr Onana escaped unhurt after being involved in a serious car crash on Tuesday while traveling to the team camp ahead of a decisive World Cup playoff, the national soccer federation said. The crash happened while Onana, who plays for Dutch club Ajax, was traveling from the Cameroon capital Yaounde to the city of Douala. The Cameroon Football Association said Onana eventually joined up with the squad in Douala after the crash and was fine, although he would have a precautionary examination at the hospital. Cameroon hosts Algeria in the first leg of their World Cup playoff in Douala on Friday.

## Chinese team pulls out of Swiss Open due to COVID-19 cases and injuries

**Basel:** The Chinese badminton team has pulled out of the Swiss Open Super 300 tournament which began on Tuesday due to multiple COVID-19 cases and injuries to its players, the game's governing body BWF said. The Badminton World Federation also said that many players have withdrawn from the tournament after testing positive for the dreaded virus. "Several players from a number of Member Associations tested positive on their pre-arrival test and arrival test and have been removed from the draw," BWF said in a statement. "Chinese Badminton Association reported a few positive cases as well as some injuries to players in their team."

# Women's WC: India rout Bangladesh to keep hopes alive

Hamilton, Mar 22 (PTI):

Yastika Bhatia's gritty half-century and Sneha Rana's all-round performance powered India a dominating 110-run win over Bangladesh and kept them in the hunt for a semifinal spot at the ICC Women's World Cup, here on Tuesday.

Opting to bat, India recovered from a mid-inning collapse to post a modest 229 for seven, riding on a responsible 80-ball 50 by Bhatia and a late flourish from Rana (27) and Pooja Vastrakar (30).

Defending the total, the spinners, led by Rana (4/30), controlled the proceedings as they struck at regular intervals.

India bowled out Bangladesh for 119 in 40.3 overs to register their third win of the tournament. The big win helped India improve their Net-Run-Rate (0.768) further.

The Mithali Raj-led side will take on South Africa in the final league match on Sunday. Before that match, if the second-placed Proteas beat West Indies on Thursday India's semifinal chances will get better.

India's decision to bring in senior spinner Poonam Yadav (1/25) in place of pacer Meghna Singh paid dividends. With spinners operating from both the ends on a slow track, Bangladesh found the run-scoring difficult. India restricting Bangladesh to 69/5 after 25 overs.

Lata Mondal (24) and Salma Khatun (32) provided some resistance with a 40-run partnership which was



broken by Jhulan Goswami when she dismissed the latter, while Vastrakar accounted for the former a few overs later.

The pace duo of Goswami (2/19) and Vastrakar (2/26) shared four wickets between them while the spinners accounted for the rest.

Earlier, Smriti Mandhana (30) and Shafali Verma (42) shared 74 runs for the opening wicket but Ritu Moni (3/37) and Nahida Akter (2/42) shared five wickets between them to reduce India from 74 for no loss to 108 for 4 at one stage.

Mandhana ended up hitting straight to Fargana Hoque off Akter, while Moni struck twice in two

balls in the next over to leave India at 74 for 3 in 15.4 overs.

While Verma was stumped by Nigar Sultana, skipper Mithali Raj (0) was out for a first-ball duck as India lost three wickets in quick succession.

Vice-captain Harmanpreet Kaur (14) then joined Bhatia as the two tried to resurrect the innings but the duo scored only 34 runs in 70 balls before a direct throw from Hoque caught the former short of her crease.

Bhatia (50 off 80) and Richa Ghosh (26) then added 54 runs to take India past the 150-run score. The duo played at a good

pace with Ghosh slamming Lata Mondal (0/20) for successive fours in the 30th over.

However, Akter brought Bangladesh back into the game when she had Ghosh caught behind while she tried to cut a ball that was too close to the body.

After completing her fifty, Bhatia too perished in the next ball while trying for a paddle scoop, only to be caught by at short fine leg.

Vastrakar (30) and Rana (27) then came together at 180 for 6 at the end of 44th over to add 48 off 38 balls, taking India past the 200-run mark. With the two going strong, the last 10 overs yielded 64 runs.

## Imperious Lanning leads Aus past SA

**Wellington:** Skipper Meg Lanning produced another masterclass, smashing an unbeaten 135 as six-time champions Australia continued their invincible run with a five-wicket thrashing of South Africa in the ICC Women's World Cup here on Tuesday.

Lanning scored her 15th ODI century with 15 hits to the fence and one maximum during her 130-ball unconquered innings to help Australia successfully chase down South Africa's total of 271 for 5 with 28 balls to spare at Basin Reserve.

Invited to bat, opener Laura Wolvaardt cracked a 134-ball 90, while skipper Sune Luus (52) notched another half-century as South Africa posted a decent total from their 50 overs.

However, it proved inadequate in the end as Lanning took control of Australia's chase and recorded her third World Cup century to lead her team to a comfortable victory.

The win further consolidated Australia's position at the top of the table with 12 points from six matches and they are likely to end at the top with just one match to go against Bangladesh in the league stage. It was South



Africa's first loss of the tournament. They remain second in the standings with 8 points from five games but are still in danger of missing out on the semifinals should they fail to win any of their final two matches against West Indies and India.

## Du Plessis commands respect, says Kohli



Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):

Royal Challengers Bangalore veteran Virat Kohli says Faf du Plessis's solid leadership skills was a key reason that they planned to grab his services for the upcoming IPL edition.

Kohli, who has been with Royal Challengers right from the first edition in 2008 and as full-time captain since 2013, relinquished captaincy after last year's IPL. RCB will now be led by four-time IPL winner Du Plessis, who was purchased by the franchise for Rs 7 crore in the mega auction last month. "Getting Faf at the auctions for us, the plan was very clear. We need a leader in the change room who com-

mands a lot of respect. Commands not demands, because he has been there done that," Kohli said in video posted by RCB's twitter handle.

"He's a Test captain, that profile comes with a lot of accolades already and we are excited for him to lead RCB. He will do a tremendous job. "We get along really well with him, all of us myself Maxi (Glenn Maxwell) Dinesh Karthik and I think all the guys will enjoy this tournament," he added.

Kohli joined the RCB preparatory camp on Monday. The Indian batting veteran had earlier said he made the decision to quit RCB captaincy as he wanted some space to manage his workload.

# India U-18 ride Lynda Kom's hat-trick to beat Nepal 5-1

Jamshedpur, Mar 21 (PTI):

India produced yet another stellar performance in the ongoing SAFF U-18 Women's Championship as they beat Nepal 5-1 in their third fixture of the tournament here on Monday.

India take on Bangladesh in their final match on Friday.

A splendid hat-trick by Lynda Kom in the 23rd, 38th and 61st minutes and a goal each by Shilky Devi in the 16th minute and Anita Kumari in the 55th minute propelled the Young Tigresses to a comfortable win after Nepal had pulled one goal back in the second half. Keeping their winning momentum alive after their victory against Bangladesh in their last game, the Indians heaped pressure on the opponents from the opening minute. In the second minute itself, Lynda Kom tried to put in a header but missed by a whisker.

India's first breakthrough came in the 16th minute when captain Shilky Devi delivered with



an inch-perfect header from Nitu Linda's pass.

Lynda Kom, in the 23rd minute, doubled the lead with a glancing header.

After having a two-goal lead, India's combination play threatened the Nepal backline.

In the 25th minute, Nitu Linda tried to shoot from the top-left corner but missed it.

Another brilliant goal was scored by Lynda Kom, in the 38th minute, when she made a first-time volley

to chip in the ball off a cross from the right by Shilky. Minutes into the added time of the first half, coach Thomas Dennerby made the first substitution where Sunita Munda was replaced by Amisha Baxla.

The half-time scoreline read 3-0 in favour of India. The second half began on a similar note to the first with India dominating proceedings.

Another substitution was made in the 46th minute where Babina Devi was

brought on in place of Nitu Linda. Nepal looked to strike back but were struggling to create chances and keep possession in dangerous areas as the Indian team stood firm and forced them to go for long-range efforts, which were easily dealt with by Indian keeper Melody.

India made it four for the night in the 55th minute through Anita's powerful long range shot from more than 25 yards out.

A change over came in the 55th minute as India custodian Melody Chanu was replaced by Adrija Sarkhel.

The hosts extended their lead with the fifth goal through Lynda Kom's hat-trick in the 61st minute from Sunita's low cross from the right.

In the 79th minute, Nepal pulled one back through Sadipa Bholan, who latched on to a loose ball and slotted it home. With the victory, India strengthened their lead in pole position with nine points from three matches.

## Rajasthan Royals have fantastic pace attack: fast bowling coach Malinga

Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):

Newly-appointed fast bowling coach Lasith Malinga feels Rajasthan Royals have a fantastic pace attack with a good mix of experienced international players, genuine Indian quicks and youngsters.

Malinga, who took 546 wickets in 340 international matches across three formats for Sri Lanka and also led the country to the 2014 ICC T20 World Cup triumph, has been roped in by the Royals as their new fast bowling coach ahead of IPL-15. "I think we have a fantastic pace attack. You've got experienced



Lasith Malinga and Prasidh Krishna have a chat.

overseas players like Bould and Coulter-Nile, with whom I've worked before," Malinga was quoted as saying in a media release.

"Then we've got genuine Indian fast bowlers in

Prasidh (Krishna) and (Navdeep) Saini, who have proven themselves at the highest level, and some new faces in Anunay Singh, Kuldeep Sen and Kuldeep Yadav. "In T20 crick-

et, I think little margins really matter, and I'm here to guide them to deliver their best in all situations," he added.

Talking about joining the new franchise, the 38-year-old, who is also IPL's highest wicket-taker, said he's enjoying his new role.

"It is certainly a new thing for me to get into coaching and pass on my experience to the younger players. I have played this role before with Mumbai, and now I'm delighted to be working with Rajasthan Royals. It is a new place for me, but I'm enjoying my role so far working with such a talented group of bowlers."

## Sen breaks into world's top 10



New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

Indian badminton star Lakshya Sen's silver medal winning feat at the All England Badminton Championships helped him break into the top 10 of the latest BWF World Ranking on Tuesday.

The 20-year-old from Uttarakhand, who became only the fifth Indian ever to reach the summit clash

of All England Championships, improved two places to become world number 9 with 74,786 points, surpassing reigning world champion Loh Kean Yew of Singapore.

Sen had suffered a heartbreaking straight-game loss to Olympic champion and world No. 1 Viktor Axelsen of Denmark on Sunday.

## RANG PANCHAMI CELEBRATION



Devotees shower flower petals on artists dressed as Lord Krishna and Goddess Radha in celebration of the festival of Rang Panchami, in Bhopal, Tuesday.

# NDA gears up to train first batch of girl cadets

Pune, Mar 22 (PTI):

The National Defence Academy (NDA), the prestigious military training institute of the country, is geared up to train the first batch of girl cadets with effect from this June, a defence release said, adding that the training will largely be gender-neutral except some aspects of physical training which may entail certain changes.

As part of the preparations, one of the squadrons has been identified for the stay of girl cadets and existing infrastructure is being augmented.

Akin to their male counterparts, girls of the age group 16-and-half to 19

years will undergo three years of military training after successfully clearing the UPSC-NDA written exam, Services Selection Board (SSB) interviews and medicals, the release said on Tuesday.

A total of 19 vacancies-10 for the Army, 6 for the Air Force and 3 for the Indian Navy-have been allotted by the respective service headquarters for the first batch of girls at the NDA, it said.

The training objective at the NDA shall continue to remain as the centre of excellence for producing military leaders equipped with professional, moral and physical attributes required for leading the troops to victory in the future battlefields, it stated.

With minimum changes to the existing curriculum, the training in academics, drill, outdoor training, etc. will be conducted in a gender-neutral manner.

However, owing to physiological differences between male and female cadets, the aspect of physical training may entail certain changes in the training of girl cadets, the release said.

The dedicated support staff will be provided for facilitating the training of girl cadets, it said, adding that a majority of training activities shall be conducted jointly keeping their employability in mind, wherein the women officers are required to command the troops of men.

Similar training methodology already exists in other pre-commissioning training academies like the OTA Chennai, INA Ezhimala, and AFA Hyderabad.

For the stay of girl cadets, one of the squadrons has been identified and is being refurbished with amenities and requirements specific for their training. Actions are underway to augment the existing infrastructure, the release said.

Requisite modifications will also be undertaken to conform to gender-specific lifestyle requirements. Whereas in the long term, a separate squadron is being envisaged exclusively for girl cadets, the release said.

## Expedite work on Samalei project: Odisha government

Sambalpur, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Odisha government told officials to expedite the work on redevelopment of the Samaleswari Temple, one of the most revered shrines in the state, so that it can be completed on time.

A high-level team, led by Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra, visited Sambalpur on Monday to assess the progress of the Samaleswari Temple Area Management and Local Economy Initiatives (Samalei) Scheme.

Under the project, transformative improvement of the Samaleswari Temple in western Odisha, will be carried out on the lines of the Jagannath Temple in

Puri and the Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar. The redevelopment includes beautification and peripheral development of the temple, heritage corridor, state-of-the-art amenities and the Mahanadi riverfront development.

The delegation reviewed the construction work on the resettlement colony in Durgapali, where people who will be displaced due to the implementation of the scheme will be rehabilitated. The Odisha government is providing all the amenities for the affected people there, the Chief Minister's Office said.

The team talked to the officials of the Odisha Bridge and Construction Corporation (OBCC),

which is implementing the project. They directed the firm to expedite the work for the timely completion of the project, which will offer a "divine experience" to the devotees and give a boost to the local economy, according to the CMO.

The board of the 16th-century shrine, discussed with the team regarding the implementation of the Rs 200-crore project, which is expected to be completed by next year.

The land acquisition process is underway by the district administration now, an OBCC official said. The Samaleswari Temple was constructed by Balram Dev, the first Chouhan king of Sambalpur.

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

Mere breach of contract is not in itself a criminal offence and gives rise to the civil liability of damages, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday. A bench of Justices S A Nazeer and Krishna Murari said the distinction between mere breach of contract and cheating, which is a criminal offence, is a fine one.

"There can be no doubt that a mere breach of contract is not in itself a criminal offence and gives rise to the civil liability of damages. While breach of contract cannot give rise to criminal prosecution for cheating, fraudulent or dishonest intention is the basis of the offence of

cheating," the bench said.

The top court made these observations while hearing an appeal filed by the Managing Director and the Directors of a company challenging an order of the Calcutta high court which refused to quash proceedings against them in a case of cheating and criminal breach of trust. In January 2008, respondent no. 2, an authorised representative of SMC Global Securities Ltd, Delhi desired to make an investment on its behalf with the appellants. It was mutually decided between the parties that Respondent No. 2 will invest an amount of Rs. 2.5 crore with the company in lieu of which they will be issued 2,50,000 equity shares of Priknit

Apparel Pvt. Ltd. Subsequently, Respondent No. 2 filed their share application form along with the cheque of Rs. 2.5 crore. Later, an allotment letter was issued in favour of Respondent No. 2 whereby 2,50,000 shares were issued in lieu of the investment made by him. Having failed to bring the I.P.O as per the memorandum of understanding, Respondent No. 2 issued a legal notice dated to the appellants, who duly replied to the legal notice denying all the allegations contained in the legal notice. Later, a criminal case was filed against the appellants. The top court said that in the case at hand, the complaint filed by the Respondent No. 2 does not

disclose dishonest or fraudulent intentions of the appellants. "Having gone through the complaint/FIR and even the charge sheet, it cannot be said that the averments in the FIR and the allegations in the complaint against the appellant constitute an offence under Section 405 (Criminal breach of trust.) & 420 (cheating) of Indian Penal Code, 1860.

"Even in a case where allegations are made in regard to failure on the part of the accused to keep his promise, in the absence of a culpable intention at the time of making the promise being absent, no offence under Section 420 IPC can be said to have been made out," the bench said.

## Oppn seeks to punch holes in UDAN scheme

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI): The Opposition on Tuesday sought to punch holes in the government's regional connectivity scheme UDAN claiming that less than 50 per cent routes awarded under the marquee initiative were operational and only a fraction were functioning without subsidy. Initiating a discussion in Lok Sabha on the demand for grants of the civil aviation ministry, Congress member Ravneet Singh Bittu said only 405 routes out of the 948 awarded by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) since October 2016 were operational as on December 2021. Bittu also voiced concern over the budgetary cuts for Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and the Aircraft Accident Investigation Board (AAIB).

## Mere breach of contract not criminal offence: SC

## 'Need to develop 30-40 greenfield airports'



Rajiv Pratap Rudy

New Delhi, March 22 (PTI): BJP member Rajiv Pratap Rudy on Tuesday made a strong case for developing 30-40 greenfield airports in the country to cater to the requirement of ever increasing number of air passengers.

Participating in the discussion on demands for grants for the Civil Aviation Ministry in the Lok Sabha, he said that upgrading existing airports and using defence enclaves for civil aviation "is not the future."

Former Civil Aviation Minister Rudy said the capacity of existing airports or brown field airports cannot be increased beyond a point even after incurring huge expenditure.

Similarly, the airports at defence enclaves cannot be upgraded as air force planes do not need CAT-3 or night landing facilities which are essential for operating large civilian aircraft.

He asked the government to expedite development of a new airport at Patna and focus on "developing 25, 30 or 40 greenfield airports in the country."

## HURL's 3 Fertiliser Plants

# 'Govt extends applicability of New Investment Policy-2012'

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

The government on Tuesday approved the extension of applicability of the 'New Investment Policy-2012' for three upcoming units of Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd (HURL) at Gorakhpur, Sindi and Barauni. The government had announced the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 in January, 2013 and its amendment in October, 2014 to facilitate fresh investment in the urea sector and to make India self-sufficient.

"The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given approval for the proposal of the Department of Fertilisers for extension of

applicability of New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012" for these three units of HURL, an official statement said.

HURL, incorporated in June, 2016, is a joint venture of Coal India Ltd, NTPC and Indian Oil Corporation. It is reviving the erstwhile Gorakhpur and Sindi Units of FCIL and Barauni Unit of GFCL by setting up new gas based urea plants with an installed capacity of 12.7 lakh tonnes per annum each. The cost of the three HURL urea projects is Rs 25,120 crore. GAIL is supplying natural gas to these three units.

The commissioning of the three units will add 38.1 lakh tonnes per annum urea production in the country. The project

will not only improve the availability of fertiliser to farmers but also give a boost to the economy in the region including development of infrastructure like roads, railways, ancillary industry etc. besides ensuring food security to the nation.

These three facilities aim to meet the demand for urea in seven states - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Odisha. All three HURL units have various unique features like blast-proof control room equipped with DCS (distributed control system), ESD (emergency shutdown system) and environment monitoring systems. There is no offsite waste water disposal in these plants.

## Indore drenches in colours as 'gair' yatra takes place after 2 years

Indore, Mar 22 (PTI):

After a gap of two years, the traditional 'gair or faag' yatra was taken out in Indore on the occasion of Rang Panchami on Tuesday by revellers in a grand manner amidst showers of water colours and gulal.

The much-awaited event, celebrated a few days after Holi, remained suspended for the last two years because of coronavirus, but this year, as the cases dropped and the third wave waned, the festival was back with gusto.

In the backdrop of vast improvement in the coronavirus situation, Madhya Pradesh chief minister



People play with colours during a procession in celebration of the festival of Rang Panchami, in Indore, Tuesday.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan has urged people to celebrate festivals with full enthusiasm. The Rang

Panchmi 'gair' (a tanker showering water colours on people through a pipe connected with a pump)

started from different areas of the city and reached Rajbada (castle of former rulers of Indore, Holkars) to spread colours on revellers. A large number of people had converged in the heart of the city to watch the colourful event.

According to local residents, the tradition of taking out 'gair' started from the time of Holkar rulers when members of the royalty would come out to play Holi with common citizens. During those days, bullock cart-mounted 'gairs' were used with colours prepared from tesu flowers and other herbal products.

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

TMC MP Mahua Moitra on Wednesday demanded that the civil aviation ministry be scrapped and merged to create a holistic ministry for transport as it was no longer in the business of running a national airline.

Participating in the discussion in Lok Sabha on the demand for grants of the civil aviation ministry, she said that with the privatisation of Air India last month there was no point in discussing that as it was already a "fait accompli" and "we need to move on". "We can only hope that this government has put in



Mahua Moitra

enough rules and reasonable processes for aircraft to be made available from the private sector for emergencies as and when required by the government of India, as we have seen in the case of Ukraine and many others in the last few years," she said. Moitra

pointed out that since 2014, Air India formed 60-95 per cent of the civil aviation ministry's budget.

The sale of Air India, basically an airline that cost the exchequer about Rs 120,000 crore in the past 10 years due to "gross mismanagement", is being now lauded as a landmark success, she said, slamming the government.

Pointing to the decrease in the amount for regional connectivity scheme UDAN and the Air India privatisation, she asked that with a "paltry" budget expenditure of Rs 1,240 crore what is the need for a separate ministry of civil aviation.

## 'Scrap civil aviation ministry to create holistic transport ministry'



### BRIEF



Chief Minister Nitish Kumar with balloons during the inauguration of the 110th Bihar Diwas function, at Gandhi Maidan, in Patna, Tuesday.

### Rejected

■ **Lucknow:** Nomination papers of two Samajwadi Party candidates for the elections to the Legislative Council were rejected during the scrutiny on Tuesday, paving the way for the unopposed victory of BJP nominees. The nomination papers of Udayvir Singh and Rakesh Yadav besides that of an independent were rejected during the scrutiny, officials said.

### Denied

■ **New Delhi:** A court here on Tuesday rejected the bail plea of Mohd. Saleem Khan in connection with a case related to alleged larger conspiracy into the 2020 north-east Delhi riots, lodged under stringent UAPA, while deferring the order on bail application of Sharjeel Imam for March 26. Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat said the ground was not enough to grant the relief to Khan.

### Resign

■ **New Delhi:** Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday resigned as the member of Lok Sabha from Azamgarh constituency, deciding to retain the Karhal assembly seat he won in the recently held Uttar Pradesh polls. By quitting as a Lok Sabha member, Yadav has made it clear that he would now concentrate on state politics. Yadav met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla in Parliament House to put in his papers.

### Shot at

■ **Diphu:** A 54-year-old man, who was accused of raping two minor sisters, was shot at by police when he allegedly tried to escape from custody in Assam's Karbi Anglong district, a senior officer claimed on Tuesday. The person was absconding and apprehended on Monday, he said.

### Attached

■ **New Delhi:** The ED on Tuesday said it has attached assets worth Rs 6.45 crore of a company owned by the brother-in-law of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray in connection with a money laundering investigation. The Enforcement Directorate said in a statement that it has issued a provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) to attach 11 residential flats in Neelambari project, located in Thane near Mumbai, of Shree Saibaba Grihanimiti Private Limited.

**Weather**  
High 38 Low 22

**MARKET**  
NIFTY 17,315.50  
SENSEX 57,989.30

**BULLION**  
GOLD 51,183  
SILVER 67,382

### HORRIFYING VIOLENCE

# Eight charred bodies found in Birbhum

■ **11 arrested**

**Rampurhat, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Eight persons, including two children, died in the early hours of Tuesday after their houses were gutted in a fire at Rampurhat in West Bengal's Birbhum district, police said.

The incident took place hours after the murder of a Trinamool Congress panchayat leader on Monday, DGP Manoj Malaviya told reporters in Kolkata. Malaviya said seven charred bodies were recovered from one of the burnt houses, while one injured person died in hospital. Eleven people have been arrested in connection with the incident, he said. The top police officer said TMC panchayat deputy chief of Barshal village, Bhadu Sheikh, was murdered



### MHA seeks report from state govt

The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday sought a report from the West Bengal government after eight people were found burnt to death in Birbhum district, officials said. The move came after a nine-member delegation of BJP MPs from West Bengal met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and sought his intervention and action against the perpetrators of the crime. In a communication, the ministry asked the West Bengal government to maintain law and order and ensure security of common people in view of the killings, officials said.

### Arson Orgy: Guv

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhanekar strongly condemned the violence in the state's Birbhum district, saying human rights have been "decimated" and rule of law has "capsized". Offering condolence to the families of those who lost their lives, the Governor said that the state is in a "grip of violence culture and lawlessness". He said that he was pained and disturbed at the "horrifying barbarity" at Rampurhat in Birbhum, where eight people were burnt to death after a mob allegedly set houses on fire following the killing of Trinamool Congress leader Bahadur Shaikh.

## Cabinet nod to merger of 3 Delhi municipal corporations

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The Union Cabinet on Tuesday gave its nod to a bill to merge the three municipal corporations in Delhi, a move that is likely to escalate the ongoing political tussle between the BJP and the AAP ahead of the high-stakes civic polls. The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill is likely to be introduced in the ongoing Budget session of Parliament, sources in the government said.

The unified municipal corporation, the sources said, will be a well-equipped entity for optimum and even utilisation of financial resources which will reduce mounting liabilities, expenditure on the functioning of the three municipal corporations and improve the

civic services of the national capital.

Some more amendments have also been cleared in the principal Act of 1957 to ensure more robust delivery architecture for greater transparency, improved governance and more efficient delivery of civic services for the people of Delhi, they said.

The amendment provides for a unified municipal corporation of Delhi by subsuming the existing three corporations.

The erstwhile Delhi Municipal Corporation was trifurcated into three municipal corporations - South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC), North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC), and East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) in 2011.

## PM-KISAN Scheme 'Over Rs 4,350 cr transferred to ineligible beneficiaries'

■ **Advisory issued to states for refunds**

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

More than Rs 4,350 crore has been transferred to ineligible beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN scheme and an advisory has been issued to states for getting refunds, the government said on Tuesday.

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN), which was announced in February 2019, is a central scheme that aims at providing financial assistance to land-holding farmer families, subject to certain exclusion criteria, to enable them to take care of expenses relat-

### PM-KISAN Scheme

ed to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 6,000 per year is transferred in three four-monthly installments of Rs 2,000 directly into the bank accounts of the farmers. In reply to a written question in Lok Sabha, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said, "an amount of more than Rs 4,352.49 crore which is 2 per cent of the total amount transferred to all the beneficiaries has been reported to have been transferred to ineligible beneficiaries". He was replying to a query on "whether it is a fact that over Rs 2,500 crore of PM-KISAN scheme funds were transferred to ineligible

beneficiaries". Tomar said an SOP has been devised and circulated to states for getting refund from ineligible beneficiaries and return of funds to the government.

"Besides, a facility has been created on the web-portal through which any individual farmer can refund the money through NTRP system. So far, an amount of Rs 296.67 crore has been recovered from ineligible beneficiaries," Tomar said.

The ministry informed that the eligibility of farmers was initially based on their self-declaration and after verification of their details by State/UTs. Also only essential fields were made mandatory for registration.

### Two missing boys found dead

**Balodabazar, Mar 22:**

The partially decomposed bodies of two minor boys were found in a field at a village in Chhattisgarh's Balodabazar district on Tuesday, two days after they went missing from outside their houses, police said. The deceased boys aged 7 and 8 were neighbours from Chakarbai village, Kasdol Station House Officer (SHO) Ashish Rajput said.

The duo went missing on March 20 when they were playing outside their houses in the village, he said. As they did not return till Sunday late at night, their parents launched a search. On Monday, police were informed and a missing case was registered, Rajput added. Their partially decomposed bodies were found this morning in farmland in Kharve village, 3 km from Chakarbai village, the SHO said. The exact cause of the death will be known after the postmortem examination, he said. A case was registered under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Rajput said.

### Khairagarh Assembly Bypoll

## BCC chief Yashoda Verma is Congress nominee

**Rajnandgaon, Mar 22:**

Khairagarh Block Congress Committee (BCC) chief Yashoda Verma will contest the April 12 bypoll to the Khairagarh assembly constituency in Chhattisgarh on the ruling party's ticket, a spokesperson said on Tuesday.

The Khairagarh seat fell vacant after the death of sitting Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) MLA Devvrat Singh in November last year. Verma's name was approved for the bypoll by Congress president Sonia Gandhi, the spokesperson said. Verma comes from the Lodhi community which has a considerable presence in the constituency located in the Rajnandgaon district.

She had served as a member of the Rajnandgaon Zila Panchayat in the past.

Speaking to mediapersons, she exuded confidence about winning the by-election. The opposition BJP and JCC (J) are yet to announce their candidates for the electoral contest for



which the last day of filing of nominations is March 24. Polling will be held on April 12 and votes will be counted on April 16.

Devvrat Singh, who represented the Khairagarh assembly segment four times, belonged to the erstwhile royal family of Khairagarh. He was first elected as a legislator in 1995 on a Congress ticket.

In December 2017, he quit the Congress and later joined the late Ajit Jogi's Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) party.

Singh contested the last assembly election (2018) on a JCC (J) ticket and became MLA for the fourth time from Khairagarh.

## After Azad, Sonia meets G-23's Anand Sharma, Manish Tiwari

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Days after meeting Ghulam Nabi Azad, Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday met some more leaders of the G-23 grouping including Anand Sharma and Manish Tewari at her residence and held discussions on resolving internal party issues.

It is learnt that during the meeting, the leaders suggested ways to strengthen the party and revive it to help take on the BJP in the next round of elections.

According to the party sources, Gandhi is likely to meet some more leaders of the G-23 in the coming days.

Tuesday's interaction was part of the series of meetings that the Congress top leadership is having with some of the leaders who have raised critical organisational issues and

have suggested measures to revamp the party.

These meetings are being held amidst indications that some of the G-23 leaders may be accommodated in the Congress Working Committee or a new body like the Parliamentary Board, which will be responsible for all policy decisions including finalising chief ministerial candidates and tie-ups with like-minded parties in states.

The group is also reportedly seeking the ouster of some Rahul Gandhi loyalists from key AICC positions and top on their target are AICC general secretary Organisation KC Venugopal, chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala and general secretary Ajay Maken. Sources said one or more may be shifted to placate the dissident group.

### TRADITION AND FAITH



Devotees gather to hoist the flag as Jhanda Mela begins at Shri Guru Ram Rai Darbar Sahib, in Dehradun, Tuesday.

### OIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING

## Pakistan again rakes up Kashmir issue



**Islamabad, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Tuesday again raked up the Kashmir issue at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) foreign ministers' meeting here, saying the 57-member body has not been

able to make any impact at all as it's a "divided house". Khan's comments came at a time when he is facing the toughest political test since assuming office in 2018 as a no-confidence motion has been introduced by the opposition parties against his government. "We have failed both the people of Palestine and Kashmir," Khan said in his keynote address at the 48th Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC at the Parliament House here as he sought to raise the issues of Palestine and Kashmir in the same breath.

## Lalu's health condition deteriorates, shifted to AIIMS New Delhi

**Ranchi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Incarcerated Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supreme leader Lalu Prasad's health condition has deteriorated and he has been shifted to AIIMS, New Delhi for better treatment, officials said on Tuesday.

A medical board of the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) here referred him to AIIMS New Delhi, they said.

"RJD chief Lalu Prasad has been taken to Delhi in an air ambulance," Ranchi's Birsra Munda Airport



Director Vinod Sharma told PTI.

Dr Vidyapati, who heads a seven-member team of doctors formed by RIMS to treat Prasad, earlier said,

"The medical board has recommended that Prasad be referred to AIIMS New Delhi as his condition has deteriorated."

Prasad was sentenced by a special CBI court to five years imprisonment and slapped with a fine of Rs 60 lakh on February 21 after being convicted in the embezzlement of Rs 139 crore from Doranda treasury in the fodder scam.

The court had convicted Prasad on February 15 and pronounced the quantum of the sentence after virtually hearing the arguments.

## LPG at record high after Rs 50 rise

■ **Petrol, diesel price hiked by 80 paise**

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Petrol and diesel prices were on Tuesday hiked by 80 paise a litre each while domestic cooking gas LPG rates were increased by Rs 50 per cylinder as state oil firms ended an over four-and-a-half month election-related hiatus in rate revision.

Petrol in Delhi will now cost Rs 96.21 per litre as against Rs 95.41 previously while diesel rates have gone up from Rs 86.67 per litre to Rs 87.47, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers. In Mumbai, the petrol price has been hiked



by Rs 0.84 per litre to Rs 110.82 per litre, and diesel by Rs 0.86 to Rs 95 per litre.

The rates, which differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes such as VAT, are likely to continue to rise over the next few days as state oil firms recoup losses from keeping prices on hold for a record 137 days. According to

CRISIL Research, a hike of Rs 15-20 per litre is required to fully pass through a USD 30 per barrel increase in the cost of raw material (crude oil).

Simultaneously, the price of non-subsidised LPG cylinders has been increased to Rs 949.50 per 14.2-kg bottle in the national capital and Mumbai, and to Rs 976 in Kolkata.

While LPG rates were last revised on October 6, 2021, petrol and diesel prices had been on a freeze since November 4 as five states, including Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, went to the polls.

LPG prices had gone up by close to Rs 100 per cylinder between July and October 6, 2021, before criticism halted

the monthly revision in rates. Non-subsidised cooking gas is the one that consumers buy after exhausting their quota of 12 cylinders at subsidised or below market price. However, the government pays no subsidy on LPG in most cities and the price of the refill that consumers, including the poor women who got free connection under the much-talked Ujjwala scheme, buy is the same as non-subsidised or market price LPG.

This is the highest rate ever that subsidised LPG users will pay. The non-subsidised rate had peaked at Rs 1,241 in January 2014, but at that time, the government provided as much as Rs 600 per cylinder subsidy.

## Stage set for grand swearing-in ceremony for second Yogi Govt

**Lucknow, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The stage is set for a grand swearing-in ceremony of the second Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh at the sprawling Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ikana stadium in the state capital on March 25.

According to sources, an all important meeting of the BJP legislature party to elect its leader will be held Thursday evening, in which Union Union Home minister Amit Shah and former Chief Minister of Jharkhand Raghubar Das will take part as observer

and co-observer. The formality of electing Yogi Adityanath as the new chief minister will be done in the meeting, they said on Tuesday. Shah will also deliberate on the constitution of the ministry in the meeting with the newly elected MLAs, they said.

On Monday, state unit president of the party Swatantra Dev Singh and general secretary (organisation) Sunil Bansal had held a meeting with party office bearers, during which they were assigned with responsibilities for the swearing-in ceremony.

# Fake call center busted, four arrested from South Delhi

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** With the arrest of four fraudsters, Police claimed to have busted a fake call centre which was operational in South Delhi. The accused targeted the elderly people and duped them in pretext of insurance policy settlement, taxes, GST, processing charges etc. Police have recovered ATM cards of different banks and have sealed dozens of bank accounts of the accused.

The accused are identified as Sajid Jaffer (29) son of Late Ziaur Rehman a resident of Kilkokari Village, Maharani Bagh, South Delhi; Salim Zafar (36) son of Late Ziaur Rehman a resident of Kilkokari Village, Maharani Bagh, South Delhi; Raju Yadav (32) son of Vijay Singh Yadav a resident of Shahpurajaat, South Delhi; and Ranjan

Kumar Yadav (30) son of Mahesh Prasad Yadav a resident of Taimur Nagar extension, South Delhi.

While addressing media persons here at the Police Control Room on Tuesday, SSP Badri Narayan Meena informed that a victim Prabhakar Rao Danikar of Sikola Bhattha had submitted a written complaint in Mohan Nagar Police Station. Some unidentified people contacted him on mobile phone and duped about Rs 16.15 lakhs in the pretext of an insurance settlement.

An FIR was lodged under sections 420, 34 of IPC. Taking the matter into serious cognizance, Durg Police conducted technical analysis of the mobile numbers and the transaction flow. Police team discovered that people were being cheated through the Call Center. The victim Prabhakar Rao Danikar had received calls



from different numbers continuously for the last three years from the South Delhi area. He was given wrong information regarding a group insurance of Rs 4 lakhs. The fraudsters were introducing themselves as representatives of CGIS (Group Insurance Company). The amount transferred by Prabhakar Rao Danikar was withdrawn from different places of Delhi and the amount deposited in the accounts of people of Delhi.

On the basis of technical inputs, a special team led by Inspector Jitendra Verma (SHO, Mohan Nagar) and Inspector Gaurav Tiwari (in-charge Cyber Cell) was constituted and sent to Delhi and Uttar Pradesh for trapping the accused. After reaching Delhi, the team kept a constant eye on the possible locations of the accused. The cops under the guise of common people looking for rented houses collected information regarding the accused. Later,

three different teams conducted raids and managed to arrest Sajid Zafar, Salim Zafar, Raju Yadav and Ranjan Kumar Yadav were arrested.

During preliminary interrogation, they confessed to have committed the crime. The bank accounts of the accused were frozen in which a total of Rs 1,56,672 has been held.

Detailing about the modus operandi, SSP Badri Narayan Meena informed that the accused misused the name of Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme (CGIS). On the pretext of getting a larger amount of insurance final settlement, the accused contacted the people on various mobile numbers.

They illegally acquired data from private companies and duped money from people on the pretext

of pension, maturity amount, etc. In the preliminary investigation, the accused had targeted people of Punjab, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. The cyber cell team is establishing contact with its counterparts in states for collecting information about the victims.

Inspector Gaurav Tiwari, ASI Shamit Mishra, Head Constable Chandrashekhar Banjeer, Constable Javed Hussain Khan, Vikrant Yadu from Cyber Cell and Inspector Jitendra Verma, Sub-Inspector Rajiv Tiwari, ASI Ashok Sahu, Head Constable Santosh Mishra, Constable Jugnu Singh, Anup Sharma, Rinku Soni, Upendra Yadav, Keshav Sahu, Pradeep Singh, Farooq Khan and Tilleshwar Rathor from Mohan Nagar Police Station played vital role in arresting the accused.

# BSP wins laurels in AIMA Corporate Management Olympiad 2022

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Two teams from SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant won laurels at the Corporate Management Olympiad 2022 conducted by All India Management Association (AIMA) from March 15-17, 2022 in online mode. In the Case Study competition module, Rajat Sarkar, AGM SMS-III along with Himanshu Verma, Mgr SMS-III won the 2nd Position winning Silver Medal. In Business Simulation competition, Vikas Piprani, Sr Manager SP-III & Ashish Agrawal, Sr Mgr T&D won the 3rd Position winning Bronze Medal.

Bhilai Steel Plant had nominated 5 teams to participate in various events organised under the Olympiad. The events were Quiz, Case study



Competition, Business Modelling and Business Simulation under varied topics. This is a yearly event conducted by AIMA in which reputed Corporates from Public and Private Sectors participate to provide opportunities to their Managers to enhance Managerial skill and competitive zeal.

Bhilai Steel plant nominated the winner teams of Bhilai Steel plant in various events of similar nature organized at Plant as well SAIL level to participate in the event. Out of five teams, two teams won medals in different categories.

# BJP Corporators dump garbage at BMC's main gate; stage demonstration

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Alleging corruption and discrimination in the city sanitation services, the Corporators of Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday staged demonstration at BMC Head Quarters, Ward 38 Corporator Piyush Mishra accompanied by Ward 53 Corporator Shakuntala Sahu, Ward 58 Corporator Ishwari and others staged a demonstration. They dumped a rickshaw full of garbage at the main gate of the Corporation Headquarters.

Piyush said that the wards of BJP Corporators are suffering discrimination over cleanliness services and other development works. If any em-



ployee responds to the complaint made by BJP Corporator, he is transferred to some other place or is illegally retrenched.

Mishra further alleged that the sanitation workers are being engaged in the plot purchased by the elder brother of Bhilai MLA. A number of employees have been deployed from MLA's residence

in Sector-5 as well as the Housing Board Colony. Apart from this, BMC's Health Officer to the Zone Sanitary Inspector have no control over the cleanliness workers. The sanitation workers are working like the private staff of some people. Piyush further alleged that the number of employees is being gradually reduced and the

leaders are busy in generating income through unfair means. The rickshaws and vehicles used for cleaning works exist in dilapidated state, due to which regular sanitation works are being affected.

Piyush added that the former General Body of Bhilai Municipal Corporation had ordered an enquiry against the sanitation agency. Now the same agency has been given a contract of city sanitation which itself proves corruption. Now, not a single officer of BMC is able to gather courage and make a complaint against the agency. BJP Corporator Piyush Mishra said if the BMC fails in improving the city sanitation system, they will resort to aggressive agitation.

# BJYM protests against deteriorating law and order condition

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** On Tuesday, BJYM staged a demonstration against the deteriorating law and order situation in the district. They alleged that the criminal incidents are on rise but the cops are busy imposing fines on traffic violators instead of tightening the noose on the criminals. The demonstrators led by Nitesh Mishra collected donations from the general public and presented the collection box to the SSP.

BJYM leader Nitesh Mishra said that the listed and habitual criminals are roaming freely in the city. On the other hand, the police are busy in taking plenary action against petty



traffic violations. BJYM demanded an immediate improvement of the law and order system immediately.

They submitted a charter of four demands which includes regular maintenance of traffic signals and deployment of traffic jowans at major traffic junctions; increasing po-

lice patrol in residential areas in view of increasing criminal activities; strict action against the ruffians who gather at public places and traffic junctions and get involved in boozing and creating troubles for other people; and strengthening the emergency response system Dial 112.

Nitesh Mishra, Rahul Parihar, P Raj, Ravi Kashyap, Deepak Tripathi, Rajdeep Namedev, Ritesh Singh, Ajay Thakur, Rajkumar, Anurag Naidu, Vikas Singh, Wahid Raja, Prakash Mishra, Narendra Verma, Raj Mishra, Somnath, Nitish Roy and others were present.

# Padda honoured with Innovative Farmer Award

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2022 was organized by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi during March 09 to 11. In this fair, the achievement of farmers of different states was displayed. Durg based Rajinder Singh Padda was the only farmer from Chhattisgarh state who was honoured during this event.

He was honoured with the Innovative Farmer Award for his significant contribution in the field of agriculture and allied activities. He has been producing Napier grass on a large scale for cattle fodder. He received this honor from BS Tomar (Joint Director, Extension), JPS Dabas (I/c CATAT) and AK



Singh (Director) during the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela 2022. While addressing media persons here at Supela on Tuesday, Padda informed that he has increased per acre production of Napier grass and Berseem grass from 70 tonnes to 100 tonnes per year. He cultivates Napier Grass and Berseem Grass in 200 acres of farms in Jeorasira, Kachandur. He said that normally only 70

tonnes is produced, but he is practicing organic farming and has increased the yield up to 100 tonnes without using chemical fertilizers. Apart from this, he runs a dairy farm and is also engaged in fisheries. Padda added that he has a contract of supplying 5000 tonnes of fodder to a milk processing establishment.

He is producing Napier Grass and Berseem Grass for this purpose. He has created this record by producing 100 tonnes per acre rising above the average of 70 tonnes. Padda is a qualified engineer and is using state-of-the-art machines in farming. The grass produced here is also being sent to Raipur; Dharmajaygarh and Rajnandgaon. He said that the demand for cattle fodder is very high but the production is very low in the state.

# First Budget of Bhilai-Chaorda Municipal Corporation on Mar 24

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** The Bhilai-Chaorda Municipal Corporation Mayor Nirmalkar Kosare will be presenting his first budget since assuming office on March 24, informed a press communique. All the officials of the corporation including Corporation Commissioner Kirtiman Singh Rathore will be present in the meeting and the councilors of all 40 wards will also be present in the general meeting.

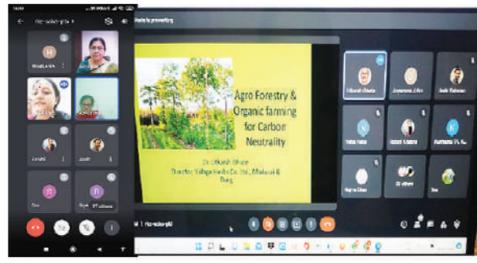
The Speaker Krishna Chandrakar will preside over the budget meeting to be held on March 24, 2022. The budget will be presented at 12:00 hrs. Vikas Chandra Tripathi, PRO, revealed this information.

# International Forest Day celebrated in St Thomas

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** The PG Department of Zoology, St Thomas College, in collaboration with department of Zoology TKM college, Kollam, Kerala, organized a National Webinar on "Forests and Sustainable production and consumption" to celebrate The International Day of Forest, on March 21, 2022.

Dr Kunhamu TK, Professor and Head in the Department of Silviculture and Agro-forestry at College of Forestry, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala and Dr Utkarsh Ghate, Director, Village Herbs Co Ltd Madhurai & Durg were the eminent resource persons in the webinar. While speaking on the topic "Forest for



Ecological Resilience" Dr Kunhamu mentioned about the alarming carbon emission all over the world and the need to increase carbon sink by planting more trees. Dr Utkarsh Ghate spoke on the relevance of Agro-forestry and organic farming for carbon neutrality.

Dr Chitra Gopinath, Principal, TKM College, Kollam, Kerala presided

# Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav: CO & CCD celebrates Swachhata Pakwada

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Swachhata Pakwada was inaugurated at SAIL-BSP's Coke ovens and Coal Chemical department (CO & CCD) under banner of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'. GA Rao, CGM (CO & CCD), GM Incharges, GM's and Personnel officers took the Safety and Swachhata Oath. GA Rao, CGM (CO & CCD) in his address said that Safety and cleanliness should be brought into our daily routine. We must always strive to improve in the field of Safety and cleanliness, for which regular drives are being conducted at Coke ovens and Coal Chemical department. BC Mandal, GM (Safety) gave a brief about near miss cases in CO & CCD. Various other activities will be held at Coke ovens and Coal Chemical department during the Swachhata pakwada being organised during March 16-31, 2022.

# Hockey players from city to represent SPSB in National Championship

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** The 2nd Inter Departmental Senior Women's National Hockey Championship 2022 is scheduled to be held from March 23-30, 2022 at National Stadium, New Delhi under the aegis of Hockey India. The Steel Plants Sports Board Senior Women's Hockey Team will be participating in the said championship and competing against Railway Sports Promotion Board, Sports Authority of India, Sashastra Seema Bal, UCO Bank Women's Hockey Academy and All India Police Sports Control Board.

Selection trials for formation of SPSB Team were held on March 16 at Pant Stadium wherein 18 players were shortlisted and coaching camp was conducted at Bhilai from March 17 to 20 March 2022.

The players who will be representing SPSB in the said championship are Pooja Bhatt, Mamta Bhatt, Kajal Rathore, Devshree, Anuradha, Payal, Manisha Dhawal, Shivangi, Dipti, Pooja, Jyoti, Arti Kashyap, Mayuri Rai, Karishma, Anima, Ekta, Radha Negi and Kushboo. The Coach of the team is Sudarshan Singh, NIS Hockey Coach and Advisor, Sports, SAIL and Manager of the team is



Dennis Christy, Asstt Manager (Personnel), BSP.

On the other hand, the SPSB Inter Steel Plant Hockey Championship 2022 is scheduled to be held from at Jamshedpur under the aegis of SPSB and is being organized by TATA Steel. Bhilai Steel Plant Men's

Hockey Team will be participating in the said championship and competing against the following teams of the nation:-Rourkela Steel Plant, TATA Steel, RINL, Visakhapatnam.

The players who will be representing SPSB in the said championship are as

under:- Mohd Aslam, T Kujur, GC Jain, Naresh Sinha (BSP Players), Chumman, Fanish, Toufique Ahmed, Sukhdev, Kartik, Arjun, Khushal, Praveen, Aditya Netam, Vishnu, Khogeshwar Bagh & Aditya (local Youth).

The Coach of the team is Ajitesh Masih and Manager of the team is Nitin Singh Kashyap. Sahee Ram Jakhar, DGM (S,C&CA), Abhijit Bhowmik, Asstt Manager (S,C&CA) and Shri Dennis Christy, Asstt. Manager (Personnel) and Secretary, BSP Hockey wished the team good luck for participation in the said championship.

**Central Chronicle News**

**Bhilai, Mar 22:** Ispat Fitness Centre was inaugurated in Ispat Bhavan by Director In-Charge Bhilai Steel Plant, Anirban Dasgupta on March 22, 2022. Set up as part of Govt of India's Fit India Movement, the Fitness Centre is a well-equipped gym with various facilities to enable those working in Ispat Bhavan to take time out for fitness. Such slogans as Fitness@Work and Dont Sit, Get Fit adorned the entrance to the Fitness Centre. It is the first such Fitness Centre at workplace in any SAIL unit. A separate space for Yoga has also been ear-



marked inside the fitness centre.

Present on the occasion were Manas Biswas, ED (Mines & Rowghat), Dr SK Issar, ED (M&HS), AK Bhatta, ED (Projects), KK

Singh, ED (P&A), Anjani Kumar, ED (Works), AK Panda, CGM I/c Finance, NK Banchor, President OA & SEFI Chairman, other CGMs and senior officers of the Plant.

## Govt making continuous efforts for displacement of affected shopkeepers: Daharia

From Oxyzone in front of Khalsa School

Raipur, Mar 22:

The issues of lack of proper displacement of 70 shopkeepers from Oxyzone area opposite Khalsa School was raised in the VS by Congress MLA Satyanarayan Sharma and BJP MLA Brijmohan Agrawal through call attention motion. The Minister for Urban Administration in his written reply informed the House that efforts in this direction is being regularly taken. Congress MLA Satyanarayan Sharma and BJP MLA Brijmohan Agrawal through a call attention motion said that 70 shops were constructed by RMC

in front of Khalsa School, near New Bus Stand and through this mall shopkeepers were earning livelihood. But after construction of Oxyzone in its place, all these shops were demolished on 26 Dec 2017. Right since then in last four years the affected shopkeepers have not been displaced or properly rehabilitated.

In this case Chief Minister and urban administration Minister have given verbal orders for their rehabilitation, but so far it has not been implemented. On 26 Nov 2021, a proposal for rehabilitation of the affected shopkeepers was passed in GBM of RMC and it was



after inspection by The Minister for Urban Administration, Mayor and RMC Commissioner a place near the 'Haat Bazar', near the Avanti Bai Chowk, in Pandri was finalized, but thereafter no action has been taken till date. The affected shopkeepers are still wander-

ing in search of rehabilitation and displacement and their shops and source of livelihood is lying closed for last 4 yrs and due to which the all are facing serious financial problems.

On this the Minister for Urban Administration Dr Shiv Kumar Daharia in his written reply informed the House that the affected shopkeeper in front of Khalsa School were informed about their rehabilitation and displacement near Best Prize Shop in Bhanpuri and on which the shopkeepers disagreed and file a petition in the High Court. The HC rejected the petition saying that if the shopkeeper agree in shops to be provided in

Bhanpuri then next course of action be taken. On this the shopkeeper did not showed any interest and therefore no displacement was done. Last on 26 Nov. in GBM of RMC, a proposal of displacement of these shopkeepers in front of Crystal Arcade at Lodhipara Chowk on RMC land near 'Haat Bazar' was approved. Since the proposal of RMC was not as per the guidelines of Mukyamantri Swalamban Yojana and therefore a clear-cut opinion on this was sought and after which final decision in this regard will be taken and the government is taking regular efforts for their displacement.

## WATER CRISIS



It is just start of summer season and denizens are waiting for refill from public water tap connections and gives hint of likely crisis with sheer wastage of water in public places and no accountability by RMC authorities in days to come.

## House Committee to probe into payment to black-listed Company

Speaker makes declaration in the House

Raipur, Mar 22:

The Vidhan Sabha Speaker made a declaration to carry out inquiry into payment made to black-listed firms by 'Beej Nigam' through Vidhan Sabha's samiti. Speaker intervened when the member of the Opposition turned aggressive over a question during question-hour session in VS here on Tuesday. Prior to this Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey said that he does not have any objections over the inquiry and



added that the government simply would not tolerate any wrong with the farmers.

The Leader of Opposition in the VS Dharamlal Kaushik raising a question during the question-hour session in VS charged that a banned company Trimurti was made payment for pur-

chase of Hybrid Paddy and maize sidelining all the rules and regulations. Senior BJP leader and MLA Ajay Chandrakar held this as a serious issue and termed it as sheer injustice with farmers and demanded inquiry through VS samiti.

The Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey said that on 1 Jan 2019 to 31 Jan 2022, the 'Beej Vikas Nigam' has not banned or debarred any of the Companies. He accepted that without DNA test, no payment should have been made to the Company and added that so far no complete payment has been made to the Company.

Six policemen suspended on charges of taking bribe

Kawardha, Mar 21: SP Lal Umed Singh has taken firm action against the policemen involved in writing of case related to liquor smuggling and in this has suspended 1 ASI, 2 constables and 3 jawans. Actually on March 10, thana Kotwali Policemen nabbed few persons involved in illicit selling and smuggling of liquor. Later a video of this case became viral when the case was written off taking some cash from the accused. When complaint in this regard reached SP Lal Umed Singh, then immediately action was taken and six policemen were suspended with immediately effect. Among the policemen suspended included Asst. SI Dinesh Jharia, head constable Sohan Verma and Sanjay Gupta and constables Sandeep Shukla, Sudhir Sharma, and Harendra Sahu of Chowki Damapur.

## Collector, SSP discuss law and order



Raipur, Mar 22:

Collector Sourabh Kumar and Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Kumar Agrawal today held a meeting of senior officers of district administration and police department at the conference hall in Collectorate to discuss measures to maintain peace and security in the district. The Collector took note ongoing agitation of various associations of part-time school teachers, contractual workers and farmers near Budhatalab and gave necessary instructions to the

officials to maintain law and order situation. Acting on information about agitation of Chhattisgarh Contract Employees Welfare Association and Chhattisgarh Agents and Investors Welfare Association, the Collector told the concerned officials to hold talks with the representatives of both the associations. The Collector also discussed with the officials the possible traffic problem during the dharnas, demonstrations and rallies to be organized in the current week. He asked the revenue and police officers

to maintain constant contact with each other. He said that common citizens should not face any kind of inconvenience and law and order should also be maintained. He also instructed to keep a close watch on anti-social elements. The meeting was also attended by Additional District Magistrate NR Sahu, Additional Collectors Gopal Verma, BB Panchbhai and BC Sahu, Additional Superintendent of Police Tarkeshwar Patel, all Sub Divisional Magistrates (Revenue) and other senior officers.

## Speaker announces names for Outstanding MLA and journalists

Raipur, Mar 22: Vidhan Sabha Speaker Dr Charandas Mahant has made declaration of names for Outstanding MLA and journalists (print and electronic media) award for maintaining decorum in the House and Vidhan Sabha reporting here on Tuesday.

On behalf of the ruling party, the award for Outstanding MLA went to Congress MLA Santram Netam and from the Opposition to BJP MLA Ajay Chandrakar. Similarly from Print Media the name of Yashwant Dhote of daily 'Nav Pradesh' was announced for Outstanding Journalist and from Electronic Media name of Zulfiquar Ali for Hindi news and award for Outstanding Cameramen will be presented to Shashikant Verma (Hindi news).

## Contract power workers continue indefinite strike



Stage half-naked demonstration

Raipur, Mar 22: Contractual electricity employees have launched movement against Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company (CSPDCL). A large number of contractual electricity employees in the capital staged half-naked demonstration against the company and the state government on Tuesday and raised slogans in support of their demands. Contractual electricity employees are on strike here for the last 12 days under the banner of Chhattisgarh

Samvida Vidyt Karamchari Sangh. On the 13th day of their protest on Tuesday, about one thousand employees demonstrated semi-naked demanding regularisation in the company with permanent appointment on vacant posts and abolition of contract system in the company. According to them they raised their demand by going to the company office but in vain. Considering company's indifference towards their demand, they staged demonstration in a different way. They said that they would continue to stage protest till their demands are met.

## Heavy rush at Registry Office

Target increased for the second time in this financial year, from Rs 1,700 to Rs 1,800 crore



Raipur, Mar 22: About one and a half months before the end of the financial year, the annual target had been met in the registration offices. In view of this, the Inspector General of Registration Office has once again increased the target. Raipur office were given a target of collecting 100 crore revenue within a month. The department has also achieved the target of 96.45 percent. Not only the common people are availing the benefit of 40 percent rebate in the registry of land by the state government, but due to this the government has also started getting huge revenue. The common public's dream of becoming an owner of a house is also

coming true. Due to the exemption, there has been a huge jump in the sale and purchase of land across the state. If the collector guideline rate is Rs 500 sq ft for buying one thousand square feet of land without exemption in the state, then at the rate of guideline, he will incur a stamp duty of Rs 5 lakh at 6.25 percent, then he has to purchase a stamp of Rs 31,250. If 40 percent discount is available on the same property, then only Rs 18,750 stamps will have to be purchased at the rate of 6.25 percent on Rs 6 lakh. Now the public is

getting the benefit of Rs 25000 in stamp duty on buying land up to Rs 10 lakh. The registration department has achieved 96.45 percent of its annual target across the state. The government had given a target of Rs 1650 crore to the registration offices across the state for the first time in this financial year. After getting exemption in the registry, the target was increased to 1700 crores. If the target is achieved before the stipulated time in the registration offices, then it has been increased to 1800 crores.

## Raipur Airport: More than 41000 air passengers boarded flight in seven days

Flights schedule to change from March 27 or 28 next week being prepared by the Raipur Aviation Authority



Raipur, Mar 22: With the drop in corona infection in Chhattisgarh, now the movement of air travelers to and from Raipur has also increased. It is notable that in the last seven days during the festive days, the number of air passengers going to and from Raipur airport has crossed 41 thousand. At the same time, the movement of aircraft flights from Raipur has also increased. At the same time, the schedule of flights is also likely to change from March 27 or 28. According to the information received from aviation officials, the number of air

passengers in and out of Swami Vivekananda Airport in Raipur stood at 41,570 during the period from March 14 to 20. There was a total of 378 flights with an increase of three percent in flights and two percent increase in the number of air passengers. On the one hand, the movement of air passengers is increasing. At the same time, the schedule of flights to and from Raipur is going to change from March 27 or March 28 next week and for this a schedule has also been made by the Aviation Authority. As per the sources there will be a

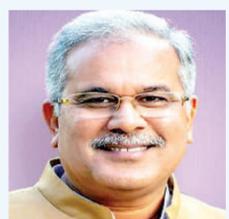
change in flights schedule from 15 minutes to half an hour. It is notable that every year in the summer, the schedule of flights is changed and if the temperature rises, then the number of passengers is also reduced. In the 11 months of the financial year 2021-22, there has been a significant increase in the number of air passengers going to and from Raipur airport. In the period from April 2021 to February 2022, a total of more than 12.80 lakh passengers movement were reported from Raipur airport. Aviation officials said that now there is a steady increase in the movement of air passengers as soon as the infection of Corona is down. In the coming days, the movement of flights will also increase and flights to new cities will start.

## State in revenue surplus due to better fin management: CM

Raipur, Mar 22:

On passing of the Appropriation Bill in the House for state's annual budget for 2022-23 for Rs 1.12 lakh crore for FY 2022-23 with voice vote, the budget session of the Assembly concluded here on Tuesday.

Replying to the debate on state's budget for 2022-23, CM and Finance Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that the state's economy is in better shape compared to the state's established earlier. There has been constant rise in the capital expenditure and even the financial loss has been reduced with good financial management and discipline. This year there is situation of revenue surplus in Chhattisgarh. CM



Baghel further said that due to Covid-19 pandemic, there has been fall in the state's revenue, but with better financial management, the state is also taking loan.

Right from 2012-13 the state government has taken lowest of loan this year and which in the existing FY 2021-22 is just Rs 1000 crore.

Baghel said that it is the central government which says that the state government should take loan against GST and not

Appropriation bill of Rs 1.12 lakh cr passed with voice vote

this in 2019-20, the state took loan of Rs 3109 crore and in the year 2021-22, it took loan of Rs 8071 crore. In this GST loan is Rs 4965 crore and special central assistance loan of Rs 282 crore. Baghel informed the House that in the first quarter of 2021-22, a loan of Rs 4000 cr was taken and in the second quarter the capital expenditure was Rs 7629 cr and there was revenue surplus of Rs 1103 cr.

In this way the financial loss was Rs 6591 cr and which is just 1.65 of the GSDP. CM said that the state government working on the concept of benefit of common men and for their well-

fare, would definitely fulfill all schemes launched for the poor, farmers, tribals, women and youth and adopting policy is lower expenditure would make all possible initiatives to lower non-productive expenditure.

CM during discussions on demands of members of the House, made declaration of formation of new tehsil of Piparia and Kunda in Kabirdhaam district; of Bacharapoudi and Balrampur in Koriya district; of Hasudi in Janjgir-Champa district and of Sargaon in Mungeli district. Seeing the problems being faced by the journalists in press accreditation card rules, made amendments into the same and allowed for its validity for period of two years from the next FY.

## Rural economy model and better work management has resulted in significant decline in State's unemployment rate: Baghel

Raipur, Mar 22:

According to the latest data report released by the Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Chhattisgarh ranks third among the states with the lowest unemployment rate in the country. Policy decisions and better management of the state government has been creating various employment opportunities for youth, which led to decline of the unemployment rate to 1.7 percent. As per the data released by CMIE as of February 2022, Odisha has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, and the highest unemployment rate is of Rajasthan i.e. 32.3 and Haryana i.e. 31 percent. In line with Mahatma Gandhi's vision of 'Gram Swaraj', Chhattisgarh adopted a new model of

- Ch'garh ranks third among the states with lowest unemployment rate in the country
- CMIE releases the data: Unemployment rate in Chhattisgarh is 1.7% while national rate is 7.4%
- Policy-based decisions and better management have decreased the unemployment rate in Ch'garh

development three years ago with the goal of inclusive development. This model emphasized on increasing economic connectivity between the villages and the cities. Under this model, initiatives such as Suraji Gaon Yojana, Narva-Garva-Ghurva-Bari program, Godhan Nyay Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Gramteen Bhumihon Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana, establishment of Rural Industrial Parks, collection, procurement and value addition of

Minor Forest Produce were taken for the economic empowerment of villages. These schemes, programmes and initiatives of the State Government have created plethora of new employment opportunities in rural areas. These schemes are giving impetus to the development of the state, due to which state's unemployment rate is continuously declining. Even during the first and second wave of COVID-19, the economy of Chhattisgarh remained

untouched by the nationwide economic slowdown. Despite the challenges of this phase, the unemployment rate in Chhattisgarh remained completely under control. Chhattisgarh ranks third among states with low unemployment with 1.7 percent, while neighboring Odisha ranks first with one per cent, according to the newly released data. Meghalaya is second with 1.4 percent and Karnataka is fourth with 2 percent. The unemployment rate is 32.3 percent in Rajasthan, 31 percent in Haryana, 15 percent in Jharkhand and 14 percent in Bihar. According to the latest report of CMIE the unemployment rate in the country is 7.4 percent. The urban unemployment rate is 8.1 percent and the rural unemployment rate is 7.2 percent.

## All-round devp of any society only possible through unity: Rudrakumar

**PHE and Cottage Industries Minister inaugurates three-day Satgawan Satnam fair at Bhadra Dham**

**Janjgir, Mar 22:**

State Public Health Engineering and Village Industries Minister Guru Rudra Kumar inaugurated the three-day Satgawan Satnam fair at village Bhadra under Pamgarh block of Janjgir-Champa district. On this occasion, Guru Rudra Kumar offered his greetings and best wishes to the people of Sat Samaj by worshipping the 'Guru Gaddi' built under Jaiktham.

In his remarks, Guru Rudra Kumar expressed his happiness and thanked the villagers for the warm welcome received by the people on his arrival at Bhadra for the first time. He announced 20 lakh rupees from DMF head for



the basic facilities and development of Bhadra Dham in Bhadra Dham. Minister Guro Rudrakumar said that all-round development of any society can take place only through unity. He called upon the people of Satnam society to stay united because only or-

ganized society is powerful. He said that 60% devotees of Satnam Samaj and 40 percent other communities visit Giroudpuri fair every year. Similarly, people participate in the Satnam Sandesh Yatra in about the same proportion and participate in making the

Yatra a success and get the blessings of Baba Guru Ghasidas ji. He called upon the people of the society and said that they should make their personality clean, beautiful and spotless, only then life can be successful and meaningful.

On this occasion MLAs Ramkumar Yadav, Mrs. Mamta Devi Patle, Dr. Amit Miri, Rajeshwar Bhargava, Dasheram Khande, Munnu Jangde, Dinesh Sharma, Raghavendra Pratap Singh, Chhabilal Ratre, Ram Vishwanath, Gorelal Burman and Saroj Sarathi, Mrs. Mamta Devi Patle, Ram Vishwas Sonkar and a large number of followers of Satnam Panth were present.

## Ten day 'Aakar' traditional craftsmanship training camp concludes

**Raipur, Mar 22:**

The 10-day "Aakar" traditional craftsmanship training camp by the Department of Culture concluded on Monday. The camp was organized from March 13 to March 21 at Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum premises. This training camp is being organized by the department for the last 21 years.

It is worth mentioning that Aakar-2022 was organized by the Culture Department in collaboration with Aryabhata Research Institute for the preservation, propagation, awareness and interest of traditional crafts and various arts by the state government. The camp



includes traditional crafts and various arts like bamboo craft, Madhubani art, wood art, painting, Rajwar mural, tattoo art, drama, dance, terracot-

ta, Japan paper cutting, clay art, para art, glass painting, dry flower making, paddy jewellery. Training was given on subjects like making and mural art

etc. After the training, the art made by the trainees was also displayed. The main objective of this event is to preserve and expand the traditional arts and make the new generation aware of these arts, so that art remains alive forever.

A total of 139 trainees of Raipur received training in this 2022 training camp. Training was given in 18 genres in the camp. During this, specially Chhattisgarhi traditional musical instruments were also displayed and performed. Extending this event, along with Raipur it will also be organized in four divisions including Bastar, Surguja, Bilaspur and Durg.

## GSS offers financial assistance to budding players



**Raipur, Mar 22:** 8th Federation Cup National Thai Boxing Championship is scheduled from March 25-27 in Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra). State team will be represented by Vaibhai Dama, Shivang Dama (both from Shri Gujarati English Medium) and school coach Tikeswari Sahu will also form part of the team. Shri Gujarati Shikshan Sangh(GSS) as a noble gesture handed over Rs 9,000 to the players and coach representing the state

team. The assistance was given by Ashok Bhai Patel, Secretary of GSS. The selected members will leave for Mahabaleshwar on March 23. After handing over assistance amount Secretary wished for the better performance of players. On this occasion SGEMS Principal V K Mishra, Hindi Medium Principal Anis Memon, GSS Registrar Ashok Jachak and future Principal of Shri Gujarati English Medium School Dr Shailesh Sharma.

## NTPC Talaipalli celebrates World Water Day

**Raigarh (Talaipalli), Mar 22:**

NTPC Talaipalli Coal Mining Project celebrated World Water Day on March 22 with various water conservation awareness activities. The programme started with NTPC Geet. On this occasion, Surjya Kanta Ray, Business Unit Head of NTPC Talaipalli Project, while addressing all the officers and employees, emphasized the importance of water conservation. He mentioned that NTPC Talaipalli accords high priority to water conservation. With the initiative of the United Nations, World Water Day is celebrated every year on 22 March all over the world since 1993. Its main purpose is to explain the im-



portance of water conservation. Water is our basic resource. This year the theme on World Water Day was "Ground water; making the invisible visible". In the program, all the officers, employees, associates, and contract workers of NTPC Talaipalli took the oath of water conservation Today. On this occasion, various online competitions like essay, painting

and quiz competition were organized on the topic of water conservation and practice of water harvesting was propagated amongst the children in local schools. Utility and conservation of recharge structure for augmenting groundwater, 11 No's of ground water recharge borewells have been made within mine boundary Near village

## Placement camp to be organized on Mar 23

**Raipur, Mar 22:**

District Employment and Self-Employment Guidance Center, Raipur is organizing a placement camp on 23rd March in Old Police Headquarters with the objective of providing employment opportunities to the local educated unemployed youth in the private sector. Private Sector Employer Bluechips Jobs Pvt Ltd Raipur, will recruit various posts including MIS Executive, Relationship Manager (Sales), Supervisor, Cook, Baby Care, Electrician, Driver and maid for domestic work while Huntsmen & Borons, Pune (Maharashtra) will recruit

on posts in Axis & Indusland Bank. The above mentioned employers will recruit 257 posts from 8th to graduate pass applicants at the rate of pay scale of Rs 8 thousand to Rs 20 thousand per month. The qualifications have been fixed by the employers according to the post.

Deputy Director of District Employment Raipur said that eligible and interested applicants can attend the interview process by appearing on the scheduled date and place. He has urged the applicants to attend the placement camp following social distancing.

## 'Ghotuls' are the center of education: CM

Where rich information regarding education, health, culture is provided

**Raipur, Mar 22:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel addressed the 'Manjhis' and the members belonging to more than 50 'Ghotuls' of Bastar at the Vidhan Sabha Auditorium here today. The Ghotul members invited Chief Minister Mr. Baghel to the 'Jhalmalko Layor Ghotul Racha Utsav' to be organized on April 8 at Amakda in Antagarh. The Chief Minister gladly accepted the invitation saying that Bastar's unique and rich culture is the identity of Chhattisgarh. Bastar always had a distinct identity, be it Ghotul, Devgudi, cockfight, or the world-famous 'Dussehra' festival.

They all have given Bastar, recognition in the country and abroad. Bastar has a different identity due to its diverse culture, dialects, and food. 'Ghotul' has its distinct identity in the country and across the globe due to its unique culture. 'Ghotul' is a cultural education center where information about education, health, culture is provided. "When I went to Narayanpur, approval was given for the construction of Ghotul there. All possible assistance will be provided by the state government to preserve and promote 'Ghotul'. The state government is continuously working to promote the



rich culture of Bastar. 'Devgudi' is being constructed all over Bastar. The existence of 'Ghotul' is important to make youth aware of our culture. I am overwhelmed to see that you have come here in traditional attires, the deeper

the roots, the greater the fruits. We have to preserve and promote our unique culture, so we have also fixed honorarium of 'Sirha', 'Guniya', 'Baiga', and 'Moria' in this budget", said Chief Minister. Chief Minister also praised the

handmade invitation letter made using bamboo saying that it looks very beautiful. 'Ghotul' members presented 'Raila' dance on the request of Chief Minister. Under the leadership of State Planning Commission member Mrs. Kanti Nag, the Manjhi and members of 'Ghotul' presented 'Ghotul Racha' made of bamboo craft to the Chief Minister.

Industries Minister Kewasi Lakhma, Advisor to Chief Minister Rajesh Tiwari, Chairman of Bastar Area Tribal Development Authority Lakheshwar Baghel, and MLA Anoop Nag were present on this occasion.

## Members of SAS gherao Collector's office

**Konta, Mar 22:**

Huge resentment was witnessed by the members of Sarva Adivasi Samaj (SAS) against the Collector and DMC of Sukma district here on Tuesday. A few days ago, people of the tribal society had reached Sukma district to meet Sukma Collector Vineet Nandanwar, but the Collector refused to meet them. This led to lot of resentment among SAS members and so they gheraoed the Collector's office in large number today. The tribal community of SAS had opened front against the administration in support of their 14-point demands. It was through massive rally they gheraoed the Collector Collector Vineet Nandanwar and DMC Shyam Sunder Singh (Bablu Chauhan and are adamant to remove



him raising slogans of protest. Members of SAS said that it is unfortunate that the rights given to tribals are being violated indiscriminately under the protection of the Chief Minister. For the first time in the history of Chhattisgarh, in the name of officers like Sukma Collector and DMC, tribal community seems to be agitated, angry and eager to protest. Now it remains to be seen as to what action the gov-

ernment will be taking against such corrupt officials. In the state of Chhattisgarh, where Sukma district administration claims that many development works have been done for the tribals in the rural areas and they have also been given the benefits of many schemes of the state government. But today SAS members came out openly against the Collector outside his office and raised slogans in protest.

## CM unveils the statue of Dr. Khubchand Baghel in Balodabazar



**Raipur, Mar 22:** Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel unveiled the statue of Dr. Khubchand Baghel, the first visionary of Chhattisgarh state formation, at Balodabazar, the district headquarters. His seven feet high statue has been installed in Gauravpath. This idol is made from 'Ashtadhatu'. During the unveiling of the statue, Chief Minister Baghel paid tribute by garlanding the statue. Appreciating the life-size statue, he said that through this statue, the

new generation of Chhattisgarh would be familiar with the contribution of Dr. Khubchand Baghel. He congratulated the local public representatives and the entire team of Municipal Council Balodabazar for this. On this occasion, Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shivkumar Dabria, Municipal Council President, Chittawar Jaiswal and all the coproprators, senior officials of Kurmi society, many public representatives and dignitaries were present.

## Major change in the lives of people in three years: CM

New doors of livelihood opened

**Raipur, Mar 22:**

Today in the Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha, the demands for grants of Rs 12681 crore 75 lakh 82 thousand for the departments of Chief Minister Mr Bhupesh Baghel were passed by voice vote for the financial year 2022-23. Out of this amount, Rs 339 crore 68 lakh 81 thousand for General Administration Department, Rs 429 crore 60 lakh 90 thousand for other expenditure related to General Administration Department, Rs 7734 crore 24 lakh 25 thousand for expenditure related to Finance Department, Rs 208 crore 65 lakh for expenditure related to district projects, Rs 2634 crore 17 lakh 38 thousand for expenditure related to energy department, Rs 751 crore 70 lakh 42 thousand for expenditure related to mineral resources department, Rs 329 crore 87 lakh 10 thousand for expenditure related to public relations department, Rs 192 crore 32 lakh 68 thousand for the Department of Electronics and Information Technology and Rs 61 crore 49 lakh 28 thousand has been allocated for the Department of Aviation.

Replying to the discussion held in the House, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel said that the state government is functioning with these two mottos of 'Seva, Jatan, Sarokar' and 'Gadbo Nava Chhattisgarh'. While, we have emphasized on providing relief to the people at the earliest, on the other hand we are taking all possible measures to make them partners in the development of the state.

The mineral resource is being properly utilized for the overall development of the state. Mineral revenue is increasing progressively. He said that the state government received Rs 5,517 cr in the form of mineral revenue in the financial year 2020-21. In the financial year 2021-22 from April to December, 2021, against the target of Rs.7800 cr, revenue of Rs.8200 cr has been achieved. In this way, mineral revenue of about Rs 11900 cr is expected to be received by the end of the financial year.

The Chief Minister said that many tales of misuse of DMF have resonated in this House. We have taken serious steps towards better utilization of DMF. It is now being used for



the development of the people and the area affected by the mining operations. After coming to our government, with the contribution of DMF, reducing the malnutrition rate of the districts, increasing the quality of health, education, promoting agriculture, processing, employment and beneficiary oriented works are being approved on priority. In the financial year 2021-22, from April to December, 2021, an amount of Rs 2 thousand 20 crore has been received as contribution under DMF head. A total amount of Rs 8 thousand 35 crore has been received

since 2015 as contribution from DMF. Chief Minister Baghel said that the State Government has made Information Technology a means of public convenience and mass empowerment.

In this sequence, an online advance platform 'Chief Minister CG Camp Portal' has been developed for monitoring the priority schemes of the state government. Major flagship schemes have been included in this portal. Like, Godhan Nyay Yojana, Mukhyamantri Haat-Bazaar Clinic Yojna, Chief Minister Suposhan Abhiyan, CG E-

District, Chief Minister Urban Slum Health Scheme, Narva-Garuva-Ghuruva-Bari Yojana, online monitoring is being done through this portal. He said that by fixing the accountability of government offices and public servants, we have enabled Lok Seva Kendras, through which more than 25 lakh 21 thousand citizens have been benefited from various government services this year. At present 132 services of various departments are available online.

The Chief Minister said that in the field of energy, we followed efficient management and proper discipline. This is the reason that despite all the obstacles like corona, coal crisis, lockdown, we made records of maximum production, availability and supply. When the state was formed, the demand for electricity in Chhattisgarh was only 1 thousand 334 MW. At the end of 2018, it reached 4 thousand 559 MW and today we have touched the peak of 5 thousand 57 MW. He said that in terms of transmission, we have brought transmission loss close to 3 per cent with efficient management, which is less than the

target of 3.22 per cent set by the regulatory commission. Due to good arrangement, the transmission system availability was 99.79 percent, which is a record.

The Chief Minister said that the State Government has decided to restore the old pension which had been discontinued, so that the officers and employees will not have to worry about old age as they will receive pension.

Regarding the development of aviation facilities in the state, the Chief Minister said that Jagdalpur and Bilaspur airports have been developed and licensed under the Regional Connectivity Scheme as 3C-VFR airports. Regular air service is now operating from Maa Danteshwari Airport, Jagdalpur in Hyderabad-Jagdalpur-Raipur sector and from Bilasa Devi Kenwat Airport, Bilaspur (Chakarbatha) in Delhi-Jabalpur-Bilaspur-Prayagraj sector. Administrative approval of Rs 43 crore 98 lakh has been issued by the state government for the development of runway of Maa Mahamaya Airport, Ambikapur Darima.

# Stray cattle on roads bring reality of govt schemes!

# Guests take part in 'Fagun Utsav'

District Panchayat 'Sabhapati' was chief guest



Central Chronicle News

**Khairagarh, Mar 22:** On occasion of 'Fagun month' a 'Fagun Utsav' and tableau was organised and in this District Panchayat 'sabhapati' Ghamman Sahu was present as the chief guest. In the programme organised in Gram Reewaghaan, Boirdih, Allaha, Navagaon,

Shikaritola and Takam. District Panchayat 'Sabhapati' Ghamman Sahu, Bisesar Sahu, Balmukund Verma, Gorelal Verma took part in this and extended greetings to villagers on occasion of Holi. They made an appeal to the people to remove all bad qualities in them and bring a change of good over evil as it is done

during 'Holika Dahan' and be a source of motivation to other. On this occasion Yuwa Morcha President Bhuwan Verma, Trilokchand Jain, Jitendra Verma, Gulab Verma, Tikendra Verma, Subhash Verma, Mukesh Verma, Dr Sanjay Verma, Deepak Sahu, Thanu Sahu and others were present.

stray cattle nuisance, but despite seeing it with their eyes, they have never bothered to find amicable solution to it till date.

**Where are 'Gau Sewaks'?**  
There is team of 'Gau Sewaks' operating in the city, but they do not seem to be serious about this problem. The passer-by as such are facing accidents due to stray cattle sitting on the roads and set aside this it also poses problems of injury to innocent cattle and other animals and about which nobody is bothered.

**What officer says:**  
"The work of 'Kanji House' in city has still not being completed and with no 'gauthan', it is only possible to remove stray cattle using 'cow-catcher'".  
- Rambahoran Tiwari  
CMO Nagar Panchayat  
Dongargaon.



which the movement of stray cattle out in the open shows real picture to all.

At times due to stray cattle on roads, there are chances of accidents and which is high in urban areas, as in order to save these stray cattle, one generally falls prey to accident. At times these cattle suddenly start running or may cause huge dent in car or injury to those on two-wheeler.

**No campaign launched in city:**  
The urban administration in the city has not for-

mulated any concrete plans to catch stray cattle moving around in the roads and other parts of city and take then to 'Kanji House' for their safety. Since the Nagar Panchayat is having the facility of cow-catcher, but with lack of action, the animal owners are least bothered. On the other hand, the administration is not installing radium strip either in the neck or in the body of the cattle, so that they are easily visible during night hours and can save lives of many driving two or four-

wheelers and in such cases accident to a great extent can be avoided. But in the roads of Dongargaon, there is always herd of stray cattle found sitting or moving on the road and pose big threat to lives of vehicle riders.

**No 'Gouthans' or 'Kanji House' in city:**  
In a city with population of 20000, neither there is any 'Gouthan' or 'Kanji House' made to house stray cattle. It is notable here that the public reps elected by the denizens of city too face the same problems of

● Always posed threat of accident to vehicle riders

Central Chronicle News

**Dongargaon, Mar 22:** The herd of stray cattle on state highway to main roads, lane & by-lanes in city is there in the region right from morning till evening and in the villages near the city, the stray cattle pose lots of problems in movement of traffic and bring out into open the outcome of schemes launched by the government to keep cattle in 'Gouthan' and in preparing 'Gauthalas or sewa kendra' in respective areas.

The state government always makes tall claims about opening of 'Gauthans' and 'Gau-sewa kendra' in the state and to

Youth commits suicide hanging himself

**Khairagarh, Mar 22:** A 22-year old youth of Gram Bafara committed suicide by hanging himself. One Minesh alias Madhav S/o Shiv Kumar Yadav (22), hanged himself from ceiling of fan on March 20 in his room. It is learnt that his mother and father used to work in a brick-kiln and after celebrating Holi, they had left for work after coming back. It was on Sunday, the youth created a knot and hanged himself from a hook in the room for reasons not known. On getting information the Police took out body of youth from the hook and sent the body for post-mortem and after which it was handed over his family. The doctors say that it is only after receiving of the post-mortem report, the exact reason behind murder would be known. Presently the Police has filed a case and taken the matter under investigation.

## Cycle distribution ceremony organised



Central Chronicle News

**Fingeshwar, Mar 22:** Cycle distribution program was organized here for female students of grade ninth and tenth under Saraswati Cycle Scheme, here in Government Higher Secondary School,

Parsadakala. The program was presided over by Principal NS Thakur, Chief Guest Mohan Nishad, members of school management team, special guest Nemichand Dewangan, J a n p a d Member, Sarpanch Kanti Nishad, Khuman Sahu and others. Special Guest

Nemichand Dewangan, in his address said that in order to empower the girl child and aid to make traveling easy, the scheme has been started by the government. A total of 46 students were given the cycle. Also present were Narad Sahu, Yuvraj Sahu, Aarati Kosre, teachers and students.

## Crowd throng Rajiv Lochan temple to play Holi

Central Chronicle News

**Rajim, Mar 22:** A big crowd was witnessed here in the famous Rajiv Lochan temple, to play holi, and display the colour of festivities, after a decline in COVID 19 cases. People freely celebrated Holi festival by applying gular on each other, and the festive revelry was seen since morning as the revered deity Rajiv Lochan attired in apparel of pearls and motifs, in baal awatar 'came out of the sanctum before 6:00 o'clock.

People decked in fineries of Radha and Krishna, danced in the tune of Phaag Geet. This supernatural sight enthralled everyone and the whole complex reverberated with the Jai Kara of Lord Rajeev Lochan. It is worth mentioning that every devotee



who comes to the temple first should go to the temple of Lord Rajeev Lochan and apply Gular to the deity.

The entire temple premises were colored in different hues of holi, along with thousands of devotees, who had come from far and near to celebrate the festival. On this occasion, Rajim MLA Amitesh Shukla reached with his convoy and was accompanied by District

Congress President Bhav Singh Sahu, Vikastiwari, Girish Rajani, Ramkumar Sahu, etc.

On the other hand, former MP of Mahasamund Lok Sabha constituency and National Vice President of Backward Classes Front, Chandulal Sahu, former MLA Santosh Upadhyay all reached the temple premises with their supporters and had dar-

shan of Lord Rajiv Lochan and met the general public and greeted them Holi. Shiv Singh Thakur, the server of the temple, Shrawan Singh Thakur, Chandrabhan Singh Thakur, Rajendra Manu, Mahendra Singh Thakur, temple trust manager Purushottam Mishra etc. and others were engaged in the arrangement.

It has to be told here that the way Lathmar Holi of Barsana is famous. In the same way as the colors of Vrindavan, playing Holi with Rajeev Lochan Bhagwan in Rajim has its own distinct enthusiasm. Meanwhile a day prior Hoilka Dahan was done in Mahamaya temple, Bhuteshwar Nath, Vishwakarma temple, Kuleshwar Mahadev temple and in all the major squares and interjections.

## 13th Raising Day of 217th Corps CRPF celebrated



Central Chronicle News

**Konta, Mar 22:** On the auspicious occasion of "13th Raising Day" of Konta 217th Corps Central Reserve Police Force (C.R.P.F.) on date March 20, 217th Battalion in the headquarters of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Konta the 13th Raising Day was celebrated with great pomp. Posted in anti-Naxal operation in

Various types of sports competitions were organized in the headquarters, Konta courtyard and colorful cultural programmes were organized in the evening. On this auspicious occasion Rajiv Kumar Thakur (DIG- Operational Range Konta) and Asit Kumar Choudhary (Command 228 Bt.), Pradyumna Kumar Singh (Command 151 Bt.), Jagdish Prasad Balai (Command 212 Bt.)

were the chief guest. Praveen Thapliyal (Command 131 Bt.), Nitin Kumar (Commandant 219 Bt.), Tashi Gyalik (Commandant II Bt.), gazetted officers and their family members were present. Ashok Kumar (Commandant 217 Bt.) Bhavani Pratap Yadav (Second Commanding Officer, Administration), Kul Bahadur Thapa (Deputy Commandant), Yagya Kumar Singh, (Deputy Commandant), Satyaveer Singh (Assistant Commandant), Mrs. Dr. .M. Women platoon of 241 Bastariya Battalion including Genna Pratayusha (Medical Officer), Dr. Siddheshwar Kalyan P. (Medical Officer) subordinate officers and jawans also participated.

## Fire engulfs Jagannath temple forest



Central Chronicle News

**Chirmiri, Mar 22:** With the advent of summer season forest fire can be seen at many places and one such major fire has engulfed Jagannath temple forest which if not controlled immediately may take immense proportion and thereby causing loss to forest trees and wild life. The environment is also getting affected and forest staff even after being informed is not available to control the fire.

## Members of DTSS celebrate Holi

Central Chronicle News

**Khairagarh, Mar 22:** The members of 'Dubeyliya Teli Sahu Samaj' (DTSS) block unit Khairagarh organised 'Holi-Milan' programme on Sunday in Gram Doliyakhanhar.

It was after lighting traditional lamp before Lord Shiva and 'bhakt Mata Karma', the Sahu brethren applied 'gular' to each other and enjoyed 'faag-geet' amidst 'nagada' beats and celebrated Holi. During this discussions of Samaj was also held and in this President DTSS Rekhchand Sahu, Secretary Basant Sahu, Treasurer- Jagat Sahu, chief patron- Hariram



Sahu, Kanhaiya Sahu, Kunjlal Sahu, Tijau Sahu, Rasid Lal Sahu, Suresh Sahu, Kishan Sahu, Lalit Sahu, and other office bearers of Samaj were

present. The President DTSS Yuwa cell- Harak Lal Sahu, Secretary Pramod Sahu and members of Mahila cell were also present.

## Poshan Pakhwada' kicked off in Ch'garh

● Rallies organized to raise nutritional awareness  
● Various events will be held till April 04 for bringing effective nutritional behavior change

Central Chronicle News

**Raipur, Mar 22:** Rallies organized to raise nutritional awareness. The fourth edition of 'Nutrition Fortnight' (Poshan Pakhwada) was launched by the Women and Child Development Department from Monday at district, block and village level in the state.



On the first day of the fortnight, many rallies including 'Suposhan Rath', 'Poshan Cycle Rally', and Bike Rally were organized across the state to spread nutritional awareness among public.

The fortnight will conclude on April 04. During the fortnight, ef-

forts will be made to bring nutrition-related behavioral change at individual and community level by organizing different activities across the state every day.

**Rallies organized to raise nutritional awareness:**  
The main objective of nutritional fortnight this

year is activities focused on identification of healthy child and integration of traditional and modern resources for building a healthy India. Cooperation of public representatives, allied departments, organizations, groups and the public will also be taken.

It is worth mentioning that a healthy boy-girl competition was scheduled to be organized by the Government of India from March 21 to 27, which has been postponed till further orders. In its place, now 'Poshan Pakhwada' has been organized from March 21 to April 04. Under this, community based activities will be organized to raise nutritional awareness.

Besides, awareness activities will be organized on gender sensitive water management, prevention and management of anemia and promotion of traditional food to promote good health for mother and child in tribal areas.

### NAME CHANGE

It is informed to the general public that I, Ravi Agarwal s/o Shankar Lal Agarwal resident of ward no 7 house no 110, near Shri Ram Mandir, Sakti, Janjgir-Champa, Chhattisgarh- 495689 have changed my old name Ravi Agarwal son of Shankar Lal Agarwal, so in future I should be recognised by my new name that is Ravi Kumar Agrawal son of Shankar Lal Agarwal in all government and other documents.

**RAVI KUMAR AGRAWAL**  
Ward no 7 house no 110,  
Near Shri Ram Mandir, Sakti,  
Janjgir-Champa, Chhattisgarh- 495689

### M/s Vastu Land Realtors Private Limited (in Liquidation) "Vastu Vaibhav" Layout - Kh.No. 616,617,620/3, Ph.No. 05, Mouza Rahangi, Tehsil Bilha, Bilaspur (CG)

#### Caution Notice - 2

National Company Law Tribunal vide its order no. MA. No. 3742 of 2019 in CP no. 2913 of 2018 dated 06/02/2020 ordered for Liquidation of M/s. Vastu Land Realtors Pvt. Ltd and appointed Mr. Srigini Rajat Naidu as Official Liquidator of the Company.

"Vastu Vaibhav" Layout of company located at Kh.No. 616,617,620/3, Ph.No. 05, Mouza Rahangi, Tehsil Bilha, Bilaspur (CG) is under the custody of Liquidator of the company.

As per the records of company below stated plots of the company are booked but not registered in the name of respective buyers and all these plots are still in possession of company forming the part of Liquidation estate and available for sell.

"Vastu Vaibhav" Mouza Rahangi, Tehsil Bilha, Bilaspur (CG) - Plot No's									
10	11	13	15	16	33	39	70	72	79
81	83	84	99	137	142	157	159	194	233
244	298	304	306	332	333	342	353	362	-

We have not received any claim against above stated plots. In case the registry of the above stated plots has been executed in the name of respective buyer, then undersigned as an official Liquidator appoint by Hon'ble NCLT, Mumbai Bench hereby call to submit a copy of registry, failing which undersigned will be constrained to sell the plots through the public auction.

As an "abundance of caution" this is a 10 day notice to submit their claims to the undersigned.

**You may reach at us.**

Address: 11-12, First floor, Mount Annex, Opp. Oriental Insurance Co., Mount Road, Ext. Sadar, Nagpur - 440001

Email id: rajat\_naidu@yahoo.com, vastulandliquidation@gmail.com

Mo. No. 9422507009, 9307553488

Sd,  
Srigini Rajat Naidu

Regn. No: IBBI/IPA-003/IP-N000137/2017-2018/11513

Liquidator  
Vastu Land Realtors Private Limited (in Liquidation)

**BRIEF**



Miss Universe 2021 Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu attends a homecoming party, celebrating her victory, in Mumbai.

**Rhino population**

**■ Guwahati:** The population of one-horned rhinoceros has increased by 24 over the last four years in Assam's Orang National Park, a forest official said. The rhino count now stands at 125 after the two-day census in the park which concluded on Monday, the official said.

**Chinese nationals**

**■ Nainital:** The Uttarakhand High Court has sought a reply from the state government on a petition filed by four Chinese nationals, seeking the court's permission to return to their homeland. Arrested by the Mumbai police on charges of smuggling gold in 2018, they were subsequently granted bail by the Bombay High Court on the condition that they would report to a local police station on a weekly basis.

**HC nod**

**■ Kolkata:** Pro-BJP lawyers will file a petition before the Calcutta High Court on Wednesday seeking a judicial enquiry and a CBI probe into the death of eight people near Rampurhat in West Bengal's Birbhum district. Advocate Tarun Jyoti Tiwari on Tuesday said that he and nine others, who belong to the BJP Lawyers' Cell, mentioned the incident before the division bench of Chief Justice Prakash Shrivastava and Justice R Bharadwaj and sought leave to file the petition.

**'Water scarce'**

**■ Jhabua:** The tribal-dominated Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh, bordering Gujarat, has been declared as 'water scarce', leading to a ban on digging of tube-wells and irrigation without prior permission, an official said on Tuesday. In an order issued during the day, the district administration declared Jhabua as water scarce under MP Peya-Jal Parirakshan Adhiniyam, an official said.

**Vote on Account**

**■ Puducherry:** Puducherry Assembly Speaker R Selvam on Tuesday said the House would be convened here on March 30 to adopt an interim vote-on-account to allocate funds for the first few months of 2022-2023. He said the Assembly session would begin at 9.30 am on March 30 and Chief Minister N Rangasamy, who is holding the Finance portfolio, would table the vote-on-account Bill on the day proposing to earmark funds for the upcoming financial year.

## Striking MSRTC workers should resume work: HC

Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday said the striking Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) workers committing suicide were not a solution to their problems and advised agitating employees to resume work pending a decision by the Maharashtra government on their demands.

A division bench extended the time given to the state government to place a report - prepared by a three-member committee that looked into the demands of the workers who are agitating for more than four months now - before the cabinet for approval.

The bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice M S Karnik directed the government to file its affidavit by April 1 and posted the matter for further hearing on April 5.

The court also directed the government to expeditiously decide on around 350 applications for compensation filed by the family members of MSRTC workers who died due to coronavirus.

The bench was hearing a petition filed by MSRTC seeking contempt action against its workers for continuing their strike despite orders from the court to call off the agitation. Thousands of MSRTC workers are on a strike since November 2021 demanding that they be treated on par with state government employees.

On Tuesday, government counsel S C Naidu sought 15 days time for a final decision to be taken on the demands of the workers, who, among other things, are seeking merger of the loss-making MSRTC with the state government.

"We have progressed a lot. I assure this court that

in 15 days the final decision/approval would be taken," Naidu said. To this, advocate Gunaratan Sadavarte, appearing for some of the striking workers, said till date 107 such staffers have committed suicide. He further claimed thousands of transport corporation workers are agitating at the Azad Maidan ground in south Mumbai in support of their demands.

At this, the bench noted that committing suicide was not a solution to any problem.

"Instead of creating a situation where workers are compelled to commit suicide, why don't you (Sadavarte) get the workers to resume work pending decision (on demands) from the state," Chief Justice Datta said.

The HC said Sadavarte should advise the workers that committing suicide wouldn't solve their problems.

## Kerala HC reserves order on plea seeking CBI probe into killing of RSS worker

Kochi, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday reserved its verdict on a plea seeking CBI probe into the killing of an RSS worker who was hacked to death in November last year in Palakkad district of the state.

After arguments from all sides concluded, Justice K Haripal reserved judgement in the matter.

The court had earlier opined that there were some aspects of the case which require an investigation by CBI.

The plea was moved by the slain RSS worker's wife seeking handing over of the case to CBI. The state had opposed the plea

saying it has arrested all the accused and that if any new agency comes in, it will have to carry out the entire process again which would delay filing of the final report and in the meanwhile, the accused might get out on bail.

A Sanjith (27) was hacked to death on November 15 last year while he was taking his wife to her workplace.

Police later arrested several persons, including an officer-bearer of the Popular Front of India (PFI), in the case.

It had said that the arrested PFI officer-bearer was directly involved in the killing of Sanjith who was hacked to death in front of his wife.

## CPI urges immediate withdrawal of fuel price hike

Erode (TN), Mar 22 (PTI):

The Tamil Nadu unit of the CPI on Tuesday demanded immediate withdrawal of the hike in prices of petroleum products and cooking gas, saying it will affect the people.

Noting that the rise in prices of petrol, diesel and LPG cylinder by the Centre would hit the poor and the middle class people, CPI Tamil Nadu unit secretary R Mutharasan said it would result in the prices of other products going up.

"The sudden hike in prices of petrol, diesel and LPG cylinders will affect the people, especially the poor and middle-class.



TMC activists participate in a protest rally against the central government over rising prices of LPG, fuel and other essential commodities, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

## Prez Kovind to award 'President's Colour' to INS Valsura

Ahmedabad, Mar 22 (PTI):

Indian Naval Ship (INS) 'Valsura' will be awarded the prestigious 'President's Colour' by President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony to be held at Jamnagar in Gujarat on March 25, an official release said on Tuesday.

The President's Colour is bestowed on any military unit, in recognition of exceptional service rendered to the nation, both in peace and in war.

INS Valsura is a premier training establishment of the Indian Navy.

On the occasion, a ceremonial parade with 150-men 'Guard of Honour' will be presented to the President, the supreme commander of the armed forces, stated the release. Established in 1942, INS Valsura is entrusted with

the responsibility of imparting training to officers and sailors of the Indian Navy, Coast Guard and Friendly Foreign countries in electrical, electronics, weapon systems and Information Technology.

INS Valsura has distinguished itself with notable and gallant service to the nation over nearly 80 years. The ceremonial parade will be followed by the release of a special cover by the President in the presence of other distinguished guests, the release said.

Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar, Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command along with other senior civil and military dignitaries will attend the ceremony.

## Constable killed in gunfight with terrorists

Srinagar, Mar 22 (PTI):

A constable was killed in a brief shoot-out between police and terrorists in the Soura area of Srinagar on Tuesday, officials said.

The terrorists fired on Constable Amir Hussain Lone of Kupwara at Balochipora in the Soura area during a cordon-and-search operation around 2.30 pm, they said.

Hussain sustained critical bullet injuries and was rushed to a hospital, where he died, a police official said.

The area has been cordoned off, and the search is going on, the official said. "In a brief #shootout



A security personnel enquires people during a search operation after a shootout with militants in the Soura area of Srinagar, Tuesday.

at #Soura area of #Srinagar City, Sg/CTO Amir Hussain Lone R/O Kupwara got injured & attained #martyrdom. We

pay rich #tributes to the #martyr & stand by his family at this critical juncture," the Kashmir Zone Police said in a tweet.

## Water supply to iconic Aga Khan Palace cut by Pune civic body over non-payment of dues

Pune, Mar 22 (PTI):

Pune's iconic Aga Khan Palace, where Mahatma Gandhi was kept as a prisoner during the country's freedom struggle, is facing acute water scarcity since last month as the city civic body has disconnected its supply due to non-payment of dues worth over Rs 1.70 crore.

An official of the Archaeological Survey of India, which manages the monument here in Maharashtra, on Tuesday said they have requested the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) to provide a new water connection in the ASI's name so that visitors are not in-

convenienced. On weekdays, the monument attracts 700 to 800 visitors, and on weekends, the number goes up to 1,200, Gajanan Mandaware, the ASI's conservation assistant at the palace, told PTI. After the launch of the 'Quit India' movement, Mahatma Gandhi, his wife Kasturba Gandhi and his secretary Mahadev Desai were kept in detention at the Aga Khan Palace, which was built by Sultan Muhammed Shah Aga Khan III in 1892.

Desai and Kasturba Gandhi died in detention and their 'samadhis' are located in the premises. The palace is one of the 17 heritage sites picked up

for 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' an initiative of the Centre to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.

According to PMC water supply department's chief engineer Aniruddha Pawaskar, a three-inch water pipe connection for the palace garden was disconnected on February 5 due to an unpaid water bill amounting to Rs 1.72 crore.

Mandaware said the garden, spread across six acres, is largely affected due to the water scarcity and visitors are also facing hardship.

The water connection which was disconnected was in the name of superintendent, parks and gar-

Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday directed the Maharashtra government to produce all files and data relied upon by the state executive committee while deciding to not permit unvaccinated persons to travel in local trains in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice M S Karnik was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) that challenges the state government's decision to continue insisting that one must have received both doses of the COVID-19 vac-

cine to travel in local trains and use other modes of public transport in the city.

The bench also sought to know on what basis the government has said in its affidavit, filed in reply to the petition, that an unvaccinated person is more at risk of being infected with COVID-19 and, hence, more prone to spread the virus than a vaccinated person. "How can the state government say this? On what basis is this statement made? Vaccinated persons can also be affected by the virus," Chief Justice Datta said. "Show us the files and data relied upon by the state execu-

## HC tells Maha govt 'Produce files, data relied upon to bar unvaccinated persons from local trains'

HC tells Maha govt

tive committee before taking this decision (to not allow unvaccinated persons in local trains)" the court added.

In reply to this, the state government's counsel S U Kamdar said vaccinated persons get infected but face milder symptoms. Kamdar said he was willing to produce and submit to the court all the data and files.

The court, while posting the matter for further hearing on Wednesday said it was only ascertaining if the law was followed while taking this decision.

The PIL, filed by one Firoze Mithiborwala through advocate Nilesh

Ojha, challenges a circular dated March 1, 2022 that was issued by the Maharashtra government to list out the standard operating procedures and safety measures for citizens in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The restriction on public transport, including local trains, for the unvaccinated was included in this circular.

Mithiborwala said in his PIL that such restriction was arbitrary and unconstitutional.

He said this restriction was an "indirect attempt" on the state government's part to make vaccination compulsory.

## Bihar Diwas: Scholars, conservation architects highlight plight of heritage buildings

Patna, Mar 22 (PTI):

Amid celebrations lined up at the historic Gandhi Maidan here to mark the 110th birth anniversary of modern Bihar on Tuesday, scholars, conservation architects and others highlighted the plight faced by the built heritage of Patna and other cities in the state, and appealed to the authorities to choose "preservation and not demolition" for holistic development.

From Dutch-era Patna Collectorate, marked for demolition since 2016, to Patna Medical College and Hospital (erstwhile Prince of Wales Medical College), Bihar & Orissa's first medical college set up in 1925, several old buildings of which have already been razed as part of a redevelopment project, heritage lovers underlined the

"vulnerability of architectural fabric" of the capital city in the face of rapid urban expansion.

As stage was all set here for three-day celebrations to commemorate the statehood day of Bihar, artists in Patna were busy giving finishing touches to mock-up models of various monuments and heritage sites of Bihar, including, 'Golghar', 'Mahabodhi Temple', Sher Shah Suri Tomb', Sun Temple, Deo' and 'Jal Mandir, Pawapuri' at the Gandhi Maidan, the main venue of the festivities, where several cultural programmes would also be hosted.

As images of these models were published in press and shared on social media, many city residents were upset over the "poor quality of craftsmanship" in depicting these sites which are "pride of

Bihar". Patna-based conservation architect Diptanshu Sinha, 25, said, Bihar Diwas should also be an occasion every year to "pause, ponder and reflect" on the "state of built heritage in capital Patna and elsewhere in Bihar".

"These anniversary celebrations, year after year, talk so loudly about Bihar and its heritage and history spanning thousands of years, and of Patna as the land of Pataliputra.

But, how much of Pataliputra have we been able to preserve? How much of modern Patna, we have been able to protect from the onslaught of insensitive development? On Bihar's birthday, we must also ask ourselves, what have we done to protect our heritage, that will be a meaningful celebration," he said.

BRIEF

Wildfires extinguished

Lviv: Ukraine's natural resources minister says wildfires have been extinguished in the area of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which is under the control of Russian forces. The fires have raised concern about the possible release of radiation from the plant, where a 1986 explosion and fire sent radioactive emissions across large parts of Europe. But Natural Resources Minister Ruslan Strelets said Tuesday that radiation levels in the area are within the norms.

Russian troops forced out

Kyiv: The Ukrainian army said it forced Russian troops out of Makariv, a strategically important Kyiv suburb, after a fierce battle. That prevents Russian forces from encircling the capital from the northwest, the Defence Ministry said. Russian forces shelled along a humanitarian corridor on Monday, wounding four children who were among the civilians being evacuated, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in his nighttime video address to the nation.

Peace treaty talks

Tokyo: Japan denounced Russia on Tuesday over its decision to discontinue peace treaty talks over the disputed Kuril islands and withdraw from joint economic projects in retaliation for Tokyo's sanctions over Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The two countries never signed a peace treaty formally ending World War II hostilities because of their dispute over the Russian-held islands north of Hokkaido, which Moscow took at the end of the war. The latest situation has been all caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirokazu Matsuno told reporters Tuesday.

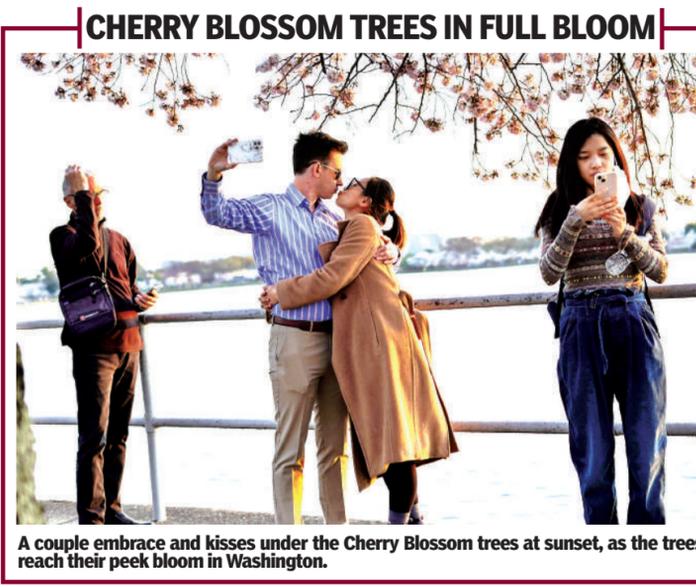
Pak, China sign agreements to further strengthen 'iron-clad friendship'

Islamabad, Mar 22 (PTI): Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi discussed ways to further strengthen the "iron-clad friendship" between the two countries as the two sides signed five agreements to deepen their bilateral cooperation in various fields, the Foreign Office said on Tuesday. The agreements were inked in Islamabad on Monday after the meeting between Qureshi and Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister

Wang. Wang is in Islamabad to attend the 48th session of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Council of Foreign Ministers (OIC-CFM) as a special guest at the invitation of Qureshi. Qureshi and Wang reaffirmed the resolve to sustain and build upon the current momentum of bilateral relations, the Foreign Office said in a statement. The two ministers exchanged views on bilateral strategic, economic and security cooperation, COVID-19 pandemic, ongoing

situation in Ukraine and regional and international issues of mutual interest. Ways to further strengthen the iron-clad friendship between the two countries were discussed, the statement said. Five agreements were signed after the meeting, it said. The first agreement was signed between the Ministry of Education of China and the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan on "Mutual Recognition of Higher Education Certificates and Degrees". The two sides also signed a

Memorandum of Understanding between China International Development Cooperation Agency and Pakistan Ministry of Economic Affairs on the Project of China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre (CPJRC) on Earth Sciences. Three separate Letter of Exchange (LOE) for agricultural equipment and materials; for joint agricultural technology laboratory equipment and materials; and for agricultural demonstration station equipment and materials were also inked.



A couple embrace and kisses under the Cherry Blossom trees at sunset, as the trees reach their peak bloom in Washington.

India is a bit shaky in terms of dealing with aggression of Putin, says Biden

Washington, Mar 22 (PTI): India is a bit shaky in terms of showing support against the Russian invasion of Ukraine, US President Joe Biden has said, asserting that most of the friends and allies of America have presented a united front in terms of dealing with Vladimir Putin's "aggression". On February 24, Russian forces launched military operations in Ukraine, three days after Moscow recognised Ukraine's breakaway regions Donetsk and Luhansk as independent entities. The one thing I'm confident, knowing Putin fairly well,



as well as I, guess another leader can know one another, is that he was counting on being able to split NATO. He never thought NATO would stay resolved, stay totally thoroughly united. And I can assure you, NATO has never been stronger or more united in its entire history than it is today in large part, because of

(Russian President) Vladimir Putin, Biden told a business roundtable of CEOs on Monday. But in response to his aggression, there has been — he's pretty — we presented a united front throughout NATO and in the Pacific. The QUAD is, with the possible exception of India being somewhat shaky on some of this, but Japan has been extremely strong, so is Australia, in terms of dealing with Putin's aggression, Biden said. Last month, Biden had said that India and the US were trying to resolve their differences on the issue of Russian aggression against Ukraine.

Rohingya refugees welcome US calling repression genocide

Dhaka, Mar 22 (AP): Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh have welcomed the announcement by the United States that it considers the violent repression of their largely Muslim ethnic group in Myanmar a genocide. As news of the announcement by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spread across the sprawling camps in Cox's Bazar district that are now home to about 1 million Rohingya, many residents expressed their enthusiasm. We are very happy on the declaration of the genocide; many many thanks, said 60-year-old Sala Uddin, who lives at Kutupalong camp. It has



been 60 years starting from 1962 that the Myanmar government has been torturing us and many other communities including Rohingya, he said on Monday. I think a path to take action by the international community against Myanmar has opened up because of the declaration. The US made the determi-

nation Monday to call the repression a genocide based on confirmed accounts of mass atrocities on civilians by Myanmar's military in a widespread and systematic campaign against the Rohingya, Blinken said in a speech at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Intiaz Ahmed, director of the Centre for Genocide Studies at the University of Dhaka, said the declaration was a positive step, but it would be important to see what actions and concrete steps follow. Just by saying that genocide had been committed in Myanmar against the Rohingya is not good enough. I think we need to see what would follow from that statement, Ahmed said. He said it was too early to say how the new development would ensure the recognition of the Rohingya refugees, who have long been denied citizenship in Myanmar, and the fundamental questions remained how and when they would go back to Myanmar.

CORONA PROTECTION



Security guards wearing protective suits to help protect from the coronavirus prepare to transfer the goods to a barricaded residential area that was locked down for health monitoring following the COVID-19 case detected in the area, Tuesday, March 22, in Beijing, China.

Divide at UN over naming Russia aid resolution for Ukraine

United Nations, Mar 22 (AP): France and Mexico are pressing UN members to mention Russia's invasion in a resolution on the worsening humanitarian situation in Ukraine. But South Africa is arguing against that approach, saying that inserting political issues may block consensus on helping civilians. A French-Mexican draft resolution expected to be considered this week by the 193-nation UN General Assembly reiterates the world body's March 2 demand for Russia to stop its military offensive in Ukraine and with-

draw all its troops. It also demands the protection of all civilians and infrastructure indispensable to their survival. The draft, obtained Monday by The Associated Press, says the dire humanitarian consequences of Russia's aggression in Ukraine are on a scale that the international community has not seen in Europe in decades. It deplores Russia's shelling, airstrikes and besiegement of densely populated cities, particularly the southern city of Mariupol. A rival South African draft resolution circulated

later Monday and also obtained by AP makes no mention of Russia. Instead, it calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities as a first step in ameliorating the humanitarian situation, refers to all parties, and encourages political dialogue, negotiations, mediation and other peaceful means aimed at achieving lasting peace.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE. Tender Notice No.: E-R-T-05-22-23. Date: 17/03/2022. Name of work: Maintenance of water recycling plant at Coaching complex, Durg for two years. Tender Value: Rs. 24,87,267/- EMD: Rs. 49,800/- Submission of Tender: upto 11.00 Hrs. on 21.04.2022. Opening of Tender: 11.00 Hrs. on 21.04.2022.

कार्यालय - कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी, खण्ड - जशपुर (छत्तीसगढ़) ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना. एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु आनलाईन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:- कार्य का नाम :- जशपुर जिले के निम्नलिखित विकासखण्डों में एकल ग्राम नल जल प्रदाय योजना अन्तर्गत 63 से 75 मिमी. व्यास के HDPE पाईप ए 20 मिमी व्यास के कंपोजिट पाईप एवं 90 मि.मी. व्यास के यू.पी.वी.सी. पाईप 6&10 kg/cm², स्पेशल्स सहित प्रदाय कर जोड़ने, बिछाने, इन्टरकनेक्शन टेरिस्टा क्लोरीनेटर स्थापना, क्लोरीनेटर रूम, स्वीच रूम, रेनोवेशन, घरेलू नल कनेक्शन एवं अन्य संबंधित समस्त कार्य, 6 माह ड्रायल रन सहित स्वीकृत शेड्यूल अनुसार।

POLICE HEADQUARTERS, CHHATTISGARH, ATAL NAGAR, NAVA RAIPUR Re-Tender Notice. No. PHQ/Sec-10/Kit-Clo/11-A/1119/2022 Nava Raipur, Dated : 17/03/2022 Sealed tenders are being invited from the OEM or authorized by OEM for the following item:- S.No. Medical kit items Qty EMD in Rs. Remark 1. Combat First Aid Kit 224 26100 The bidder will submit one reference sample of offered product with laboratory report from NABL accredited laboratory or any Government Laboratory for the product offered. The Laboratory report must verdict whether the offered product meet the tender specifications or not.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, CIRCLE NO-1 RAIPUR (C.G.) Tender Notice (1st Call) Contractors, Registered appropriate class in Unified Registration System [e-Registration] invited Online tenders for the following works:- NIT No./ System Tender No. Name of Work Probable amount of contract 1 266/95355 किवद्वई नगर (पूर्व) नई दिल्ली में एन.बी.सी.सी. टॉवर नं.-2 के सातवें एवं आठवें तल में आवासीय आयुक्त कार्यालय में आंतरिक साज-सज्जा का कार्य। (प्रथम आमंत्रण) Rs. 183.83 Lakh

कार्यालय मुख्य अभियंता, लो.नि.वि., राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परिक्षेत्र, रायपुर (छ.ग.) दिनांक 15.03.2022 एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु आनलाईन (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:- क्र. नि.आ.सू.क्र. दिनांक सिस्टम आई.डी. क्र. कार्य का नाम कार्य की अनुमानित लागत निविदा करने की अंतिम तिथि 1. 2022 MoRTH 679077.1 09/ICE/NH/TC/44-09/2022 STRENGTHENING AND SAFETY WORKS ON KEONCHI-KABIRCHABUTRA ROAD FROM KM 0.000 TO KM 15.535 OF NH-45 EXT. IN THE STATE OF CHHATTISGARH UNDER EPC MODE Rs. 21.65 Crore 29.04.2022 2. 2022 MoRTH 679080.1 10/ICE/NH/TC/44-10/2022 (2nd Call) UPGRADEMENT OF NH 130A MUNGELI TO PONDRI FROM NH KM 51+600 TO KM 77+870 & KM 80+970 TO KM 96+970 TO TWO/FLOUR LANEWITH PAVED SHOULDERS IN THE STATE OF CHHATTISGARH ON ENGINEERING, PROCUREMENT & CONSTRUCTION (EPC) MODE" (2nd call) Rs. 182.45 Crore 29.04.2022

राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय एवं समुद्री अनुसंधान केंद्र NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLAR & OCEAN RESEARCH Vasco-da-Gama, Goa-403804 INVITATION FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH PROPOSALS 42nd INDIAN SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION TO ANTARCTICA National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) (erstwhile NCAOR) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) Government of India is the nodal agency responsible for the planning, co-ordination and implementation of Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica. The 42nd Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (42-ISEA) to Maitri and Bharati will be launched in November, 2022. The summer team (short term) component of 42-ISEA shall return to India in March 2023, whereas, the winter team (long term) of 42-ISEA would return to India during January-March 2024. The 42-ISEA embarks on a new journey of scientific research. ESSO-NCPOR (erstwhile NCAOR) welcomes long term innovative scientific proposals in thematic areas and its sub themes in different disciplines. NCPOR welcomes nominations from organisations for selection of the Expedition Leaders for Indian research bases - Maitri, Bharati and Expedition Voyage. Proposal/s along with all essential endorsement and certificates in the prescribed format [available on NCPOR website] has to be submitted on email (antarcticscience22@gmail.com) latest by 13th April 2022. Complete programme, eligibility, and application information is available at: http://www.ncpor.res.in/ दिनांक 12/11/21/0001/2122 दस्तावेज सं. No: NCPOR/05/2022 davp 12111/21/0001/2122 हस्ता./Sd/- Director, NCPOR



## CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 9 No. 349

### Anti-war movement is gaining traction

Symon Hill There is a new joke going round Russia: "What's the easiest way to clear the snow from your street? Write No To War in the snow – and the police will clear it for you." Footage on social media shows police obliterating anti-war messages written in the snow. But the Russian peace movement will not be so easily stamped out. The size of anti-war protests in Russia has taken everyone by surprise. Russian police have carried out over 13,000 arrests of peace protesters since the invasion of Ukraine began. Over a million people in Russia have signed petitions against the war. Vladimir Putin accuses Russian peace groups of being friends of Nato. They are not. Antimilitarist groups in Britain are accused of supporting Putin. We do not. The imperialism of Nato and the imperialism of Putin are two sides of the same coin. The real division is not between Russian capitalists and Western capitalists but between the world's ruling classes – whether Russian oligarchs or US billionaires – and the mass of the population in all countries, who never benefit from war. As the Soldiers' Mothers of St Petersburg put it, "Any war is destruction, blood, violence, innocent victims." Presidents and prime ministers will not save us from war. Putin sits pompously at his absurdly long table, looking like he is auditioning for the role of a Bond villain. Zelensky is hero-worshipped by Western commentators who disregard his actual policies and record of militarism. Boris Johnson is sighing with relief that the headlines are no longer about Downing Street lockdown parties. Meanwhile, working-class people are resisting war in Russia, Ukraine and around the world. They, not politicians and generals, are the people who offer hope of an end to war. Like millions of people, I watched with horror as Russian tanks entered Ukraine on February 24.

I have no time for hypocritical ministers who condemn atrocities in Ukraine while providing weapons and military training to Saudi forces killing children in Yemen. Recognising this is no reason to feel less concerned about people in Ukraine. It was difficult to feel anything other than fear and sadness on the day the invasion began. At the Peace Pledge Union, we quickly published a statement condemning Putin's aggression and pointing to the background of militaristic policies pursued by both Russia and Nato. It was not until that evening that I was uplifted by glimmers of hope. News came through of anti-war protests in Russia. I was cautious, aware that US or Ukrainian authorities could exaggerate or even fabricate such stories. But soon long-standing Russian peace groups, known for opposing Nato as well as Putin, were posting footage of thousands of people protesting in Moscow and St Petersburg. In the Russian Duma, two members of the far-right Liberal Democratic Party have proposed a law to conscript anti-war protesters and send them to fight in Donetsk and Luhansk – so that they can "see with their own eyes" what the Ukrainian authorities have done. But Russian peace campaigners are already aware of such things. Among all the anti-war statements produced by peace groups in Russia, I have not come across a single expression of support for the Zelensky regime or Nato. As the Russian group Feminist Anti-War Resistance puts it, Putin has "never been concerned about the fate of people in Luhansk and Donetsk." Russian Communist MP Vyacheslav Markhaev, who initially supported the recognition of the separatist republics, now accuses Putin of being "motivated by entirely different intentions" leading to a "full-scale war." Meanwhile in Ukraine, Zelensky has handed out rifles to untrained volunteers, incorporated the neonazi Azov Battalion into the Ukrainian army and banned men aged 18 to 60 from leaving Ukraine, so they can be conscripted. Thankfully the resistance of Ukrainians on the ground has been much more creative and effective. "Reporting on conflict focuses on warfare and almost ignores non-violent resistance to war," notes Yurii Shelizhenko of the Ukrainian Pacifist Movement.

### America's loss due to Chinese move

In China, once again the news of a spurt in corona cases has started coming to the fore. There is an outcry in the media about this. The media says that the record of corona cases in China for the last two years has been broken. However, only a few hundred or thousand cases have been reported in this country with the world's largest population. Well, now the role of media in this issue seems intimidating. In fact, the way corona cases have suddenly come up in China and due to this the lockdown is being imposed in China, there seems to be a trick of China behind it. With this step, China is trying to get America in its clutches somehow. According to international affairs experts, as a strategic move, China has talked about an increase in the cases of corona in its cities, which have the world's largest and important buildings, where, in a way, there is a big center of economic activity. At the same time, electronic companies from all over the world work here in China's Shenzhen city, which has a population of around 17 million. The city has once again been locked down in the name of Corona. Apart from this city, there are many areas where China has imposed restrictions in view of the increasing cases of corona. In such a situation, all the arrangements in other areas including Shenzhen city have come to a complete standstill. Actually, China is far ahead in terms of electronic goods. Microchips, microprocessors and other electronic items are produced on a large scale here. Production in these companies has been affected due to Corona restrictions. Since China supplies its goods to most of the countries of the world including America. In such a situation, the supply of these goods from China is bound to be badly disrupted.

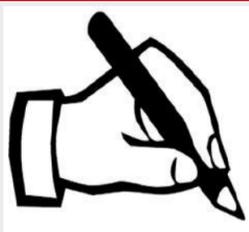
Now let us tell you how this move of China will harm America. Actually, at present America is battling with severe inflation. There is the highest inflation in the last 40 years. Now it has to be understood here that since America is already facing inflation. In such a situation, if the supply chain from China is disrupted, then it is bound to have an adverse effect on the US economy. Inflation will increase there and if this happens then it is natural to have an effect on the economy. Actually, the inventory (storage) of American industrial units is now on the verge of being exhausted. Actually, all companies keep additional storage of their products so that their work runs smoothly, which is called inventory. Since the supply chain had collapsed in the last two years due to Corona, this has affected the storage capacity of industrial units. By the way, during this period, the storage ratio in industrial units was being corrected after a slight softening in the cases of Corona. However, at the last moment, China has made its move under the policy of engaging America. It has stopped the supply coming from here. China did this by pretending to be Corona affected. The fact is that even America will not be able to say anything on this move of China because the whole world is doing what China is doing regarding Corona. By the way, this move of China will affect the supply not only in the US but also in the rest of the world. As a result, the prices of goods will increase, which will affect the common customers. However, the US economy will suffer the most in this game of China, because China supplies goods other than electronic goods to America on a large scale.

### PADMA AWARDEES POSE FOR PHOTOS



Padma awardees pose for photos during their visit to the National War Memorial, in New Delhi, Tuesday, March 22.

### Electoral benefits of welfare schemes

**DR. DUGGARAJU SRINIVASA RAO**

The election results of the five states, especially the Uttar Pradesh, are being critically analyzed by both the losing political parties and the media. Many reasons are attributed to the record breaking electoral victory of BJP in all the four states where it was in power. Overcoming the anti-incumbency itself is a great achievement these days for any party. BJP overcame that in not one state but in four states itself is a great political achievement. The Congress which lost Punjab, the only state where it was in power, attributed its defeat to its change of Chief Minister before the elections.

Compared to that BJP achieved victory in Uttarakhand despite changing the CMs not once but thrice during the last five years. This time around there is no visible Hindutva in the election campaign, especially in UP where Ayodhya which was dominant during past elections was found missing this time. The Hindutva has no value in Punjab, Goa and Manipur where Sikhs and Christians are in majority. So

the victory of BJP has to do more with the administration they gave to the people and the welfare schemes they implemented in earnest.

Welfare schemes are not exclusive for the BJP governments. The Punjab government of Congress has also implemented welfare schemes and promised many more schemes if voted to power. The SP when in power during the 2012-17 period was not lagging in the implementation of the welfare schemes. Now it is an accepted norm in politics where the ruling party in the state makes its own beneficiaries and firming up them as its vote banks. Indira Gandhi did this for Congress during her regime. V.P. Singh tried to build Mandal Vote Bank through reservations. At the state level such pampering a particular vote bank is in progress. It is these welfare schemes which is keeping Naveen Patnaik in power in Odisha for the last five terms.

His grip on the people through welfare is so firm that it is very difficult for opponents to dislodge him from power. Jagannathan Reddy of Andhra Pradesh is believing his nine welfare schemes, which he calls them as nine gems, to come back to power in 2024. He is sticking to the distribution of money to the voters through the welfare schemes at the cost of financial decline of the state and debt over burden on Andhra Pradesh. The Telangana CM KCR claims himself to be the innovator of welfare schemes which no other or even Modi government can ever think of. But KCR is not confident of

his return to the power in 2023 unless he goes back to the Telangana sentiment and presents the neighbouring Andhra people as the villains.

Then what makes the BJP governments so special in welfare schemes and its implementation. Narendra Modi as PM has initiated both development and welfare plans in equal measure. Since 2014 BJP government at the national level initiated social welfare schemes such as Ujjwala Yojana. PM Awas Yojana, pension scheme, direct cash transfers besides the free ration. Names may differ but similar schemes are implemented by other parties too. However the basic difference between the BJP lead governments and the other party led governments is the way the welfare message is taken to the masses through the party cadres. The BJP party cadre was in constant touch with the beneficiaries, assisting them in case of any delivery failure, and acting as the facilitators between the welfare schemes implementing authorities and the beneficiaries.

The BJP cadre saw that the welfare scheme beneficiaries are moved beyond caste and religions and formed into a government beneficiary community. The beneficiary aspirations beyond the social welfare benefits are also addressed and attended by the BJP cadre in a systematic way. The way the BJP cadre joined the families of beneficiaries on the festive days like Deepavali and shared their joys and in case of any problems faced by the family the local cadre of party are ready to

share the burden. Thus the thrust was making the marginalised and poor empowered through the schemes and through the personal touch make them part of the party. There was no distinction of caste and religion at the time of delivery of benefits and largely the woman of the family are targeted to receive and have control on the benefits. Thus a very loyal base among voters through the social welfare schemes was built.

This is contrast to the earlier governments headed by both Akhilesh Yadav and Mayavati where the beneficiaries were selected on the basis of caste and religion. Akhilesh doled out benefits largely to his own Yadav community and his supportive Muslims. Jatavs, the community to which Mayavati belongs were the large beneficiaries during the BSP regime. This narrative was changed by adopting neutrality in extending the benefits and nullifying the influence of caste heads and also religious preachers. The promised development is there for the electorate to feel and see. Yogi Adityanadh under the guidance of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah undertook the cause of huge developmental projects in the state to create the scope for employment generation and boosting the confidence of the educated. The confidence provided on the law order front is unmistakably felt by all sections. The social welfare schemes alone wouldn't have given such a resounding, record breaking victory, but for the cadre support and active role.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### One MLA, one pension

The MLAs and MPs are known to shamelessly reward themselves with hefty hikes in their own pays, perks and pensions at regular intervals. In a whiff of fresh air, the newly minted AAP government of Punjab is considering to put a stop to a ludicrous and morally corrupt practice with regard to the pension that the former MLAs in the state have entitled themselves to. Intending to do away with the 66 per cent additional monthly pension (amounting to Rs 50,100) that the MLAs have bestowed upon themselves for every subsequent term served in the Vidhan Sabha, the government is, in a welcome step, considering allowing only one pension – Rs 75,150 at the present monthly rate – to every former MLA, irrespective of the number of terms served by him/her. If the move is cleared, it will leave the treasury richer substantially. For, with nearly 80 MLAs losing their seats in the recent elections, there are now a record 325 ex-MLAs eligible for pensionary benefits and many among them have been public representatives multiple times. The other states' lawmakers must also consider scrapping such unethical rules. In 2018, the Haryana Assembly had commendably passed a Bill to rationalise the pension and allowances of its former MLAs, but it fell short of restricting them to the 'one MLA, one pension' formula. As of 2020, the 286 former MLAs of Haryana were costing the exchequer Rs 2.54 crore per month. Pension is a touchy issue among the ordinary people. They work all their life to earn their living and, yet, in the end often find themselves with peanuts for savings. No government has been able to formulate a reasonably dignified social security or pension scheme for the common man working in the private or unorganised sector. Government employees have been rendered ineligible for the old-age pension scheme and are now crying for its revival. In this scenario, for the MPs/MLAs, who claim to work for the people's uplift, to be unimously ensuring fat post-retirement emoluments for themselves after just a five-year term stands out as a sore thumb.

Emanuvel, Chennai

#### Hazardous air pollution

New Delhi has earned the unenviable distinction of becoming the world's most polluted capital city for a second consecutive year. Not only Delhi, but of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia in 2021, 12 were in India. Actually, there is not so much difference of breathing in Delhi is like smoking 50 cigarettes a day and other than India's 12 most polluted cities on Earth. Whether its Delhi or other most polluted cities is commonly accepted to be the most harmful (known as PM2.5), widely-monitored air pollutant and has been found to be a major contributing factor to health effects such as asthma, stroke, heart and lung diseases. From our Prime Minister Narendra Modi to most of the politicians and the political parties only chanting about 'development', but they have forgotten that economic development was important, but economic development by itself didn't solve the problem, because the people demanded cleaner air and cleaner water for clean and safe life. But not only in India, it is a shocking fact that no major city or country is providing safe and healthy air to their citizens according to the latest WHO air quality guidelines. One side PM Modi proudly announced eighty crore free ration for the poor on the other side the WHO projects that air pollution will continue to be a major killer in years to come, as result India and the world's poorest will be left gasping.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad



### WHAT THEY TWEET!

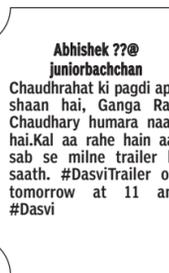


**Dharmendra Pradhan@dpdpradhanbjp**  
Birthday greetings to elder brother and senior leader from Odisha Shri @jualoram ji. His passion for the welfare of his constituents and upliftment of tribal population is admirable. May Almighty bless him with a healthy, happy and a long life.

**SHILPA SHETTY KUNDRA@TheShilpaShetty**  
How often have you wanted to take the plunge towards a dream or a passion, but feared failure? The one thing life taught me was that you can't explore the wonders of the sea if you never leave the shore. Go out there and pursue your dreams.



**Pritish Nandy @PritishNandy**  
Sometimes I'm so jealous of yThe way we are going, we will next apply Sin Tax on crypto. We are treating it like cigarettes, alcohol and lotteries. A new social evil! C'mon, it's just a New Age innovation that some are putting their money on, knowing fully well the risks involved.



**Abhishek ??@juniorbachchan**  
Chaudhrahath ki pagdi apni shaan hai, Ganga Ram Chaudhary humara naam hai. Kal aa rahe hain aap sab se milne trailer ke saath. #DasviTrailer out tomorrow at 11 am! #Dasvi



**Anand mahindra@anandmahindra**  
The power of yoga. A life spanning 125 years of dedication! The grace and dignity of Swami Sivananda is both humbling & inspiring. Proud to belong to the country of Yoga's origin.

**Neha Koul@KoulNeha**  
I am a #KashmiriPandit who migrated from the valley in Feb 1990 (7th exodus). I am married into a Kashmiri pandit family who migrated in 18th century. Each of us is #KashmiriFiles, a collective memory of what happened over the last 700 years. Thankyou @vivekagnihotri @Anupam PKher.



**BRIEF**

**Jute MSP**

**New Delhi:** The government has increased the minimum support price (MSP) of raw jute by Rs 250 to Rs 4,750 per quintal for the 2022-23 season. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Tuesday approved the MSP for raw jute for the 2022-23 season. The approval is based on recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices. "The MSP of raw jute (TDN3 equivalent to TD5 grade) has been fixed at Rs 4,750 per quintal for 2022-23 season with an increase of Rs 250 over the previous year."

**Cryptocurrencies**

**New Delhi:** Chartered accountants' apex body ICAI will be preparing a research paper on cryptocurrencies that will cover various aspects, including taxation implications. ICAI President Debashis Mitra on Tuesday said the institute is working on a research paper on cryptocurrencies, which is expected to be ready in one-and-a-half months. Currently, cryptocurrencies are unregulated in the country. Mitra said once the research paper is complete, it will be submitted to the government. "We are seized of the matter," Mitra told reporters here when asked about cryptocurrencies.

**Infosys oddity**

**New Delhi:** IT company Infosys will acquire oddity - a Germany-based digital marketing, experience, and commerce agency - in an all cash deal for USD 50 million (about Rs 380 crore), the company said on Tuesday. As part of Infosys' digital experience and design offering, oddity will become part of Wongdoody and join its network of studios across Seattle, Los Angeles, New York, Providence, Houston, and London, and design hubs in five cities in India, Infosys said in a statement.

**Global agreement**

**Chennai:** Industrial artificial intelligence and software as a service enterprise provider Detect Technologies on Tuesday said it has signed a global agreement with energy company Shell to deploy its integrated AI Solution 'T-Pulse' across operations of the Shell. This makes Detect - the first technology start up which was part of the Shell E4 programme to sign a global framework agreement with Shell.

**Brain Awareness**

**Mumbai:** Jindal Institute of Behavioural Sciences (JIBS), a value-based research Institute of O.P. Jindal Global University organised Brain Awareness Week in India from March 14-20. This year JIBS specifically focused on brain-related issues among children with special needs and the elderly population. The Brain Awareness Week is a worldwide campaign aimed at increasing public awareness and support for brain sciences.

## Fitch slashes FY23 India growth forecast to 8.5 pc on high energy prices, inflation

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Rating agency Fitch on Tuesday slashed India's growth forecast for the next fiscal to 8.5 per cent from 10.3 per cent, citing soaring energy prices and rising inflation on account of the Russia-Ukraine war.

It has revised upwards the GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal by 0.6 percentage points to 8.7 per cent.

"However, we have lowered our growth forecast for FY 2022-2023 to 8.5 per cent (-1.8 pp) on sharply higher energy prices," Fitch said.

For 2023-24, it is estimated at 7 per cent.

In its Global economic Outlook-March 2022, Fitch

said the post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery is being hit by a potentially huge global supply shock that will reduce growth and push up inflation.

"The war in Ukraine and economic sanctions on Russia have put global energy supplies at risk. Sanctions seem unlikely to be rescinded any time soon," the agency said.

Last week, another global rating agency Moody's had slashed India's growth estimate for the 2022 calendar year to 9.1 per cent from 9.5 per cent earlier, saying high fuel and fertiliser import bill could limit capital expenditure.

Russia supplies around 10 per cent of the world's energy, including 17 per

cent of its natural gas and 12 per cent of oil.

"The jump in oil and gas prices will add to industry costs and reduce consumers' real incomes...Higher energy prices are a given," Fitch said as it has reduced the world GDP growth forecast by 0.7 percentage points to 3.5 per cent.

International oil prices started rising this year and jumped to a 13-year high of USD 140 per barrel earlier this month as an aftermath of the Russia-Ukraine war. Brent was trading at USD 118.59 per barrel on Tuesday.

India relies on overseas purchases to meet about 85 per cent of its oil requirement, making it one of the

most vulnerable in Asia to higher oil prices.

Observing that Indian GDP growth was very strong in the December quarter, Fitch said the GDP is more than 6 per cent above its pre-pandemic level though it is still well below its implied pre-pandemic trend.

"High-frequency data indicate that the Indian economy has ridden out the Omicron wave with little damage in stark contrast with the two previous coronavirus waves in 2020 and 2021," it said.

Fitch now sees inflation strengthening further, peaking above 7 per cent in the December quarter of 2022, before gradually easing.

## Atmanirbhar mission not leading India towards closed economy, says Niti VC

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI)**

NITI Aayog on Tuesday sought to dispel the fear that India is favouring a closed economy by promoting 'Atmanirbhar' mission, and said the country can achieve better results for its people by having a deeper engagement with the global supply and value chain.

Inviting Japanese investors to set up companies in India on a larger scale under the recently launched production linked incentive (PLI) schemes, NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar said India remains very deeply committed to greater integration with global flows and the regional network.

"We would want the Japanese companies to come and make India an export hub to the rest of the world under the PLI scheme. I think the environment is there to develop it because on the Indian side we have done, and we will continue to do whatever is required to at-



tract Japanese investment into India.

"I do want to take this opportunity to dispel any fear at all that the production linked incentive scheme for the Atmanirbhar, the self-reliant India - a call given by the prime minister as a response to the Covid situation and for our economy to come out of it - I want to dispel the fear that it is in any sense leading us towards a closed economy," Kumar said while speaking at a webinar on the 10th ICRIER-PRI workshop on 'Policy Responses to COVID-19 in India and Japan and Prospects for Economic Cooperation Going Ahead'.

He said there is no question at all for India to move back from its engagement

with the global economy, trade, services, financial and technological aspects among others. "We are convinced that it is only by a deeper integration for India that we will achieve better results for our people as we go forward." "And I think what we have done points towards that, whether it is the liberalisation of our foreign investment in defense sector, whether it is opening up the defense sector to our private domestic enterprises or liberalisation of our services sector, all that I think points to the fact that India remains very deeply committed to greater integration with global flows and our regional network," Kumar said while inviting Japanese firms to invest more in India.

He said that Japan can contribute to every aspect of the Indian economy and help it grow the exports by taking advantage of the global demand and achieve a higher share in global trade and merchandise services growth.

## Govt closely monitoring global commodity price movements amid Russia-Ukraine war: FinMin

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The government is closely monitoring the global commodity price movements and their impact on the Indian economy through trade in the aftermath of global supply disruptions amid the Russia-Ukraine war, Parliament was informed on Tuesday.

Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhury said the government is also committed to supporting initiatives for releases from Strategic Petroleum Reserves to mitigate market volatility and calm the rise in crude oil prices. To a question on whether the government has made any review of the economy consequent upon the breakout of war



between Russia and Ukraine, the minister said the geopolitical tension between Russia and Ukraine has led to global supply disruptions, resulting in a steep increase in global commodity prices, including crude oil, gas, edible oils and fertilisers, among others. "Government of India is closely monitoring the global price movements and their impact on India's economy through trade," he said.

He said India's GDP in 2021-22 is estimated to grow at 8.9 per cent, which will take the country's GDP past the most recent pre-pandemic output of 2019-20 to complete the recovery process.

"In addition, Government is also committed to supporting initiatives for releases from Strategic Petroleum Reserves, for mitigating market volatility and calming the rise in crude oil prices," Chaudhury said.

International oil prices started rising this year and jumped to a 13-year high of USD 140 per barrel earlier this month as an aftermath of the Russia-Ukraine war. Brent was trading at USD 118.59 per barrel on Tuesday.

**Mumbai, Mar 22 (PTI):**

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty made a spirited recovery to close over 1 per cent higher on Tuesday, riding on gains in Reliance Industries, Infosys and TCS amid a recovery in global equities.

After opening lower, the 30-share BSE Sensex had plunged to a day's low of 56,930.30 points on concerns over inflation and growth as India hiked fuel prices after a 137-day hiatus.

However, the barometer rebounded in afternoon trade in line with gains in European and Asian stocks. The BSE Sensex closed up by 696.81 points or 1.22 per cent at 57,989.30 as 26 of its

constituents ended in green. The broader NSE Nifty climbed 197.90 points or 1.16 per cent to finish at 17,315.50.

"We witnessed good rebound in markets driven by buying in Reliance. Market recovery after the morning fall is a good sign for Indian market. In coming days, we still expect volatility to persist till the war situation between Russia and Ukraine and crude price stabilize," said Rahul Sharma of Equity 99. Gains in the broader market were marginal compared to the benchmark index, with the BSE midcap index gaining 0.17 per cent and smallcap gauge 0.15 per cent.

Tech Mahindra emerged

as the lead gainer with a jump of 3.83 per cent, followed by RIL (2.59 per cent), Bajaj Finserv (2.46 per cent), ITC (2.21 per cent), TCS (2.09 per cent), Kotak Mahindra Bank (1.88 per cent) and Infosys (1.87 per cent).

In contrast, Hindustan Unilever Limited, Nestle India, NTPC, and Sun Pharma were the laggards.

"The domestic market started with a negative bias taking cues from rising crude prices and hawkish signals from Fed on aggressive policy tightening. However, the trend reversed as European markets opened on a positive note buoyed by hope that Ukraine may consider

working towards a truce," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Among BSE sectoral indices, energy (1.96 per cent), oil and gas (1.94 per cent), IT (1.93 per cent) and Teck (1.76 per cent) were the biggest gainers.

"Markets posted strong gains and settled around the day's high amid mixed cues. Initially, the bias was slightly on the negative side in continuation to Monday's fall, however a strong surge in the select index majors from IT, energy, and banking space completely changed the tone in the latter half," Ajit Mishra, VP - Research, Religare Broking Ltd said.

## COMEDK- Uni-GAUGE entrance exam application dates announced



**Bengaluru, Mar 22:**

COMEDK UGET and Uni-GAUGE entrance examinations will be held on June 19, 2022, Sunday, as a combined examination for admission to over 190 Engineering colleges and 50+ reputed private and deemed universities, respectively. The entrance test will be held for admissions to B.E/B. Tech programmes for colleges affiliated with the Karnataka Professional Colleges Foundation Trust and Uni-GAUGE member universities. The exam will be conducted online in over 150 cities across India, with

over 400 test centers. This year, it expects over 80,000 students to appear for the examination. Applicants can register at [www.comedk.org](http://www.comedk.org) or [www.unigauged.com](http://www.unigauged.com). The application process is open online from 14th March 2022 to 02 May 2022. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Kumar, Executive Secretary COMEDK said, "Karnataka is the center for higher education for the last 5 decades and has been the most preferred destination for Engineering aspirants, because of the choice of colleges, quality of education and higher employability rate after completion.

## KN Agri IPO issues subscribed 144 times

**Mumbai, Mar 22:**

KN Agri Resources created a history by overall subscription and procurement in the SME becoming the highest subscribed IPO in terms of segment in FY. 2021-22. The '49.38 cr. initial public offer opened for subscription on March 15 with a price band of '71-75 per share and closed on March 17. Against the 12.49 lakh shares on offer, the net qualified institutional buyer (QIB) category (excluding Anchor investor portion) received bids for 3.33 crore shares (26.65 times); the non-institutional category received bids for 72.44 crore shares (771.28 times) against 9.39 lakh shares on offer. The retail category also saw a robust response as the quota was subscribed 87.52 times with total bids received of 19.15 crore against 21.88 lakh shares on offer. KN Agri Resources is an integrated, global agribusiness and food company operating in the farm-to-consumer.

## CCPA imposes Rs 10 lakh penalty for misleading ads of Sensodyne

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has ordered discontinuation of certain misleading advertisements of Sensodyne toothpaste within seven days and imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on the manufacturer.

An official release on Tuesday stated that advertisements of Sensodyne products which make the claims 'Recommended by dentists worldwide' and 'World's No.1 sensitivity toothpaste' have been ordered to be discontinued within seven days. The authority also directed payment of penalty of Rs 10 lakh.

Advertisements which show endorsements by foreign dentists have been ordered to be discontinued as per the earlier order passed by CCPA.

The CCPA, headed by

Nidhi Khare, "recently passed order against misleading advertisements of Sensodyne products which make the claims 'Recommended by dentists worldwide' and 'World's No.1 sensitivity toothpaste,'" the statement said.

Previously on February 9, 2022, the CCPA had passed an order directing discontinuation of advertisement of Sensodyne products which show endorsement by foreign dentists.

The CCPA had initiated suo-moto action against advertisement of Sensodyne products on various platforms including television, Youtube, Facebook and Twitter. The ads show dentists practising outside India (UK) endorsing the use of Sensodyne products namely Sensodyne Rapid Relief and Sensodyne Fresh Gel for protection against teeth sensitivity.

## I-T dept detects Rs 3,000-crore worth cash transactions after raids on Omaxe group

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):**

The income tax department has gathered "evidence" that real estate group Omaxe allegedly indulged in "unaccounted" cash transactions with customers to the tune of over Rs 3,000 crore, officials said on Tuesday.

The CBDT issued a statement to say that it raided the premises of a leading real estate group active in north India on March 14.

"The search action covered more than 45 premises in Delhi and NCR, Chandigarh, Ludhiana, Lucknow and Indore," the statement issued by the policy-making body for the tax department said. Officials identified the searched group as Omaxe. The Omaxe group could not be reached for comments.

"Unaccounted" cash of Rs 25 crore and jewellery worth Rs 5 crore has been seized while 11

lockers have been put under restraint, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said. "A large number of incriminating evidences including hard copy documents and digital data have been seized during the search."

"The seized evidences contain unaccounted 'on-money' cash receipt data of the group from various customers for more than 10 years," it said.

The key employees and business heads of various projects have stated the modus operandi of the group and have "admitted" that the group has generated unaccounted income by accepting 'on-money' (cash) "unaccounted" cash from its customers which have not been recorded in the regular books of account, the CBDT claimed. "Evidence of receipt of such on-money exceeding Rs 3,000 crore has been gathered so far," it said.

## HANDICRAFT MELA



Artists from the country of Eswatini at the Surajkund Handicraft Mela, in Faridabad, Tuesday.

## Number of Indian workers requiring digital skills set to rise by 27.3 mn over next year: Report

**New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI)**

The number of Indian workers requiring digital skills for their jobs is set to rise by 27.3 million, representing seven per cent of India's workforce, over the next year, according to a report.

Amazon Web Services (AWS), an Amazon.com company, released findings from a new research report that revealed digital skills training needs have become more pronounced amid the pandemic.

About 95 per cent of workers surveyed in India acknowledged that they require more digital skills - the ability and knowledge to apply digital technolo-

gies for tasks in the workplace - in order to cope with changes in their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"...over the next year, the number of India workers requiring digital skills for their jobs is projected to increase by 27.3 million, representing 7 per cent of India's workforce," according to the report.

That said, only 45 per cent of employers in India have a training plan in place, which could affect their competitiveness in areas such as productivity, innovation and employee retention.

The 'Building Digital Skills for the Changing Workforce' report, prepared by strategy and economic

consulting firm AlphaBeta and commissioned by AWS, surveyed 1,012 digitally skilled workers in technology and non-technology roles, and 303 employers in India, with representation from public, private, and nonprofit sectors of different industries.

The ability to use cloud-based tools, such as cloud developer tools, as well as online collaboration, accounting, and customer relationship management (CRM) software will be the most in-demand skill required by employers by 2025, followed by technical support and cybersecurity skills. The findings also highlight the need for more advanced cloud computing

skills, including machine learning and cloud architecture design.

These skills are expected to be in high demand in businesses from healthcare to agriculture, fintech to media and entertainment, the report said.

"Over the course of the pandemic, we have seen organisations of all sizes accelerate their digital transformation plans, driving an increased need for employers and their workers to advance skills training for cloud computing, cybersecurity, and machine learning, noted Rahul Sharma, President, Public Sector Amazon Internet Services Private Limited (AISPL), AWS India and South Asia.



## Beyonce in talks to perform in Oscars

**S**inger Beyonce is in talks to perform on Oscars telecast from Compton tennis courts.

Organisers behind the big award event are pulling out all the stops to land an iconic performance from best original song nominee Beyonce, multiple sources close to the show told 'Variety'.

While the superstar made nary an awards campaign stop over the past months in support of her track 'Be Alive', co-written with artist Dixon for the film 'King Richard', Beyonce's camp has been in deep talks with producers to mount a satellite performance of the song -- one that would possibly open the show, and broadcast live from tennis courts in Compton, California.

According to 'Variety', the concept began solidifying last Monday, three individuals with knowledge of the talks said.

The location, of course, is where sports legends Venus and Serena practiced relentless drills in their youth under the watchful eye of their father, Richard. One possible scenario would have Will Smith, who plays the titular character in the film, appear onsite with Beyonce and then presumably head north to Hollywood in time to take his seat for the announcement of the best actor category, sources added.

An Academy spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment. A Beyonce spokesperson couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

The 'Naughty Girl' singer is notoriously secretive, often requiring the most high-level collaborators to sign binding nondisclosure agreements for the chance to work with her.

Numerous insiders close to the industry and to the city government said that it's possible Beyonce would abandon the concept entirely if any of her plans were to be revealed.

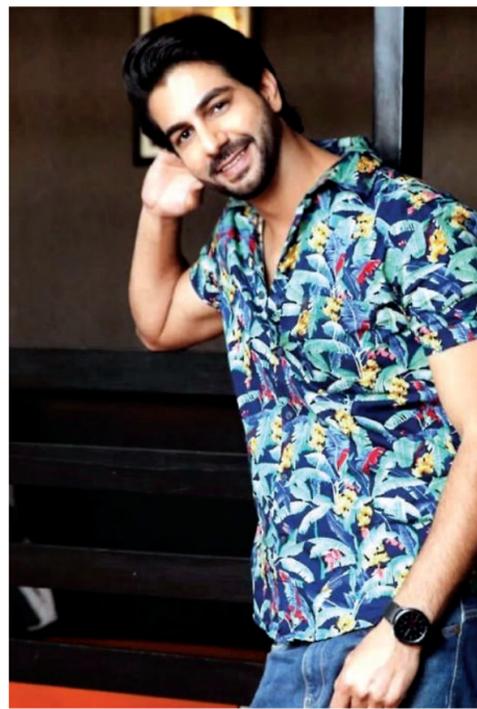
While there are numerous tennis courts in the City of Compton, located in metro Los Angeles, the Lueders Park courts were officially rebranded as the Venus and Serena Williams Court of Champion in 2016. The Compton City Manager's office did not return multiple calls for comment on the matter. Any pop culture watcher or Beyhive member would recognise a move like this as trademark Beyonce, a performance that could utilise the popularity of the Oscars to shine a light on Compton, and celebrate two native daughters who conquered their sport and the world. Over the years, the Academy has shown their affection for Beyonce as a performer.

## Sahil talks about his fitness regime

**W**hile actors are continuously honing their acting skills, they must also maintain a fitness regime to look their best while portraying a variety of roles on television. Actor Sahil Phull, who plays 'Kashi' in Sony Entertainment Television's slice of life drama 'Jagannath aur Purvi Ki Dosti Anokhi', has amassed a sizable fan base over the years because of his spectacular acting talent, sharp features and charming personality. Even as Kashi, Sahil has successfully struck a chord with the audience for his heartwarming performance making the character relatable. To get into the character of Kashi, Sahil has been putting in a lot of time

and effort in order to prepare for this role. Along with getting the Banarasi diction right, he has been working on his physique as well.

Sharing a few details about his fitness regime that he follows, Sahil Phull said, "As an actor one needs to always focus on his acting skills and his look especially at a time when he needs to fit into a particular character. I am a total foodie however, the profession I am in requires me to stay in my best form and shape at all times, so I actively try to balance by eating simple home-cooked food. I do intermittent fasting and exercise at-least four times a week. My favorite form of exercise is core strength training."



## Ajay Devgn always wanted to be a director, says childhood pal Rohit Shetty



**F**ilmmaker Rohit Shetty revealed on Monday that Bollywood star and his childhood friend Ajay Devgn's first love was direction and that he always wanted to be a director. He also praised Ajay for his sound knowledge of technicalities of filmmaking. Speaking on the sidelines of the trailer launch of 'Runway 34' which has been directed by Ajay, the 'Golmaal' director said, "This may come as a surprise, but since the time I have known Ajay, he has always wanted to be a director. His technical knowledge as a director is unparalleled and you will get to see that in

'Runway 34' where he has shot with 10-13 cameras in a cockpit. Shooting with heavy equipment in such a confined space is not an easy task." "In addition to acting and direction, Ajay is the producer of the film as well. And let me tell you, he is one producer, who goes all out if he believes in the script. He won't hold back from spending on the film and I have personally seen that happening with 'Raju Chacha', that film was made on a budget of Rs 38 crore at a time when most Bollywood films were made for Rs 7-8 crore."



## Happu Ki Ultan Paltan celebrates 3 years anniversary milestone

**C**omedy is one of the toughest genres to crack and only the best or funniest few manage to crack up the audience. To have the audience in splits year after year is indeed a great accomplishment. &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, a rib-tickling show of "gharelu" misadventures, comic tragedies of Daroga Happu Singh (Yogesh Tripathi), his "Dabangg Dulhan" Rajesh (Kamna Pathak), and his obstinate mother Katori Amma (Himani Shivpuri) is one such show that has completed 3 successful years

now. Today, Happu's comical errors, Rajesh's quirky comebacks and Amma's buland andaaz have a special part in the TV-loving audience's hearts.

To celebrate this milestone, the entire team has also cut a cake on the set. The show's producer, Sanjay Kohli, of Edit II Productions, shares, "The show is our baby, and watching it grow and turn into such a big success makes me feel extremely proud and content. The idea of creating a show that can instantly lift anyone's mood has been accomplished with Happu

Ki Ultan Paltan. While we celebrate three years of completion today, our constant endeavour is to continue offering hilarity and spread the joy of comedy year after year. On this day, I would like to thank &TV and my entire team who work hard to bring a smile on everyone's face."

Katori Amma essayed by the veteran actress Himani Shivpuri cannot hold on to her excitement. She says, "I have been in this industry for almost four decades and have played numerous characters, but Katori Amma will always be my most



cherished role. These three years have been no less than a roller coaster ride, as we as a team faced a global pandemic and yet came back stronger with a single motto to make our viewers laugh. Cheers to

three years of teamwork, creativity, laughter and madness."

Continue watching your favourite Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, airing every Monday to Friday at 10:00 pm only on &TV!

## Rajamouli's next with Mahesh Babu will not be a multi-starrer

**S**S. Rajamouli has cleared the air on the big debate on his upcoming movie with Mahesh Babu.

As it is being rumoured that Rajamouli's movie with Mahesh will have another star hero, the 'RRR' director that there is no truth in the gossip.

There was gossip about another star actor joining the Mahesh Babu-Rajamouli venture, which was turned down by the director himself. Rajamouli, who was quizzed about the same during a media interactive session, said, "Maybe because my recent projects - 'Baahubali', 'Baahubali 2', and now 'RRR' are all multi-starters, this assumption has come out. But, Mahesh Babu's movie is going to be a solo one". It is also reported that Rajamouli has planned to wrap up the shooting of this yet-to-begin movie in less than a year, despite its grandeur.

Meanwhile, Mahesh Babu, who awaits the release of his 'Sarkaru Vaari Paata', will wrap up a movie, which is to be directed by Trivikram Srinivas.

## HOROSCOPE WEDNESDAY MARCH 23

### Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18

You may fall in love today! If single, romance colours your day with a rainbow. If married, you may enjoy a quiet but romantic evening with your spouse. Ganesha says that if nothing else, it's a good time to pour over your photo albums and float in nostalgia.

### Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

You will be treading new ground at work. Exciting as that sounds, it merely means you will have to do a lot of travelling today. You will also find yourself swamped with drafting new business proposals, holding meetings, or otherwise networking over the phone.

### Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, the stars put you on high alert... and not for nothing. You will save yourself from being swindled. Though you will easily manage to stay ahead of others, you may make a few enemies on your way. It's not a good day if you're looking to buy a house or vehicle, says Ganesha.

### Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21

People around you will be surprised to witness the considerate and compassionate side of you today, says Ganesha. Problems may come knocking but you, along with support from your loved ones, will handle them with brilliant tact. Enjoy the company of near and dear ones and let your presence be felt in social outings, suggests Ganesha.

### Gemini: May 22 - June 21

Today, you will decide to become a bit more conscious about your health. You may or may not join a gym or measure your calories, but you will definitely sit up and take notice of your lifestyle and unhealthy food habits, predicts Ganesha. A new job is also likely, which will pen a completely new chapter in your life.

### Cancer: June 22 - July 22

You will be in a joyous mood. You will be de-lightened in whatever task you do. Financial matters will confound you, with even a petty issue causing tension. Ganesha says it will be a colourful day, with happy tidings.

### Leo: July 23 - Aug 23

Your entire day will be spent at work. Those working in large corporations will have to fulfill heightened expectations from their superiors. Housewives will need to tackle other work, apart from their daily chores. It is an important day for you, says Ganesha.

### Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22

You will stay away from partnership ventures. Those working in large corporations will have to control large-scale projects on your own. You have leadership qualities, and will be able to coordinate team work and direct your colleagues to get the required amount of work from them.

### Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23

Ganesha says that you will be able to attain a huge benefit because of your nature to take chances. Higher ups in the office will take notice of your skills and ability to work well. Seniors in your office will promote and inspire you to give your best. Ganesha says this is not a good time to get into a direct fight with anyone since it will lead to more problems and issues.

### Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22

You are ready to take up the challenges that life has to throw at you. Thanks to the confidence within you, which gives you power to fight it out against all odds. Even if you take up a mammoth task, you are bound to succeed today, predicts Ganesha.

### Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 21

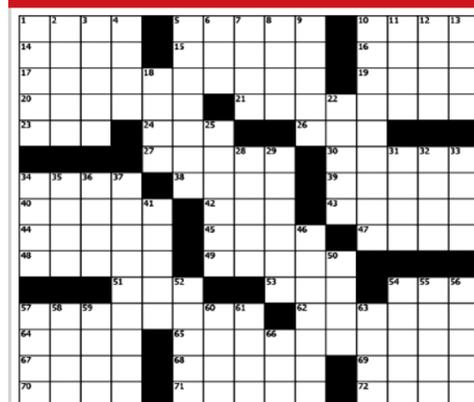
Round and round they tumble, the wheels of life, smoothly gliding into a routine. You may spend your day in discontent due to the rut of regular activities. Sadly, there is little hope or adventure Ganesha foresees that might make this day worthwhile for you. There will be glimpses of excitement in the evening but on the whole, it will be nothing to write home about.

### Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20

Duping the wisest with your extraordinary power of convincing may have been your forte, but you may have to prove yourself all over again, for Ganesha says you will be tested today. This apart, you are likely to find answers to questions lingering in your subconscious mind for long.

## CROSSWORD

247



### ACROSS

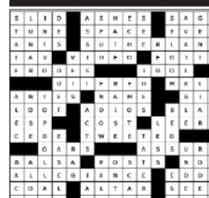
- TV "opera"
- Fiery felony
- Blueprint
- Song
- Owned apartment
- Stir up
- Appeal
- Till bills
- Cuddle
- Possibility

### DOWN

- Arid
- Printers' measures
- That lady
- Say
- Parcel out
- Voyaging
- Leg part
- Peruvian animal
- Heidi's cousin
- Gallery exhibit
- Crowbar, for one
- Artist's stand

- Paper measure
- Rave
- Perspire
- Juan's goodbye
- Taxi
- Fabrication
- Joan of \_\_\_
- Boulder's state
- Grimping person
- Keen
- Monotonous
- Horse's hair
- Blinding light
- Squeaks by
- Caribous' kin
- Actress \_\_\_ Barkin
- Dissolve
- Tolerate
- External
- Fidgety
- Jaunty
- Emphasizes
- Spoil
- Cut off
- Smell
- Forbidden items (hyph.)
- Motorboat feature
- Draw the
- Guinness of "Star Wars"
- Avian dwelling
- Pub beverages
- Will
- Largest desert
- Worn out
- Involve
- Volcanic rock
- Sign
- Small pie
- High cards
- Cabbage dish
- Comfort
- Long-distance prefixes (2 wds.)
- Communion table
- Dampen
- Highway vehicle
- Flat-bottomed boat
- Similar
- Make merry
- Wave top
- Showed up
- Egg-shaped
- Connect
- Secluded valley
- October's stone
- Ledger entry
- Bard's "before"

### SOLUTION 246



## Boris Becker accused of hiding tennis trophies during trial



London: Former tennis champion Boris Becker went on trial in London for allegedly concealing property including nine trophies from bankruptcy trustees and dodging his obligation to disclose financial information to settle his debts. Prosecutors said Becker, 54, acted dishonestly when he hid or failed to hand over assets before and after he was declared bankrupt in June 2017. He is on trial charged with 24 counts under insolvency laws. Prosecutor Rebecca Chalkley said the assets include trophies such as the 1985 and 1989 Wimbledon men's singles title, his Australian Open trophies from 1991 and 1996 and his 1992 Olympic gold medal. Becker is accused of concealing 1.13 million euros (1.25 million) from the sale of a Mercedes car dealership he owned in Germany.

## India is not far from having a Major winner: Gary Player



New Delhi: Golf legend Gary Player on Tuesday said Anirban Lahiri's second place finish at The PLAYERS championship just shows that India is not very far from having a Major winner. Lahiri finished sole second at the PLAYERS Championship in Florida, US on March 14 to walk away with a career-best USD 2.18 million in earnings. "Lahiri's performance was such an amazing effort against all the best players in the world," the nine-time Major champion Player told reporters on the eve of the DGC Open here. "He finished second in the fifth most important tournament and I wonder if the Indian population realise the publicity that he got for India is quite remarkable. "If Lahiri can finish second at The PLAYERS, he can definitely win a Major, no question and what a happy day it would be for me to see an African or a person from India winning a Major."

# Women's WC: India rout Bangladesh to keep hopes alive

Hamilton, Mar 22 (PTI):

Yastika Bhatia's gritty half-century and Sneha Rana's all-round performance powered India a dominating 110-run win over Bangladesh and kept them in the hunt for a semifinal spot at the ICC Women's World Cup, here on Tuesday.

Opting to bat, India recovered from a mid-inning collapse to post a modest 229 for seven, riding on a responsible 80-ball 50 by Bhatia and a late flourish from Rana (27) and Pooja Vastrakar (30).

Defending the total, the spinners, led by Rana (4/30), controlled the proceedings as they struck at regular intervals.

India bowled out Bangladesh for 119 in 40.3 overs to register their third win of the tournament. The big win helped India improve their Net-Run-Rate (0.768) further.

The Mithali Raj-led side will take on South Africa in the final league match on Sunday. Before that match, if the second-placed Proteas beat West Indies on Thursday India's semifinal chances will get better.

India's decision to bring in senior spinner Poonam Yadav (1/25) in place of pacer Meghna Singh paid dividends. With spinners operating from both the ends on a slow track, Bangladesh found the run-scoring difficult. India restricting Bangladesh to 69/5 after 25 overs.

Lata Mondal (24) and Salma Khatun (32) provided some resistance with a 40-run partnership which was



broken by Jhulan Goswami when she dismissed the latter, while Vastrakar accounted for the former a few overs later.

The pace duo of Goswami (2/19) and Vastrakar (2/26) shared four wickets between them while the spinners accounted for the rest.

Earlier, Smriti Mandhana (30) and Shafali Verma (42) shared 74 runs for the opening wicket but Ritu Moni (3/37) and Nahida Akter (2/42) shared five wickets between them to reduce India from 74 for no loss to 108 for 4 at one stage.

Mandhana ended up hitting straight to Fargana Hoque off Akter, while Moni struck twice in two

balls in the next over to leave India at 74 for 3 in 15.4 overs.

While Verma was stumped by Nigar Sultana, skipper Mithali Raj (0) was out for a first-ball duck as India lost three wickets in quick succession.

Vice-captain Harmanpreet Kaur (14) then joined Bhatia as the two tried to resurrect the innings but the duo scored only 34 runs in 70 balls before a direct throw from Hoque caught the former short of her crease.

Bhatia (50 off 80) and Richa Ghosh (26) then added 54 runs to take India past the 150-run score.

The duo played at a good

pace with Ghosh slamming Lata Mondal (0/20) for successive fours in the 30th over.

However, Akter brought Bangladesh back into the game when she had Ghosh caught behind while she tried to cut a ball that was too close to the body.

After completing her fifty, Bhatia too perished in the next ball while trying for a paddle scoop, only to be caught by at short fine leg.

Vastrakar (30) and Rana (27) then came together at 180 for 6 at the end of 44th over to add 48 off 38 balls, taking India past the 200-run mark. With the two going strong, the last 10 overs yielded 64 runs.

## Imperious Lanning leads Aus past SA

Wellington: Skipper Meg Lanning produced another masterclass, smashing an unbeaten 135 as six-time champions Australia continued their invincible run with a five-wicket thrashing of South Africa in the ICC Women's World Cup here on Tuesday.

Lanning scored her 15th ODI century with 15 hits to the fence and one maximum during her 130-ball unconquered innings to help Australia successfully chase down South Africa's total of 271 for 5 with 28 balls to spare at Basin Reserve.

Invited to bat, opener Laura Wolvaardt cracked a 134-ball 90, while skipper Sune Luus (52) notched another half-century as South Africa posted a decent total from their 50 overs.

However, it proved inadequate in the end as Lanning took control of Australia's chase and recorded her third World Cup century to lead her team to a comfortable victory.

The win further consolidated Australia's position at the top of the table with 12 points from six matches and they are likely to end at the top with just one match to go against Bangladesh in the league stage. It was South



Africa's first loss of the tournament. They remain second in the standings with 8 points from five games but are still in danger of missing out on the semifinals should they fail to win any of their final two matches against West Indies and India.

**BEST SYSTEM | BEST FACULTY | BEST PERSONAL CARE | BEST RESULTS**

॥ नमस्कार छत्तीसगढ़ ॥

With your immense TRUST of 33 years

# ALLEN<sup>®</sup>

## CAREER INSTITUTE

now also in

NYAYADHANI (LAW CAPITAL)

# BILASPUR

(TALLENTPRO PROGRAMME)

Trust of 22 Lac+ Students Since 1988

Team of 10000+ Strong Workforce

17 Times All India Rank-1 in JEE & Pre-Medical Entrance Exams in Last 12 Years From Classroom

The Powerhouse of BRILLIANT ACADEMICS & PROVEN LEGACY OF KOTA COACHING SYSTEM Now Just a Few Miles Away From Your Home

**ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT for BILASPUR (JEE (Main+Adv.) | NEET (UG) | KVPY | OLYMPIADS | Class 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>)**

**TalentPro NURTURE COURSE**  
(Class 10th to 11th Moving)  
IIT-JEE/NEET (UG) 2024:  
07 April & 08 June 2022  
Admission Mode Direct/ASAT/TALLENTX

**TalentPro ENTHUSIAST COURSE**  
(Class 11th to 12th Moving)  
IIT-JEE/NEET (UG) 2023:  
07 April 2022  
Admission Mode Direct/ASAT/TALLENTX

**TalentPro PNCF**  
(Class 7th to 10th Student)  
21 April 2022  
Admission Mode Direct/ASAT/TALLENTX

**BOOST 10<sup>th</sup> BOARD Preparations With ALLEN EXPERT Academicians**  
**BOARD MASTER STROKE (BMS)**

**FREE SEMINAR at BILASPUR**

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> March (Sunday) | Time: 04:00 PM

Venue: Maharaja Ranjit Singh Auditorium, Gurunanak School Campus, Dayalband, Bilaspur

Registration visit: [allen.ac.in/bmsbilaspur](http://allen.ac.in/bmsbilaspur) Or Scan For Free Registration

7880177797, 9893034377



**ALLEN Scholarship Admission Test (ASAT) on**

**27 Mar., 03 & 10 Apr'22**

(Get Scholarship Upto 90% Through ASAT)

To Apply online Log on to [www.allen.ac.in/bilaspur](http://www.allen.ac.in/bilaspur) or walk-in to nearest ALLEN Center for Application Form  
Note: Direct Admission also available



**ALLEN BILASPUR** (Talentpro Programme):  
HSM Global Public School, Chawla Chambers, Near Gurudwara, Dayalband, Bilaspur-495001 (CG)  
Web.: [www.allen.ac.in/bilaspur](http://www.allen.ac.in/bilaspur)

**BILASPUR HELPLINE**  
7880177797, 9893034377  
9893056085, 9893056088

**Corporate Office:**  
"SANKALP", CP-6, Indra Vihar, Kota (Raj.) INDIA, 324005 Tel.: 0744-2757575, 3556677  
Email: [info@allen.ac.in](mailto:info@allen.ac.in) | Web: [www.allen.ac.in](http://www.allen.ac.in)

## RANG PANCHAMI CELEBRATION



Devotees shower flower petals on artists dressed as Lord Krishna and Goddess Radha in celebration of the festival of Rang Panchami, in Bhopal, Tuesday.

# NDA gears up to train first batch of girl cadets

Pune, Mar 22 (PTI):

The National Defence Academy (NDA), the prestigious military training institute of the country, is geared up to train the first batch of girl cadets with effect from this June, a defence release said, adding that the training will largely be gender-neutral except some aspects of physical training which may entail certain changes.

As part of the preparations, one of the squadrons has been identified for the stay of girl cadets and existing infrastructure is being augmented.

Akin to their male counterparts, girls of the age group 16-and-half to 19

years will undergo three years of military training after successfully clearing the UPSC-NDA written exam, Services Selection Board (SSB) interviews and medicals, the release said on Tuesday.

A total of 19 vacancies-10 for the Army, 6 for the Air Force and 3 for the Indian Navy-have been allotted by the respective service headquarters for the first batch of girls at the NDA, it said.

The training objective at the NDA shall continue to remain as the centre of excellence for producing military leaders equipped with professional, moral and physical attributes required for leading the troops to victory in the future battlefields, it stated.

With minimum changes to the existing curriculum, the training in academics, drill, outdoor training, etc. will be conducted in a gender-neutral manner.

However, owing to physiological differences between male and female cadets, the aspect of physical training may entail certain changes in the training of girl cadets, the release said.

The dedicated support staff will be provided for facilitating the training of girl cadets, it said, adding that a majority of training activities shall be conducted jointly keeping their employability in mind, wherein the women officers are required to command the troops of men.

Similar training methodology already exists in other pre-commissioning training academies like the OTA Chennai, INA Ezhimala, and AFA Hyderabad.

For the stay of girl cadets, one of the squadrons has been identified and is being refurbished with amenities and requirements specific for their training. Actions are underway to augment the existing infrastructure, the release said.

Requisite modifications will also be undertaken to conform to gender-specific lifestyle requirements. Whereas in the long term, a separate squadron is being envisaged exclusively for girl cadets, the release said.

## Oppn seeks to punch holes in UDAN scheme

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI): The Opposition on Tuesday sought to punch holes in the government's regional connectivity scheme UDAN claiming that less than 50 per cent routes awarded under the marquee initiative were operational and only a fraction were functioning without subsidy. Initiating a discussion in Lok Sabha on the demand for grants of the civil aviation ministry, Congress member Ravneet Singh Bittu said only 405 routes out of the 948 awarded by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) since October 2016 were operational as on December 2021. Bittu also voiced concern over the budgetary cuts for Directorate of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) and the Aircraft Accident Investigation Board (AAIB).

## Expedite work on Samalei project: Odisha government

Sambalpur, Mar 22 (PTI):

The Odisha government told officials to expedite the work on redevelopment of the Samaleswari Temple, one of the most revered shrines in the state, so that it can be completed on time.

A high-level team, led by Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra, visited Sambalpur on Monday to assess the progress of the Samaleswari Temple Area Management and Local Economy Initiatives (Samalei) Scheme.

Under the project, transformative improvement of the Samaleswari Temple in western Odisha, will be carried out on the lines of the Jagannath Temple in

Puri and the Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar. The redevelopment includes beautification and peripheral development of the temple, heritage corridor, state-of-the-art amenities and the Mahanadi riverfront development.

The delegation reviewed the construction work on the resettlement colony in Durgapali, where people who will be displaced due to the implementation of the scheme will be rehabilitated. The Odisha government is providing all the amenities for the affected people there, the Chief Minister's Office said.

The team talked to the officials of the Odisha Bridge and Construction Corporation (OBCC),

which is implementing the project. They directed the firm to expedite the work for the timely completion of the project, which will offer a "divine experience" to the devotees and give a boost to the local economy, according to the CMO.

The board of the 16th-century shrine, discussed with the team regarding the implementation of the Rs 200-crore project, which is expected to be completed by next year.

The land acquisition process is underway by the district administration now, an OBCC official said. The Samaleswari Temple was constructed by Balram Dev, the first Chouhan king of Sambalpur.

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

Mere breach of contract is not in itself a criminal offence and gives rise to the civil liability of damages, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday. A bench of Justices S A Nazeer and Krishna Murari said the distinction between mere breach of contract and cheating, which is a criminal offence, is a fine one.

"There can be no doubt that a mere breach of contract is not in itself a criminal offence and gives rise to the civil liability of damages. While breach of contract cannot give rise to criminal prosecution for cheating, fraudulent or dishonest intention is the basis of the offence of

cheating," the bench said.

The top court made these observations while hearing an appeal filed by the Managing Director and the Directors of a company challenging an order of the Calcutta high court which refused to quash proceedings against them in a case of cheating and criminal breach of trust. In January 2008, respondent no. 2, an authorised representative of SMC Global Securities Ltd, Delhi desired to make an investment on its behalf with the appellants. It was mutually decided between the parties that Respondent No. 2 will invest an amount of Rs. 2.5 crore with the company in lieu of which they will be issued 2,50,000 equity shares of Priknit

Apparel Pvt. Ltd. Subsequently, Respondent No. 2 filed their share application form along with the cheque of Rs. 2.5 crore. Later, an allotment letter was issued in favour of Respondent No. 2 whereby 2,50,000 shares were issued in lieu of the investment made by him. Having failed to bring the I.P.O as per the memorandum of understanding, Respondent No. 2 issued a legal notice dated to the appellants, who duly replied to the legal notice denying all the allegations contained in the legal notice. Later, a criminal case was filed against the appellants. The top court said that in the case at hand, the complaint filed by the Respondent No. 2 does not

disclose dishonest or fraudulent intentions of the appellants. "Having gone through the complaint/FIR and even the charge sheet, it cannot be said that the averments in the FIR and the allegations in the complaint against the appellant constitute an offence under Section 405 (Criminal breach of trust.) & 420 (cheating) of Indian Penal Code, 1860.

"Even in a case where allegations are made in regard to failure on the part of the accused to keep his promise, in the absence of a culpable intention at the time of making the promise being absent, no offence under Section 420 IPC can be said to have been made out," the bench said.

## Mere breach of contract not criminal offence: SC

## 'Need to develop 30-40 greenfield airports'



Rajiv Pratap Rudy

New Delhi, March 22 (PTI): BJP member Rajiv Pratap Rudy on Tuesday made a strong case for developing 30-40 greenfield airports in the country to cater to the requirement of ever increasing number of air passengers.

Participating in the discussion on demands for grants for the Civil Aviation Ministry in the Lok Sabha, he said that upgrading existing airports and using defence enclaves for civil aviation "is not the future."

Former Civil Aviation Minister Rudy said the capacity of existing airports or brown field airports cannot be increased beyond a point even after incurring huge expenditure.

Similarly, the airports at defence enclaves cannot be upgraded as air force planes do not need CAT-3 or night landing facilities which are essential for operating large civilian aircraft.

He asked the government to expedite development of a new airport at Patna and focus on "developing 25, 30 or 40 greenfield airports in the country."

## HURL's 3 Fertiliser Plants

# 'Govt extends applicability of New Investment Policy-2012'

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

The government on Tuesday approved the extension of applicability of the 'New Investment Policy-2012' for three upcoming units of Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd (HURL) at Gorakhpur, Sindi and Barauni. The government had announced the New Investment Policy (NIP) - 2012 in January, 2013 and its amendment in October, 2014 to facilitate fresh investment in the urea sector and to make India self-sufficient.

"The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given approval for the proposal of the Department of Fertilisers for extension of applicability of New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012" for these three units of HURL, an official statement said.

HURL, incorporated in June, 2016, is a joint venture of Coal India Ltd, NTPC and Indian Oil Corporation. It is reviving the erstwhile Gorakhpur and Sindi Units of FCIL and Barauni Unit of GFCL by setting up new gas based urea plants with an installed capacity of 12.7 lakh tonnes per annum each. The cost of the three HURL urea projects is Rs 25,120 crore. GAIL is supplying natural gas to these three units.

The commissioning of the three units will add 38.1 lakh tonnes per annum urea production in the country. The project

will not only improve the availability of fertiliser to farmers but also give a boost to the economy in the region including development of infrastructure like roads, railways, ancillary industry etc. besides ensuring food security to the nation.

These three facilities aim to meet the demand for urea in seven states - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Odisha. All three HURL units have various unique features like blast-proof control room equipped with DCS (distributed control system), ESD (emergency shutdown system) and environment monitoring systems. There is no offsite waste water disposal in these plants.

will not only improve the availability of fertiliser to farmers but also give a boost to the economy in the region including development of infrastructure like roads, railways, ancillary industry etc. besides ensuring food security to the nation.

These three facilities aim to meet the demand for urea in seven states - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Odisha. All three HURL units have various unique features like blast-proof control room equipped with DCS (distributed control system), ESD (emergency shutdown system) and environment monitoring systems. There is no offsite waste water disposal in these plants.

## Indore drenches in colours as 'gair' yatra takes place after 2 years

Indore, Mar 22 (PTI):

After a gap of two years, the traditional 'gair or faag' yatra was taken out in Indore on the occasion of Rang Panchami on Tuesday by revellers in a grand manner amidst showers of water colours and gulal.

The much-awaited event, celebrated a few days after Holi, remained suspended for the last two years because of coronavirus, but this year, as the cases dropped and the third wave waned, the festival was back with gusto.

In the backdrop of vast improvement in the coronavirus situation, Madhya Pradesh chief minister



People play with colours during a procession in celebration of the festival of Rang Panchami, in Indore, Tuesday.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan has urged people to celebrate festivals with full enthusiasm. The Rang

Panchmi 'gair' (a tanker showering water colours on people through a pipe connected with a pump)

started from different areas of the city and reached Rajbada (castle of former rulers of Indore, Holkars) to spread colours on revellers. A large number of people had converged in the heart of the city to watch the colourful event.

According to local residents, the tradition of taking out 'gair' started from the time of Holkar rulers when members of the royalty would come out to play Holi with common citizens. During those days, bullock cart-mounted 'gairs' were used with colours prepared from tesu flowers and other herbal products.

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

TMC MP Mahua Moitra on Wednesday demanded that the civil aviation ministry be scrapped and merged to create a holistic ministry for transport as it was no longer in the business of running a national airline.

Participating in the discussion in Lok Sabha on the demand for grants of the civil aviation ministry, she said that with the privatisation of Air India last month there was no point in discussing that as it was already a "fait accompli" and "we need to move on". "We can only hope that this government has put in



Mahua Moitra

enough rules and reasonable processes for aircraft to be made available from the private sector for emergencies as and when required by the government of India, as we have seen in the case of Ukraine and many others in the last few years," she said. Moitra

pointed out that since 2014, Air India formed 60-95 per cent of the civil aviation ministry's budget.

The sale of Air India, basically an airline that cost the exchequer about Rs 120,000 crore in the past 10 years due to "gross mismanagement", is being now lauded as a landmark success, she said, slamming the government.

Pointing to the decrease in the amount for regional connectivity scheme UDAN and the Air India privatisation, she asked that with a "paltry" budget expenditure of Rs 1,240 crore what is the need for a separate ministry of civil aviation.

## AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



Citizens holding placards participate in a rally demanding to save water bodies on the occasion of World Water Day, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

## 'Scrap civil aviation ministry to create holistic transport ministry'

New Delhi, Mar 22 (PTI):

TMC MP Mahua Moitra on Wednesday demanded that the civil aviation ministry be scrapped and merged to create a holistic ministry for transport as it was no longer in the business of running a national airline.

Participating in the discussion in Lok Sabha on the demand for grants of the civil aviation ministry, she said that with the privatisation of Air India last month there was no point in discussing that as it was already a "fait accompli" and "we need to move on". "We can only hope that this government has put in

pointed out that since 2014, Air India formed 60-95 per cent of the civil aviation ministry's budget.

The sale of Air India, basically an airline that cost the exchequer about Rs 120,000 crore in the past 10 years due to "gross mismanagement", is being now lauded as a landmark success, she said, slamming the government.

Pointing to the decrease in the amount for regional connectivity scheme UDAN and the Air India privatisation, she asked that with a "paltry" budget expenditure of Rs 1,240 crore what is the need for a separate ministry of civil aviation.