



BRIEF



A model walks on the ramp showcasing the creation of a designer during Lakme Fashion Week, in New Delhi, Friday.

Compulsory voting

New Delhi: There is no proposal to bring a law to enforce compulsory voting in the country, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju informed the Lok Sabha on Friday. In a written reply, Rijiju said there are no plans to make voting certificate mandatory to avail government benefits and schemes and induce people to come out in large numbers to exercise their franchise.

Naxal surrenders

Bijapur: A 'deputy commander' of the naxals' military platoon surrendered in Chhattisgarh's insurgency-hit Bijapur district on Friday, police said. Mithu Kashyap, deputy commander of military platoon-16 under the Indravati Area Committee of the rebels, surrendered before Bijapur Additional Superintendent of Police Dr Pankaj Shukla, said a senior official.

TN tremors

Chennai: In a span of less than two hours, as many as three slight earthquakes were experienced early on Friday in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul region, according to the National Center for Seismology. The magnitude of the three micro earthquakes ranged between 1.2 and 1.5 on the Richter's scale and these were felt off Oddanchatram in Dindigul District, about 464 km from here. The first tremor was felt at 4.33 AM (Magnitude 1.2), followed by one at 6.04 AM and another at 6.07 AM and the magnitude of both these subsequent tremors were 1.5 and the depth of all the three were 10 km, according to the NCFS website.

Birbhum violence

New Delhi: The National Commission for Minorities will seek a report from the West Bengal chief secretary over the Birbhum violence that claimed eight lives earlier this week, following which it will send a team to the state, its officiating chairperson Syed Shaheezadi said on Friday. Eight people, including two children, were charred to death in Bogtui village of the state's Birbhum district in the suspected fallout of a TMC panachayat official's murder. Asked about the issue at a press conference, Shaheezadi said, "What is happening in Bengal is saddening."

Weather

High 38 Low 22

MARKET

NIFTY 17,153.00

SENSEX 57,362.20

BULLION

GOLD 51,853

SILVER 68,801

Chh'garh, Rajasthan CMs meet over looming power crisis

■ Due to coal shortage

Raipur, Mar 25 (PTD):

Amid a looming power crisis due to depleting coal stocks in Rajasthan, its Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Friday met his Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel in capital Raipur seeking to clear hurdles in the development of coal blocks allotted to the former's state.

According to officials, the Centre had allocated three coal blocks in Surguja district of Chhattisgarh to Rajasthan Raja Viduyt Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RVUNL) but production is underway in only one of them.

After a meeting between the two Congress CMs, Baghel told reporters further action to facilitate



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel presents a bouquet to Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, during their meeting, in Raipur.

coal supply to Rajasthan will be taken as per the rules while keeping in view the interest of local residents of the mining area as well as environment conservation.

Gehlot, who also accompanied him in the press conference, said he hoped Baghel will soon take a de-

cision in this regard as his state, otherwise, would suffer power outage.

The meeting, which was held in Baghel's official residence here, was attended by Rajasthan's energy minister and Chhattisgarh cabinet ministers and officials from both the states.

The CM of Rajasthan

and his energy minister have reached Raipur today and expressed their concern over the supply of coal. Letters have been exchanged in this regard in the past with the Rajasthan government as well as the Centre. The mines were allocated to Rajasthan government by the Government of India and further procedure in this direction is underway as per the rules, Baghel said.

The process (of development of mine) takes time. After allotment of the mine, environmental clearance and several other issues as per the guidelines of Centre and state Government are needed to be addressed, the CM said, adding that his government never compromises with the interest of local people and environment in mining areas.

Cal HC orders CBI probe into Birbhum killings

Kolkata, Mar 25 (PTD):

Observing that the killing of eight people in Birbhum district earlier this week has shaken the conscience of society, the Calcutta High Court on Friday directed the CBI to take over the investigation into the case from the SIT formed by the West Bengal government and submit a progress report before it on the next date of hearing.

The court, which registered a suo motu petition in the case on Wednesday, said that facts and circumstances demand that the investigation be handed over to the CBI in the interest of justice and also to instil confidence in the society.

Opposition parties welcomed the high court order for CBI investigation into the violence alleging that the state police, acting

on the behest of the Trinamool Congress government, was trying to hush up the matter.

The TMC questioned whether the agency, which is under the union government, can be trusted with an impartial probe claiming the BJP has been using the CBI to corner the opposition parties.

The Mamata Banerjee-led party said all cooperation would be extended to the CBI but there would be mass movements if the saffron party uses it to harass TMC leaders.

Miscrants had on March 21 set 10 houses on fire in Bogtui village in Birbhum district, killing at least eight people including women and children, in a suspected fallout of the murder of a ruling Trinamool Congress leader and upa-pradhan' (deputy chief) of the local panchayat.

Over 1 cr children 12-14 yrs age-group administered Covid vaccine first dose

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

Over one crore children in the age-group of 12-14 years have been administered the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Friday. The vaccination for this age group started on March 16 with Biological E's intramuscular vaccine Corbevax, two doses of which are to be administered 28 days apart.

As of March 1 last year, there were 4.7 crore children aged 12 and 13 years in the country. "Over one crore children between the age group of 12-14 have received their first dose of #COVID19 vaccine. Congratulations to all my



A healthcare worker administers a dose of the Covid-19 preventive vaccine to a student in the age group of 12-14 years, at a government school, in South Dinajpur, Friday.

young warriors who got vaccinated. Let's continue this momentum!" Mandaviya tweeted.

The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country has exceeded 182.55 crore, according to provisional reports till 7 am. The countrywide

vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16 last year with healthcare workers getting inoculated in the first phase. Vaccination of frontline workers started from February 2 last year.

The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination commenced on March 1 last year for people over 60 years of age and those aged 45 and above with specified co-morbid conditions. India launched vaccination for all people aged more than 45 years from April 1 last year. The government then decided to expand its vaccination drive by allowing everyone above 18 years of age to be inoculated against the viral disease from May 1 last year.

Indian medical students abroad with incomplete internship due to compelling situations to get relief

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD)

Indian students pursuing medical studies abroad who could not complete their internship due to compelling situations such as war and the Covid pandemic will now be able to finish their remaining internship in the country, the government said on Friday. This will, however, be subject to the condition that such candidates must have cleared FMGE (screening test), which is mandatory for Indian stu-

dents with foreign medical qualification to practice medicine in India, Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar said in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

She was responding to a question on whether the government proposes to frame a scheme for admission of students who have returned from China and those evacuated from Ukraine to medical colleges in the country and also to allow them to do their internship here.

■ Centre tells SC

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

The Centre on Friday told the Supreme Court that additional attempt in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) civil services examination is not possible.

The apex court is hearing a plea filed by three aspirants who had cleared the UPSC 2021 prelims exam but could not appear in all papers of the main

exam after testing positive for COVID-19 and are now seeking an extra attempt to appear in the exams.

We have filed an affidavit. Additional attempts are not possible. We have considered that, Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, told a bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar and A S Oka. The UPSC had recently told the top court there is no provision for holding re-examination in

Highest penal actions for fraudulent hospital transactions taken in Chh'garh

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

Chhattisgarh accounts for the highest number of penal actions taken for fraudulent hospital transactions with regard to claims under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana followed by Jharkhand and Uttarakhand, the government said on Friday.

Penal action has been taken for 8,586 hospital transactions in Chhattisgarh, 3,767 in Jharkhand, 3,016 in Uttarakhand, 2,065 in Punjab, 503 in Madhya Pradesh, 159 in Kerala and 140 in Bihar, Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar said in a reply to a written question in Lok Sabha.

The government has provided details of penal action taken in respect of hospital transactions in 16 states and union territories (UTs). To a question on

whether the government has taken note of fraudulent transactions recorded at empanelled healthcare providers under the AB-PMJAY, Pawar said the scheme is governed on a zero-tolerance approach to any kind of fraud vis-a-vis suspect or non-genuine medical treatment claims, impersonation and up-coding of treatment packages or procedures, among others. The National Health Authority, the implementing agency of the AB-PMJAY, has issued a comprehensive set of anti-fraud guidelines, and anti-fraud advisories are regularly issued to states and UTs, the minister said. The National Anti-Fraud Unit (NAFU) has been created at the NHA for overall monitoring and implementation of an anti-fraud framework supported by State Anti-Fraud Units (SAFUs), she said.

Pawar said that all claims require mandatory sup-

porting documents along with on-bed patient photo before approval and payment. Aadhaar-based biometric verification of a beneficiary at the time of admission and discharge has been launched at all private hospitals, according to the minister's reply.

Use of artificial intelligence and machine learning has been made for comprehensive fraud analytic solutions to detect fraud pro-actively, and develop algorithms that can be used on large volume of data to identify suspect transactions and entities and risk scoring of hospitals and claims, the minister said.

According to the terms and conditions of empanelment, hospitals cannot deny treatment to genuine beneficiaries of the scheme. Medical treatment claims are filed by private hospitals with insurance companies or trusts, as per the case.

Opposition members walk out of Lok Sabha proceedings over fuel price hike

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

Opposition members from various parties in Lok Sabha on Friday walked out of proceedings over rising fuel prices, with a Congress MP questioning the need to hike price of petrol, diesel and cooking gas following a 137 days hiatus after polls in five states concluded.

Gaurav Gogoi (Cong) raised the issue of rise in fuel prices during Zero Hour, saying after inflation and uneven recovery after the coronavirus pandemic, people needed a breathing space.

He wondered why prices of petrol and diesel were increased three times in a week after a hiatus of 137 days. He claimed that tensions between Russia and Ukraine were simmering

since December last year, but blaming the conflict now, the prices were hiked.

"We don't know how many more hikes await the people of India and people of India have just returned from Omicron. They want an environment where they can do their business but all these price hikes have increased the cost of business, especially the price of transportation and this will lead to inflation," he said.

He, as well as members from various opposition parties, sought a reply from the government as to why for 137 days they managed to keep the prices stable. They said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who was present in the House, should respond.

SC permits persons with disabilities to apply for opting IPS, DANIPS & IRPFS

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

The Supreme Court Friday allowed persons with disabilities to apply for Indian Police Service (IPS), DANIPS and Indian Railway Protection Force Services (IRPFS) provisionally as their preferences in the civil services and asked them to submit application forms in this regard to the UPSC by April 1.

The apex court passed the order while hearing a plea which has challenged the Centre's August 18, 2021 notification saying it has granted a blanket exemption to all categories of posts under the IPS, Delhi, Daman and Diu, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Police Service (DANIPS) and IRPFS from the

purview of reservation required to be provided thereunder.

A bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar and A S Oka was informed by Attorney General K K Venugopal that the government wants time for filing counter affidavit in the matter. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the bench that two-week time would be required for filing the affidavit.

Senior advocate Arvind Datar, appearing for petitioner National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled', said the exams are over and some of these persons have cleared it. Contending that they had to file their preferences by March 24 evening which was the last date, Datar said they want extension of time for this by a week or two.

He said the petitioner and similarly placed persons may be permitted to submit their application form to the UPSC and their claims can be considered subject to the outcome of the proceedings. We find this request to be most reasonable. Accordingly, we direct the authorities, in particular, secretary general of Union Public Service Commission, to accept hard copies of the applications of the concerned candidates such as the petitioners and similarly placed persons submitted physically on or before April 1 in the office of the secretary general, UPSC before 4 PM, the bench said. The top court also made clear that its order is not to interject the ongoing process in any manner.

Rajasthan MLA runs to mark protest against state government

Jaipur, Mar 25 (PTD):

Independent legislator from Behror assembly constituency Baljeet Yadav on Friday took to running in the Central Park here to protest against issues of unemployment and corruption.

Yadav came live on social media to express his feelings on these issues and announced a 12-hour run as a mark of protest. He had on Thursday too announced running as protest in the state

Assembly. "I am expressing anger against the state government. I want to tell them about the pain of the youth of the state. There are 23 states where youths of Rajasthan are not being given jobs.

Even the state government is not giving them jobs. So, where will the youth go?" Yadav said. He said, "People are helpless due to the irregularities in recruitment exams. I cannot fight with these goons so I have to express my anger."

BMC to generate revenue by selling vacant plots

Bhila, Mar 25:

Municipal Corporation is going to sell the vacant plots for generating revenue. This proposal was passed during the first general body meeting of INC Mayor Neeraj Pal's tenure held on Friday. BJP in the opposition raised strong objection over this proposal. BJP Corporators questioned whether the financial condition of the civic body is so weak that it is selling its property. On the other hand, the ruling Congress replied that through this initiative BMC will be able to earn a lump sum income. BJP Corporators stated that many cases of plots sold during SADA tenure are pending yet. They demanded to dispose of those cases before auctioning the new plots.

The proceedings of General Body commenced at 11:00 hrs on Friday. Speaker Girwar Bunt Sahu chaired the meeting. At the outset, Mayor Neeraj Pal placed the



proposals in the house. Opposition Corporators Piyush Mishra, Bhojraj Sinha, Rikesh Sen, Mahesh Verma and independent Corporator Bashisht Narayan Mishra raised strong objections on almost every proposal. They were demanding discussion on each and every topic and were also insisting to discuss other subjects. The ruling party and the opposition got involved in arguments and soon it took shape of a commotion. The resolution for selling the vacant plots was passed with majority. BMC will sell such plots which are lying va-



cant for years and are prone to encroachments. The opposition Corporators raised the issue of 253 plots which were sold by erstwhile SADA and the matter is pending yet. They demanded to resolve this issue before giving approval for selling the fresh vacant plots. They were not willing to support the proposal of auctioning the 1248 vacant plots. The ruling party informed that BMC has auctioned 30 plots and generated revenue of Rs 5 crore. As the Congress is in majority, Mayor Neeraj Pal got the proposal approved.

However, BJP Corporators lodged objection against the proposal in the minutes book. Independent Corporator Bashisht Narayan Mishra raised another significant issue in the house. He said that technical approval of Rs 2.46 crore has been given for the construction of library and reading room in Sector-5 near Shaheed Park. The Administrator of BMC has given administrative approval of Rs 2.49 crore for the expenditure on the work on November 18, 2020. Mishra pointed out that the administrator in Bhilai Municipal

Corporation was appointed on January 21, 2021 then who signed the documents on November 18, 2020. Mayor Neeraj Pal admitted that it was a human error in mentioning dates on the documents.

It needs to be mentioned here that the Bhilai Municipal Corporation is now gearing up to auction the 1248 vacant plots which are categorised as commercial, residential and residential cum commercial in various areas. Mayor Neeraj Pal told that there are 1248 such plots in the city, which will be auctioned. As an Administrator, District Collector had auctioned 25 plots out of which 23 plots have been sold. BMC earned Rs 5 crore by selling plots. Pal added that they have informed the state government through a letter. As the land belongs to the civic body, the amount generated by selling it will remain with BMC and would not be given to the state government.

Man arrested for impersonating CISF Jawan and working in this place

Bhilai, Mar 25:

Police have arrested a man on charges of impersonating a CISF Jawan. The accused with support of another CISF Jawan had worked for 11 months in his place. The incident occurred at CISF RTC, Utai. Later the CISF officials came to know that some fraudster was working in place of a Jawan.

The accused escaped immediately after coming to know that he had been exposed.

According to information, CISF Jawan Ramesh Kumar Yadav (35) son of Kailash Yadav a resident of Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh was arrested and sent to jail on November 25, 2021. He had conspired to position an impersonator at his place during duty.

The Shashi Kumar Yadav (28) son of Jang Bahadur Yadav had worked during February 17, 2021 to September 29, 2021 at CISF RTC in place of Ramesh Yadav. He has been absconding since



then. On the complaint of CISF officials, Utai Police lodged an FIR under section 420, 34 of IPC and search was launched.

During the investigation, on the basis of the statement of the applicant and witnesses and on the basis of the inspection of the incident site, accused Ramesh Kumar Yadav was duly arrested on November 25, 2021 and sent to jail. Another accused Shashi Kumar Yadav was on the run continuously since the date of the incident and was con-

stantly hiding in some or the other place. Recently, Police received a tip off that Shashi Kumar Yadav was seen near Utai. Police team swung into action and he was taken in custody on March 24. On being questioned, he confessed to have committed the crime.

Inspector Navi Monika Pandey, Sub-Inspector KL Gaur, Constables Surendra Singh Chouhan, Akash Tiwari, Mahesh Devangan and Yogesh Sahu played vital role in arresting the accused.

Ex Army Foundation observes martyrdom day



Bhilai, Mar 25: Ex Army Foundation, Bhilai-Durg Chhattisgarh has been organising as well as participating in religious, social and patriotic programs from time to time. In this sequel the Bhilai unit president Harpreet Singh, Vijay Singh, Haripal Singh and Dilip Harishchandra were invited by Hindu Jagat Manch to Hindu Jagat Manch president Raju Mita as guest to participate in the function on the martyrdom

day of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev Singh. While presiding over the function, Ex Army Foundation president paid tribute to the martyrs. The national anthem was sung in the honour, and the story of Shaheed Bhagat Singh was told. On the auspicious occasion of the martyrdom day, discussions were held for providing training of self-defense and recruitment of soldiers in the army.

Dependents of 281 people who died of Covid got compensation till now

From Pradhanmantri Jeevan Jyoti Insurance Scheme

Bhilai, Mar 25:

The banks provide a claim of Rs Two lakh after death of the account holder if he is covered under the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Jeevan Bima Yojana. After the deaths during Covid pandemic, the district administration had instructed the bankers to work expeditiously on these claim settlements. For this purpose, the administration had provided a list of the deceased,

their mobile number and all other information to the bankers. Along with this, telephone calls were also made to the family members through the Call Center. Additional Collector Nupur Rashi Panna discussed and reviewed the claim settlement status during the meeting of DLCC held on Friday. She said that CRGB, SBI, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Indian Bank and other banks have done a good job in claim settlement. The bereaved families got a great relief from this compensation. Bankers should also ensure that the families of the insured account holders get the benefit. For



this purpose, the banks must work fast on the remaining claim settlements. She instructed to review the list once again, get in touch with the bereaved families and make sure that all the claims are settled. District Panchayat CEO Ashwini Devangan,

Bank of Baroda DRM Siddharth Verma, Sukshma Nayak of RBI and other bankers were present.

In the meeting, the Additional Collector instructed to focus more on the priority sector. She said that the cases should be resolved expeditiously.

She said that women of SHGs have great potential to work. When they come to the bankers, the work of opening their accounts and settling their cases should be done fast. The positive initiative from the bankers boosts their confidence. She added that bankers can also fix a particular day in the week for this work. In the meeting, she also appealed to the bankers and officials to provide the benefits of NABARD's schemes to the people. NABARD has provided Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. Through this fund, SHGs and farmers can get loans for agricultural innovations. District

Development Manager, NABARD, M Bada said that he is going to convene a meeting with the officials and an action plan will be prepared so that SHGs can seek loans. NABARD's booklet on Potential Linked Credit Plan 2022-23 was also released on the occasion. In this plan, an amount of Rs 2403.91 crore has been kept for Durg district.

CRGB has settled the maximum 132 cases of Covid Claim, SBI - 76 cases, Bank of Baroda - 17 cases, Bank of India - 31 cases, Indian Bank - 14 cases, Central Bank - 6 cases while Union Bank and IDBI Bank have settled one - one case each.

Obituary

Manbodhi Ram Sinha



Bhilai: Manbodhi Ram Sinha left for heavenly abode at the age of 75 years on Friday. He was the father-in-law of Risali Mayor Shashi Sinha and father of Chhattisgarh Dadsena Kalar Samaj Jankalyan Samiti General Secretary Ashok Sinha. Last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at his native place in village Limora (Sikosa, Gunderdehi). Risali Municipal Corporation Speaker Keshav Banchor, MIC members, Corporators and officials have mourned his death.

Saraswati Pillai



Bhilai: Saraswati Pillai, wife of late KS Pillai left for heavenly abode at the age of 90 years. She breathed last on March 25 at Shri Shankaracharya Institute of Medical Sciences. She is survived by three sons Sarat, Gireesh, Subhash and two daughters Srilata & Jayshree, sons in law MAG Kurup and Vinod Nayar and daughters in law Mahita, Shalini & Deepa. Last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Harna Bandha Muktidham around 12 noon on March 26.

Man arrested with huge cache of psychotropic drugs

Bhilai, Mar 25:

The Narcotics Cell of Durg Police is continuously taking action against the people involved in illegal trade of narcotics and psychotropic drugs. In this sequel, police have arrested a person with large amount of psychotropic drugs. The accused is identified as

Narayan Sahu alias Nathu (30) son of Radhe Sahu a resident of Station Maroda. Police have seized about 5000 intoxicating tablets and capsules, narcotic substances worth Rs One lakh.

Police informed that recently they received a tip off regarding a person



who was illegally selling the scheduled psychotropic drugs to the addicts.

Police team led by Inspector Bharti Markam and Inspector Gaurav Tiwari laid a trap and caught the accused red handed while buying and selling the drugs behind

Ranjana Medical Stores in Station Maroda. The accused was duly searched by the team in the presence of witnesses, after searching of the accused, action was taken on the spot by seizing 5000 pieces of intoxicating tablets and capsules. Some important information has been received regarding the source of the drugs, on the basis of which further action is being taken.

ASI Purna Bahadur, Constable Pankaj Chaturvedi, Shahbaz Khan, Upendra Yadav, Anup Singh, Jugnu Singh, Sameem, Panne Lal and Santosh Gupta played vital role in arresting the accused.

BMC demolishes illegal floor of Apna Kesri Lodge

Bhilai, Mar 25:

On Thursday, the enforcement squad of Bhilai Municipal Corporation demolished the sixth floor of Apna Kesari Lodge situated in Shastri Market, Chhawani.

The demolition team of Bhilai Municipal Corporation took action here as the owner was not responding to the notices served by the civic body. The 6th floor, which was under construction at Apna Kesari Lodge, has been demolished. The strict action taken by BMC has triggered panic among the people who have done illegal constructions.

There were repeated complaints of illegal construction in Shastri Market. BMC conducted



an investigation and found that the owner of Apna Kesari Lodge - Prabhavati Gupta wife of Shivaji Prasad Gupta has taken permission from the corporation for the construction of only G+2 i.e. three floors. But she had built additional two stories without permission. The corporation had issued four notices in the

last two months. The owner of the lodge, instead of responding to the notice, had started constructing the 6th floor. When Corporation Commissioner Prakash Surve came to know about this illegal activity, he instructed to take immediate action. The demolition team under the leadership of Sub Engineer

Siddharth Sahu and Assistant Revenue Officer Balakrishna Naidu took action at this lodge on Thursday afternoon. Additional Commissioner Ashok Dwivedi and Deputy Commissioner Sunil Agrahari were specially present. BMC is going to take strict action against other illegally constructed buildings.

BMC Commissioner instructs NULM Managers to improve working

Bhilai, Mar 25:

On Friday, Bhilai Municipal Corporation Commissioner Prakash Sarve chaired a review meeting of the works conducted under National Urban Livelihood Mission. He reprimanded the NULM managers for the slow progress in NULM. He instructed them to improve their working. Nodal Officer and Deputy Commissioner Sunil Agrahari were also present.

BMC Commissioner reviewed the progress of the self-employment programme component, social mobility and institutional development component of Deendayal Antyodaya



Yojana National Urban Livelihoods Mission. When he discovered the slow progress, he warned the concerned officials and instructed the Assistant Project

Officer Phanindra Bose, Mission Manager Ekta Sharma, Nalini Taneja, Aman Patel, Shiba Robert and the CO to improve their working. Commissioner

Prakash Surve stressed on the work of Paira (Paddy Straw) donation for cattle in Gauthan. He asked to focus on the quality of vermicompost in Gauthan. Apart

from this, the Commissioner expressed displeasure over the slow pace in the formation of self-help groups, recurring funds of self-help groups, formation of area level organizations, recurring funds of area level organization and city level organization. He asked the officials to make sustained efforts to achieve 100% progress.

The Commissioner directed the women of self-help groups working at Gauthan to produce more and more products like vegetables, vermi manure, incense sticks, household items and sell them in the market so that women can get employment.

Sunita Chandrakar awarded PhD

Bhilai, Mar 25:

MATS University has awarded PhD to Sunita Chandrakar in the field of Education for her thesis on the topic "Study of the effect of school environment on the problem solving ability and examination anxiety of the students of government and non-government higher secondary schools of Durg district". She completed her thesis under the guidance of Dr Sanjeet Kumar Tiwari, School of Education, MATS University.



Women have broken myth making presence felt in all fields: Guv

Attends Nari Ratna award ceremony in Bilaspur



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Governor Ms. Utkesh Singh Khatiwala felicitated and encouraged women from across the state who did excellent work in various fields by attending the "Nari Ratna Samman Samaroh" organized by a media group at a private hotel in Bilaspur. On this occasion, the Vice Chancellor of Atal Bihari University, Dr. A.D.N. Vajpayee, Divisional Commissioner Dr. Sanjay Alang and Inspector General of Police, Ratanlal Dangi were present.

Addressing the program as chief guest, she conveyed her best wishes to all the women. She said that women are doing

good work in all fields and respect for women will definitely boost their morale. Women have broken myths by making their presence felt in every field. Ms. Utkesh said that the women of the state are very strong. They have made their unique identity at the national and international level.

Sharing her personal struggles including that of many learned women, she said that moment by moment we have to fight to make our dreams come true. She said that even in the moments of troubles

in life, we should keep our self-confidence as strong as rocks. Governor Ms. Utkesh said that the daughters of our country are today hoisting the flags of success in the world of politics, administration, defence, science, economic, social and education.

Women face challenges, but we should not be afraid of them. If you have firm determination then no problem will come in your way. When the courage is high, all the paths become easy. Among the women who were felicitated by the Governor in-

cludes Senior Superintendent of Police Mrs. Parul Mathur, District President of Chhattisgarh Gram Ekta Manch, Divyang Kumari Vijaya Rani, Social Worker Mrs. Vandana Utkesh, Social Worker Ms. Monika Izardar, Director of Nidan Sansthan, Dr. Sushma Singh, Gynecologist, Dr. Ujjwala Karare and Director of Bachpan Play School, Dr. Kiran Singh. On the occasion of Nari Ratna Samman ceremony, Governor Ms. Utkesh was honoured with a memento.

Collector holds review meeting regarding RGAY



Beneficiaries to get permanent lease of land under the scheme

Survey of the left out areas to be started soon

Raipur, Mar 25: A review meeting of all the authorized officers regarding Rajiv Gandhi Aashray Yojana (RGAY) was held in the meeting hall of the Collectorate premises here today under the chairmanship of Collector Sourabh Kumar. The Collector discussed in detail with all the authorized officers, zone commissioners under Raipur Municipal Corporation, the survey conducted earlier, the

areas left for the survey, the format of the survey and information to be taken from the beneficiaries, claim objection, lease distribution and other topics in detail.

The Collector told the officers that following the instructions given by the State Government, rights should be given to the beneficiaries and it would have to be ensured that all the eligible beneficiaries could get the lease.

The Collector said that the survey work would be started from the first week

of April. The help of patwaris of rural areas should also be taken in the survey so that the survey work can be done systematically within the time limit. He directed the Additional Collector, SDM and Zone Commissioners to update the draft for the survey and form the team etc.

Additional Collector BB Panchbhair informed that on November 19, the homeless people residing in the land of Government Nazul, Local Body, Development Authority

will be eligible for the lease of such occupancy land for which the ration card of that address has been made in urban areas. If the ration card is not made, then lease will be allotted after verification on the basis of other authentic documents mentioned in the rule such as voter list, electricity bill, telephone bill, property tax, consolidated tax, water tax payment document, building permit, shop permit, Aadhar card issued before the last date and driving license. Assistant Collector Abhishek Kumar, Joint Collector US Agrawal, SDM, Zone Commissioners of Raipur Municipal Corporation and other concerned officers were present at the review meeting.

IIIT-Naya Raipur hosts Entrepreneurship summit



Raipur, Mar 25: International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Naya Raipur is hosting a 2-Day Annual Entrepreneurship Summit 2022, which was inaugurated on Friday.

The main aim of the summit is to create an entrepreneurial mind set among students and motivate them to take the entrepreneurship road, which is less taken. The theme of the summit is 'Dare to Begin.' The conference was held in hybrid mode.

The young generation still is not comfortable in being an entrepreneur and so, through this initiative, IIIT-NR is trying to make the students realize that there is a lot more potential that can be tapped. In order to bridge this gap and to provide students a deep knowledge about entrepreneurship, IIIT-NR's Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) organizes E-Summit every year, which is the State's largest college-level hybrid entrepre-

neurship conference. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sinha, Director IIIT-NR, appreciated the efforts put in by the E-Cell members, for organizing such a summit. He said that IIIT-NR motivates the students to be job creators rather than job seekers. He asked the students not to fear failure and move ahead with determination.

The coordinator of E-Summit, Dr. Kuldeep Singh Patel, Assistant Professor, threw light on the activities undertaken by the E-Cell to build an entrepreneurial culture in the campus. It is the second E-Summit hosted by the institute. He also informed about various Tech challenges which have been scheduled in the 2-day summit for the students to showcase their talent. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Amit Agrawal, Faculty-in-charge E-Cell.

Renowned Entrepreneurs are addressing the participants

of the summit as keynote speakers. The first day had sessions by Ajay Lakhotiya, Founder of StockGro, on the topic 'Fintech Boom in India'; Aditya Arora, CEO of Faad Network Pvt. Ltd., on the topic 'Entrepreneurship and youth'; and Prateek Shukla, Co-founder and CEO, Masai School. The second day's sessions include talks by Arjun Malhotra, Co-Founder of HCL Group, on the topic 'Life Journey and Becoming an Entrepreneur'; Jivraj Singh Sachar, Venture Operations at AngelList, India Silicon Valley Podcast, on 'Evolution of Indian Start-up Ecosystem'; Ashwin Goyal, Director of Labs at Swiggy, talked on 'Zero to One Concept'; Sonakshi Nathani, Founder of Bikayi, on 'How to be a Successful Fundraiser'; and Venkatesh Iyer, CEO and Founder of GoliVadaPavon: Mind to Mind Marketing'. The entrepreneurs are not only sharing their experiences but also motivating students to go ahead with their dreams.

The institute also organized various other activities like panel discussions, fireside chats students' challenges, IPL Auctions, and UI/UX challenges, as part of the summit. A large number of students participated and made the summit a huge success.

Ensure timely survey of 'Divyang' in all urban and rural areas: Collector

Raipur, Mar 25: Collector Sourabh Kumar has directed the officers to conduct a survey of Divyang (disabled) in Raipur district in compliance with the letter of the Social Welfare Department, Government of Chhattisgarh and the order passed by the Supreme Court. He asked the officers to conduct survey of Divyang in Raipur district in a time-bound manner, according to their disability, and their needs should be assessed. The Collector informed that the Academy of

Management Studies, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh has been authorized by the Social Welfare Department for the said survey. For providing necessary support and supervision to the surveying agency concerned in the survey of Divyang, the concerned Municipal Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat and Chief Municipal Officer in the Municipal Council / Nagar Panchayat area have been appointed as nodal officers

and the Joint Director of Social Welfare Department, District Office, Raipur has been entrusted with the responsibility of in-charge officer at the district level.

He has asked the concerned officers to provide necessary cooperation to the concerned agency in the survey work by preparing a practical action plan for the survey of Divyang in all the urban and rural areas of the district in a time-bound manner.

75607.6 metric tonnes of food grains issued in Raipur district

Raipur, Mar 25: Rajesh Kumar, General Manager (Region), Food Corporation of India, Chhattisgarh briefed about the work being done by Food Corporation of India which addressing the scribes at during the press conference organized at Chhattisgarh FSD Newra New Complex. 29232 MT capacity, which is supplying food grains to other areas and Chhattisgarh under various government welfare schemes. He informed that during KMS (2020-21), 63861.95 MT of rice (including 11943.49 MT of fortified rice) was procured at FSD Nevra New Complex, which is equivalent to 94195.19 MT of paddy. Due to this procurement activity more than 1.1 lakh farmers of revenue district of Raipur were benefited, who were paid more than Rs 175 crore through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

'TROCH RALLY'



Members of Trade Unions took out a massive 'Torch rally' in support of their demands here on Friday.

Vegetable prices to go up as productions to dip in summer



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: With the onset of summer, the prices of vegetables may shoot up in Raipur. There will be a decrease in local production from the month of April. Wholesale vegetable traders said that there will be a dip in local production from the month of April, due to which they will have to depend on outside states to

meet the demand. At present the wholesale prices of tomato prices is Rs 20 per kg, but the prices of other vegetables are going to depend on demand and supply in the coming days. Tomatoes are coming from Bangalore and Nashik to Raipur, while vegetables like potatoes, onions, carrots are brought from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal. Wholesale Vegetable Market President, Srinivas Reddy said that the prices of vegetables are seeing an increase as the heat waves pick up in summer. Tomato crop has been better in Chhattisgarh this year, due to which the prices did not see much increase till the end of March. Now the arrival

of new crop will be after 5-6 months. At present, only 10 to 15 trucks of vegetables are arriving in the capital from outside states, but by April-May, the consignment of vegetables is expected to reach 20 to 30 trucks. At present the prices of potato and onion are also under control. Onion is coming from Nashik and potato is now

brought from Punjab in Chhattisgarh. Local vegetable growers of the state said that there has been an increase in demand in this season already. Vegetable consumption has also increased. Vegetables are also being exported from Chhattisgarh to other states, including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and neighboring states.



NOTICE FOR FOOD BUSINESSES

Regarding - Mandatory modification of license

Last Date - 31st March, 2022

Who are required to modify their license?

1. Manufacturers (including repackers and relabellers) having licenses issued through old methodology (granted from FLRS) have to shift to product selection methodology of FoSCoS.
 2. Manufacturers holding state licenses for products under Nutraceuticals, Health Supplements, Special Dietary & Medical Use Foods, Functional and Novel Foods Regulation have to shift to Central License.
- License number will not change on modification
 - Wef 1st April 2022 - above stated manufacturers (who have not modified their license) will not be allowed to file renewal application of their existing licenses, File application for modification of license through FoSCoS portal i.e. <https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in> or call us @1800112100 in case of queries.

Executive Director(CS)
FSSAI

सिर्फ फेस ही क्यों? पूरी बाँडी निखारो
फेशिया बाँडी फेशियल बार से

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'Mahapariksha Abhiyan' be conducted with cent percent adult learners: Rana



State Level Webinar for Mahapariksha Abhiyan

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Chhattisgarh Education, School Education and Literacy Department is organizing 'Mahapariksha Abhiyan' on 30 March 2022 for the assessment of adult learners. Rajesh Singh Rana, Special Secretary,

School Education Department and Director of State Literacy Mission, said in an online webinar organized for the preparation of Mahapariksha Abhiyan, that cent per cent adult learners should be included in the Mahapariksha campaign to be held on March 30. Keeping in mind the real objective and quality of this programme, he asked all the officers associated with the Mahapariksha Abhiyan to upgrade the remaining learners and the

students who got 'C' grade in the previous examination to join this Mahapariksha Abhiyan. Rajesh Singh Rana said that in the first phase of Mahapariksha Abhiyan last year, a target was set to make 2.5 lakh illiterates literate in the state. Of them 1.9 lakh participants were successfully included in the examination. It is the intention of the Government of India and the State Government that the remaining adult students should be included

in the Mahapariksha Abhiyan. Prashant Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director of State Literacy Mission Authority and Nodal Officer of Reading and Writing Campaign, gave brief information about the guidelines of Mahapariksha Abhiyan through a presentation. State Literacy Centre, SCERT cell in-charge Mrs. Preeti Singh discussed in detail about the monitoring of the examination in the webinar. Project Consultant Ms. Neha Shukla told about uploading the registration and evaluation information in the portal. Dr Manisha Vats, Advisor, UNICEF discussed the process of bringing the learners to the examination centre. The webinar was conducted by Project Advisor Mrs. Nidhi Agarwal.

CM Baghel releases logo of C-Mart

Raipur, Mar 25: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel released the logo of C-Mart in the Vidhan Sabha premises today. The logo depicts the work of artisans, weavers, craftsmen, potters and other traditional artists in a festive manner. C-Mart will ensure that the products of different entrepreneurs will be sold under one roof. In the logo, the traditional Haat-Bazaar of the tribals is displayed under the Sal tree. The abundance of rice production in Chhattisgarh has been highlighted through ears of paddy. Chhattisgarh state is one of the three major paddy producing states of India. The traditional clothes of the tribal women of Chhattisgarh are depicted through beige, maroon and green



colours in the logo. With an aim of boosting rural economy, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has undertaken a new initiative for providing a potential market in urban areas to products produced in villages. As a part of this commercial arrange-

ments for marketing of the products manufactured by women Self-Help Groups, craftsmen, weavers, artisans, potters or other traditional and cottage industries has been made under schemes of different departments. Instructions have been given to the officers concerned to set up C-Mart in line with the modern showrooms. With the establishment of C-Mart, entrepreneurs under all these categories will get maximum benefit. Preparations are being made to set up C-Mart in all the district headquarters in the first phase. The area of the showrooms will be 8 to 10 thousand square feet in the case of municipal corporations and 6 to 8 thousand square feet in the case of municipalities.

Fund worth Rs 405 cr approval

Raipur: A fund of 405 crore ten lakh 89 thousand Rs. have been approved by the central government for the payment of material items and administrative expenditure in the works done under MNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) in Chhattisgarh. During the financial year 2021-22, the Union Ministry of Rural Development has allocated Rs 290 crore 65 lakh 37 thousand for the payment of material items in MNREGA, and issuance has been approved for Rs 114 crore 45 lakh 52 thousand to meet the salary and allowances and administrative expenses of Chhattisgarh.

Placement camp on Mar 30

Raipur, Mar 25: A placement camp is being organized on 30th March at District Employment and Self Employment Guidance Centre, Raipur to provide employment opportunities to the local educated unemployed youth in the private sector. A2Z Infrservice

Limited Raipur will conduct recruitment of candidates having passed Class 12th examination on 100 posts of salesman (for wine shop) at monthly salary of Rs 12,675 whereas Umadhevi Multipurpose Education and Development Institute Raipur will conduct

recruitment on 10 different posts of supervisor, DTP Trainer, Computer Trainer and Surveyer at the monthly salary of Rs 8000 to Rs 12000. Candidates having qualification of BSC/MSC Agriculture and BCA will be eligible for these posts. He said that the eligible

and interested applicants can attend the interview process by appearing on the scheduled date and venue. Applicants can join the placement camp by following social distancing at District Employment Center, Old Police Headquarters Raipur.

World TBs Day 2022 celebrated in DP Vipra Mahavidyalaya



Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Mar 25: A program was organized on the occasion of World TB Day at the local DP Vipra College. This program was done under the joint aegis of the college's NCC unit, NSS unit and Red Cross unit. Dr. Gayatri Bandhi, District Tuberculosis Control

Officer, Bilaspur was present as the chief guest on this program. In the programme, the Principal of the college, Dr. Anju Shukla, highlighted the efforts being made for awareness on the occasion of World TB Day. In his address, the chief guest gave detailed information about the symptoms, types

and precautions of TB, as well as what measures should be taken to eliminate TB globally and increase immunity. The program was conducted by the NCC officer of the college, Lt. Ashish Sharma. Ashish Singh, Counselor, District Tuberculosis Control Office and Dr. Diwan were also present in the program as guest. In the program NCC NSS student along with NSS officer Upesh Kumar along with college professor Dr. Manish Tiwari, Dr. Abha Tiwari, Prof. Kiran Dubey, Prof. Jyoti Bajpai, Prof. Jayant Rai, Prof. Jharna Patel along with other staff and students of the college were present. Prof. Nidish Choubey did the vote of thanks in the program.

KPS organizes four-day 'Kaushal Mahotsav'

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Recently Krishna Public School organized a four day All India Music and Dance Competition "Kaushal Mahotsav" commencing from 24th March 2022. This four day National Competition commenced by lighting lamp and a welcome speech by Executive Director Mr. Ashutosh who inspired students by words to incorporate performing arts into their academic and daily lives to increase their concentration and focus power. A panel of two judges including Ms. Tapasme Paul Majumdar, renowned Kathak Dancer and Ms. Rajeshwari, eminent Bharatnatyam dancer are guests for the event. All dignitaries appreciated the efforts of students and teachers,

welcoming all heartily in their well furnished newly built Auditorium. Event registered around 241 participants across the nation for "Performing Arts" through online and offline modes. Four day competition starts with Kathak dance followed by Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Classical and Carnatic Music along with Light Vocal and Classical in four categories- Junior, Sub-Junior, Senior and Sub-Senior from age group 5 years to 18 years and above. "Kaushal Mahotsav" is a purely Classical Arts Competition to spread the interest and awareness towards our Classical Heritage of India. With this concept, all dignitaries have wished all participants good luck and best wishes for their future performances.

WJU honour CM Bhupesh Baghel



Thanked him for the decisions taking in interest of journalists

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Delegation of journalists led by Mr. Arvind Awasthi, State Head of Chhattisgarh Working Journalist Union, paid courtesy call on Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh

Baghel today at his Raipur based residence office. Delegation honoured Chief Minister Mr. Baghel and thanked him for the decisions taken in the interest of journalists. Awasthi said that Chief Minister Mr. Baghel is a well-wisher of the journalists of the state. He has been working in the interest of journalists, ensuring quick redressal of their grievances. Mr. Awasthi

said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel, State Government has provided accreditation to the editors of monthly newspaper and also, the duration of accreditation renewal has been extended from one to two years. During COVID crisis, journalists were provided financial aid for treatment and the families of the deceased were also provided financial aid in their difficult times. Meanwhile, journalists also handed over a memorandum of their demands, to which Chief Minister assured of considering on a compassionate note. On the occasion, Union General Secretary Mr. Vishwa Deepak Rai and a large number of journalists from various districts of the state were present.

ISO is a symbol of our dedication and commitment: V-C

CU gets ISO in the field of Quality Management System

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Mar 25: Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) Bilaspur has been granted certificate by ISO 9001:2015 (International Organization for Standardization). As per the certificate issued on 22nd March, 2022, the Central University has been awarded this certificate for meeting various standards in the field of Quality Management



System. The validity of the certificate is for the next three years till 2025. As a result of the continuous creative and tireless active efforts of the Honorable Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal, the University is going ahead progressively in the

field of research, innovation, institutional coordination, collaboration and MoUs for the smooth implementation of the National Education Policy 2020. The policy of Honorable Vice-Chancellor of making curriculum according to the industries, emphasizing on the cooperation, coordination, discipline, best use of resources, punctuality and employable education to make the students self-reliant, has brought a radical change in the Central University. The University has been progressing at a rapid pace in every field since the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal assumed office in July 2021. Within a short span of time, the university signed MoUs with many reputed national and interna-

tional companies of the country and with foreign universities in field of research and innovation. Understanding the need of the service sector industry, the university has also decided to start hotel management course. Not only did the infrastructure development works which have been stalled for a long time been resumed in the university, but proposals have also got approved for new projects and work has been started. An MoU has been signed with Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship Development, Ahmedabad to make students and teachers self-reliant through entrepreneurship with skill development in accordance with the National Education Policy 2020.

DoT, Raipur LSA organises workshop on Electromagnetic exposure from Telecom Towers

Raipur, Mar 25: Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Raipur License Service Area (LSA) organized an awareness webinar on "EMF Emissions and Telecom Towers". This session was organized as part of DoT's public advocacy programme to make the consumers aware about the growing need for mobile towers as part to build reliable telecom infrastructure and breaks myths regarding the health effects of EMF exposure from mobile towers.

The webinar workshop was addressed by the eminent key speakers including Director (Admin), DDG(C), CG, MP LSA, DoT, Raipur and Dr Arun Chougule Senior Professor & HoD of Radiological Physics SMS Medical College & Hospitals,

Jaipur. The workshop had more than 60 participants including general public, government officials, residents' welfare associations, students, doctors, telecom service providers, infrastructure providers and other officials. DDG(C), CG, MP LSA, DoT, Raipur highlighted the need of telecom services in India and pressed on the challenges faced by the stakeholders of the industry, he mentioned, "In this evolved era of GSM technology single mobile user is enjoying improved telecommunication services which includes e-learning through various online platform, attending classes/offices from home, OTT services, using mobile phones for various payments and bookings. India is growing as a base of active mobile network subscribers. By the

end of 2025, 5G will account for over a fifth of total mobile connections, and more than two in five people globally will live within reach of a 5G network. With an increase in the pace of 5G deployment, it becomes pertinent to install a robust network of telecom infrastructure including mobile towers, small cell, fibre etc. Telecom towers are a backbone of Indian Mobile communications. It is important to be addressed that the fear surrounding the theories about EMF radiations is uncorroborated." Briefing at the event about the issue of EMF exposure and compliance measures Director(Compliance), O/o DDG(C), CG, MP LSA, DoT, Raipur, said "The Govt. of India has defined some of the most stringent emission standards for mobile towers

making India one of the few countries worldwide with the most stringent emission standards for mobile towers. We follow norms that are 10 times stricter than what has been prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO." Dr Arun Chougule, Senior Professor & HoD of Radiological Physics SMS Medical College & Hospital also shared his perspective and said, "The EMF radiation is low non-ionizing RF/Electromagnetic energy emitted from mobile tower antenna and mobile handset. According to the Scientific research on the health impacts of radiation from Mobile Towers, it has been found that low powered, non-ionizing radiated emitted from the cell towers have no ill effects on human health, whatsoever."

Training programme to reduce maternal mortality

Raipur, Mar 25: A two-day training of Medical Officers and Staff Nurses of Health Department was organised by District Health Department, Raipur to bring down maternal mortality rate. This training was organized from last 23 March in the Red Cross meeting hall in the Collectorate premises. Medical Officers, RMA and Staff Nurses were trained to identify and manage high risk pregnan-



cy in a bid to bring down maternal mortality rate, at the training programme organised under the direction of Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr Meera Baghel in compliance with the letter of Directorate

Health Services Chhattisgarh Government. Two Medical Officers, 2 Staff Nurses and one RMA from each PHC of 17 Urban PHCs of Raipur city participated at the training programme.

13th Faiza International Championship 2022

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Ishwari Nishad, a visually impaired runner hailing from Mahasamund of Chhattisgarh has brought laurels to the state and the country, winning a silver medal for India at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2022 under the 13th Faiza International Athletic Championship in Dubai. She won the medal in the running tournament held on Wednesday. Ms. Ishwari secured sec-



ond position by completing 400 meters race in one minute 25 seconds. With this Ms. Ishwari has managed to achieve the minimum standard qualification for the Asian Para

Games to be held at Hangzhou, China in October this year. Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel and Social Welfare Minister Smt. Anila Bhediya have congratulated Ms. Ishwari for her outstanding achievement and gave their best wishes for her future endeavors. It is worth mentioning that Minister Smt. Bhediya had felicitated Ms. Ishwari for clinching gold medal in a national level event, at state-level felicitation ceremony held

in the Raipur on March 5. Along with this, she made an announcement that the expenses of Ishwari for her tournament in Dubai will be borne by the department. Ishwari Nishad is studying at Fortune Foundation Blind Special School, Bagbahra in Mahasamund district. She has made the country proud, winning gold medal in 200m racing event at 3rd Indian Open National Para-Athletics Championships held in Bengaluru. Ms. Ishwari

will leave for Odisha from New Delhi on the 27th of this month after returning from Dubai. She will participate in the 20th National Para Athletics Championship 2022 to be held in Bhubaneswar. Ms Ishwari hails from Samhar village in Bagbahra - Tehsil of Mahasamund district. Her parents earn their living by working as laborers. She has proved that physical disabilities is not an obstacle to success and achieve your dreams.

Students union boycotts by-election demanding opening of college

Bazar-Atariya, Mar 25: After staging demonstrations and seeking opening of a new college in the region, the Student's Council and denizens of the area have decided to boycott by-elections to be held in the constituency. As per information

Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey had promised opening on a new college in the electoral campaign in Pendranav of Dhamda Block, and the college is presently running successfully after its inauguration, but in the region of Bazar-Ataria, of

Khairagadh constituency the promise of opening a college has not taken grounds still, though it was being demanded by the students of the region since long. Agitated by the administrations laxity the students have decided not to caste their electoral man-

date till their demands are met. Many students of the region have opined that they have to travel to far flung places of the state to complete their higher education, and many girls are deprived of higher education, as they are not allowed to travel by the family.

Students Jangendra Manikpuri and Om Upadhyay and many others have demanded the opening of a college at the earliest by the administration, so that their education and future is not cut short due to lack of a proper higher education institution.

Revised budget passed in KMC



Korba, Mar 24:

Mayor-in-Council of Municipal Corporation Korba, here unanimously passed the revised budget of the year 2021-22 and budget year 2022-23 of the corporation under the chairmanship of Mayor Rajkishore Prasad and in the presence of Commissioner Prabhakar Pandey and forwarded it to the General Assembly with its recommendation. Along with this, necessary decisions were taken by MIC on proposals related to various development and construction works of the corporation, works related to civil services and facilities and other subjects. Necessary decisions were taken unanimously by the Mayor-in-Council on various proposals including construction work, road sweeping machine purchase, vehicle repair and other proposals. During the meeting, Mayor Rajkishore Prasad also reviewed the work progress of various development and construction works of the corporation, works related to civil services and facilities, water, electricity, sanitation etc. He gave necessary directions to the officers regarding speedy development and construction work, completion of the process of tender etc. of the proposed works in time-limit, paying special attention to the quality of the progressing construction works and completing them within the time limit. Mayor Prasad, while reviewing the road lighting system, drinking water system and cleanliness works of the corporation, gave necessary direc-

tions to the officers in relation to making the arrangements better. During the meeting, Mayor-in-Council members Santosh Rathore, Sapna Chauhan, Amarjeet Singh, Sunil Patel, Kriparam Sahu, Paluram Sahu, Pradeep Jaiswal, Phoolchand Sonwani, Mastul Singh Kanwar, Sunita Rathore, Sukhsagar Nirmalkar, Ropa Turkey, Additional Commissioner, Treasurer Kumhar, Superintendent Engineer MK Verma, Deputy Commissioner and Corporation Secretary Pavan Verma, Deputy Commissioner BP Trivedi, Estate Officer Sridhar Banafar, Account Officer Anand Gupta, Zone Commissioner AK Sharma, RK Maheshwari, MN Sarkar, Vinod Shandilya, Bhushan Oraon, Tapan Tiwari, NK Nath, Akhilesh Shukla, Health Officer Dr Sanjay Tiwari, Rameshwar Kanwar and other officials were present.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE FOR PROVISION OF NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGE. Sri. No. (1) E-Tender No: 98-ST-TENDER-2021, Date: 14.03.2022. Name of Work: Provision of new Telephone Exchange at BRUN, BPH, KHS and RIG stations of Bilaspur Division. Tender Value: ₹ 58,40,513/- (Rupees Fifty-Eight Lakhs Forty Thousand Five Hundred Thirteen Only). EMD: ₹ 1,16,800/- (Rupees One Lakh Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Only). Submission of Tender: Up to 15:00 hrs. on 07.04.2022.

FOREST HEADQUARTERS ARANYA BHAWAN CHHATTISGARH, NAWA RAIPUR

TENDER NOTICE No. FHQ/ANG-1/320-IV/2021 Nawa Raipur, Dated: 30/03/2022. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Chhattisgarh Raipur, on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh, invites sealed tenders in 03 separate envelopes earmarked as (pre-qualification bid, Technical bid and Financial bid) for outsourcing following services required for the recruitment of Chhattisgarh Forest Guard during calendar year 2021-2022 for following items:-

SCHEDULE FOR TENDER table with columns: S.No., Name of Items, and details of the tender process including submission dates and contact information.

RAIPUR ZONAL OFFICE, G.D. SHESH NILAYAM, TATYAPARA CHOWK, KANKALIPARA ROAD, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH MEGA E-AUCTION INFORMATION

E-Auction Date and Time: 30.04.2022, Time - 11.00 AM. to 5.00 P.M. THE PROPERTIES MENTIONED BELOW ARE TO BE SOLD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SARFAESI ACT 2002 ON 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS'. Table with columns: Sl. No., Branch & Borrower/Guarantor & Address, Description of the Mortgaged Property, Reserve Price (in Lakhs), A) Demand Notice Date, B) Possession Date, C) Amount Due (in Lakhs).

15 / 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS/MORTGAGORS. The above mentioned Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in Section 13(2) Notice along with interest & charges before the date of Auction failing which the property will be auctioned and balance due, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost from you.

भारत का राजपत्र The Gazette of India. सचिव, भारत सरकार. EXTRAORDINARY. PART II - Section 3 - Sub-section (ii). PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY. नई दिल्ली, बुधवार, मार्च 10, 2022/फाल्गुन 19, 1943. NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022/PHALGUNA 19, 1943.

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS NOTIFICATION New Delhi, the 10th March, 2022

S.O. 1087(E).-In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH130CD in the stretch of land from Km. 105.5 to Km. 123.21 [Office of the Sub Divisional Officer (Rev.) Keshka] in the district of KONDAGAON in the state of CHHATTISGARH, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land. Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Sub Divisional Officer (Rev.) & Competent Authority Land Acquisition Keshka in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections. Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final. The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling NH130CD in the stretch of land from Km. 105.5 to Km. 123.21 [Office of the Sub Divisional Officer (Rev.) Keshka] in the district of KONDAGAON in the state of CHHATTISGARH.

Table with columns: Sl. No., Survey/Plot No., Type of Land, Nature of Land, Area (in Local Unit), Area (in Hectare). Lists various plots and their details for acquisition.

BRIEF

Denied

Kochi: Filippo Osella, an anthropologist and academician from the UK currently involved in research on traditional fishing in Kerala, was deported to his country by India soon after his arrival at the international airport here. A professor of anthropology and South Asian studies at the University of Sussex, Osella conducted research on rural Kerala and published two joint monographs on stratification, identity and social mobility.

Forgery

New Delhi: An Indian passenger planning to travel to Paris allegedly using a "forged" visa was apprehended by CISF personnel at the Delhi airport. The incident took place at the terminal-III of the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel found passenger moving in a suspicious manner following which they apprehended him and found the visa affixed on his passport was counterfeit.

Recovers

Amritsar: Nearly three kg of heroin was recovered from a farmer and his labourer by the BSF troops. During a checking at the border fence gate in the Amritsar sector, the Border Security Force (BSF) troops recovered a packet of heroin weighing 2.940 kg from a farmer and his labourer. They were returning from their farm. Farmers, who have farmland beyond barbed fencing on border, are granted special permission to go there.

Falls

Thane: A 16-year-old girl from Bihar fell off a speeding express train near Dombivili in Thane district and died on the spot, the Railway Police said. The victim, travelling with her parents by Pawan Express, complained of uneasiness, nausea and went near the door of her bogie, where she lost balance and fell from the train. She hailed from Muzaffarnagar district of Bihar.

Held

New Delhi: A 23-year-old man and his wife were arrested for allegedly robbing a person in north Delhi's Kashmere Gate area. Punit and Shivani are residents of Loni in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, they said, adding that two of their accomplices are on the run. Information was received regarding a robbery in a moving auto-rickshaw in Kashmere Gate area.

Traffic

Gurugram: In an effort to enhance road safety at one of the critical traffic intersections in the city, a traffic trial will be held at Rajeev Chowk here from March 26 to 28. On these three days, dedicated autorickshaw stands will be created and lane streamlining will be taken up to ensure the smooth flow of traffic and avoidance of dangerous crossovers, they said, adding that the initiative is also expected to enhance pedestrian safety.

'Liquor prohibition needed, but must not be enforced in haste'

Bhopal, Mar 25 (PTI):



Kailash Vijayvargiya

Liquor prohibition must take place in Madhya Pradesh but it should be implemented after proper study and not in haste, BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya said on Friday.

The issue of prohibition is assuming importance as a topic of political discussion in the state with former CM and senior BJP leader Uma Bharti coming out in support of such a move while the state government, on the other hand, recently unveiled an excise policy for 2022-23 which has several measures to boost revenue from sale of alcohol.

"Liquor should be banned but there is also

need to study it. In our state, liquor or toddy is associated with the culture and religious rituals of our nearly 23 per cent tribal population. The results will not be good if it is enforced in haste," Vijayvargiya told reporters.

He also refused to comment on Bharti recently leading a group of people

to a liquor vend and pelting a stone at its shelves lined with liquor bottles.

He was speaking at a press conference to announce the organisation of the 'National Pitthu (Sitolia) Tournament' to be held in Bhopal from March 28 to April 1, in which 30 teams from across the country will take part.

The BJP leader said even Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his 'Mann ki Baat' programme, has spoken about promoting traditional sports as they don't require much paraphernalia for organising.

Replying to a query on not having contested a poll since 2013 and whether he would do so in the future, Vijayvargiya said he left such decisions

to the party leadership.

Asked whether there was a chance of a new leadership in MP as some segments have been speaking about new entrant and Union civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, he said the party had not taken any decision on this.

"Shivraj ji (MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan) is doing a good job and the next polls will be contested under his leadership itself," Vijayvargiya added.

Vijayvargiya, who is BJP general secretary in charge of West Bengal, alleged there was no democracy in the eastern state and even serious offences like rape are taken up by the police if some functionary of the ruling Trinamool Congress makes a phone call.

Curtains soon for Jaya death panel, Sasikala's version propeller

Chennai, Mar 25 (PTI):

Over 150 witnesses have so far appeared before an inquiry commission probing the circumstances surrounding late Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalithaa's death and its work is all set to be completed soon, more than four years after it was constituted. VK Sasikala's affidavit of 2018 and submissions of doctors of the Apollo Hospitals that treated the late AIADMK supremo formed the pivot on which the panel largely revolved to find answers to questions on the leader's death.

In the process, as many as 158 witnesses have deposed before the commission, which

Jayalithaa's niece Deepa and nephew Deepak, doctors, top officials and AIADMK's C Vijayabaskar, M Thambi Durai, C Ponnaiyan and Manoj Pandian. Deepa and Deepak had raised doubts over circumstances surrounding their aunt's death. Over 100 witnesses were cross examined and this includes those by counsel for Sasikala and the hospital's advocate on matters having a bearing on treatment to Jayalithaa. Seven were petitioner-witnesses including Madurai-based P Saravanan, formerly with the DMK and now in the BJP. Sasikala's relatives and Jayalithaa's cook Rajammal, IAS, IPS officials and paramedics were among

others who had deposed before the panel.

While the panel's work appears to be almost over, it is expected to be become clear soon if the counsels for Sasikala or Apollo Hospitals would make or not any more submissions. Following that, work on submission of report to the government would be taken up by the panel.

Politically, the deposition of top AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam (OPS) asserting that he does not have any suspicion about 'Ammal's' death and that he personally has respect and admiration for Sasikala, is a pointer that murmurs over leadership may not end soon in the main opposition AIADMK.

Team questions quality of material used in Paradiso complex

Gurugram, Mar 25 (PTI):



Chintels Paradiso complex in Gurugram, Haryana.

The IIT Delhi team conducting a structural audit of a Gurugram residential complex where two people died as a building partially collapsed last month found the structures aging faster than expected and questioned the quality of material used.

The team has recommended procedures for a systematic structural analysis. It said there was significant corrosion in the steel reinforcement in Tower G of the complex.

Two women were killed after the dining room floor of a sixth-floor apartment of Tower D at Chintels Paradiso in Sector 109 came down on February 10, triggering the collapse of roofs and floors directly under it, till the first floor.

"It is felt that there is a

possibility of the presence of issues related structural design, material quality, and construction quality in the structures. Each of these possibilities needs to be investigated through a detailed survey, testing, assessment on-and-off the site, and analysis programme," the team said in a preliminary report.

"In order to assess the possibility of the presence of deficiencies in structural design in the structures,

it is recommended that a detailed structural design of the structures be carried out. For this purpose, a recognised structural designer of the choice of the authorities, who would be available to work under the guidance of the committee from IIT Delhi, may be engaged. "Since the repair work that was in progress could also have had a role to play in the collapses, it is requested that the detailed repair procedure being fol-

No questions should be raised on EVMS

New Delhi: Kiren Rijiju on Friday said no questions should be raised on electronic voting machines (EVMS) as they are kept in the Election Commission's custody after being handed over to the poll panel by manufacturers.

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

The government is considering proposals for linking Aadhaar with the electoral rolls to check fraudulent voting and granting of online voting to Indians working abroad, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said in Lok Sabha on Friday.



Devotees gather to worship Goddess Sheetla Mata, on the occasion of 'Sheetla Ashtami', during a fair at a school, in Fatehpur Shekhawati, Rajasthan on Friday.

'Govt considering to link Aadhaar with electoral rolls'



Law Minister Kiren Rijiju

Rijiju said electoral fraud is a serious matter and the government is considering at the union law minister's level how to check fraudulent voting.

Linking Aadhaar with the electoral roll is one of the ways. As of now linking Aadhaar with electoral rolls is voluntary. Our aim is to ensure 'one nation, one electoral roll' to check dou-

ble names in electoral rolls and fraudulent voting and ensure a clean voting process, he said during Question Hour.

Replying to a supplementary question on the proposal to grant voting rights to 'Pravasi' Indians, the minister said the government has suggested to the Election Commission to look into how to give voting rights to

those Indians who are working abroad or whether to allow them online voting.

But before taking any decision, we have to ensure safety and transparency of the process and that it is free from malfunctioning, he said. When Congress member Manish Tewari asked whether the source code of the EVMS remains with the company which manufactures the EVMS or it is passed on to the EC, Rijiju said it was like appointment of judges.

The judges are appointed by the government but once they are appointed, they become independent. No one should question the EVMS and there should not be any inference too, he said.

AP Govt flouts Constitution, other norms in fiscal management

Amravati, Mar 25 (PTI):

The YS Jagan Mohan Reddy government in Andhra Pradesh violated the Constitution of India and bypassed the Legislature in spending public money to the tune of Rs 1.10 lakh crore, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has observed. In its report on the state's Finance Accounts for the year ended March 2021, the CAG exposed the gross financial impropriety and mismanagement of the Jagan Mohan Reddy government, wherein thousands of crores of rupees were spent without authorisation.

The Comprehensive Financial Management System (CFMS) has also come in for rebuke by the statutory auditor. The report in two volumes was presented to the Legislature here on Friday.

"There was an excess disbursement of Rs1,10,509.12 crore over the authorisation made by the State Legislature during the financial year 2020-21. This is in violation of Articles 204 and 205 of the Constitution, under which "no money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund except under appropriation made by Law by the State Legislature," CAG Girish Chandra Murmu noted.

This vitiated the system of budgetary and financial control and encouraged financial indiscipline in management of public resources, Murmu observed. The state government, according to the CAG report, transacted a sum of Rs 48,284 crore through "special bills."

On being questioned by the Principal Accountant General, the Special Chief Secretary (Finance) "rati-

fied the backend transactions" overstepping his powers. "The procedure for carrying out these adjustment transactions is laid down in the treasury code. Ratifying the backend transactions is not within the powers of the Special Chief Secretary (Finance)," the CAG pointed out. Following audit objections, the state government issued an order on October 12, 2021, entrusting the activities managed by the Centre for Financial Systems and Services to Director of Treasury and Accounts and others. "This only confirms the contention of Audit that the operation of special bills was unauthorised," the CAG said. The CAG also found that transactions amounting to Rs 26,839 crore were "not in consonance with the Treasury Code."

ED attaches Sena MLA Sarnaik's assets in NSEL PMLA case

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):



The ED on Friday said it has attached assets worth Rs 11.35 crore of Shiv Sena MLA Pratap Sarnaik in the money laundering case linked to the National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL). The federal probe agency issued a provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for attachment of two flats and a parcel of land in Thane (near Mumbai) "held by" Sarnaik.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is probing the NSEL case after taking cognisance of a 2013 FIR of the economic offences wing (EOW) of the Mumbai Police against its directors, key officials and 25 default-

ers. The accused hatched a "criminal conspiracy" to defraud the investors, induced them to trade on the platform of the NSEL, created forged documents like bogus warehouse receipts, falsified the accounts and thereby committed criminal breach of trust in respect Rs 5,600 crore of approximately 13,000 investors, the ED said.

Probe found that "the money collected from various investors were diverted by borrowers/trading members of NSEL for other activities like investment into real estate, repayment of outstanding debts and other activities."

Talking about the role of Sarnaik and his linked companies, it said that a firm called Aastha Group, a defaulting member of NSEL, has liability of Rs 242.66 crore towards the exchange. "Aastha Group diverted Rs 21.74 crore of Vihang Aastha Housing Projects LLP in the period of 2012-13. Out of total amount of Rs 21.74 crore received by Vihang Aastha Housing Projects LLP, Rs 11.35 crore was transferred to Vihang Enterprises and Vihang Infrastructure Pvt. Limited, both firms controlled by Pratap Sarnaik and his family members," the ED alleged.

'Shares deep relationship with Mamata, she's sister to me'

Jaipur, Mar 25 (PTI):

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar, who has been at loggerheads with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, on Friday said he shares a deep relationship with her like a brother.

At the same time, he is not a "proactive governor" but a "copybook governor", who believes in the rule of law, Dhankhar said here, adding he will never violate the dignity of the Constitution at the behest of anyone.

He referred to various occasions when he had a showdown with the West Bengal CM while stressing that he won't do anything



West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar addressing a seminar at Rajasthan Assembly in Jaipur on Friday.

beyond the constitutional limits. Dhankhar was speaking as the chief guest in a seminar on the "Role of Governors and MLAs in Furtherance of

Democracy", organised by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Rajasthan chapter in the state Assembly building.

"People may not have knowledge but my personal relationship with the chief minister is very deep, of brother and sister. Our dialogue is continuing," he said. He made the remark while talking about a recent controversy over summoning the West Bengal state Assembly at 2 am on March 7, the timing of which was changed to 2 pm after a fresh cabinet proposal. An imbroglio over the timing started after Dhankhar had on February 24 summoned the Assembly at 2 am on the basis of a proposal by the Mamata Banerjee cabinet, which was later clarified as a typographical error.

War in Ukraine nearing possibly more dangerous phase

Washington, Mar 25 (AP) Putin's war in Ukraine is approaching a new, potentially more dangerous phase after a month of fighting has left Russian forces stalled by an outnumbered foe. He is left with stark choices how and where to replenish his spent ground forces, whether to attack the flow of Western arms to Ukrainian defenders, and at what cost he might escalate or widen the war.

Despite failing to score a quick victory, Putin is not relenting in the face of mounting international pressure, including sanctions that have battered his economy. The Western world is aligned largely against Putin, but there have been no indications he is losing support from the majority of the Russian public that relies predominantly on state-controlled TV for information. Ukrainian defenders, outgunned but benefitting from years of American and NATO training and an accelerating influx of foreign arms and moral support, are showing new signs of confidence as the invading force struggles to re-

group. Russian shortcomings in Ukraine might be the biggest shock of the war so far. After two decades of modernization and professionalization, Putin's forces have proved to be ill-prepared, poorly coordinated and surprisingly stoppable. The extent of Russian troop losses is not known in detail, although NATO estimates that between 7,000 and 15,000 have died in the first four weeks potentially as many as Russia lost in a decade of war in Afghanistan.

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

निविदा सूचना

क्र. 24/न.पा.नि./जल विभाग/2021-22 दिनांक 24/03/2022

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली के अंतर्गत सखम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु नगरीय निविदा फार्म 'ए सी सी' पर दिनांक 19.04.2022 को सायं 5:30 बजे तक सीड पोस्ट से आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलन राशि (लाखों में)
1	पेयजल प्रदाय हेतु संचारण कार्य के लिये जी आई फिटिंग प्रदाय कार्य।	8.00
2	पेयजल प्रदाय हेतु संचारण कार्य के लिये ड्रेजिंग पंप स्पयर पार्ट्स एवं टूल प्रदाय कार्य।	8.00
3	पेयजल प्रदाय हेतु संचारण कार्य के लिये पी.व्ही.सी. फिटिंग सामग्री प्रदाय कार्य।	7.18

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कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

Green City, Clean City, Dream City.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NAME CHANGE

It is Informed to the general public that I Aradhana Masih (Before marriage my name is Aradhana Yusuf) W/o Mr. Daniel Deepak Masih resident of Plot No. 08 Chandra Nagar (Near Pani Tanki), Vill- Umarpoti, The - Durg, Dist-Durg (C.G.) have changed my old name is Aradhana Masih (Before marriage my name is Aradhana Yusuf) W/o Mr. Daniel Deepak Masih so in future I should be recognized by my new name Aradhana Daniel Masih W/o Mr Daniel Deepak Masih in all Govt. and others documents.

Aradhana Daniel Masih
Plot No. 08 Chandra Nagar (Near Pani Tanki) Vill- Umarpoti, The. - Durg, Dist - Durg (C.G.)

Advocate (Ashutosh Mishra)
Office Address - Flat No. F-3, Modern Complex, Motibag Chowk, Raipur (C.G.)
No. 0771-2222042, Mobile - 9425548998

CHANGE OF NAME

It is informed to the general public that I am Narottam father Gaidnlal resident of Barpara Andi Dondilohara (491771) District Balod CG, I take this oath that I have abandoned my old name and have changed my name to Narottam Patel's father Gaidnlal. so today I have received all government, semi-government and in other documents my new name Narottam Patel should be known only by father Gaidnlal.

Narottam Patel
Barpara Andi Tehsil
Dondilohara District Balod CG 491771

Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Limited

(A Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking)
(ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified)
1st Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ring Road No. 1, Telibandha, Raipur (C.G.) - 492006
CIN : U45203CT1981SG001853, PAN AABCM6288N, GST Reg. No. 22AABCM6288N52Y
Phone: 0771-6621000 Fax: 0771-2583794
Website: www.csidc.in
Email address: csidc.ctg@nic.incside_raipur@yahoo.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

NIT No. 11/CSIDC/E./Division-III/2021-22 Raipur, Dated 25/03/2022

Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., Raipur (CSIDC), a Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking constituted under the Companies Act, engaged in Industrial Infrastructure Development & Other Related Activities in the State invites tender for the work of "Sewerage Disposal System for Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC), Sector-22, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar (C.C.)."

Registered Contractor in CGPWD or in appropriate class in other dept.	Probable Amount of Contract (PAC) (INR Crores)	Last Date for Submission of Tender
Class-B & Above	2.78	19/04/2022

The tender document containing detailed terms & conditions, scope of works and other details can be downloaded from the web portal (website) <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> from 30/03/2022 Time 17:01 and shall be submitted online only. Amendment in tender, if any, will only be uploaded on the website and shall not be published in any newspaper.

NOTE: The interested tenderers for online submission of tender may contact CG e-Proc Helpdesk. Operated by **Mjunction Services Limited**, they may reach Helpdesk using 18004199140 (from 9 AM to 11 PM) (through press 2 for CG e-Proc) or you can email them at Helpdesk.eproc@cgswan.gov.in

S-318992/ Executive Engineer (Division-III)

कार्यालय एवं दफान हेतु स्थान उपलब्ध, वेबसाइट देखें www.csidc.in

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice
Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	95334 First Call 14.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF SARDI- SHIVPUR- TENDUPARA ROAD (LENGTH 2.25 KM) DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code - W 22710) (NABARD Yojana)	268.39
2	95272 First Call 14.03.2022	Construction of NH-930 Khairkatta to Chikhhalakasa Road Length 5.90 K.M i/c Bridge and Culverts AT DISTT.- Rajnandgaon (NABARD Yojana)	778.79
3	95338 First Call 14.03.2022	Construction of Sehalp to Ranwahi Road Length 5.70 k.m i/c Bridge & Culverts At Distt.-Rajnandgaon. (NABARD Yojana)	789.96
4	95273 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Vidhyak Grih Gram Pairitola- BiteiraWia-Khopa Road At Block Chhuriya Length 5.30 K.m. i/c Bridge & Culverts AT DISTT. - Rajnandgaon (NABARD Yojana)	542.92
5	95274 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Chivarakuta to Dongararksa Road (Length 6.30 k.m.), i/c. Culverts, Distt. Mahasamund. (Dn. Mahasamund) (Nbard scheme).	862.71
6	95333 First Call 15.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF MASOURA- KUDRA ROAD LENGTH 5.00 K.M. DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code - W22019) (NABARD Yojana)	585.38
7	95339 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Hadapathara to Salhejhariya Road (Length 3.725 k.m.), i/c. Culverts at Distt. Mahasamund. (Dn. Mahasamund) (NABARD Yojana)	428.82
8	95342 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Jaitundra- Morkutumb- Bharitola Road Length 4.75 K.M i/c Bridge & Culverts At Distt Rajnandgaon. (NABARD Yojana)	421.18
9	95335 First Call 15.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF PENDRY CHOWK TO MATUKPUR ROAD LENGTH 6.70 K.M. DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code - W22018), (NABARD Yojana)	794.37
10	95336 First Call 15.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF SILFILI COLLEGE TO HIRADABRI ROAD (including Culverts.) LENGTH 5.85 K.M. DISTT. SURAJPUR (C.G.) (Work code W22440) (NABARD Yojana)	795.01
11	95385 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Fagudotola-Khoratola Road Length 3.60 K.M Block Chhuriya AT DISTT. - Rajnandgaon (NABARD Yojana)	435.68

Last Date of Tender Downloading For Dates 06.04.2022. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer (Central Tender Cell)
Office of Engineer in Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar
G-68968/5

Notice under section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (The Act)

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)	Particulars of Mortgaged property(ies)	Date Of NPA (C)	Outstanding Amount (Rs.) (D)
1.	LOAN ACCOUNT NO. HHLRPR00279330 1. SURYAKANT SAHU 2. MENKA SAHU	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF KH NO. 201/36, PH. NO. 105/59 ADMEASURING 92.93 SQ MTR., DR. KHUB CHAND BAGHEL, WARD NO. 67, NEW CHANGORABHATA, CHANGORABHATA, CHANGORABHATA, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH - 492001.	15.02.2022	Rs. 16,39,186.63 (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand One Hundred Eighty Six and Paise Sixty Three Only) as on 15.02.2022

That the above named borrower(s) have failed to maintain the financial discipline towards their loan account (s) and as per books of accounts maintained in the ordinary course of business by the Company, Column D indicates the outstanding amount.

Due to persistent default in repayment of the Loan amount on the part of the Borrower(s) the above said loan account has been classified by the Company as Non-Performing Asset (as on date in Column C) within the guidelines relating to assets classification issued by Regulating Authority. Consequently, notices under Sec. 13(2) of the Act were also issued to each of the borrower.

In view of the above, the Company hereby calls upon the above named Borrower(s) to discharge in full his/her liabilities towards the Company by making the payment of the entire outstanding dues indicated in Column D above including up to date interest, costs, and charges within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, the Company shall be entitled to take possession of the Mortgaged Property mentioned in Column B above and shall also take such other actions as is available to the Company in law.

Please note that in terms of provisions of sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, "A borrower can tender the entire amount of outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Secured Creditor only till the date of publication of the notice for sale of the secured asset(s) by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty. Further it may also be noted that in case Borrower fails to redeem the secured asset within aforesaid legally prescribed time frame, Borrower may not be entitled to redeem the property."

In terms of provision of sub-Section (13) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of his business) any of the secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of secured creditor.

For Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd.
Authorized Officer

Place: RAIPUR

Advertisement No. 05/2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

It has come to notice that a few Universities in People's Republic of China have started issuing notices for admission to various degree programmes for the current and upcoming academic years.

In this context, any prospective student needs to be aware that the Government of People's Republic of China has imposed strict travel restrictions in the wake of COVID-19 and suspended all visas since November 2020. A large number of Indian students have not been able to return to China to continue their studies due to these restrictions. Thus far, there has been no relaxation in the restrictions. Further, the Chinese authorities have conveyed earlier that courses will be conducted online.

As per the extant rules, UGC and AICTE do not recognize such degree courses done only in online mode. without prior approval. In view of the above, students are advised to exercise due diligence in choosing where to pursue higher education to avoid further problems in employment or higher studies.

Member Secretary
All India Council for Technical Education
davp 21205/12/0026/2122

Secretary
University Grants Commission

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda

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

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. No.	Branch Name/Ph.No.	Name of Borrower / Guarantor	Description of Property	Demand Notice Date, Amount & Symbolic / Physical Possession Date
01	G. E. Road Branch, Raipur 9752410756	M/s LAXMI PAPER WORKS Proprietor Mrs. Kusum Agrawal	Equitable Mortgage of: Factory land & Building (Lease hold) at Industrial Area, Amaseoni, Raipur, admeasuring 13275 Sq. Ft. Constructed Area - 9200 Sq. ft. in the name of M/s Laxmi Paper works, Prop. Smt. Kusum Agrawal W/o Shri Ashok Kumar Agrawal. Bounded: On the North by CSIDC LAND, On the South by 60 Metre Road, On the East by CSIDC LAND, On the West by CSIDC LAND.	07.01.2022 Rs. 1,11,25,177.67 + interest + other charges 21.03.2022 Symbolic Possession
02	G. E. Road Branch, Raipur 9752410756	M/s Sharda Minerals and Cement Company Proprietor Mr. Ayush Agrawal	Equitable Mortgages of Flat No. 401, Built-up area 1408 Sqft (Super Built-up area 1540 Sqft), including Balcony approximately in 4th floor of Gulmohar Apartment, Khamardih, Shanker Maharsih Valmiki Ward No. 28, Khamardih Road, Shankar Nagar, P. C. No. 110, Raipur, Tehsil and District- Raipur, Ward No. 28, Maharsih Valmiki Ward. Approx. 300 ft away from Khamardih Police Chowki to waitair Railway Crossing Road, Raipur, C.G. standing in the name of Mrs. Kusum Agrawal W/o Mr. Ashok Kumar Agrawal. Boundaries are: North By: Flat No. 402, South-Sales Tax Colony, East By- Owners Building, West By- Flat No. 404.	07.01.2022 Rs. 71,29,806.00 + interest + other charges 21.03.2022 Symbolic Possession

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

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

Date: 25.03.2022, Place: Raipur, Chhattisgarh
Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

Chola

Enter a better life

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Corporate Office: No.2, Dare House, 1st Floor, NSC Bose Road, Chennai- 600 001.
Branch Office: Shop No.- 416, 4th Floor National Corporate Park, Infront Of Maruti Business Park, G.E. Road, Raipur C.G-492001

POSSESSION NOTICE Under Rule 8 (1)

WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rules 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column (B) below on dates specified in Column (C) to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column (D) below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column (E) herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column (F) in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 9 of the Rules made there under.

The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column (E) below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column (D) along with interest and other charges. Under section 13 (8) of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

Sl. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower/s and Loan Account No.	Date of Demand Notice	Outstanding Amount	Details of Property Possessed	Date of Possession
1.	Loan Nos. X0HERRH00003033143 and HE02RRR000000001803 Borrower & Co-borrower 1. RAJESH KUMAR AGRAWAL, Residing At- Karishma Apartment VIP Estate, V V Vihar Mowa Saddu Raipur, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492007. 2. POONAM AGRAWAL, 3. SANTOSH KUMAR AGRAWAL, 4. MANJU AGRAWAL, 5. PREM CHAND AGRAWAL, 6. NEHA AGRAWAL, Residing At- Gali No 4 Karishma Apartment VIP Estate, V V Vihar Mowa Saddu Raipur, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492007. 7. AGRAWALJI KA GULSHAN SWEETS, Residing At Shop No 5 Sahu Complex, Near Pani Tanki Mowa Raipur, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001	17.12.2021	Rs. 2,97,43,389.35/- and Rs. 60,23,445.00/- totalling to Rs. 3,57,66,834.35/- as on 17-12-2021	PROPERTY-1 All that piece and parcel of the Commercial Shop bearing No. 06, on the Ground Floor, Comprising Area 360.00 Sq. Ft. Situated at Known as "Sahu Complex" Village- Mowa, Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward, Ward No. 27, P. H. No.109, R.I.C. Raipur, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries: - As Per Sale Deed NORTH : Road, SOUTH: Land of Prema Bai Sahu, EAST: Shop No. 7, WEST: Shop No. 5, PROPERTY -2 All that piece and parcel of the Commercial Shop bearing No. 05, Comprising Area 360.00 Sq. Ft. Comprised in Part of Khasra No. 377/4 & 378/10, Situated at Known as "Sahu Complex" Village Mowa, Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward, Ward No. 27, P. H. No. 109, R.I.C. Raipur, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries: - NORTH: Road, SOUTH: Land of Sahu, EAST: Shop No. 6, WEST: Gate, PROPERTY -3 All that Residential House bearing Plot No. B-143A, Comprising Area 199.8 Sq. Mt. or 2,150 Sq. Ft. Comprised in Part of Khasra No. 1074/4, Situated at Khamardih, Shankar Nagar, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward, Ward No. 27, P. H. No. 110, R.I.C. Raipur, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries: - NORTH: Plot No. B-134A, SOUTH : Road, EAST: Plot No. B-142, WEST: Plot No. B-143, PROPERTY -4 All that peice and Parcel of Land bearing Number-A-146, Sector 8A Under Nagar Vikas Yagna karmany -04 (Kamal Vihar) Comprising Area 96.875 Sq. Mt. Comprised in Khasra No. Ml. Comprised in Khasra No. 387/12 Situated at Devpuri, P. H. No. 114/52, Tehsil & District Raipur (C.G.) Boundaries: - NORTH: Plot No. A-147, SOUTH : Plot No. A-145, EAST: Plot No. A-148 & A-157, WEST: Road.	23.03.2022

Date: 23.03.2022, Place: Raipur (C.G.)
Authorised Officer Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited

कनारा बैंक Canara Bank

Durg Main Branch: Arya Nagar Durg (CG) 491001

POSSESSION NOTICE [Appendix IV under the Act-Rule-8(1)]

Whereas, The under signed being the Authorised officer of the Canara Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a Demand Notice was issued on the dated in the given following table calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days of receipt of said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property, described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against the account. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the CANARA BANK (Below mentioned Branches) for the amount and interest mentioned thereon.

The Borrower's / Guarantors / Mortgager's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.010921

S. No.	Borrower Name	Detail of Possessed Property	Demand Notice Amount	Demand Notice Date
1.	1. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Dewangan S/o. Shri Bhusanlal Dewangan, 2. Mrs. Niharika Dewangan W/o. Shri Sanjay Dewangan, Zen37, Ward No. 52, Ganpati Vihar, Durg-491001.	EMT of land situated in 1500 sq. ft. plot at Plot No. 51 in PH No. 14/19, KH No. 1159/2, Ward No. 14, in Ashta Developers & Clonisers, Mouja- Kurud, Bihilai, Dist- Durg, Chhattisgarh owned by Mr. Sanjay Kumar Dewangan. Bounded: North - Plot No. 50, South- Land in Khasra No. 1158/3, East- 30 ft Road, West- Plot no. 60.	₹ 33,22,141.62/- with interest and applicable charges thereon.	27.12.2021 23.03.2022
2.	1. Deepak Kumar Shrivastava & Mrs. Nishu Shrivastava, KH No. 339/K, Ram Nagar, Ward No. 12, Kohka, Bihilai-490020, Dist- Durg. 2. Mr. Mukesh Kumar Sinha S/o. Shri Chandra Kumar Sinha, Ambedkar Nagar, Ram Nagar, Bihilai-490020, Dist- Durg.	EMT of land situated in 1500 sq. ft. plot at Plot No. 47 in PH No. 14/19, KH No. 1159/2, Ward No. 14, in Ashta Developers & Clonisers, Mouja- Kurud, Bihilai, Dist- Durg, Chhattisgarh owned by Mr. Deepak Kumar Shrivastava & Mrs. Nishu Shrivastava. Bounded: North - Plot No. 46, South- Plot No. 48, East-30 ft Road, West- Plot no. 58. 2. Mr. Mukesh Kumar Sinha S/o. Shri Chandra Kumar Sinha, Ambedkar Nagar, Ram Nagar, Bihilai-490020, Dist- Durg.	₹ 28,60,963.32/- with interest and applicable charges thereon.	27.12.2021 23.03.2022
3.	1. Mr. Jaydev Prasad S/o. Shri Shital Prasad Mrs. Radha Devi, W/o. Shri Jaydev Prasad, 4333, Ward No. 09, Shanti Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar, Supale, Bihilai-490020. Guarantor- Mr. Manoj Kumar, S/o. Badri Narayan, SMC-22, Vaishali Nagar, Near Shiv Mandir, Supale, Bihilai-490020.	EMT of land situated in 1500 sq. ft. plot at Plot No. 58 in PH No. 14/19, KH No. 1159/2, Ward No. 14, in Ashta Developers & Clonisers, Mouja- Kurud, Bihilai, Dist- Durg, Chhattisgarh owned by Mr. Jaydev Prasad & Mrs. Radha Devi. Bounded: North - Plot No. 57, South- Plot No. 59, East- Plot No. 47, West- 25 Ft. Road.	₹ 25,55,290.55/- with interest and applicable charges thereon.	27.12.2021 23.03.2022

Date: 25.03.2022 Place: Durg (CG) Authorized Officer, Canara Bank

इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक India Post Payments Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Corporate Office, Speed Post Centre Building, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi - 110001

RECRUITMENT OF VACANCIES (INCLUDING BACKLOG) IN SCALE II, III, IV, V, VI & VII ON REGULAR & CONTRACT BASIS

Advertisement No.: IPPB/HR/CO/REC/2021-22/03

Applications are invited for appointments to the following posts on regular & contract basis :

Department	Scale	Post/Designation	Type of Employment	No. of Vacancies
Technology	VI	Chief Technology Officer	Contract	1
	V	AGM - Enterprise/ Integration Architect	Regular	1
	IV	Chief Manager - Digital Technology	Regular	1
	III	Senior Manager - System/ Database Administration	Regular	1
Information Security	III	Senior Manager - Security Administration/Architect	Regular	1
	II	Manager - Security Administration	Regular	1
Product	V	AGM - BSG (Business Solutions Group)	Regular	1
	IV	Chief Manager - Retail Products	Regular	1
Operations	IV	Chief Manager - Retail Payments	Regular	1
	VII	GM-Operations	Regular	1
Compliance Function	VI	Chief Compliance Officer	Contract	1
Finance	IV	Chief Manager - Finance	Regular	1

Post/Grade/Scale	Age (as on 01-03-2022)	Experience in Officer Cadre	Pay Scale
Manager (MMGS-II)	23 to 35 years	3 Years	48,170 - 69,810
Senior Manager (MMGS-III)	26 to 35 years	6 Years	63,840 - 78,230
Chief Manager (SMGS-IV)	29 to 45 years	9 Years	76,010 - 89,890
Assistant General Manager (SMGS-V)	32 to 45 years	12 Years	89,890 - 1,00,350
Deputy General Manager (TEGS-VI)	35 to 55 years	15 Years	1,04,240 - 1,16,120
General Manager (TEGS-VII)	38 to 55 years	18 Years	1,16,120 - 1,29,000

IMPORTANT DATES :
(i) Opening date for On-line Registration of Applications 26.03.2022 : 10.00 AM
(ii) Last date of On-line Submission of Applications with Fee 09.04.2022 : 11.59 PM

For detailed advertisement, please visit our official website <https://ippbonline.com/web/ippb/current-openings>

Place: New Delhi
Date : 26.03.2022
davp -06346/12/0007/2122

Sd/-
Chief HR Officer

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा Bank of Baroda

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



CENTRAL Chronicle

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US inspired CUET

The Central University Common Entrance Test (CUCET) or the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) is a computerised entrance exam for admission to 45 central universities in India wherein one's Class 12 marks won't matter. The universities can use the Class 12 marks as one eligibility criterion at best. It will be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) in the first week of July. UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar had announced. The application window will be open in the first week of April. An association of private schools had written a letter to Union Education Minister, expressing apprehension that the introduction of CUET from the 2022-23 academic session may encourage "coaching culture" among students. The fact that CUET will be based on NCERT books will encourage students from state boards and ICSE to take coaching since they follow different books. The CUET will have three parts: compulsory language, 27 subject domains, and general test on quantitative reasoning, logical and analytical reasoning, numerical ability, and general knowledge and current affairs. Schools will only become a medium for clearing CUET. Some teachers allege that whole focus of NEP 2020 for school education has got diluted. The attempt of UGC to put emphasis on CUET must be taken in context of SAT system of US. It seems UGC wants to emulate US system for college admissions and CUET is inspired by SAT. The SAT is a standardized test widely used for college admissions in the United States. Since its debut in 1926, its name and scoring have changed several times, originally called the Scholastic Aptitude Test, it was later called the Scholastic Assessment Test, then the SAT I: Reasoning Test, then the SAT Reasoning Test, then simply the SAT. The SAT is wholly owned, developed, and published by the College Board, a private, not-for-profit organization in the United States. It is administered on behalf of the College Board by the Educational Testing Service, which until recently developed the SAT as well. The test is intended to assess students' readiness for college. Recently, SAT has been used by universities across the world for undergraduate admissions and will go completely digital by 2024, the College Board, a global body that conducts the test had announced. The SAT is recognised in the US, UK, Canada, Singapore, Australia, Germany and most recently, in India. As more students in Indian cities prepare for SAT with coaching institutes to study either in India or outside India, UGC perceives case for CUET. The number of Indian students taking the SAT has reportedly gone up in recent years. As the test came under fire in recent years for favouring skilled test-takers as well as wealthy students, more and more colleges moved to test-optional admissions. The pandemic accelerated that shift, with Ivy League colleges joining the move away from mandatory testing. As UGC demands unified testing, some states and universities in US question about relevancy of test like SAT. The California State University Board of Trustees voted unanimously this week to no longer use standardized SAT and ACT tests in undergraduate admissions. Even though many colleges in US aren't mandating scores, at least one group of students are still sending them with wealthier parents who can afford coaching. In the current application cycle for current high school seniors, 52 percent of US students in the wealthiest households submitted scores this school year, according to data from the Common Application. Experience of US suggests that demand for CUET coaching will rise in India, forcing parents to spend money.

Subsidise electric cooking

Oil manufacturing companies (OMCs) have raised the price of domestic cooking gas (LPG) by Rs 50 per cylinder. This abrupt price increase corresponds to a spike in international energy rates. Also, it is the first surge in LPG rates since 6 October, 2021. Usually, the price of an LPG cylinder varies from state to state due to local taxes levied by the state government. According to reports, the LPG rates are revised on the average international rate for benchmark fuel and foreign exchange rate. LPG has now become more expensive than cooking using electricity in some states. With no increase in power tariff this fiscal year in Chhattisgarh, people are advised to buy and use electric appliances for cooking some parts of their food in a day. Union commerce minister Piyush Goyal has repeatedly suggested people to use electric appliances and reduce LPG consumption. The idea of using electricity for cooking, as suggested by Piyush Goyal, is most welcome. This transition from using imported LPG and piped gas to electricity for cooking would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ease the burden on the central exchequer and eliminate a portion of hydrocarbons from the nation's import bill, improving the balance of payments. With electricity, indoor air pollution would be even lower than in the case of natural gas or LPG. Bottling cooking gas in cylinders and ferrying the cylinders across the land is an energy- and emission-intensive activity. Power lines already reach every village, so the additional cost of transporting energy would be minimal, when electricity takes the place of cooking gas. With electricity, indoor air pollution would be even lower than in the case of natural gas or LPG. Bottling cooking gas in cylinders and ferrying the cylinders across the land is an energy- and emission-intensive activity. Power lines already reach every village, so the additional cost of transporting energy would be minimal, when electricity takes the place of cooking gas. In addition, the government needs to reduce tax on price of electric appliances like induction, infrared cooktops, microwave ovens, toasters, air fryers, electric kettles and electric steam cookers. The state governments can also arrange for distribution and subsidy for electric cooking similar to LED bulbs. Direct transfer of energy is a much more efficient way of cooking, hence induction converts almost 80 percent of its electromagnetic energy into the food as compared to a mere 40 percent of burner energy being transferred to food in the case of LPG stove.

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

BALLOON LAUNCH



A man holds onto a hot air balloon as it is launched along the Red River during the "Get on Hanoi 2022" festival in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Wonderment about lack of uprising inside Congress party

RK SINHA

After careful assessment of the assembly election results in the five states, one can infer that the existence of the Congress party in India is close to its impending doom. In Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa, and Manipur, the Congress was brushed aside by the voters. These results are proof that if the Congress isn't freed from the clasp of the Gandhi family, its presence in Indian politics shall be diminished to nothing more than a relic of the ancient past. Once the Election Commission had announced the election schedule on January 9, Priyanka Gandhi immediately began conducting roadshows and door-to-door campaigns at 42 places. She also contacted around 340 assembly constituencies through nukkad natak, virtual rallies, and other channels. Her political campaigns were extensively witnessed over all the five states. Rahul Gandhi also spent a lot of time campaigning in Uttar Pradesh, but a little less when compared to his sister. The Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel, Sachin Pilot, Deepender Hooda, renowned poet and chief of Congress Minority Cell, Imran Pratapgarhi, were also seen working hard on the field. Imran Pratapgarhi single-handedly orchestrated six dozen meetings. However, the results were a true reflection of their efforts. In Uttar Pradesh, Priyanka and Rahul had to face off against powerful opponents like the Honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Yogi

Adityanath, JP Nadda, and Rajnath Singh. As anticipated, Congress was handed a crushing defeat in Uttar Pradesh and the remaining states. Congress has been out of power in Uttar Pradesh since 1989. The last Chief Minister of UP from the Congress party was Vir Bahadur Singh. That is disheartening because not too long ago, Uttar Pradesh used to be a Congress stronghold and the origin of the Nehru family. For the sake of its survival, the leadership of Congress must be given to a worthy leader who can take decisions and adequate vision. In that regard, there is only one ray of hope for Congress, that is Ashok Gehlot. But the daunting question that arises is if he is willing to give up the Chief Minister's position, to take command of the party as its new leader? There is a negligible chance of this outcome materializing. Recall that prior to the elections of these five states, wherever Rahul Gandhi held rallies in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly elections, Congress was rejected by the voters. His party did not even open its account in the West Bengal Assembly elections. The party with which extraordinary leaders like Pandit Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sardar Patel, and Chittaranjan Das were associated is now taking its last breath. What is even more pitiful is that there were no efforts made to save it from such a pitiful end. Alongside the Gandhi family, some other party leaders will also have to take responsibility for the apocalyptic defeat of the Congress. There are dozens of so-called leaders, including Kapil Sibal, P Chidambaram, and Abhishek Manu Singhvi of Congress who have no relation with the public. These entitled leaders live their lives comfortably in the luxurious government allotted bungalows in Lutyens Delhi. Most of them are high-paid lawyers. During their time off from advocacy, they start doing politics as a hobby to pass their time and stay

relevant in the media. They believe that they are doing huge service to the party by simply appearing in the pretentious debates hosted by news channels. Time and again, Priyanka Gandhi kept reiterating that she would work by staying in Uttar Pradesh. If so, then why didn't she contest the election? Why does she avoid contesting elections? What kind of a leader runs away from the task of contesting elections. When the hijab controversy made headlines, Priyanka Gandhi said, "Girls have the right to wear hijab. If anyone wants to wear a bikini, they can wear that too." Should the leader of a national party make such a cheap statement? On what grounds was Priyanka Gandhi speaking in favor of wearing hijabs in schools? Will anyone in India come to school wearing a bikini? Priyanka Gandhi should understand that the voters of the country see everything. In September last year, with the blessings of Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi, JNU's tukde-tukde gang leader Kanhaiya Kumar had entered Congress. This was the same Kanhaiya Kumar who accused the Indian Army jawans of committing heinous acts like rape in Kashmir. Was Congress also standing by Kanhaiya Kumar's absurd and absurd allegations? Priyanka Gandhi never clarified on what basis Kanhaiya Kumar was accusing the Indian Army? If one supports the anti-national elements, the public will serve them justice in the elections. Neither Rahul nor Priyanka know the fickleness of the public. They do not have any concrete and patient opinions on any vital questions. Rahul Gandhi wants to replace Narendra Modi, and Priyanka wishes to become the second Indira Gandhi. However, both of them have not been able to understand India yet. That is why today, the condition of the Congress party has become very despicable. They seem to have made up

their mind to bring about the destruction of Congress. Everything was going well in Punjab before their intrusion. After they removed the political stalwart, Captain Amarinder Singh, from the position of the Chief Minister and made a non-serious prankster like Navjot Singh Sidhu, the head of the party, the downfall of Congress in Punjab began. The consequences of their decisions are pretty evident. Let us recall the last Lok Sabha elections (2019). Except in Kerala and Punjab, the performance of the Congress was not satisfactory anywhere. Congress won in Punjab only because of the leadership of former Patiala King Captain Amarinder Singh. Rahul Gandhi pitted Navjot Singh Sidhu against the same Captain Amarinder Singh. Sidhu is extremely special to Rahul Gandhi, and he was given entry into the Congress party even after the reluctance of the captain. Rahul Gandhi had sent Sidhu to campaign across the country. During his campaigns, he used vile and abusive language against BJP and Modi Ji. As nothing misses the public's watchful eyes, wherever Sidhu went, his party was defeated. Debate and dialogue should continue to thrive in a democracy. There should be a lot of fruitful discussions in the Parliament too. That is a prerequisite for the strength and stability of any democracy. But since when did democracy allow making petty baseless allegations on your political opponent? The central leadership in Congress is continuously weakening. Central leadership is powerful when it has some credibility among the people. Rahul Gandhi is not able to get the party any victory. One cannot help but wonder why there is no uprising in Congress against the leadership of the Gandhi family.

(RK Sinha is senior editor, columnist, and former MP.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

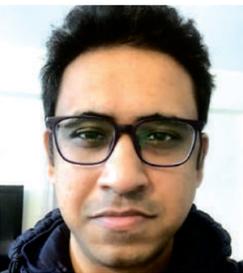
Strike purpose

Again Bank Strike by some trade unions but for what purpose? Answer is for no purpose of bank employees and only to make happy their Animus. Bank trade unions are adopting this old weapon to go on strike just to satisfy their own goal which have no link with the welfare of a common bank employee. During the period of Rajiv Gandhi these unions strongly opposed the computerization in banking sector and ultimately accepted the offer when some monetary benefits were provided and in this way country had suffered a lot. In the strike only three unions are going on strike who are affiliated with communist. Moreover this strike has nothing to do with banking and its staff problems whereas there are many problems of banking staff which are pending for the last 25 years and here I shall narrate one such problem: The first disability Act was passed by the parliament in 1996 and the second disability Act was passed in 2016. And due to this, there cannot be any disparity between the abled and disabled, and I had already several times brought it to the notice of these union leaders but due to the insensitive attitude towards the disabled these leaders have till today not even acknowledged the representation. And how can we expect from them that they will take up the matter with the government? The strike is called with the ill-conceived notions without caring for the national interests. I appeal to the government not to call these leaders for any negotiations until and unless the demand of the disabled is put forward in their charter of demands. I also appeal to all employees of the banks to put pressure on the leaders to shun the indifferent attitude towards the disabled. Recently, family pension was enhanced. I sent representations to Finance Minister as well as to the other dignitaries, including Union leaders bringing to their notice how the legal heirs of disabled will be adversely impacted, and for loss of family pension, these leaders who are holding the positions in a trade union, as well as their predecessors who were at the helm of affairs previously, are equally responsible for the legal heirs of family pensioners. Now I appeal to these leaders to come forward for these family pension holders and show their capabilities to handle the issues for the infringement of their constitutional rights. As the parliament Session is going on so I had sent Representation to Speaker Lok Sabha and requested him not to pass the bill for Privatisation of two nationalised banks without removing the clause which infringed the constitutional rights of Disabled. In addition to that I had sent Representations to 27 members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and requested them to take up matter in the parliament. In this regard I had sent Representation to principal Secretary to PM also. One more fact which is worth mentionable is that total persons covered under this disparity are very very a few Repeat very very a few and can be counted on fingers. Trade union leaders are answerable to Disabled and their legal heirs for infringement of their legitimate rights.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar



WHAT THEY TWEET!



Aviral@aviralbhat
Maggi noodles weighing 270,000 metric tonnes were sold last year. Assuming a price of 160 INR/Kg that is 4,320 Cr of sales. Maggi alone would be the 300th largest company in India by revenue, as large as Aditya Birla Fashion, Colgate and 2x bigger than Zomato. Just one product.

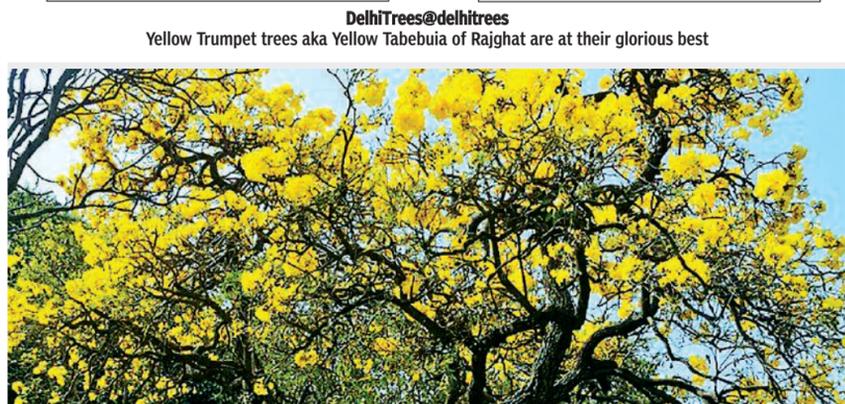
Sandeep@sandeep_PT
There never was a more corrupt instrument made than the Electoral Bonds. It institutionalises all black money donations, under a black curtain of faux legality (SBI, bonds ...), and removes from public gaze the dirty game of collecting donations (white or black) at all levels.



Birender@bsdhanoo
The Soviet philosophy behind their tank design was "flood the battlefield with tracks to overwhelm the tech advantage the West enjoyed", low silhouette (aided by an auto loader), minimal crew comfort and a powerful main gun. Hasn't changed much for Russia till the arrival of T-14

Harsh@harshmadhusudan
If anything, despite being behind China which in turn is behind America, certainly per capita - India has the more stable political system compared to China. But then again, the Chinese society is too coherent to not reorient its state when needed though it won't be pretty maybe.

DeshBhakt@TheDeshBhakt
Heartbreaking scenes from Afghanistan, girls pleading at the gates of schools, as they are turned away - denied dignity & an education. This is what Taliban power has come down to - fighting against little girls! But expected, when religious fundamentalists come to rule the roost



DelhiTrees@delhitrees
Yellow Trumpet trees aka Yellow Tabebuia of Rajghat are at their glorious best

Jayaprakash@Jp_Loksatta
Sri Lanka's food & economic crisis is due to whimsical policies, reckless populism & fiscal profligacy. It is a cautionary tale for all poor nations. Many states in India are indulging in reckless short-term freebies for electoral gain, ignoring growth & core functions.

BRIEF

Acquires



New Delhi: Glance InMobi has acquired Gambit Sports for undisclosed amount as part of its plan to build the biggest platform for NFT-based live gaming experiences across markets. Glance COO Piyush Shah said we also aim to launch creator-led NFTs for live gaming.

Completes

New Delhi: Torrent Power on Friday announced the completion of the acquisition of 50 MW solar power plant from Lightsource bp and UKCI for an enterprise value of Rs 300 crore. The SPV (special purpose vehicle) operates a 50 MW solar power plant, commissioned in April 2018, situated in Maharashtra.

Partners



Mumbai: Bounce Infinity has partnered with Jaipur-based EV maker BattRE to provide its battery swapping network to the latter. Bounce CEO Vivekananda Hallelkere said we are confident that we have alliance of partnership to push forward into next phase of growth.

Co-lending

New Delhi: Edelweiss Housing Finance Limited (EHFL) on Friday said it has partnered with the country's largest lender SBI for co-lending towards priority sector home loans to self-employed entrepreneurs and salaried customers. A subsidiary of Edelweiss Financial Services, EHFL said this alliance will leverage the combined reach of both the partners in tier II and tier III markets to ensure timely disbursement of housing credit to customers.

Opens



Kolkata: Larsen & Toubro group's IT company, Mindtree announced opening of its first development centre in Kolkata engaging 1,000 professionals. Mindtree CEO MD Debashis Chatterjee said we look forward to growing our infrastructure and operations.

IPO

New Delhi: Veranda Learning Solutions said it has fixed the price band at Rs 130-137 per share for its Rs 200 crore initial public offering that will open on March 29. The Initial Public Offering (IPO) will remain open from March 29 to 31.

Gujarat again tops NITI Aayog's 'Export Preparedness Index 2021'

■ 70% exports have been dominated by five states

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Gujarat, for the second consecutive year, has topped the Niti Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2021 which is aimed at assessing the readiness of the states in terms of their export potential and performance.

Gujarat was followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, according to the government think tank's report.

Union territories and states like Lakshadweep, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Ladakh and Meghalaya were placed at the bottom. The index, prepared in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness, can be used by states and Union



NITI Aayog members release 'Export Preparedness Index 2021' in New Delhi on Friday.

Territories (UTs) to benchmark their performance against their peers and analyse potential challenges to develop better policy mechanisms to foster export-led growth at the sub-national level.

The ranking is based on four main pillars: policy, business ecosystem, export ecosystem and export performance, and 11 sub-pillars like export promotion policy and business environment. The index's primary goal is to instil

competition among all states (coastal, landlocked, himalayan and UTs/city-states) to bring about favourable policies, ease the regulatory framework, create necessary infrastructure and assist in identifying strategic recommendations for improving export competitiveness. Releasing the report, NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said growth of India's exports is 36 per cent, while the world trade growth is

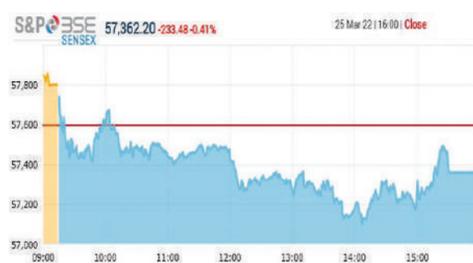
30 per cent. "After a very long time, we will see India's share in world merchandise trade increasing from 1.6 to 1.7 per cent," he said, adding, sectors which contributed in the growth include vehicles, electrical machinery, iron and steel.

Kumar said that the value of global trade is USD 24 trillion, of which India's export is worth USD 400 billion, so there is "massive" potential. He called for a target to quadruple India's share in the global trade in the next ten years. He also urged all the states to have district export plans and promotion committees.

The ranking showed that there are some states which can do much better by preparing an institutional and policy framework for exports, Kumar said, adding that some of the performances abroad can be measured in terms of export expansion in their markets.

Sensex, Nifty decline for 3rd day as HDFC Bank, TCS slide

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):



Market benchmark Sensex declined over 233 points on Friday, extending its losses to a third day as index majors HDFC Bank, TCS and Infosys went down amid a mixed trend in global equities.

The 30-share BSE benchmark dropped 233.48 points or 0.41 per cent to settle at 57,362.20. During the day, it tanked 495.44 points to 57,100.24.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty declined 69.75 points or 0.40 per cent to settle at 17,153.

"The Indian equity market continue to be in a grind, influenced by and reacting to incremental news flow on the global front, especially related to the geopolitical situation and Fed rhetoric. The two key challenges and monitorables for the markets in the near term are the persistent inflationary pressures and the rising bond yields," said Milind Muchhala, Executive Director, Julius Baer.

Titan, Tech Mahindra, Maruti Suzuki India, Wipro, Nestle India, TCS, Larsen & Toubro, HCL Technologies, Tata Steel and HDFC Bank were among the major laggards.

On the other hand, Dr Reddy's, Asian Paints, Reliance Industries Limited, Bharti Airtel, State Bank of India and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the gainers.

In the previous session, the BSE Sensex had declined 89.14 points or 0.15 per cent to settle at 57,595.68. The NSE Nifty declined 22.90 points or 0.13 per cent to 17,222.75.

Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in Shanghai and Hong Kong ended lower,

while Tokyo and Seoul settled with marginal gains. In early trading, the FTSE 100 in London fell 0.2 per cent to 7,454.92 and the DAX in Frankfurt was off less than 0.1 per cent at 14,267.95. The CAC in Paris sank 0.1 per cent to 6,550.00.

On Wall Street, the future for the benchmark S & P 500 index gained 0.2 per cent. That for the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 0.1 per cent. In Asia, the Shanghai Composite Index lost 1.2 per cent to 3,212.24 while the Nikkei 225 in Tokyo gained 0.1 per cent to 28,149.84. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong fell 2.5 per cent to 21,404.88.

Rupee rises 11 paise to 76.22 against USD, bullion falls

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

The rupee rose further by 11 paise to 76.22 against the US dollar on Friday, tracking the weakness in the American currency in the overseas market.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 76.15 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 76.12 and a low of 76.29.

The rupee quoted at 76.22 at 1530 hrs, registering a rise of 11 paise over its previous close. In the previous session, the rupee had appreciated 6 paise to settle at 76.33 against the US dollar.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the

greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.16 per cent to 98.62. The rupee rebounded amid dollar softness and lower crude oil prices but trimmed the early gains following weaker domestic equities and foreign fund outflows, said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Ahead of the financial year-end, the rupee tends to show a high swing on the back of rebalancing-related inflows and outflows, Parmar added.

"The balance of risks for USDINR remains skewed to the upside following geopolitical worries and broad based selling by foreign institutions.

Spot USDINR is expected to settle in the range of 76 to 76.50 this month, medium term direction remains bullish as long as it holds 75.70," Parmar noted. Bullion prices fell on global cues. Gold futures on Friday fell by Rs 98 to Rs 51,980 per 10 grams as participants cut down their bets amid a weak global trend. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for April delivery declined by Rs 98 or 0.19 per cent to Rs 51,980 per 10 grams in a business turnover of 6,603 lots.

Analysts attributed the fall in prices to trimming of positions by investors, tracking a weak trend in international market.

Spectrum auction to be conducted soon

■ 5G service to be launched by year end

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Spectrum auctions will be conducted very soon, and the next-generation 5G services are expected to commence before the end of the year, Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan said in the Rajya Sabha on Friday.

Replying to a supplementary question during Question Hour, Chauhan also said that the four companies have been allotted spectrum for conducting trials and added that the trials are expected to be completed soon. In parallel, the minister said that the telecom regulator



TRAI has also been asked to give its recommendations related to the upcoming auction. "We will conduct auctions very soon. By the end of this year, we will start 5G services in the country," he said.

He also asserted that state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd

(BSNL) will begin its 4G services this year. The minister said that a "great revolution" has taken place in the telecom sector over the last seven years and that data consumption has soared while tariffs are at the lowest.

There is a robust public grievance mechanism in

place and complaints pending for over 48 hours are escalated to senior officials, Chauhan said.

The government has taken a slew of measures to revive telecom PSUs BSNL and MTNL.

The quality of BSNL services will also improve with the launch of the state-owned corporation's 4G services, he asserted.

Chauhan also outlined the reforms undertaken by the government in the telecom sector and cites measures like re-definition of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue).

In a written reply, Communication Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said, "There is no decline in the number of mobile subscribers in the country in the year 2020-21."

NEW LAUNCH

OKHI-90
The Responsible Choice

Okinawa Autotech launches OKHI-90 electric scooter in New Delhi, Friday.

SIDBI acquires 7.84% stake in ONDC for Rs 10 cr

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) on Friday said it has acquired 7.84 per cent stake in open public digital infrastructure platform, ONDC, for Rs 10 crore. "SIDBI, the apex Financial Institution for financing and development of MSMEs in the country, has acquired 7.84 per cent stake in the open public digital infrastructure framework entity named Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) through an investment of Rs 10 crore," it said in a release. Hopping that its investment in ONDC will help develop digital infrastructure to democratize digital commerce in the country, S Ramann, CMD, SIDBI said the infrastructure created would serve as a public good by augmenting market access for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Union Bank of India launches 25 next-gen MSME branches

Taking the tally to 50 locations across India

Mumbai, Mar 25: Union Bank of India launched another set of its next-gen MSME focused branches i.e., Union MSME First Branches (UMFB's) at 25 locations across the country, taking the total of UMFB's to 50 locations pan India.

The branches were inaugurated by Nidhu Saxena, Executive Director of the bank at a virtual event held this Tuesday.

The Bank had earlier launched 25 such MSME focused branches which resulted in enhanced customer experience and quantity of business generated. The new branch locations were identified based on geo-analytics,



field discussions and are located close to SME clusters to enable easy access for its clients. In keeping with its aspiration of delivering maximum value & fast turn-around time to its SME customers, the branches will have dedicated relationship managers & product teams who will provide all products like MSME Loans, deposits, forex services, LC/BG, credit cards, insurance products etc. under one roof.

Govt keeping close watch on trade amid Russia-Ukraine crisis

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

The government is continuously monitoring the opportunities that the Russia-Ukraine war has opened up for India and is in dialogue with traders to ensure more exports of wheat and other commodities, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal told the Rajya Sabha on Friday.

Replying to supplementaries during Question Hour, he said Indian wheat exports are set to cross 70 lakh metric tonnes this year from merely 2 lakh metric tonnes two years ago.

Goyal said many ships and containers have been blocked in several European countries fol-



Piyush Goyal

steps are required to be taken it will take action," he told the members in the upper house.

He also said that the government is in dialogue with exporters and importers and those involved in business and various measures are being taken to ensure that payments come on time and businesses do not suffer.

"India, despite the constraints due to Covid, has achieved exports of USD 400 billion, which is historic as India has never achieved this figure," he also said.

The minister said India has been continuously monitoring the opportunities this opens up for India and Indian exporters.

RBI central board discusses impact of geopolitical crises

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

Amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India on Friday discussed the overall impact of current global geopolitical crises on the Indian economy.

The 594th meeting of the Central Board of Directors of RBI was held on Friday at Bengaluru under the Chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das, the RBI said.

"The Board in its meeting reviewed the various areas of operation of the Bank and the current economic situation, global and domestic challenges including the overall impact of current global geopolitical crises," it said. Further, the Board discussed the Reserve Bank's activities during the cur-



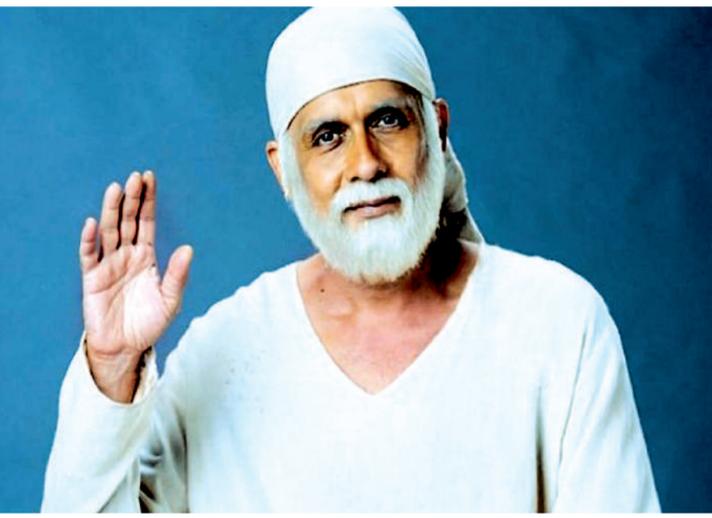
RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das inaugurates the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub in Bengaluru.

rent accounting year 2021-22. The Board also approved the budget for the accounting year 2022-23. Deputy Governors Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao, and T

Rabi Sankar, attended the meeting.

Other Directors of the Central Board Satish K Marathe, S Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi too attended the meeting.

The release further said Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Sanjay Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Financial Services also participated in the meeting.



'Mere Sai: Shraddha Aur Saburi' to highlight it's fourth vachan

The ongoing track of Sony Entertainment Television's Mere Sai: Shraddha aur Saburi has now moved on to highlight Sai's fourth vachan, 'Jo Shirdi Me Aayega, Aapad Door Bhagayega'. The story revolves around Vishnu, who is undergoing bad times along with the rest of his family. While Sai takes him away from the village, his 'punya pratap' comes to his family's aid in his absence. The track further highlights the moral fight between a corrupt police officer, Moreshwar, who has been transferred to Shirdi recently, and Sai, who collects chanda for a famine-stricken family in Shirdi itself. Although Sai warns Moreshwar, he still plans to rob a government relief convoy headed for the same village. Tushar Dalvi, who plays the role of Sai Baba says "Shirdi has always been considered to be a sacred, holy place since time immemorial. Evil always surrounds us, but it is our decision whether we allow for it to impact us. The latest track in the show displays to the audience the greys and errors of human life and human choices, and how these affect society at large. The audience will be compelled to think of the storyline from both perspectives, but I'm confident that they will choose the right path in every walk of life." Tune in to Mere Sai: Shraddha aur Saburi, Monday to Friday at 7 P.M. only on Sony Entertainment Television.

Ronit Bose Roy hosts 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan'!



Every society that strives for peace and harmony has a darker side of reality that is ridden with crime. While we may come to know about many of those crimes on news and social media, there still exists a range of aggravating crimes whose stories remain untold. COLORS brings forth these stories to light with its rousing new crime show 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan'. Hosted by Indian television's icon Ronit Bose Roy, this show depicts a riveting series of 65 episodes covering

the range of crimes that this country witnesses including honour killings, crimes of passion, crimes related to family disputes over various reasons, sexual harassment, 'modern crimes' in the onset of social media amongst others. On turning the host for the show, Ronit Bose Roy mentions, "I feel honoured to have a chance at hosting a show with such a powerful concept. 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan' on COLORS sheds light on soul-stirring crime stories based on real-life incidents.

This venture aims to reflect the hard-hitting realities of our society on the back of its mesmerizing episodes. Narrating these stories gives me a wonderful opportunity to create a deeper connection with them. Kudos to COLORS for taking the initiative of spreading awareness amongst our viewers while also giving them the entertainment that they deserve!" Stay tuned to 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan' every Saturday-Sunday at 10:30 pm only on COLORS.

Priyanka Chopra, Kaitlyn Dever, Chloe Fineman sizzle at Oscars bash

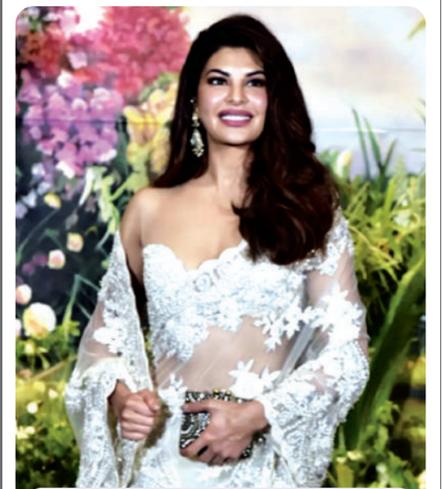
With the Oscars week underway, the celebrations for the prestigious awards ceremony are in full-swing with Oscar parties raising the excitement further. Recently, stars from Hollywood and international cinema, attended several events and the pictures, accessed by 'Variety', are stunning to say the least. Reinaldo Marcus Green, Jamie Dornan, and Donall O Healai were all suited up for the Oscar Wilde Awards at The Ebell of Los Angeles. Another set of pictures, accessed by 'Variety', show Saniyya Sidney and Aunjanue Ellis put their best fashion foot forward at the Essence 15th Annual Black Women in Hollywood Awards at the Beverly Wilshire hotel. Storm Reid was also seen sporting a light yellow coloured gown for the same with British actor Damson Idris donning a cloud grey coloured suit for the said event. Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Aziz Ansari were seen sharing a laugh at the Celebrate South Asian Excellence event at UTA where Kal Penn and Joseph Patel too registered their presence. Justice Smith, Nat Wolff, Chloe Fineman, Tinx, Olly Sholotanat, Kaitlyn Dever, Joey King, Chase Stokes and Kathryn Newton graced the Vanity Fair and BACARDÍ Rum Celebrate Vanities: A Night for Young Hollywood at Musso & Frank Grill. Yvette Nicole Brown and Maitreyi Ramakrishnan were seen acing their fashion game at the Emily's List Oscars Week Discussion at the Four Seasons in Beverly Hills along with Chiney Ogwumike, Amber Tamblyn and Gloria Calderon Kellett.



Fan question Kajal Pisal on portraying a mom to an adult actor on-screen

Actress Kajal Pisal is currently seen in the role of a mother of a young boy (played by Puneet Choksey) who is almost her age, on the show 'Sirf Tum'. She is often questioned by fans on social media on playing a role disproportionate to her age. Talking about it Kajal says: "I'm glad that people are watching and appreciating my work. I don't regret playing a role over my age as audience do understand and classify your real age. Whenever I take up a role I just make sure to see my screen timing and importance in the story. If that is strong and creatively written I do not mind to act. After all we act nothing changes in real life." Kajal went on to reveal that she shares a healthy relationship with everyone on sets. "I'm lucky to have the opportunity to know some beautiful and extremely talented people on set. Everyone of us share healthy bond. We all are in or around same age and young. It's just the role and story we act elder or younger. Offscreen we all are like friends. I'm enjoying portraying my role." Kajal is known for featuring in shows like 'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain', 'Saath Nibhaana Saathiya' and 'Naagin 5', among others.

Working with John was extremely comfortable and fun, says Jacqueline



After 'Housefull 2', 'Race 2' and 'Dishoom', John Abraham and Jacqueline Fernandez will be seen sharing screen space in the upcoming film 'Attack'. The actress says the movie has an extremely strong narrative and that working again with action star was extremely comfortable and fun. The film is about India's first super soldier played by John Abraham. The film is helmed by Lakshya Raj Anand. It also features Rakul Preet Singh. 'Attack' (part 1) is not an ordinary action movie, it showcases sci-fi angle, a complex drama and a narrative with a question mark on how in future India handles terrorism. Talking about the chemistry and working with John once again, Jacqueline said: "It's always a pleasure to work with John, I am really looking forward to the audience's reaction to the film. It's an interesting storyline and extremely strong narrative and working again with John was extremely comfortable and fun." 'Attack' (Part 1) also stars Prakash Raj, Ratna Pathak Shah as they combine their forces to bring the audiences a special adrenaline pumping action entertainer to be watched exclusively in cinemas. Dr. Jayantilal Gada (Pen Studios), John Abraham (JA Entertainment), and Ajay Kapoor Productions present John Abraham's action entertainer 'Attack', which will be released worldwide by Pen Marudhar. The movie is slated to hit the cinemas on April 1.

HOROSCOPE SATURDAY MARCH 26

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18

With no major highs or lows, you will have a balanced day today. You will handle everything with great efficiency and Ganesha gives you a pat on your back for that. Continue to work hard for the day as your efforts will get noticed and not only that, you will also understand the value of your hardships.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Today will not find you in the best of spirits. You need to guard against being sad for the smallest of reasons. Pessimistic thoughts could creep in, owing to some external influences. You need to keep your will-power strong to remain positive. Increasing your awareness will help you see things with more truth and clarity, says Ganesha.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20

Your work and family will vie with each other for your attention. Merry-making will seem a good idea in the evening. Your desire for name and fame will meet with success shortly, maybe even today! Ganesha showers his blessings on you.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21

Passion and romance are in the air, Taurus, so make the most of the great atmosphere! Everyone seems to be in a festive mood. You feel close to others and feel profound gratitude for the loved ones in your life. Consider leaving work early to go home to snuggle up close with your special someone. Be sure to be extra open about sharing your feelings today.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21

It's time you took stock of your personal life. Is there someone you want to propose but are afraid to do so? Ganesha advises you not to let the fear of rejection stop you from making an effort. There are strong indications that you will be accepted if you speak your heart today.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22

Ganesha believes that you are likely to have a heightened interest in the study of philosophy and the working of the metaphysical world. This may be mere curiosity or a part of your effort to improve your professional skills. You ability to read the human mind and understand human nature better than anyone else will help you take charge when needed.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23

It's fun, fun and more fun on the horizon! Ganesha foresees you taking time out for some leisure and frolic today. Broaden your horizon with a bit of travel since you are very likely to be going on a small trip to recharge your batteries. When it comes to work 'ac' which you seem to have put on hold 'ac' it is a matter of pride for you to play the role that you essay within your company. But for today, don't forget the sunscreen, reminds Ganesha.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22

Contemplating on past successes will help you gather the resources for achieving more of it in the near future. New contacts will help you make considerable headway on the road to success. Ganesha says your amiable nature will help you in getting along easily with people.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23

Ganesha says that you need to be more careful in your work field as your enemies or your competitors will try to pull you down today. You will have to be very careful in making business agreements or negotiations regarding give and take in the business. You will see your beloved grow distant from you today.

Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22

Long pending task of getting your home renovated may begin today. There are a couple of object de art that have caught your eyes and you wish to decorate your home with those artefacts. You may even plan a small celebration to share your home's new look! A great day indeed.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 31

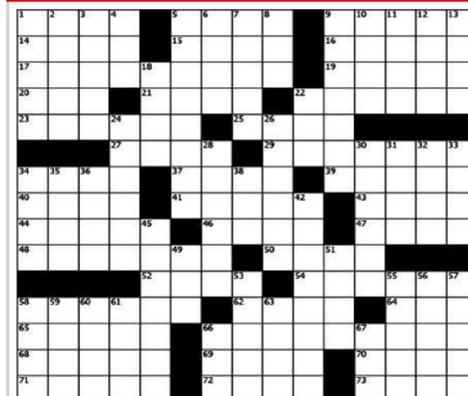
Beauty therapies or a new hair do, pick one; makeover and personal grooming is on your mind. Once you decide to shop, nothing in the world can stop you. You have decided to de-stress yourself with shopping. Clothes and jewellery is what your wardrobe is awaiting for, says Ganesha.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20

Generally, it is difficult for you to maintain a cool head over your shoulders, especially during the stressful times. But, to everyone's surprise, you will display remarkable composure while dealing with challenges today, feels Ganesha.

CROSSWORD

250



ACROSS

- Lady's undergarment
- Mushroom part
- Highway curves
- Agreeable
- Band instrument
- Figure
- Started
- Roman gown
- Poor grade
- Insult

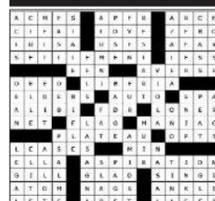
DOWN

- Discover
- Sign up
- Ocean current
- Horse strap
- Type of paint
- Computer output
- Klutz's cry
- Fathered
- Biblical locale
- Musical tones
- On cloud
- Big

- Pepper's companion
- Behaves
- Enormous
- Sensed
- Profit and
- Uses the oven
- Decree
- Rocker
- Turner
- Exclamation of discovery
- France's capital
- Reckless one
- Occurrence
- Greedy deity
- Hereditary carrier
- Salamanders
- Left
- Native minerals

- Rope loops
- Fiesta item
- Funnyman
- Idle
- Tenant's monthly bill
- Summer coolers
- Sandwich store
- Eden resident
- Duration
- School group (abbr.)
- Most strict
- Signs up
- Male child
- Burden
- Gape
- Piggy bank user
- Old pronoun
- tax
- Unclosed
- Great review
- Depicted
- Isn't, slangily
- Wrinkle remover
- Grass moisture
- Id's partner

SOLUTION 249



IPL returns home bigger than ever

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

Indian cricket's crown jewel, the IPL, is back home: bigger, better and longer. It will be the first time since 2011 that 10 teams be fighting it out for the most coveted T20 trophy in world cricket.

Two new entrants, Lucknow Supergiants and Gujarat Titans, fetching a combined price of approximately USD 1.7 billion shows that brand IPL keeps getting bigger. It took 14 years but the league has now well and truly gone global.

The owners of the iconic Manchester United also wanted a slice of the IPL pie but lost to the RPSG Group and Britain-based CVC group on the bidding table.

With the COVID situation under control in the country, the board's top brass can breathe easy and after a two year gap, IPL is set to be held in India in its entirety with at least 25 percent capacity of crowd allowed in stadiums this season.

The number of games have been increased to 74 from 60 with the addition of new teams, extending the IPL window to over two months.

All teams however will play 14 games each like in the past but will a longer tournament impact the

intensity and quality of cricket, only time will tell. The board has learnt from the harsh lessons of the 2021 edition when the tournament had to be suspended midway due to the raging pandemic and could only be completed in the UAE four months later.

No air travel will be required this season with all the league games to be organised in four venues in Maharashtra (three Mumbai and one in Pune).

For curators, maintaining the trueness of pitches over two months will be a challenge but at least the half of the tournament is set to be a high-scoring affair.

One can expect more bounce on the red soil pitches of Wankhede, CCI and D Y Patil while the black soil surface in Pune is expected to offer more turn.

With Supergiants and Titans building their teams from scratch and the existing franchises having to release a chunk of their players before the mega auction, the 2022 edition can well be one of the most competitive in tournament history.

Ahead of the World Cup to be played in Australia later this year, the IPL will also decided fate of a few Indian players.



Farewell season for Dhoni?

Dhoni has done a Dhoni by giving up CSK captaincy three days before their opening game. While his decision did not come as a shock, it has fuelled speculation whether he would feature in all the games. The 40-year-old stepping aside has also put the spotlight on Ravindra Jadeja, who will be captaining a high-profile team for the very first time. Jadeja's stellar form in international cricket over the last couple of years would surely give him the confidence to lead from the front and in times of crisis, he will anyway have Dhoni by his side.

No home advantage for MI?

Rohit Sharma has insisted that there will be no home advantage for Mumbai Indians but he and the likes of Kieron Pollard, Suryakumar Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Ishan Kishan won't certainly mind playing in their own backyard. Having let go of Pandya brothers and Trent Boult, the team doesn't look the same formidable outfit at least on paper. At Royal Challengers Bangalore, all eyes will be on Virat Kohli like usual, though, he has happily relinquished the captaincy. With the burden of leading the side off his shoulders, the former India skipper is expected to come back to his batting best and play an important role in taking the team to its elusive title. Longtime CSK batter Faf du Plessis has been given the captaincy with a hope that he would be able to do what has not been done before at RCB.

Time for Iyer, K L and Hardik to enhance captaincy credentials

Having led Delhi Capitals to their first ever final, Iyer was sidelined from captaincy following a shoulder injury. He decided to go back into the auction and KKR paid big money for his services. The stylish batter has shown rich form for India of late and he will be hoping to carry that into the IPL and inspire KKR to their third title. His India teammate Hardik Pandya's progress will be followed closely over the course of the IPL. Having lost his place in the Indian team due to his inability to bowl regularly following a back surgery in 2019, Hardik has a point to prove. It is still not clear if he would bowl often in the IPL, making his form with the bat all the more crucial. Either way, he will have to come up with something special to resurrect his career and also ensure first timers Gujarat put up a competitive show. Hardik's close friend K L Rahul will also need to inspire a young unit. Success eluding him as captain, both at India and IPL level, the opener will be eyeing another prolific season with the bat besides leading an exciting bunch of cricketers.

Lyon spins Australia to series-clinching win in Lahore

Lahore, Mar 25 (AP):

Pakistan failed Friday to hold out in the last session of the third and final cricket test which Australia won by 115 runs to clinch the series 1-0.

The hosts were dismissed for 235 in their second innings on a worn-out wicket as Australia enjoyed a successful end to its first test series in Pakistan since 1998. Resuming on 73-0, and entering the final session at 190-5, Pakistan collapsed against veteran off-spinner Nathan Lyon, who got plenty of turn and bounce from a fifth-day wicket and finished with 5-83 from 37 overs. Australia was rewarded for setting Pakistan a challenging target of 351 after boldly declaring its second innings at 227-3. Pakistan had conceded a decisive 123-run lead after scoring 268 in its first in-



Australia's players pose with the trophy after winning the third and final Test cricket match against Pakistan, claiming historic series win at the Gaddafi Cricket Stadium in Lahore on Friday.

nings in reply to Australia's 391. Lyon bowled an unchanged marathon spell of 28 overs on the last day. Pacer Pat Cummins clean bowled No. 11 Naseem Shah to finish off Pakistan.

Opener Imam-ul-Haq (70) and captain Babar Azam

(55) scored fighting half centuries but the rest of Pakistan's batters crumbled against the menacing reverse swing of Cummins, who took 3-23, and the sharp spin of Lyon.

The first test ended in a tame draw at Rawalpindi

where the pitch was rated as below average by the ICC. Babar's brilliant 196 in more than 10 hours denied Australia a win at Karachi where Pakistan played out 171.4 overs in more than five sessions and forced an epic draw.

Australia survive Bangladesh scare, finish on top

Wellington, Mar 25 (PTI):

Australia overcame a few anxious moments before getting past Bangladesh by five-wickets, a win that ensured them a top-of-the-table finish after the group stage matches of the ICC Women's World Cup here on Friday.

Australia took regular wickets through spin to reduce Bangladesh to 135 for six from their 43 overs after the start of the contest was delayed by rain.

Spin continued to dominate as Bangladesh took the ball, Salma Khatun reducing Australia to 41 for four at the first drinks break before a defiant Beth Mooney guided her side with an unbeaten 66.

Put into bat, Bangladesh made a steady start before



the spin of Ashleigh Gardner and Jess Jonassen was introduced.

Gardner got the first wicket, dismissing Murshida Khatun for 12 from 17 balls as Rachael Haynes held on to a good catch.

That brought Fargana Hoque to the crease and she became the first Bangladeshi woman to

pass 1000 ODI runs before nicking Annabel Sutherland behind to Alyssa Healy for eight.

Australia then smartly reviewed to have Sharmin Akhter given out LBW as Bangladesh slipped to 58 for three.

The experienced Nigar Sultana and Rumana Ahmed played calmly, taking five runs off the next

25 balls before Nigar departed for seven from 30 balls when trying to relieve the dot ball pressure.

Bangladesh continued to build promising partnerships. Rumana and Lata Mondol added 33 for the fifth wicket before the former was caught by Jonassen at mid-off for Gardner, leaving the Tigresses on 95 for five with 8.4 overs remaining.

Lata was the final wicket to fall as Megan Schutt had her stumped after she top-scored with 33 from 63 balls, wicketkeeper Alyssa Healy whipping off the non-existent bails after they were removed due to the blustery conditions.

Salma was there at the end on 15 not out from 23 balls as Bangladesh set Australia 136 to win, no easy task given the weather.

Another win for Naomi Osaka at Miami Open



Miami Gardens, Mar 25 (AP):

Two days, two wins and making it look easy. Naomi Osaka sure seems like herself again. The former world No. 1 is through to the third round at the Miami Open, easily handling 13th-seeded Angelique Kerber of Germany 6-2, 6-3 on Thursday. It was every bit as one-sided as the score made it seem, with Osaka winning 89% of first-serve points and 61 of the 100 points played in the match overall.

It means a lot to me, said Osaka, unseeded in Miami after falling to No. 77 in the world because she's missed considerable time to focus on her mental health in recent years. She's the first high-seeded player I've beaten this year. Osaka's win set the tone for a day where 11 seeded women were ousted from the

tournament, a stunning series of results headlined by Romania's Irina-Camelia Begu defeating top-seeded Aryna Sabalenka 6-4, 6-4. Begu had lost 17 of her last 18 matches against top-10 players entering Thursday. Also gone: No. 3 seed Anett Kontaveit. She lost to Ann Li, a 21-year-old American who got her first win over a top-10 opponent a 6-0, 3-6, 6-4 triumph. Kerber is ranked 15th in the world; the last time Osaka defeated a top-15 ranked player was when she topped then-No. 10 Serena Williams in the 2021 Australian Open semifinals. Osaka went on to win that tournament and hasn't been to a final since, but her win over Kerber who had been 4-1 against Osaka entering Thursday certainly made her look the part of a Miami contender.

IPL 2022: The ones who let their bat do the talking

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

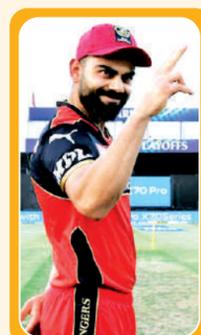
The T20 format tailor-made for them, batters always attract attention for the sheer entertainment value they bring in form of huge sixes and crushing boundaries. PTI takes a look at batters, who are expected to shine and make a difference to the success of their respective teams in the cash-rich event, starting Saturday.



Shreyas Iyer

business and playing on home grounds will give him an edge while making strategies. The 27-year-old India batter has played 4 Tests, 26 ODIs and 36 T20s.

The newly-appointed Kolkata Knight Riders skipper can single-handedly turn the game on its head. The Mumbaier, who has played 87 IPL matches and has scored 2,375 runs, will be eager to prove a point in his new role. His ability to soak the pressure and play a fearless brand of cricket makes him one of the best in business.



Virat Kohli

Having shed the burden of captaincy, star India and Royal Challengers Bangalore player Kohli would be expected to play more freely and regain the touch. The top-order batter, when in full flow, is a treat to watch and will be more than keen to prove a point as an enforcer. Having piled up 6,283 runs from 207 matches, Virat is the all-time leading run-scorer in the lucrative event.



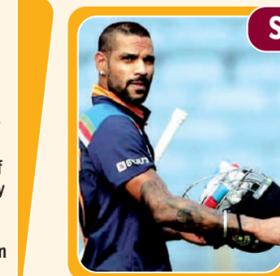
Jos Buttler

The England wicket-keeper batter, one of the most destructive willow wielders of his era, would turn out for Rajasthan Royals again. The right-handed batter has 1,968 runs from 65 matches and is a proven match-winner for his team and his franchise. He would also have the advantage of getting to play on batting-friendly tracks in Mumbai and Pune and has the ability to pummel any good attack into submission when in the mood with the range of shots at his disposal. Buttler's form would be crucial if RR have to win a second title and his experience of playing 88 T20s would also come in handy.



David Warner

The swashbuckling Australian opener returns to Delhi Capitals, from where he started his IPL journey. The aggressive stroke-maker has played 150 IPL matches and amassed 5,449 runs in the tournament, playing for various franchises. He has four hundreds and 50 half centuries and thus is one to look forward to. A destructive opener, who will not have any captaincy pressure, would rather play more freely and his role would be vital for his side.



Shikhar Dhawan

The left-handed opener, who has been picked by Punjab Kings, has scored over 450 runs in each of the last six editions of the tournament. Dhawan with 5,784 runs is second only to Virat Kohli in terms of most runs scored in the history of IPL and the southpaw needs 216 runs to breach the 6,000-run mark. At his new franchise, Gabbar' would be keen to justify his price tag of Rs 8.25 crore.

Peace and tranquillity in border areas must for normal ties: India to China at Jaishankar-Wang talks

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

India on Friday clearly told China to complete the disengagement process in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh quickly, asserting that bilateral ties cannot return to normal if the situation in the border areas is "abnormal".

In his nearly three-hour "candid" talks with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar conveyed that restoration of normalcy in ties will require restoration of peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

"If we are both committed to improving our ties then this commitment must find full expression in the ongoing disengagement talks," Jaishankar said at a media briefing shortly after the talks.

Describing the current situation as a "work in progress", he also said that relations between India and China have been "disturbed" as a result of



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar addresses the media during a press conference, after his meeting with China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi, in New Delhi.

the Chinese actions in April 2020. Wang flew into Delhi from Kabul on Thursday evening in an unannounced trip in the first highest-level visit to India by a Chinese leader after the border standoff in eastern Ladakh erupted nearly two years ago.

Referring to a series of military and diplomatic talks between the two sides, the external affairs minister said progress has been achieved on several friction points from the disengagement perspec-

tives and this process needs to be taken forward.

"I would describe our current situation as a work in progress, obviously at a slower pace than desirable and my discussions with Foreign Minister Wang Yi today were aimed at expediting that process," Jaishankar said. To a question, Jaishankar referred to the presence of a large number of troops in the border region in contravention of laid down norms and agreements. "If you ask

me if our relationship is normal today, my answer to you is no, it is not. It cannot be normal if the situation in border areas is abnormal," Jaishankar said. "Foreign Minister Wang spoke about China's desire to return to normalcy (in the relationship) while also referring to the larger significance of our ties. I was equally forthcoming that India wants a stable and predictable relationship but restoration of normalcy will obviously require a restoration of peace and tranquillity," he added. Jaishankar said the military and diplomatic talks produced positive outcomes but noted that the situation in the region was not normal.

"We have a situation where peace and tranquillity in the border areas have been disturbed. So the situation there is not normal. (if) the situation there is not normal, if peace and tranquillity is the foundation of the basis of how we are going forward, then obviously that is also disturbed," he said.

MHA calls meeting to finalise Assam-Meghalaya border pact on Mar 29

Shillong, Mar 25 (PTI) : The Ministry for Home Affairs (MHA) has fixed March 29 to finalise the border agreement signed between Assam and Meghalaya in January to settle the dispute in six of the 12 areas of difference, an official said on Friday. Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma and his Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma, along with senior officials of the two North-eastern neighbours, were asked to be in the national capital for the meeting. "We have received a formal communication from the MHA about the meeting on finalising the border agreement on March 29 in New Delhi. The CMs and border committee officials of both states have been asked to be prepared for the tripartite

meeting," an official of the Meghalaya Chief Minister's Office here told PTI. The meeting was earlier scheduled to be held on March 27 but it was postponed by two days. The chief ministers of Meghalaya and Assam signed a memorandum of understanding at Guwahati on January 29 to resolve the boundary dispute in six locations Tarabari, Gizang, Hahim, Boklapara, Khanapara-Pillangkata and Ratacherra in the first phase. It was then sent to the MHA for examination. Meghalaya was carved out of Assam as a separate state in 1972 and it had challenged the Assam Reorganisation Act, 1971, leading to disputes related to 12 areas in different parts of the shared 884.9 km border.

BJP MP moves resolution in RS to set up research foundations to revive ancient Indian knowledge

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

BJP MP Rakesh Sinha moved a resolution in Rajya Sabha on Friday, urging to establish research foundations at state and district level to revive the ancient Indian knowledge tradition.

The resolution, moved during the private member's business hours, suggested that these new institutes be built on the lines of the National Research Foundation established under the New Education Policy.

The resolution suggested to make it mandatory for all universities and colleges of the country to collect information about the

local culture, various streams of knowledge and other information.

It also proposed to provide options to students of all disciplines to join this research in part-time mode and give them a diploma or degree for this work.

It has also suggested to grant national recognition to traditions pertaining to art, literature, culture, discussions and festivals which have been existing for hundreds of years.

While moving the resolution on the floor of the house, Sinha said India is an ancient civilisation which has developed through thousands of years of civilizational

LIQUOR FAIR



Devotees distribute liquor during annual fair at the shrine of Baba Rode Shah in the village of Bhoma Wadala, some 35 kms from Amritsar, Friday. During the course of the mela, it is common to see devotees, making their way to the samadhi with bottles and containers full of liquor, which are distributed as prasad.

'Give sensitive reply to sensitive questions'

JD(U) MP to Law Minister in LS

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI): JD(U) leader Rajiv Ranjan Singh on Friday objected to Law Minister Kiren Rijiju's reply in Lok Sabha to a question on voting rights of prisoners, saying he should be mindful of facts and sensitivity of questions while answering them. This came after the minister, while replying to a question by LJP member Chandan Singh, said every elector has the right to vote in elections in the country and those in prisons are also encouraged to vote but voting cannot be made compulsory for the electors. "Minister said that anyone, either in jail or out of jail, has right to vote. In my understanding it is beyond facts," Rajiv Singh, who is also the JD(U)

president, said while objecting to the minister's reply during the Question Hour.

When a person is sent to judicial custody, his fundamental rights are seized and voting is a fundamental right, he said.

"So I want to request the minister that a sensitive answer should be given for sensitive questions," Rajiv Singh said. Responding to the JD(U) member's statement, Rijiju said all citizens are equal for the government and he cannot say, as the law minister, that under-trials do not have voting right. "When a matter is subjudiced, we cannot comment," the minister said, adding that people contest elections from behind bars and also win.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



Women holding a kalash on their heads take out a religious procession from Gandhi Nagar Shani Sai Temple, in Kanpur, Friday.

CBI granted consent to probe bribe allegations by Malik: J&K LG

Jammu, March 25 (PTI):

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that the CBI has been given consent to probe allegations made by former J&K governor Satya Pal Malik of being offered bribe to clear two files when he was in office. He said that the probe will make "everything crystal clear". Malik had in October last year claimed that he was offered Rs 300 crore in bribe to clear a file each belonging to "Ambani" and an "RSS-affiliated man" during his tenure. At present the Meghalaya governor, Malik said that he cancelled the deals, and praised Prime

Minister Narendra Modi for supporting his decision by saying there is no need to compromise on corruption. "If someone sitting on such a high post has said anything, then it needs to be probed. We have sent our consent to CBI to probe both allegations, Sinha told reporters at a press conference here.

Sinha said that he considered the allegations and decided that truth needs to come out. Malik in his allegation last year had said that he was offered a bribe of Rs 150 crore each for clearing two files, one of them related to Ambani and other to a former minister in the previous Mehbooba Multi-led (PDP-BJP coalition) government.

Gita not a religious book, but one on philosophy: Acting NCM chief

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Officiating chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities Syed Shahezadi on Friday said the Bhagavad Gita is not a religious book but one on philosophy, days after the Gujarat government announced making it a part of school syllabus.

The Gujarat government last week announced in the state Assembly that the Bhagavad Gita would be a part of the school syllabus for Classes 6 to 12 across the state from the academic year 2022-23.

A few days later, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj

Bommai said a decision on introducing the Bhagavad Gita in school curriculum would be taken after discussions as he maintained that the scripture imparts moral values.

Asked about the Gujarat government's move and other states talking about introducing the Bhagavad Gita in school curriculum, Shahezadi said, in her personal opinion, it "is not a religious book, it is a philosophy book".

"It can be looked at from the point of view of philosophy. Studies are also being done on it abroad," she said at a press conference at the NCM headquarters here.

Ex-MLAs to get pension for one term only: Punjab CM

Chandigarh, Mar 25 (PTI):

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Friday said former MLAs will now get pension for only one term, doing away with the practice of drawing the benefit for each term served by them. "Ex-MLAs in Punjab, even if they have won twice, five times or ten times, they will now get pension for one term only," said Mann in a video message while adding that several MPs are also getting pension for remaining MLAs earlier. The CM said money saved from it will be spent on the welfare of people. "Our political leaders, including MLAs, seek votes from you with folded hands by saying that give us a chance to serve you," Mann said addressing peo-

ple. But you will be surprised to know that several MLAs who won thrice, four times or five times and then after losing the elections or after not getting tickets for contesting the polls, get lakhs of rupees in pension per month, Mann said.

"Somebody gets Rs 3.50 lakh and somebody gets Rs 4.50 lakh and somebody gets Rs 5.25 lakh as pension. It puts a financial burden of crores of rupees on the exchequer," Mann said. A reduction will also be made in their family pensions as well, Mann stated. Mann said he has given necessary directions to the officers concerned in this regard. An MLA gets a pension of Rs 75,000 per month for one term. Thereafter, an additional

66 per cent of the pension amount is given for each subsequent term. A few days ago, SAD patriarch Parkash Singh Badal, who is 11-time legislator, had said he will not accept pension as an ex-MLA. The nonagenarian had asked the Punjab government and the Vidhan Sabha speaker to divert his pension to some social work, "preferably to help some needy girl students in their education". MPs should contribute Rs 5 crore each from MPLADS funds to help rehabilitate Kashmiri Pandits: AAP member New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI) AAP member Sanjay Singh on Friday suggested that all MPs should contribute Rs 5 crore each from their MPLADS funds to help rehabilitate

Kashmiri Pandits. Participating in a discussion in Rajya Sabha on a resolution moved by BJP MP Rakesh Sinha urging the government to establish research foundations at the state and district levels to revive the glorious Indian ancient knowledge tradition, Singh said that more needs to be done than just paying lip service to the plight of Kashmiri Pandits.

"What steps has the government taken in the last seven years to rehabilitate Kashmiri Pandits? We should discuss that...please pass a resolution in the House, every member should give his MPLAD fund of Rs 5 crore for the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits. I am ready for that," he stated.

BJP's Roopa Ganguly demands President's Rule in WB over Birbhum deaths



New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

BJP's Rajya Sabha member Roopa Ganguly on Friday demanded the imposition of President's Rule in West Bengal in the wake of violence and deaths in the state's Birbhum district, leading to a massive protest by the TMC members and a brief

adjournment of the House proceedings.

Ganguly broke down as she raised the issue of eight people, including two children, being burnt to death in Bogtui village in Birbhum, saying to be born in West Bengal is not a crime.

During the Zero Hour (morning session), she raised the issue and demanded that President's Rule be imposed in the state.

"(People) were burnt to death.... There is no trust in police," Ganguly said, adding that the autopsy report points out that the victims were first beaten up and locked up, before being burnt to death.



BRIEF



A model walks on the ramp showcasing the creation of a designer during Lakme Fashion Week, in New Delhi, Friday.

Compulsory voting

New Delhi: There is no proposal to bring a law to enforce compulsory voting in the country, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju informed the Lok Sabha on Friday. In a written reply, Rijiju said there are no plans to make voting certificate mandatory to avail government benefits and schemes and induce people to come out in large numbers to exercise their franchise.

Naxal surrenders

Bijapur: A 'deputy commander' of the naxals' military platoon surrendered in Chhattisgarh's insurgency-hit Bijapur district on Friday, police said. Mithu Kashyap, deputy commander of military platoon-16 under the Indravati Area Committee of the rebels, surrendered before Bijapur Additional Superintendent of Police Dr Pankaj Shukla, said a senior official.

TN tremors

Chennai: In a span of less than two hours, as many as three slight earthquakes were experienced early on Friday in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul region, according to the National Center for Seismology. The magnitude of the three micro earthquakes ranged between 1.2 and 1.5 on the Richter's scale and these were felt off Oddanchatram in Dindigul District, about 464 km from here. The first tremor was felt at 4.33 AM (Magnitude 1.2), followed by one at 6.04 AM and another at 6.07 AM and the magnitude of both these subsequent tremors were 1.5 and the depth of all the three were 10 km, according to the NCFS website.

Birbhum violence

New Delhi: The National Commission for Minorities will seek a report from the West Bengal chief secretary over the Birbhum violence that claimed eight lives earlier this week, following which it will send a team to the state, its officiating chairperson Syed Shaheezadi said on Friday. Eight people, including two children, were charred to death in Bogtui village of the state's Birbhum district in the suspected fallout of a TMC panachayat official's murder. Asked about the issue at a press conference, Shaheezadi said, "What is happening in Bengal is saddening."

Weather
High 38 Low 22

MARKET
NIFTY 17,153.00
SENSEX 57,362.20

BULLION
GOLD 51,853
SILVER 68,801

Chh'garh, Rajasthan CMs meet over looming power crisis

■ Due to coal shortage

Raipur, Mar 25 (PTD):

Amid a looming power crisis due to depleting coal stocks in Rajasthan, its Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Friday met his Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel in capital Raipur seeking to clear hurdles in the development of coal blocks allotted to the former's state.

According to officials, the Centre had allocated three coal blocks in Surguja district of Chhattisgarh to Rajasthan Raja Viduyt Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RVUNL) but production is underway in only one of them.

After a meeting between the two Congress CMs, Baghel told reporters further action to facilitate



Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel presents a bouquet to Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, during their meeting, in Raipur.

coal supply to Rajasthan will be taken as per the rules while keeping in view the interest of local residents of the mining area as well as environment conservation.

Gehlot, who also accompanied him in the press conference, said he hoped Baghel will soon take a de-

cision in this regard as his state, otherwise, would suffer power outage.

The meeting, which was held in Baghel's official residence here, was attended by Rajasthan's energy minister and Chhattisgarh cabinet ministers and officials from both the states.

The CM of Rajasthan

and his energy minister have reached Raipur today and expressed their concern over the supply of coal. Letters have been exchanged in this regard in the past with the Rajasthan government as well as the Centre. The mines were allocated to Rajasthan government by the Government of India and further procedure in this direction is underway as per the rules, Baghel said.

The process (of development of mine) takes time. After allotment of the mine, environmental clearance and several other issues as per the guidelines of Centre and state Government are needed to be addressed, the CM said, adding that his government never compromises with the interest of local people and environment in mining areas.

Highest penal actions for fraudulent hospital transactions taken in Chh'garh

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

Chhattisgarh accounts for the highest number of penal actions taken for fraudulent hospital transactions with regard to claims under the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana followed by Jharkhand and Uttarakhand, the government said on Friday.

Penal action has been taken for 8,586 hospital transactions in Chhattisgarh, 3,767 in Jharkhand, 3,016 in Uttarakhand, 2,065 in Punjab, 503 in Madhya Pradesh, 159 in Kerala and 140 in Bihar, Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar said in a reply to a written question in Lok Sabha.

The government has provided details of penal action taken in respect of hospital transactions in 16 states and union territories (UTs). To a question on

whether the government has taken note of fraudulent transactions recorded at empanelled healthcare providers under the AB-PMJAY, Pawar said the scheme is governed on a zero-tolerance approach to any kind of fraud vis-a-vis suspect or non-genuine medical treatment claims, impersonation and up-coding of treatment packages or procedures, among others. The National Health Authority, the implementing agency of the AB-PMJAY, has issued a comprehensive set of anti-fraud guidelines, and anti-fraud advisories are regularly issued to states and UTs, the minister said. The National Anti-Fraud Unit (NAFU) has been created at the NHA for overall monitoring and implementation of an anti-fraud framework supported by State Anti-Fraud Units (SAFUs), she said.

Pawar said that all claims require mandatory sup-

porting documents along with on-bed patient photo before approval and payment. Aadhaar-based biometric verification of a beneficiary at the time of admission and discharge has been launched at all private hospitals, according to the minister's reply.

Use of artificial intelligence and machine learning has been made for comprehensive fraud analytic solutions to detect fraud pro-actively, and develop algorithms that can be used on large volume of data to identify suspect transactions and entities and risk scoring of hospitals and claims, the minister said.

According to the terms and conditions of empanelment, hospitals cannot deny treatment to genuine beneficiaries of the scheme. Medical treatment claims are filed by private hospitals with insurance companies or trusts, as per the case.

Cal HC orders CBI probe into Birbhum killings

Kolkata, Mar 25 (PTD):

Observing that the killing of eight people in Birbhum district earlier this week has shaken the conscience of society, the Calcutta High Court on Friday directed the CBI to take over the investigation into the case from the SIT formed by the West Bengal government and submit a progress report before it on the next date of hearing.

The court, which registered a suo motu petition in the case on Wednesday, said that facts and circumstances demand that the investigation be handed over to the CBI in the interest of justice and also to instil confidence in the society.

Opposition parties welcomed the high court order for CBI investigation into the violence alleging that the state police, acting

on the behest of the Trinamool Congress government, was trying to hush up the matter.

The TMC questioned whether the agency, which is under the union government, can be trusted with an impartial probe claiming the BJP has been using the CBI to corner the opposition parties.

The Mamata Banerjee-led party said all cooperation would be extended to the CBI but there would be mass movements if the saffron party uses it to harass TMC leaders.

Miscrants had on March 21 set 10 houses on fire in Bogtui village in Birbhum district, killing at least eight people including women and children, in a suspected fallout of the murder of a ruling Trinamool Congress leader and upa-pradhan' (deputy chief) of the local panchayat.

Adityanath takes oath as Uttar Pradesh CM

■ Maurya, Pathak to be deputy CMs

Lucknow, Mar 25 (PTD):

Yogi Adityanath on Friday took oath as Uttar Pradesh chief minister for the second term in a mega ceremony attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and top BJP leaders.

Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak were also sworn in as deputy chief ministers.

Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel administered the oath to Adityanath in a ceremony also attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and BJP national president J P Nadda.

Chief ministers of BJP-ruled states, including Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, attended the swearing-in ceremony. Adityanath was



BJP leader Yogi Adityanath takes oath as Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, for the second consecutive term, in Lucknow.

unanimously elected the BJP legislature party leader in UP on Thursday, after which he staked claim to form the government. The swearing-in ceremony was held at Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium, the venue having the capacity to accommodate 50,000 people. Suresh Khanna, Surya Pratap Sahi, Swatandra Dev

Confident UP gov't will write another new chapter of progress: Modi

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday expressed confidence that the Yogi Adityanath government in its fresh term will write another new chapter of progress in Uttar Pradesh while fulfilling people's aspirations. Congratulating Adityanath and his ministerial colleagues on taking oath, Modi said the state's development journey marked several important milestones in his government's first five years.

Singh, Baby Rani Maurya and IAS-turned politician A K Sharma were administered oath as cabinet ministers. BJP ally Ashish Patel of Apna Dal (Sonelal) and NISHAD party chief Sanjay Nishad also took given oath as cabinet ministers.

Over 1 cr children 12-14 yrs age-group administered Covid vaccine first dose

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

Over one crore children in the age-group of 12-14 years have been administered the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Friday.

The vaccination for this age group started on March 16 with Biological E's intramuscular vaccine Corbevax, two doses of which are to be administered 28 days apart.

As of March 1 last year, there were 4.7 crore children aged 12 and 13 years in the country. "Over one crore children between the age group of 12-14 have received their first dose of #COVID19 vaccine. Congratulations to all my



A healthcare worker administers a dose of the Covid-19 preventive vaccine to a student in the age group of 12-14 years, at a government school, in South Dinajpur, Friday.

young warriors who got vaccinated. Let's continue this momentum!" Mandaviya tweeted.

The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country has exceeded 182.55 crore, according to provisional reports till 7 am. The countrywide

vaccination drive was rolled out on January 16 last year with healthcare workers getting inoculated in the first phase. Vaccination of frontline workers started from February 2 last year.

The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination commenced on March 1 last year for people over 60 years of age and those aged 45 and above with specified co-morbid conditions. India launched vaccination for all people aged more than 45 years from April 1 last year. The government then decided to expand its vaccination drive by allowing everyone above 18 years of age to be inoculated against the viral disease from May 1 last year.

LS passes Finance Bill: completes budgetary exercise for FY23

New Delhi, Mar 24 (PTD):

The Lok Sabha on Friday approved the Finance Bill, which gives effect to new taxation, thus completing the Budgetary exercise for 2022-23 fiscal.

The Finance Bill was approved by the Lower House after accepting 39 official amendments moved by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and rejecting the amendments proposed by the opposition by voice vote. Replying to a discussion on the Finance Bill, Sitharaman said India was probably the only country that did not resort to new taxes to fund the recovery of the economy hit by the COVID pandemic.

SC permits persons with disabilities to apply for opting IPS, DANIPS & IRPFS

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

The Supreme Court Friday allowed persons with disabilities to apply for Indian Police Service (IPS), DANIPS and Indian Railway Protection Force Services (IRPFS) provisionally as their preferences in the civil services and asked them to submit application forms in this regard to the UPSC by April 1.

The apex court passed the order while hearing a plea which has challenged the Centre's August 18, 2021 notification saying it has granted a blanket exemption to all categories of posts under the IPS, Delhi, Daman and Diu, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Police Service (DANIPS) and IRPFS from the

purview of reservation required to be provided thereunder.

A bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar and A S Oka was informed by Attorney General K K Venugopal that the government wants time for filing counter affidavit in the matter. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the bench that two-week time would be required for filing the affidavit.

Senior advocate Arvind Datar, appearing for petitioner National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled', said the exams are over and some of these persons have cleared it. Contending that they had to file their preferences by March 24 evening which was the last date, Datar said they want extension of time for this by a week or two.

He said the petitioner and similarly placed persons may be permitted to submit their application form to the UPSC and their claims can be considered subject to the outcome of the proceedings. We find this request to be most reasonable. Accordingly, we direct the authorities, in particular, secretary general of Union Public Service Commission, to accept hard copies of the applications of the concerned candidates such as the petitioners and similarly placed persons submitted physically on or before April 1 in the office of the secretary general, UPSC before 4 PM, the bench said. The top court also made clear that its order is not to interject the ongoing process in any manner.

Indian medical students abroad with incomplete internship due to compelling situations to get relief

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD)

Indian students pursuing medical studies abroad who could not complete their internship due to compelling situations such as war and the Covid pandemic will now be able to finish their remaining internship in the country, the government said on Friday. This will, however, be subject to the condition that such candidates must have cleared FMGE (screening test), which is mandatory for Indian stu-

dents with foreign medical qualification to practice medicine in India, Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar said in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

She was responding to a question on whether the government proposes to frame a scheme for admission of students who have returned from China and those evacuated from Ukraine to medical colleges in the country and also to allow them to do their internship here.

■ Centre tells SC

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTD):

The Centre on Friday told the Supreme Court that additional attempt in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) civil services examination is not possible.

The apex court is hearing a plea filed by three aspirants who had cleared the UPSC 2021 prelims exam but could not appear in all papers of the main

exam after testing positive for COVID-19 and are now seeking an extra attempt to appear in the exams.

We have filed an affidavit. Additional attempts are not possible. We have considered that, Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, told a bench of Justices A M Khanwilkar and A S Oka. The UPSC had recently told the top court there is no provision for holding re-examination in

case a candidate fails to appear in the test on the scheduled date for any reasons, including ailment or accident incapacitating him to take the exam.

During the hearing on Friday, Bhati said the Centre has filed an affidavit in the matter. The bench said it would hear the matter on March 28 and asked the apex court registry to circulate the affidavit along with the paper book of the case.

Rajasthan MLA runs to mark protest against state government

Jaipur, Mar 25 (PTD):

Independent legislator from Behror assembly constituency Baljeet Yadav on Friday took to running in the Central Park here to protest against issues of unemployment and corruption.

Yadav came live on social media to express his feelings on these issues and announced a 12-hour run as a mark of protest.

He had on Thursday too announced running as protest in the state

Assembly. "I am expressing anger against the state government. I want to tell them about the pain of the youth of the state. There are 23 states where youths of Rajasthan are not being given jobs.

Even the state government is not giving them jobs. So, where will the youth go?" Yadav said.

He said, "People are helpless due to the irregularities in recruitment exams. I cannot fight with these goons so I have to express my anger."

BMC to generate revenue by selling vacant plots

Bhila, Mar 25:

Municipal Corporation is going to sell the vacant plots for generating revenue. This proposal was passed during the first general body meeting of INC Mayor Neeraj Pal's tenure held on Friday. BJP in the opposition raised strong objection over this proposal. BJP Corporators questioned whether the financial condition of the civic body is so weak that it is selling its property. On the other hand, the ruling Congress replied that through this initiative BMC will be able to earn a lump sum income. BJP Corporators stated that many cases of plots sold during SADA tenure are pending yet. They demanded to dispose of those cases before auctioning the new plots.

The proceedings of General Body commenced at 11:00 hrs on Friday. Speaker Girwar Bunt Sahu chaired the meeting. At the outset, Mayor Neeraj Pal placed the



proposals in the house. Opposition Corporators Piyush Mishra, Bhojraj Sinha, Rikesh Sen, Mahesh Verma and independent Corporator Bashisht Narayan Mishra raised strong objections on almost every proposal. They were demanding discussion on each and every topic and were also insisting to discuss other subjects. The ruling party and the opposition got involved in arguments and soon it took shape of a commotion. The resolution for selling the vacant plots was passed with majority. BMC will sell such plots which are lying va-



cant for years and are prone to encroachments. The opposition Corporators raised the issue of 253 plots which were sold by erstwhile SADA and the matter is pending yet. They demanded to resolve this issue before giving approval for selling the fresh vacant plots. They were not willing to support the proposal of auctioning the 1248 vacant plots. The ruling party informed that BMC has auctioned 30 plots and generated revenue of Rs 5 crore. As the Congress is in majority, Mayor Neeraj Pal got the proposal approved.

However, BJP Corporators lodged objection against the proposal in the minutes book. Independent Corporator Bashisht Narayan Mishra raised another significant issue in the house. He said that technical approval of Rs 2.46 crore has been given for the construction of library and reading room in Sector-5 near Shaheed Park. The Administrator of BMC has given administrative approval of Rs 2.49 crore for the expenditure on the work on November 18, 2020. Mishra pointed out that the administrator in Bhilai Municipal

Corporation was appointed on January 21, 2021 then who signed the documents on November 18, 2020. Mayor Neeraj Pal admitted that it was a human error in mentioning dates on the documents.

It needs to be mentioned here that the Bhilai Municipal Corporation is now gearing up to auction the 1248 vacant plots which are categorised as commercial, residential and residential cum commercial in various areas. Mayor Neeraj Pal told that there are 1248 such plots in the city, which will be auctioned. As an Administrator, District Collector had auctioned 25 plots out of which 23 plots have been sold. BMC earned Rs 5 crore by selling plots. Pal added that they have informed the state government through a letter. As the land belongs to the civic body, the amount generated by selling it will remain with BMC and would not be given to the state government.

Man arrested for impersonating CISF Jawan and working in this place

Bhilai, Mar 25:

Police have arrested a man on charges of impersonating a CISF Jawan. The accused with support of another CISF Jawan had worked for 11 months in his place. The incident occurred at CISF RTC, Utai. Later the CISF officials came to know that some fraudster was working in place of a Jawan.

The accused escaped immediately after coming to know that he had been exposed.

According to information, CISF Jawan Ramesh Kumar Yadav (35) son of Kailash Yadav a resident of Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh was arrested and sent to jail on November 25, 2021. He had conspired to position an impersonator at his place during duty.

The Shashi Kumar Yadav (28) son of Jang Bahadur Yadav had worked during February 17, 2021 to September 29, 2021 at CISF RTC in place of Ramesh Yadav. He has been absconding since



then. On the complaint of CISF officials, Utai Police lodged an FIR under section 420, 34 of IPC and search was launched.

During the investigation, on the basis of the statement of the applicant and witnesses and on the basis of the inspection of the incident site, accused Ramesh Kumar Yadav was duly arrested on November 25, 2021 and sent to jail. Another accused Shashi Kumar Yadav was on the run continuously since the date of the incident and was con-

stantly hiding in some or the other place. Recently, Police received a tip off that Shashi Kumar Yadav was seen near Utai. Police team swung into action and he was taken in custody on March 24. On being questioned, he confessed to have committed the crime.

Inspector Navi Monika Pandey, Sub-Inspector KL Gaur, Constables Surendra Singh Chouhan, Akash Tiwari, Mahesh Devangan and Yogesh Sahu played vital role in arresting the accused.

Ex Army Foundation observes martyrdom day



Bhilai, Mar 25: Ex Army Foundation, Bhilai-Durg Chhattisgarh has been organising as well as participating in religious, social and patriotic programs from time to time. In this sequel the Bhilai unit president Harpreet Singh, Vijay Singh, Haripal Singh and Dilip Harishchandra were invited by Hindu Jagat Manch to Hindu Jagat Manch president Raju Mita as guest to participate in the function on the martyrdom

day of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev Singh. While presiding over the function, Ex Army Foundation president paid tribute to the martyrs. The national anthem was sung in the honour, and the story of Shaheed Bhagat Singh was told. On the auspicious occasion of the martyrdom day, discussions were held for providing training of self-defense and recruitment of soldiers in the army.

Dependents of 281 people who died of Covid got compensation till now

From Pradhanmantri Jeevan Jyoti Insurance Scheme

Bhilai, Mar 25:

The banks provide a claim of Rs Two lakh after death of the account holder if he is covered under the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Jeevan Bima Yojana. After the deaths during Covid pandemic, the district administration had instructed the bankers to work expeditiously on these claim settlements. For this purpose, the administration had provided a list of the deceased,

their mobile number and all other information to the bankers. Along with this, telephone calls were also made to the family members through the Call Center. Additional Collector Nupur Rashi Panna discussed and reviewed the claim settlement status during the meeting of DLCC held on Friday. She said that CRGB, SBI, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Indian Bank and other banks have done a good job in claim settlement. The bereaved families got a great relief from this compensation. Bankers should also ensure that the families of the insured account holders get the benefit. For



this purpose, the banks must work fast on the remaining claim settlements. She instructed to review the list once again, get in touch with the bereaved families and make sure that all the claims are settled. District Panchayat CEO Ashwini Devangan,

Bank of Baroda DRM Siddharth Verma, Sukshma Nayak of RBI and other bankers were present.

In the meeting, the Additional Collector instructed to focus more on the priority sector. She said that the cases should be resolved expeditiously.

She said that women of SHGs have great potential to work. When they come to the bankers, the work of opening their accounts and settling their cases should be done fast. The positive initiative from the bankers boosts their confidence. She added that bankers can also fix a particular day in the week for this work. In the meeting, she also appealed to the bankers and officials to provide the benefits of NABARD's schemes to the people. NABARD has provided Agriculture Infrastructure Fund. Through this fund, SHGs and farmers can get loans for agricultural innovations. District

Development Manager, NABARD, M Bada said that he is going to convene a meeting with the officials and an action plan will be prepared so that SHGs can seek loans. NABARD's booklet on Potential Linked Credit Plan 2022-23 was also released on the occasion. In this plan, an amount of Rs 2403.91 crore has been kept for Durg district.

CRGB has settled the maximum 132 cases of Covid Claim, SBI - 76 cases, Bank of Baroda - 17 cases, Bank of India - 31 cases, Indian Bank - 14 cases, Central Bank - 6 cases while Union Bank and IDBI Bank have settled one - one case each.

Obituary**Manbodhi Ram Sinha**

Bhilai: Manbodhi Ram Sinha left for heavenly abode at the age of 75 years on Friday. He was the father-in-law of Risali Mayor Shashi Sinha and father of Chhattisgarh Dadsena Kalar Samaj Jankalyan Samiti General Secretary Ashok Sinha. Last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at his native place in village Limora (Sikosa, Gunderdehi). Risali Municipal Corporation Speaker Keshav Banchor, MIC members, Corporators and officials have mourned his death.

Saraswati Pillai

Bhilai: Saraswati Pillai, wife of late KS Pillai left for heavenly abode at the age of 90 years. She breathed last on March 25 at Shri Shankaracharya Institute of Medical Sciences. She is survived by three sons Sarat, Gireesh, Subhash and two daughters Srilata & Jayshree, sons in law MAG Kurup and Vinod Nayar and daughters in law Mahita, Shalini & Deepa. Last rites of the mortal remains will be performed at Harna Bandha Muktidham around 12 noon on March 26.

Man arrested with huge cache of psychotropic drugs

Bhilai, Mar 25:

The Narcotics Cell of Durg Police is continuously taking action against the people involved in illegal trade of narcotics and psychotropic drugs. In this sequel, police have arrested a person with large amount of psychotropic drugs. The accused is identified as

Narayan Sahu alias Nathu (30) son of Radhe Sahu a resident of Station Maroda. Police have seized about 5000 intoxicating tablets and capsules, narcotic substances worth Rs One lakh.

Police informed that recently they received a tip off regarding a person



who was illegally selling the scheduled psychotropic drugs to the addicts.

Police team led by Inspector Bharti Markam and Inspector Gaurav Tiwari laid a trap and caught the accused red handed while buying and selling the drugs behind

Ranjana Medical Stores in Station Maroda. The accused was duly searched by the team in the presence of witnesses, after searching of the accused, action was taken on the spot by seizing 5000 pieces of intoxicating tablets and capsules. Some important information has been received regarding the source of the drugs, on the basis of which further action is being taken.

ASI Purna Bahadur, Constable Pankaj Chaturvedi, Shahbaz Khan, Upendra Yadav, Anup Singh, Jugnu Singh, Sameem, Panne Lal and Santosh Gupta played vital role in arresting the accused.

BMC demolishes illegal floor of Apna Kesri Lodge

Bhilai, Mar 25:

On Thursday, the enforcement squad of Bhilai Municipal Corporation demolished the sixth floor of Apna Kesari Lodge situated in Shastri Market, Chhawani.

The demolition team of Bhilai Municipal Corporation took action here as the owner was not responding to the notices served by the civic body. The 6th floor, which was under construction at Apna Kesari Lodge, has been demolished. The strict action taken by BMC has triggered panic among the people who have done illegal constructions.

There were repeated complaints of illegal construction in Shastri Market. BMC conducted



an investigation and found that the owner of Apna Kesari Lodge - Prabhavati Gupta wife of Shivaji Prasad Gupta has taken permission from the corporation for the construction of only G+2 i.e. three floors. But she had built additional two stories without permission. The corporation had issued four notices in the

last two months. The owner of the lodge, instead of responding to the notice, had started constructing the 6th floor. When Corporation Commissioner Prakash Surve came to know about this illegal activity, he instructed to take immediate action. The demolition team under the leadership of Sub Engineer

Siddharth Sahu and Assistant Revenue Officer Balakrishna Naidu took action at this lodge on Thursday afternoon. Additional Commissioner Ashok Dwivedi and Deputy Commissioner Sunil Agrahari were specially present. BMC is going to take strict action against other illegally constructed buildings.

BMC Commissioner instructs NULM Managers to improve working

Bhilai, Mar 25:

On Friday, Bhilai Municipal Corporation Commissioner Prakash Sarve chaired a review meeting of the works conducted under National Urban Livelihood Mission. He reprimanded the NULM managers for the slow progress in NULM. He instructed them to improve their working. Nodal Officer and Deputy Commissioner Sunil Agrahari were also present.

BMC Commissioner reviewed the progress of the self-employment programme component, social mobility and institutional development component of Deendayal Antyodaya



Yojana National Urban Livelihoods Mission. When he discovered the slow progress, he warned the concerned officials and instructed the Assistant Project

Officer Phanindra Bose, Mission Manager Ekta Sharma, Nalini Taneja, Aman Patel, Shiba Robert and the CO to improve their working. Commissioner

Prakash Surve stressed on the work of Paira (Paddy Straw) donation for cattle in Gauthan. He asked to focus on the quality of vermicompost in Gauthan. Apart

from this, the Commissioner expressed displeasure over the slow pace in the formation of self-help groups, recurring funds of self-help groups, formation of area level organizations, recurring funds of area level organization and city level organization. He asked the officials to make sustained efforts to achieve 100% progress.

The Commissioner directed the women of self-help groups working at Gauthan to produce more and more products like vegetables, vermi manure, incense sticks, household items and sell them in the market so that women can get employment.

Sunita Chandrakar awarded PhD

Bhilai, Mar 25:

MATS University has awarded PhD to Sunita Chandrakar in the field of Education for her thesis on the topic "Study of the effect of school environment on the problem solving ability and examination anxiety of the students of government and non-government higher secondary schools of Durg district". She completed her thesis under the guidance of Dr Sanjeet Kumar Tiwari, School of Education, MATS University.



Women have broken myth making presence felt in all fields: Guv

Attends Nari Ratna award ceremony in Bilaspur

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Governor Ms. Uikey felicitated and encouraged women from across the state who did excellent work in various fields by attending the "Nari Ratna Samman Samaroh" organized by a media group at a private hotel in Bilaspur. On this occasion, the Vice Chancellor of Atal Bihari University, Dr. A.D.N. Vajpayee, Divisional Commissioner Dr. Sanjay Alang and Inspector General of Police, Ratanlal Dangi were present.

Addressing the program as chief guest, she conveyed her best wishes to all the women. She said that women are doing



good work in all fields and respect for women will definitely boost their morale. Women have broken myths by making their presence felt in every field. Ms. Uikey said that the women of the state are very strong. They have made their unique identity at the national and international level.

Sharing her personal struggles including that of many learned women, she said that moment by moment we have to fight to make our dreams come true. She said that even in the moments of troubles

in life, we should keep our self-confidence as strong as rocks. Governor Ms. Uikey said that the daughters of our country are today hoisting the flags of success in the world of politics, administration, defence, science, economic, social and education.

Women face challenges, but we should not be afraid of them. If you have firm determination then no problem will come in your way. When the courage is high, all the paths become easy. Among the women who were felicitated by the Governor in-

cludes Senior Superintendent of Police Mrs. Parul Mathur, District President of Chhattisgarh Gram Ekta Manch, Divyang Kumari Vijaya Rani, Social Worker Mrs. Vandana Uikey, Social Worker Ms. Monika Izardar, Director of Nidan Sansthan, Dr. Sushma Singh, Gynecologist, Dr. Ujjwala Karare and Director of Bachpan Play School, Dr. Kiran Singh. On the occasion of Nari Ratna Samman ceremony, Governor Ms. Uikey was honoured with a memento.

Collector holds review meeting regarding RGAY

Beneficiaries to get permanent lease of land under the scheme

Survey of the left out areas to be started soon

Raipur, Mar 25: A review meeting of all the authorized officers regarding Rajiv Gandhi Aashray Yojana (RGAY) was held in the meeting hall of the Collectorate premises here today under the chairmanship of Collector Sourabh Kumar. The Collector discussed in detail with all the authorized officers, zone commissioners under Raipur Municipal Corporation, the survey conducted earlier, the



areas left for the survey, the format of the survey and information to be taken from the beneficiaries, claim objection, lease distribution and other topics in detail.

The Collector told the officers that following the instructions given by the State Government, rights should be given to the beneficiaries and it would have to be ensured that all the eligible beneficiaries could get the lease.

The Collector said that the survey work would be started from the first week

of April. The help of patwaris of rural areas should also be taken in the survey so that the survey work can be done systematically within the time limit. He directed the Additional Collector, SDM and Zone Commissioners to update the draft for the survey and form the team etc.

Additional Collector BB Panchbhai informed that on November 19, the homeless people residing in the land of Government Nazul, Local Body, Development Authority

will be eligible for the lease of such occupancy land for which the ration card of that address has been made in urban areas. If the ration card is not made, then lease will be allotted after verification on the basis of other authentic documents mentioned in the rule such as voter list, electricity bill, telephone bill, property tax, consolidated tax, water tax payment document, building permit, shop permit, Aadhar card issued before the last date and driving license. Assistant Collector Abhishek Kumar, Joint Collector US Agrawal, SDM, Zone Commissioners of Raipur Municipal Corporation and other concerned officers were present at the review meeting.

IIIT-Naya Raipur hosts Entrepreneurship summit



Raipur, Mar 25: International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Naya Raipur is hosting a 2-Day Annual Entrepreneurship Summit 2022, which was inaugurated on Friday.

The main aim of the summit is to create an entrepreneurial mind set among students and motivate them to take the entrepreneurship road, which is less taken. The theme of the summit is 'Dare to Begin.' The conference was held in hybrid mode.

The young generation still is not comfortable in being an entrepreneur and so, through this initiative, IIIT-NR is trying to make the students realize that there is a lot more potential that can be tapped. In order to bridge this gap and to provide students a deep knowledge about entrepreneurship, IIIT-NR's Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) organizes E-Summit every year, which is the State's largest college-level hybrid entrepre-

neurship conference. Dr. Pradeep Kumar Sinha, Director IIIT-NR, appreciated the efforts put in by the E-Cell members, for organizing such a summit. He said that IIIT-NR motivates the students to be job creators rather than job seekers. He asked the students not to fear failure and move ahead with determination.

The coordinator of E-Summit, Dr. Kuldeep Singh Patel, Assistant Professor, threw light on the activities undertaken by the E-Cell to build an entrepreneurial culture in the campus. It is the second E-Summit hosted by the institute. He also informed about various Tech challenges which have been scheduled in the 2-day summit for the students to showcase their talent. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Amit Agrawal, Faculty-in-charge E-Cell.

Renowned Entrepreneurs are addressing the participants

of the summit as keynote speakers. The first day had sessions by Ajay Lakhotiya, Founder of StockGro, on the topic 'Fintech Boom in India'; Aditya Arora, CEO of Faad Network Pvt. Ltd., on the topic 'Entrepreneurship and youth'; and Prateek Shukla, Co-founder and CEO, Masai School. The second day's sessions include talks by Arjun Malhotra, Co-Founder of HCL Group, on the topic 'Life Journey and Becoming an Entrepreneur'; Jivraj Singh Sachar, Venture Operations at AngelList, India Silicon Valley Podcast, on 'Evolution of Indian Start-up Ecosystem'; Ashwin Goyal, Director of Labs at Swiggy, talked on 'Zero to One Concept'; Sonakshi Nathani, Founder of Bikayi, on 'How to be a Successful Fundraiser'; and Venkatesh Iyer, CEO and Founder of GoliVadaPavon: Mind to Mind Marketing'. The entrepreneurs are not only sharing their experiences but also motivating students to go ahead with their dreams.

The institute also organized various other activities like panel discussions, fireside chats students' challenges, IPL Auctions, and UI/UX challenges, as part of the summit. A large number of students participated and made the summit a huge success.

Ensure timely survey of 'Divyang' in all urban and rural areas: Collector

Raipur, Mar 25: Collector Sourabh Kumar has directed the officers to conduct a survey of Divyang (disabled) in Raipur district in compliance with the letter of the Social Welfare Department, Government of Chhattisgarh and the order passed by the Supreme Court. He asked the officers to conduct survey of Divyang in Raipur district in a time-bound manner, according to their disability, and their needs should be assessed. The Collector informed that the Academy of

Management Studies, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh has been authorized by the Social Welfare Department for the said survey. For providing necessary support and supervision to the surveying agency concerned in the survey of Divyang, the concerned Municipal Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat and Chief Municipal Officer in the Municipal Council / Nagar Panchayat area have been appointed as nodal officers

and the Joint Director of Social Welfare Department, District Office, Raipur has been entrusted with the responsibility of in-charge officer at the district level.

He has asked the concerned officers to provide necessary cooperation to the concerned agency in the survey work by preparing a practical action plan for the survey of Divyang in all the urban and rural areas of the district in a time-bound manner.

75607.6 metric tonnes of food grains issued in Raipur district

Raipur, Mar 25: Rajesh Kumar, General Manager (Region), Food Corporation of India, Chhattisgarh briefed about the work being done by Food Corporation of India which addressing the scribes at during the press conference organized at Chhattisgarh FSD Newra New Complex. 29232 MT capacity, which is supplying food grains to other areas and Chhattisgarh under various government welfare schemes. He informed that during KMS (2020-21), 63861.95 MT of rice (including 11943.49 MT of fortified rice) was procured at FSD Nevra New Complex, which is equivalent to 94195.19 MT of paddy. Due to this procurement activity more than 1.1 lakh farmers of revenue district of Raipur were benefited, who were paid more than Rs 175 crore through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

'TROCH RALLY'



Members of Trade Unions took out a massive 'Torch rally' in support of their demands here on Friday.

Vegetable prices to go up as productions to dip in summer



Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: With the onset of summer, the prices of vegetables may shoot up in Raipur. There will be a decrease in local production from the month of April. Wholesale vegetable traders said that there will be a dip in local production from the month of April, due to which they will have to depend on outside states to

meet the demand. At present the wholesale prices of tomato prices is Rs 20 per kg, but the prices of other vegetables are going to depend on demand and supply in the coming days. Tomatoes are coming from Bangalore and Nashik to Raipur, while vegetables like potatoes, onions, carrots are brought from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal. Wholesale Vegetable Market President, Srinivas Reddy said that the prices of vegetables are seeing an increase as the heat waves pick up in summer. Tomato crop has been better in Chhattisgarh this year, due to which the prices did not see much increase till the end of March. Now the arrival

of new crop will be after 5-6 months. At present, only 10 to 15 trucks of vegetables are arriving in the capital from outside states, but by April-May, the consignment of vegetables is expected to reach 20 to 30 trucks. At present the prices of potato and onion are also under control. Onion is coming from Nashik and potato is now

brought from Punjab in Chhattisgarh. Local vegetable growers of the state said that there has been an increase in demand in this season already. Vegetable consumption has also increased. Vegetables are also being exported from Chhattisgarh to other states, including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and neighboring states.



NOTICE FOR FOOD BUSINESSES

Regarding - Mandatory modification of license

Last Date - 31st March, 2022

Who are required to modify their license?

1. Manufacturers (including repackers and relabellers) having licenses issued through old methodology (granted from FLRS) have to shift to product selection methodology of FoSCoS.
 2. Manufacturers holding state licenses for products under Nutraceuticals, Health Supplements, Special Dietary & Medical Use Foods, Functional and Novel Foods Regulation have to shift to Central License.
- License number will not change on modification
 - Wef 1st April 2022 - above stated manufacturers (who have not modified their license) will not be allowed to file renewal application of their existing licenses, File application for modification of license through FoSCoS portal i.e. <https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in> or call us @1800112100 in case of queries.

Executive Director(CS)
FSSAI

सिर्फ फेस ही क्यों? पूरी बाँडी निखारो
फेशिया बाँडी फेशियल बार से

इसमें समाने केसर, चंदन, एलोवेरा और कपूर के गुण, जिसे नहाते ही, पूरी बाँडी पर आ जाता है फेशियल सा निखार। आज से ही अपनाएं - फेशिया बाँडी फेशियल बार।

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'Mahapariksha Abhiyan' be conducted with cent percent adult learners: Rana



State Level Webinar for Mahapariksha Abhiyan

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Chhattisgarh Education, School Education and Literacy Department is organizing 'Mahapariksha Abhiyan' on 30 March 2022 for the assessment of adult learners. Rajesh Singh Rana, Special Secretary,

School Education Department and Director of State Literacy Mission, said in an online webinar organized for the preparation of Mahapariksha Abhiyan, that cent per cent adult learners should be included in the Mahapariksha campaign to be held on March 30. Keeping in mind the real objective and quality of this programme, he asked all the officers associated with the Mahapariksha Abhiyan to upgrade the remaining learners and the

students who got 'C' grade in the previous examination to join this Mahapariksha Abhiyan.

Rajesh Singh Rana said that in the first phase of Mahapariksha Abhiyan last year, a target was set to make 2.5 lakh illiterates literate in the state. Of them 1.9 lakh participants were successfully included in the examination. It is the intention of the Government of India and the State Government that the remaining adult students should be included

in the Mahapariksha Abhiyan.

Prashant Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director of State Literacy Mission Authority and Nodal Officer of Reading and Writing Campaign, gave brief information about the guidelines of Mahapariksha Abhiyan through a presentation. State Literacy Centre, SCERT cell in-charge Mrs. Preeti Singh discussed in detail about the monitoring of the examination in the webinar. Project Consultant Ms. Neha Shukla told about uploading the registration and evaluation information in the portal. Dr Manisha Vats, Advisor, UNICEF discussed the process of bringing the learners to the examination centre. The webinar was conducted by Project Advisor Mrs. Nidhi Agarwal.

CM Baghel releases logo of C-Mart

Raipur, Mar 25: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel released the logo of C-Mart in the Vidhan Sabha premises today. The logo depicts the work of artisans, weavers, craftsmen, potters and other traditional artists in a festive manner. C-Mart will ensure that the products of different entrepreneurs will be sold under one roof. In the logo, the traditional Haat-Bazaar of the tribals is displayed under the Sal tree. The abundance of rice production in Chhattisgarh has been highlighted through ears of paddy. Chhattisgarh state is one of the three major paddy producing states of India. The traditional clothes of the tribal women of Chhattisgarh are depicted through beige, maroon and green



colours in the logo.

With an aim of boosting rural economy, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has undertaken a new initiative for providing a potential market in urban areas to products produced in villages. As a part of this commercial arrange-

ments for marketing of the products manufactured by women Self-Help Groups, craftsmen, weavers, artisans, potters or other traditional and cottage industries has been made under schemes of different departments. Instructions have been given to the officers concerned to set up C-Mart in line with the modern showrooms.

With the establishment of C-Mart, entrepreneurs under all these categories will get maximum benefit. Preparations are being made to set up C-Mart in all the district headquarters in the first phase. The area of the showrooms will be 8 to 10 thousand square feet in the case of municipal corporations and 6 to 8 thousand square feet in the case of municipalities.

Fund worth Rs 405 cr approval

Raipur: A fund of 405 crore ten lakh 89 thousand Rs. have been approved by the central government for the payment of material items and administrative expenditure in the works done under MNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) in Chhattisgarh. During the financial year 2021-22, the Union Ministry of Rural Development has allocated Rs 290 crore 65 lakh 37 thousand for the payment of material items in MNREGA, and issuance has been approved for Rs 114 crore 45 lakh 52 thousand to meet the salary and allowances and administrative expenses of Chhattisgarh.

Placement camp on Mar 30

Raipur, Mar 25: A placement camp is being organized on 30th March at District Employment and Self Employment Guidance Centre, Raipur to provide employment opportunities to the local educated unemployed youth in the private sector. A2Z Infrast

limited Raipur will conduct recruitment of candidates having passed Class 12th examination on 100 posts of salesman (for wine shop) at monthly salary of Rs 12,675 whereas Umadhevi Multipurpose Education and Development Institute Raipur will conduct

recruitment on 10 different posts of supervisor, DTP Trainer, Computer Trainer and Surveyer at the monthly salary of Rs 8000 to Rs 12000. Candidates having qualification of BSC/MSC Agriculture and BCA will be eligible for these posts. He said that the eligible

and interested applicants can attend the interview process by appearing on the scheduled date and venue. Applicants can join the placement camp by following social distancing at District Employment Center, Old Police Headquarters Raipur.

World TBs Day 2022 celebrated in DP Vipra Mahavidyalaya



Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Mar 25: A program was organized on the occasion of World TB Day at the local DP Vipra College. This program was done under the joint aegis of the college's NCC unit, NSS unit and Red Cross unit. Dr. Gayatri Bandhi, District Tuberculosis Control

Officer, Bilaspur was present as the chief guest on this program.

In the programme, the Principal of the college, Dr. Anju Shukla, highlighted the efforts being made for awareness on the occasion of World TB Day. In his address, the chief guest gave detailed information about the symptoms, types

and precautions of TB, as well as what measures should be taken to eliminate TB globally and increase immunity.

The program was conducted by the NCC officer of the college, Lt. Ashish Sharma. Ashish Singh, Counselor, District Tuberculosis Control Office and Dr. Diwan were also present in the program as guest. In the program NCC NSS student along with NSS officer Upesh Kumar along with college professor Dr. Manish Tiwari, Dr. Abha Tiwari, Prof. Kiran Dubey, Prof. Jyoti Bajpai, Prof. Jayant Rai, Prof. Jharna Patel along with other staff and students of the college were present. Prof. Nidish Choubey did the vote of thanks in the program.

KPS organizes four-day 'Kaushal Mahotsav'

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Recently Krishna Public School organized a four day All India Music and Dance Competition "Kaushal Mahotsav" commencing from 24th March 2022. This four day National Competition commenced by lighting lamp and a welcome speech by Executive Director Mr. Ashutosh who inspired students by words to incorporate performing arts into their academic and daily lives to increase their concentration and focus power.

A panel of two judges including Ms. Tapasme Paul Majumdar, renowned Kathak Dancer and Ms. Rajeshwari, eminent Bharatnatyam dancer are guests for the event. All dignitaries appreciated the efforts of students and teachers,

welcoming all heartily in their well furnished newly built Auditorium. Event registered around 241 participants across the nation for "Performing Arts" through online and offline modes. Four day competition starts with Kathak dance followed by Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Classical and Carnatic Music along with Light Vocal and Classical in four categories- Junior, Sub-Junior, Senior and Sub-Senior from age group 5 years to 18 years and above. "Kaushal Mahotsav" is a purely Classical Arts Competition to spread the interest and awareness towards our Classical Heritage of India.

With this concept, all dignitaries have wished all participants good luck and best wishes for their future performances.

WJU honour CM Bhupesh Baghel



Thanked him for the decisions taking in interest of journalists

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Delegation of journalists led by Mr. Arvind Awasthi, State Head of Chhattisgarh Working Journalist Union, paid courtesy call on Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh

Baghel today at his Raipur based residence office. Delegation honoured Chief Minister Mr. Baghel and thanked him for the decisions taken in the interest of journalists.

Awasthi said that Chief Minister Mr. Baghel is a well-wisher of the journalists of the state. He has been working in the interest of journalists, ensuring quick redressal of their grievances. Mr. Awasthi

said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel, State Government has provided accreditation to the editors of monthly newspaper and also, the duration of accreditation renewal has been extended from one to two years. During COVID crisis, journalists were provided financial aid for treatment and the families of the deceased were also provided financial aid in their difficult times. Meanwhile, journalists also handed over a memorandum of their demands, to which Chief Minister assured of considering on a compassionate note. On the occasion, Union General Secretary Mr. Vishwa Deepak Rai and a large number of journalists from various districts of the state were present.

ISO is a symbol of our dedication and commitment: V-C

CU gets ISO in the field of Quality Management System

Central Chronicle News

Bilaspur, Mar 25: Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) Bilaspur has been granted certificate by ISO 9001:2015 (International Organization for Standardization). As per the certificate issued on 22nd March, 2022, the Central University has been awarded this certificate for meeting various standards in the field of Quality Management



System. The validity of the certificate is for the next three years till 2025.

As a result of the continuous creative and tireless active efforts of the Honorable Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Alok Kumar Chakrawal, the University is going ahead progressively in the

field of research, innovation, institutional coordination, collaboration and MoUs for the smooth implementation of the National Education Policy 2020.

The policy of Honorable Vice-Chancellor of making curriculum according to the industries, emphasizing on the cooperation, coordination, discipline, best use of resources, punctuality and employable education to make the students self-reliant, has brought a radical change in the Central University.

The University has been progressing at a rapid pace in every field since the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakrawal assumed office in July 2021. Within a short span of time, the university signed MoUs with many reputed national and interna-

tional companies of the country and with foreign universities in field of research and innovation. Understanding the need of the service sector industry, the university has also decided to start hotel management course.

Not only did the infrastructure development works which have been stalled for a long time been resumed in the university, but proposals have also got approved for new projects and work has been started. An MoU has been signed with Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship Development, Ahmedabad to make students and teachers self-reliant through entrepreneurship with skill development in accordance with the National Education Policy 2020.

Raipur, Mar 25: Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Raipur License Service Area (LSA) organized an awareness webinar on "EMF Emissions and Telecom Towers". This session was organized as part of DoT's public advocacy programme to make the consumers aware about the growing need for mobile towers as part to build reliable telecom infrastructure and breaks myths regarding the health effects of EMF exposure from mobile towers.

The webinar workshop was addressed by the eminent key speakers including Director (Admin), DDG(C), CG, MP LSA, DoT, Raipur and Dr Arun Chougule Senior Professor & HoD of Radiological Physics SMS Medical College & Hospitals,

Jaipur. The workshop had more than 60 participants including general public, government officials, residents' welfare associations, students, doctors, telecom service providers, infrastructure providers and other officials. DDG(C), CG, MP LSA, DoT, Raipur highlighted the need of telecom services in India and pressed on the challenges faced by the stakeholders of the industry, he mentioned, "In this evolved era of GSM technology single mobile user is enjoying improved telecommunication services which includes e-learning through various online platform, attending classes/offices from home, OTT services, using mobile phones for various payments and bookings. India is growing as a base of active mobile network subscribers. By the

end of 2025, 5G will account for over a fifth of total mobile connections, and more than two in five people globally will live within reach of a 5G network. With an increase in the pace of 5G deployment, it becomes pertinent to install a robust network of telecom infrastructure including mobile towers, small cell, fibre etc. Telecom towers are a backbone of Indian Mobile communications. It is important to be addressed that the fear surrounding the theories about EMF radiations is uncorroborated." Briefing at the event about the issue of EMF exposure and compliance measures Director(Compliance), O/o DDG(C), CG, MP LSA, DoT, Raipur, said "The Govt. of India has defined some of the most stringent emission standards for mobile towers

making India one of the few countries worldwide with the most stringent emission standards for mobile towers. We follow norms that are 10 times stricter than what has been prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO." Dr Arun Chougule, Senior Professor & HoD of Radiological Physics SMS Medical College & Hospital also shared his perspective and said, "The EMF radiation is low non-ionizing RF/Electromagnetic energy emitted from mobile tower antenna and mobile handset. According to the Scientific research on the health impacts of radiation from Mobile Towers, it has been found that low powered, non-ionizing radiated emitted from the cell towers have no ill effects on human health, whatsoever."

Training programme to reduce maternal mortality

Raipur, Mar 25: A two-day training of Medical Officers and Staff Nurses of Health Department was organised by District Health Department, Raipur to bring down maternal mortality rate. This training was organized from last 23 March in the Red Cross meeting hall in the Collectorate premises. Medical Officers, RMA and Staff Nurses were trained to identify and manage high risk pregnan-



cy in a bid to bring down maternal mortality rate, at the training programme organised under the direction of Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr Meera Baghel in compliance with the letter of Directorate

Health Services Chhattisgarh Government. Two Medical Officers, 2 Staff Nurses and one RMA from each PHC of 17 Urban PHCs of Raipur city participated at the training programme.

13th Faiza International Championship 2022

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 25: Ishwari Nishad, a visually impaired runner hailing from Mahasamund of Chhattisgarh has brought laurels to the state and the country, winning a silver medal for India at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2022 under the 13th Faiza International Athletic Championship in Dubai. She won the medal in the running tournament held on Wednesday. Ms. Ishwari secured sec-



ond position by completing 400 meters race in one minute 25 seconds. With this Ms. Ishwari has managed to achieve the minimum standard qualification for the Asian Para

Games to be held at Hangzhou, China in October this year. Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel and Social Welfare Minister Smt. Anila Bhedhiya have congratulated Ms. Ishwari for her outstanding achievement and gave their best wishes for her future endeavors.

It is worth mentioning that Minister Smt. Bhedhiya had felicitated Ms. Ishwari for clinching gold medal in a national level event, at state-level felicitation ceremony held

in the Raipur on March 5. Along with this, she made an announcement that the expenses of Ishwari for her tournament in Dubai will be borne by the department. Ishwari Nishad is studying at Fortune Foundation Blind Special School, Bagbahra in Mahasamund district. She has made the country proud, winning gold medal in 200m racing event at 3rd Indian Open National Para-Athletics Championships held in Bengaluru. Ms. Ishwari

will leave for Odisha from New Delhi on the 27th of this month after returning from Dubai. She will participate in the 20th National Para Athletics Championship 2022 to be held in Bhubaneswar. Ms Ishwari hails from Samhar village in Bagbahra - Tehsil of Mahasamund district. Her parents earn their living by working as laborers. She has proved that physical disabilities is not an obstacle to success and achieve your dreams.

Revised budget passed in KMC



Korba, Mar 24:

Mayor-in-Council of Municipal Corporation Korba, here unanimously passed the revised budget of the year 2021-22 and budget year 2022-23 of the corporation under the chairmanship of Mayor Rajkishore Prasad and in the presence of Commissioner Prabhakar Pandey and forwarded it to the General Assembly with its recommendation.

Along with this, necessary decisions were taken by MIC on proposals related to various development and construction works of

the corporation, works related to civil services and facilities and other subjects. Necessary decisions were taken unanimously by the Mayor-in-Council on various proposals including construction work, road sweeping machine purchase, vehicle repair and other proposals.

During the meeting, Mayor Rajkishore Prasad also reviewed the work progress of various development and construction works related to civil services and facilities, water, electricity, sanitation etc. He gave necessary direc-

tions to the officers regarding speedy development and construction work, completion of the process of tender etc. of the proposed works in time-limit, paying special attention to the quality of the progressing construction works and completing them within the time limit. Mayor Prasad, while reviewing the road lighting system, drinking water system and cleanliness works of the corporation, gave necessary directions to the officers in relation to making the arrangements better. During the meeting,

Mayor-in-Council members Santosh Rathore, Sapna Chauhan, Amarjeet Singh, Sunil Patel, Kriparam Sahu, Paluram Sahu, Pradeep Jaiswal, Phoolchand Sonwani, Mastul Singh Kanwar, Sunita Rathore, Sukhsagar Nirmalkar, Ropa Tirkey, Additional Commissioner, Treasurer Kumhar, Superintendent Engineer MK Verma, Deputy Commissioner and Corporation Secretary Pavan Verma, Deputy Commissioner BP Trivedi, Estate Officer Sridhar Banafar, Account Officer Anand Gupta, Zone Commissioner AK Sharma, RK Maheshwari, MN Sarkar, Vinod Shandilya, Bhushan Oraon, Tapan Tiwari, NK Nath, Akhilesh Shukla, Health Officer Dr. Sanjay Tiwari, Rameshwar Kanwar and other officials were present.

Students union boycotts by-election demanding opening of college

Bazar-Atariya, Mar 25:

After staging demonstrations and seeking opening of a new college in the region, the Student's Council and denizens of the area have decided to boycott by-elections to be held in the constituency.

As per information Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey had promised opening on a new college in the electoral campaign in Pendraavan of Dhamda Block, and the college is presently running successfully after its inauguration, but in the region of Bazar-Atariya, of Khairagadh constituency the promise of opening a college has not taken grounds still, though it was being demanded by the students of the region since long.

Agitated by the administrations laxity the students have decided not to

caste their electoral mandate till their demands are met. Many students of the region have opined that they have to travel to far flung places of the state to complete their higher ed-

ucation, and many girls are deprived of higher education, as they are not allowed to travel by the family. Students Jangendra Manikpuri and Om Upadhyay and many others have de-

manded the opening of a college at the earliest by the administration, so that their education and future is not cut short due to lack of a proper higher education institu-

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India BOI

RAIPUR ZONAL OFFICE, G.D. SHESH NILAYAM, TATYAPARA CHOWK, KANKALIPARA ROAD, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH

MEGA E-AUCTION INFORMATION

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTIES UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

E-Auction Date and Time : 30.04.2022, Time - 11.00 AM. to 5.00 P.M.

THE PROPERTIES MENTIONED BELOW ARE TO BE SOLD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SARFAESI ACT 2002 ON 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS'

Sl. No.	Branch & Borrower/ Guarantor & Address	Description of the Mortgaged Property	Reserve Price (in Lakhs)	A) Demand Notice Date
1.	Tilda Branch : M/s. Pragma Copy Udyog, Prop. Mr. Lalit Kumar Verma	(A) Commercial Land: All that Part and Parcel of the Immovable Property Diverted (for Commercial use) Land Situated at Kh. No-2/8, P.H.No.-13, M/s. Pragma Copy Udyog, Village Konari, Near Industrial Area Batori, Tehsil-Tilda, Dist-Raipur (C.G.), Total Area 0.296 Hectare or 0.73 Acre in the name of Mr. Lalit Kumar Verma Boundaries: North: Other's Open Land, South: Other's Open Land, East: Other's Open Land, West: Barkoni Industrial Road, (Symbolic Possession)	(A) 33.75 (B) 3.37 (C) ₹ 141.03	A) 09.04.2021 B) 13.08.2021 C) ₹ 141.03
		(B) Plant and Machinery	44.98 4.49	
		(C) Commercial Land: All that Part and Parcel of the Leasehold Property Situated at Plot No. 10, Industrial Development Area Village Batori, Tehsil -Tilda, District- Raipur (Chhattisgarh) Area 1125 Sq.mt. in the name of Shri Shubham Umbarkar, Boundaries: North: SIDC road South: Boundary of Industrial Area, East: Plot No. 11, West: Plot No. 09, (Symbolic Possession)	(A) 32.85 (B) 3.28 (C) 26.95 2.69	A) 08.06.2021 B) 13.08.2021 C) ₹ 113.17
3.	Tatyapara Branch (Raipur) : 1. Mr. Prashant Kumar Gupta S/o. late Mr. Manoj Gupta, Mrs. Nandini Gupta W/o Mr. Shiva Gupta	Flat: Immovable Residential Property situated at EWS-1008, Slice-1, Janta Colony, K.H.No. 55, 57, 58-62, 92-96, 98-102, Veer Sawarkar Nagar, P.H.No.103 Tatbandh, Tehsil & Dist Raipur (C.G.), Area 36 Sq.mt. in the name of Mr. Prashant Kumar Gupta S/o. Late Mr. Manoj Gupta and Mrs. Nandini Gupta W/o. Mr. Shiva Gupta. (Symbolic Possession)	8.24 0.82	A) 25.06.2019 B) 05.11.2020 C) 6.35
4.	Rajendra Nagar, Bilaspur : (i) M/s. Kuber Trading and Hardware (ii) Mr. Prateek Saheb Gupta	Residential House : All that Part and Parcel of the property Situated at Khasra No. 436/10, 436/11 Behind Kota Hospital Kota Tehsil Takhatpur, Dist. Bilaspur, State Chhattisgarh Admeasuring 872 Sq.ft belong to Mrs. Bhagwati Gupta W/o. Dhaneshwar Gupta. Boundaries: North-Govt. Land, South-Nishari Kachha Rasta, East- Land of Shyam Yadav, West-Land of Partho Maitra. (Symbolic Possession)	24.30 2.43	A) (i) 16.09.2019 (ii) 01.10.2019 B) 15.02.2020 C) ₹ 42.71
5.	Charoda Branch : Mrs. Sunita Dubey W/o. Mr. Raj Kishor Dubey	Residential Land: Open Diverted Plot Situated at Plot No. L-05, Area 3000 Sqft., K.H. No. 1166/14, P.H.No. 13/18, Behind Nagar Palika Parishad, Near Radha Krishna Temple, Shivpur, Jamul, Dist-Durg (C.G.) in the name of Mrs. Sunita Dubey W/o. Mr. Raj Kishor Dubey. Boundaries: North-Plot No. L-04, South - Plot No. L-03, East - Plot No. L-10, West-Road. (Symbolic Possession)	13.13 1.31	A) 04.09.2021 B) 04.02.2022 C) 8.66
6.	Abhanpur Branch : Shri Vinay Krishna Yadav	Residential House : All that Part and Parcel of the Property Consisting of Land and Building Admeasuring Area 560 Sq.ft. Situated at House No 165, Atal Awas Gatapur Abhanpur, Raipur, C.G. ad measuring, 560Sqft, located North-House No 149, South-Road, East-House No 164, West-House No 168. (Symbolic Possession)	3.02 0.30	A) 13.10.2021 B) 20.01.2022 C) 2.73
7.	Chakarbhata Branch: Borrower - Mr. Ankit Biswas S/o Mr. Anil Biswas. Co-Borrower - Mr. Anil Biswas S/o Mr. Dhalu Biswas.	Residential Land: All that part of parcel of the property situated at Khasra No 221/3(Part), Sheet No. 16/20, Plot No. 161(Part) P.H.No. 23 Ward No. 05 Dr. Ambedkar Ward Nagar Panchayat Tifra, Dist-Bilaspur (C.G.), Dist-Bilaspur, State Chhattisgarh, Admeasuring 900 Sq.ft, belonging to Mr. Ankit Biswas S/o. Mr. Anil Biswas. Bound by : North-House of Ramnath, South-Nistari Road, East-House of Moideen & Abdul Shahid, West- Others Open Plot. (Symbolic Possession)	6.50 0.65	A) 28.10.2021 B) 01.02.2022 C) 5.10
8.	Bhilai Branch : M/s. Yaanvi Foods Private Limited, Director:-1. Mr. Harsh Agrawal S/o. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Agrawal, 2. Mrs. Naniji Agrawal W/o. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Agrawal.	Residential Land:- EQM of All the Part and Parcel of the Property Consisting of Freehold Residential Land Situated at Kh. No.-1314/2 (Part), P.H.No.-29, Ward No-39, Mouja-Mughanar, Risai Para (West) RNM- Bhothli, Tah. & Dist. Dhamtari, (Chhattisgarh). Area admeasuring 12917 sqft in the name of Mr. Pradeep Kumar Agrawal S/o. Mr. Shrikishan Agrawal. Boundaries: North- Property of Harsh Agrawal, South- Property of Ankur Agrawal, East- Gunderdehi Road, West- Others Property. (Symbolic Possession)	118.58 11.85	A) 25.06.2021 B) 09.09.2021 C) 231.42
9.	Dhamtari Branch Borrower : M/s Sanskar Rice Industries, Prop. Mr. Pintu Daga, Guarantor: 1. Mr. Avant Golchha 2. Mrs. Rani Jain	1. Rice Mill :- Shed and building K.H.No. 681/2, 684/2 P.H.No. 14, Village-Chitod, Teh. Gurur and Dist. Balod, having Total admeasuring area 21528 Sq.ft. in the name of Pintu Daga S/o Dhamranchand Daga, Boundaries: North: land of Avanth Golcha, South-land of Avanth Golcha, East-Road, West-KH.No. 680 (Symbolic Possession) 2. Diverted Land- K.H.No. 707/1, P.H.No. 14, Village-Chitod, Teh. Gurur and Dist. Balod, having Total admeasuring area 4399 Sq.ft. in the name of Smt. Rani Jain W/o Avanth Golcha. Boundaries: North: KH.No. 706, South-KH.No. 708/713, East: KH.No. 714, West : 684/3. (Symbolic Possession) 3. Diverted Land- K.H.No. 684/3, 684/6, P.H.No. 14, Village-Chitod, Teh. Gurur and Dist. Balod, having Total admeasuring area 19150 Sq.ft. in the name of Smt. Rani Jain W/o Avanth Golcha. Boundaries: North: Road, South-Land of Golcha and Singh, East: Land of Pawan Golcha, West: Other Land (Symbolic Possession) 4. Plant & Machinery :- Plant & Machineries of parboiled rice mill unit of M/s Sanskar Rice Industries Situated at Village Chitod, Teh.Gurur & Dist. Balod (Symbolic Possession)	48.89 4.88 6.73 0.67 21.45 2.14 18.93 1.89	A) 29/01/2018 B) 11/05/2018 C) 408.58
10.	Vyapar Vihar Branch: Mr. Eshwari Prashad Sahu S/o. Shaiya Ram Sahu and Smt. Anjani Sahu W/o. Mr. Eshwari Prashad Sahu	Residential House:- EQM of All the Part and Parcel of the Property Consisting of Freehold Residential land and Building Situated at Kh. No.-149/04, Plot No. 132, Mouja-Ushapur RNM-Sakri, Block and Tehsil-Takhatpur, Dist-Bilaspur (C.G.) in the name of Mr. Eshwari Prashad Sahu, Area:2400 Sq.ft. Boundaries: North- 30R. Road, South- Plot No. 33 of DS. Bhatti, East- 30ft. Road, West- Plot No. 31 of Aakashdeep (Symbolic Possession)	61.00 6.10	A) 01.10.2021 B) 01.10.2022 C) 43.64
11.	Sejbahar Branch: M/s. S.S.Bricks, Prop. Mrs. Asha Sahu	Commercial Land & Building:- EQM of All the Part and Parcel of the Commercial Property Consisting of Situated at Kh. No.-906/1(Part) Old, Kh. No.- 906/3 New, P.H.No. 06, Khorpa Road, Mauza-Amdli, Teh. Abhanpur, Dist.-Raipur (C.G.), in the name of M/s. S.S.Bricks, Prop. Mrs. Asha Sahu, Area : 0.160 Hect., Boundaries: North- Sanjay Industries, South- Other Agri Land, East- Main Road, West-Other Agri Land (Symbolic Possession) Plant & Machinery :- Situated at Unit of M/s. S.S.Bricks (Symbolic Possession)	40.35 4.03 16.33 1.63	A) 07.06.2021 B) 12.01.2022 C) 63.09
12.	Raipur Branch Goyal Cattle Feed Industries, Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal	Commercial Land & Building:- Freehold Industrial diverted Land and Building situated at KH No. 1147/2, 1151/2, 1141/1, 1147/1, 1151/1, 1152/2, 1142/1, 1140/1, 1153, 1154, 1141/2 & 1138/1, Ph. No. 107, Vill. Chamda Haddi Godown, Shukrawari Bazar, Gudhiyari, Teh. Raipur, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) Area 15803 Sq.ft. in the name of Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal. Boundaries : North: Other's Land, South : Other's Land, East : Land of Daga, West : Road (Symbolic Possession)	258.66 25.86	A) 12.12.2018 B) 13.06.2019 C) 587.03
13.	Raipur Branch M/s. Goyal Pulses, Prop. Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal	Commercial Land & Building:- Freehold Industrial diverted Land and Building situated at KH No. 1147/2, 1151/2, 1153, 1154, PH No. 107, Vill. Chamda Haddi Godown, Shukrawari Bazar, Gudhiyari, Teh. Raipur, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) Area 0.125 Hect. in the name of Mr. Rajendra Prasad Agrawal. Boundaries : North: Other's Land, South : Other's Land, East : Land of Daga, West : Road (Symbolic Possession)	202.87 20.28	A) 08.04.2019 B) 13.06.2019 C) 104.85

Date & Time of E-Auction 30.04.2022 from 11.00 am to 5.00 pm with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each. Inspection date & time of the property - Upto 25.04.2022 from 11.00 am to 3.00 p.m.

15 / 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE TO THE BORROWERS/GUARANTORS/MORTGAGORS
The above mentioned Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in Section 13(2) Notice along with interest & charges before the date of Auction failing which the property will be auctioned and balance due, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost from you.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: Tilda Branch - Mr. Sandeep Kumar-835798295, Tatyapara Branch - Mr. Sanjay Sinha-8240531480, Rajendra Nagar Bilaspur Branch- Mr. Ajay Verma-945105485, Charoda Branch - Mr. Madhukar David Grahia-9752678304, Abhanpur Branch - Mr. Rajan Singh-9934578911, Chakarbhata Branch - Mr. Gautam Meshram- 9993802629, Bhamtari Branch- Mr. Anand -9827156449, Dhamtari Branch - Mr. Santosh Barve-9713367034, Vyapar Vihar Branch - Mr. Sani Kandra Sai-9113361788, Sejbahar Branch - Ms. Nandini Satpathy-9575145356, Raipur Branch- Mr. Rajendra Dhruv-7898307159, EMD related/ Auction Portal Related Information- Mr. Shubham Agrawal, Ph. -0771-4212412/18

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF E-AUCTION-1. The Auction Sale bidding will be online through the website https://www.mstocem.commerce.com/au/home/ibapi/index.jsp. 2. Bidder may visit https://www.ibapi.in, for Guidelines. 3. The bid amount should be higher than the Reserve Price. 4. The bid price shall be improved in property no. 1, 2, 4, 5, 9(1), 9(3), 9(4), 10 & 11 multiples of Rs.25,000/-, for property no. 3, 6, 7, 8, 9(2) Rs. 10,000/-, for property no. 8, 12 & 13 Rs. 50,000/-, 4. The highest/ successful bidders shall deposit 25% of bid/ purchase money adjusting the earnest money already paid immediately on the same day or next working day, after acceptance of the bid, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited. 5. The balance 75% of purchase price shall be payable on or before 15 days of confirmation of the sale by the Authorized officer or such period as agreed upon in writing solely at the discretion of the Authorized officer. In case of failure to deposit the balance amount within the prescribed period, the amount deposited shall be forfeited and the Authorized officer/bank will be at liberty to cancel the auction and conduct fresh auction. 7. The EMD of the unsuccessful bidder will be returned on the closure of the e-auction sale proceedings. The EMD shall not carry any interest. 8. The Property is sold in "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IT IS BASIS" and "WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS". The intending bidders should make their own enquiries regarding any sort of liabilities. 9. The undersigned has the absolute rights and discretion to accept or reject any bid or adjourn/postpone/cancel the sale/modify any terms and conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reason. 10. The purchaser shall bear all subsequent charges. 11. The amount due is exclusive of interest and other charges. 12. Further any corrigendum will not be published in newspaper. Interested advised to refer above website regularly. 13. The Employee's of Bank of India are barred from participation of e-auction. 14. Interested Bidders need to create their user id and password by own and it will take minimum time of 2 days therefore it is requested to the bidder to kindly create his/her user id before the last date. 15. In case of sole bidder, the bid amount quoted in his bid from must be improved by at least one bid incremental value, lest the sale shall be cancelled/ deferred.

Authorized Officer & Chief Manager BANK OF INDIA

Yoga session held for women

As expected mothers and who just conceive

Kondagaon, Mar 25:

It was on Thursday, training to expected mothers was given on the Yoga asanas to be practiced during pregnancy and how to take care of the newly born during pregnancy period and ensure safe deliver. This special 'yoga' practice session was organised as pilot project jointly by



Chhattisgarh Yoga Aayog, UNICEF and local district administration and social welfare department. In this training camp more than 150 women and trainers took part. In this the main trainer from Yoga Aayog was Pushpa

Verma, Jyoti Sahu and Dr Radhika Chandrakar, who imparted training on Yoga asanas to be practiced during pregnancy period. On this occasion Chief trainer of Yoga Aayog informed that with regular practicing of

Yoga during pregnancy period there is inflow of positive energy and mental peace among expected mothers and it relieves them of physical and mental stress and strain. Set aside this it also strengthens their pelvic

muscles and minimizes the risks involved before and after pregnancy and the newly born child is also healthy. With regular 'Yoga' the women after delivery do not face any problems generally faced. For this there is special 'Yoga practice' for every quarter of nine months of pregnancy period and it should be strictly adhered. She said that regular practice of Yoga is not only helpful for pregnant women, but for girls as well and it should be regularly practiced.

Forest employees' enter indefinite strike

Khairagarh, Mar 25: It was per call from 'Chhattisgarh Van Karamchari Sangh' (CVKS) Raipur, all the forest employees of the region entered into indefinite strike from Thursday in support of their 12-point demands.



Maharashtra government; issue order related to uniform as per the designation along with name and ID; one month additional salary for collection of forest produce; cancel or write-off the recovery amount from purchase of log of wood

from forest depot; free of cost entry to forest employees or retired forest employees in the department's tourist sites; reducing the 'Vanpal' training period to 45 days and starting 'Vanpal' training centre in Koni, Bilaspur; merger of peon and

forestry watchman and regularisation of daily wage labourers in the department. Forest guard Harsh Bahadur Singh informed that about a month before this strike, they have submitted a memorandum to the state government in Raipur and what is surprising here is that their demands are still pending.

On this the forest employees decided to go on indefinite strike and said that till their demands are met they would continue to adhere to instructions and conduct of Election Commission and would continue their indefinite strike in constitutional manner.

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE FOR PROVISION OF NEW TELEPHONE EXCHANGE

Sri. No. (1) E-Tender No. 98-ST-TENDER -2021, Date : 14.03.2022

Name of Work : "Provision of new Telephone Exchange at BRJUN, BPH, KHS and RIG stations of Bilaspur Division."

Tender Value : ₹ 58,40,513/- (Rupees Fifty-Eight Lakhs Four Thousand Five Hundred Thirteen Only). EMD : ₹ 1,16,800/- (Rupees One Lakh Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Only).

Submission of Tender : Up to 15:00 hrs. on 07.04.2022.

The complete information of above e-tender notice is available over website www.ireps.gov.in. Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above tender.

Divl. Sig. & Tele. Engineer/C.I.C. CPR/10/385 S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur.

South East Central Railway @secrail

SECR Central Hospital conducts free pacemaker check-up camp



Bilaspur, Mar 25: The department of Cardiology of S.E.C.R Central Hospital, Bilaspur has made a record in the country in its 21st FREE PACEMAKER CHECKING CAMP on Friday by rendering free pacemaker checking and consultation services to needy heart patients from railways and outside. 137 patients with cardiac pacemakers of different makes have undergone a free check of their devices from 9 a.m. today. Patients from various parts of Chhattisgarh, M.P. and Maharashtra namely from Nainpur, Dongargarh, Nagpur, Bhilai, Raipur, Bhopal, Ambikapur, Raigarh, Shahdol, Mungeli and Bilaspur had participated in this camp. Patients from Railways were 84 and those from non-railway side were 53. Youngest patient was a female child of 14 year and eldest patient was a male of 92 years. 06 patients were detected to have nearing end of battery life, who were immediately advised needful for change of device free of cost. 12 patients were running irregular

and fast beating abnormally. They were prescribed suitable medicines and device was reprogrammed accordingly. The camp was visited by the General Manager of S.E.C. Railway Alok Kumar. He had a brief interaction with the patients of the camp, who came from various parts of the state and outside the state. He has appreciated the organizers of such camp who are rendering such priceless service to mankind for so many years at a remote place like Bilaspur. Alok Kumar was accompanied by the medical director of central hospital/SECR Dr. S.A. Nazmi, Dr. S. Dhan, Dr. S.L. Mathews and secretary Mr. Himanshu Jain. Pacemakers are life saving devices implanted under the skin in the front of chest either side below collar bone in the patients who are detected to have fatal rhythm disturbances. But once the device is implanted the patients are usually lost in the crowd only to be detected when their devices fail, malfunction or meet the

end of battery life. This indeed is very pathetic to note today in the era of highly advanced medical sciences. As per guidelines on an average a single chamber pacemaker is needed to be evaluated every year where as a double chambered at every sixth month. In order to render the best possible services to the mankind Dr. C.K. Das, cardiologist of Central Hospital, S.E.C.R, Bilaspur had started this pacemaker interrogation (checking) camp free of cost for all heart patients of Bilaspur and surrounding areas every sixth month since February 2011. This time the camp could not be conducted regularly due to pandemic situation of COVID19. The last camp was held on 14th February 2020. This facility has been provided totally free of cost to railway as well as non-railway patients. In each of such camps at least 3 to 4 patients' lives have been saved by detecting various faults in the device and rectifying them appropriately. The vital role behind such precious and successful camps played by the leading pacemaker companies in India by deputing their senior engineers with advanced devices [Programmers]. They are St. Jude, Medtronic, Boston Scientific and Biotronic. This is a highly co-ordinated skillful technological service to mankind under one roof. This is unique of its kind and first time in India as reported by Dr. Das.

FOREST HEADQUARTERS ARANYA BHAWAN CHHATTISGARH, NAWA RAIPUR

TENDER NOTICE

No. FHQ/ANG./1320-IV/2021/ Nawa Raipur, Dated: 30/03/2022

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Chhattisgarh Raipur, on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh, invites sealed tenders in 03 separate envelopes earmarked as (pre-qualification bid, Technical bid and Financial bid) for outsourcing following services required for the recruitment of Chhattisgarh Forest Guard during calendar year 2021-2022 for following items :-

S.No. Name of Items

- 1- Providing facilities for digital measurement of height and chest during physical standard test (P.S.T)
- 2- Providing RFID (Radio Frequency identification system) for measuring running time during Physical Efficiency Test (P.E.T.) RFID synchronization.
- 3- Providing Digital Technology System for measuring distance in shot-put and long jump.
- 4- Comprehensive application software for the recruitment program including data entry and compilation of results for PST & PET.

The tender document may be obtained from the office of Divisional Forest Officer, Forest Management Information System (FMIS), Aranya Bhawan, Nawa Raipur on payment of Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft/Banker Cheque issued by any nationalized/Scheduled bank in favour of Divisional Forest Officer, Forest Management Information System (FMIS), Aranya Bhawan, Nawa Raipur, Payable at Raipur. Tender form can be downloaded from Chhattisgarh Forest website and can be submitted along with Rs. 1,000/- Demand Draft. Details of the scope of work & tender conditions are available on the website of Chhattisgarh Forest i.e. <http://www.cgforest.com>

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Chhattisgarh Raipur

Pin: 492101, Phone: 0771-2512817 & Email: cgcccf.forest@gmail.com

The Tender offer in the prescribed tender form along with all the relevant documents, sealed and completed in all respects must be submitted as per the schedule below :-

SCHEDULE FOR TENDER

a) Address for submission of Tender Document :-	Divisional Forest Officer, Forest Management Information System (FMIS), Aranya Bhawan, Nawa Raipur
b) Pre - Bid conference	12/04/2022 at 11:30 AM
c) Last date & time for availability of tender forms	05/05/2022 till 12:00 Hrs.
d) Last Date and Time for submission of Tender :-	05/05/2022 till 15:00 Hrs..
e) Place, Time and Date of Opening Technical Bid :-	Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Non Gazetted), Forest Headquarters, Aranya Bhawan, North Block- Sector-19, Nawa Raipur 05/05/2022 at 16:00 Hrs. Shall be intimated.
f) Place, Time and Date of opening Financial Bid :-	Shall be intimated.
g) Date till which the Bid to remain valid	Till 01 year from the date of opening of the bid or till the completion of the recruitment process, whichever is earlier.

Note:-
1- In case of tender opening date being declared as holiday, tenders will be opened on the next working day.
2- Tender forms shall not be supplied by Post.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HOFF Chhattisgarh, Raipur G-6897/1

BRIEF

Denied

Kochi: Filippo Osella, an anthropologist and academician from the UK currently involved in research on traditional fishing in Kerala, was deported to his country by India soon after his arrival at the international airport here. A professor of anthropology and South Asian studies at the University of Sussex, Osella conducted research on rural Kerala and published two joint monographs on stratification, identity and social mobility.

Forgery

New Delhi: An Indian passenger planning to travel to Paris allegedly using a "forged" visa was apprehended by CISF personnel at the Delhi airport. The incident took place at the terminal-III of the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel found passenger moving in a suspicious manner following which they apprehended him and found the visa affixed on his passport was counterfeit.

Recovers

Amritsar: Nearly three kg of heroin was recovered from a farmer and his labourer by the BSF troops. During a checking at the border fence gate in the Amritsar sector, the Border Security Force (BSF) troops recovered a packet of heroin weighing 2.940 kg from a farmer and his labourer. They were returning from their farm. Farmers, who have farmland beyond barbed fencing on border, are granted special permission to go there.

Falls

Thane: A 16-year-old girl from Bihar fell off a speeding express train near Dombivili in Thane district and died on the spot, the Railway Police said. The victim, travelling with her parents by Pawan Express, complained of uneasiness, nausea and went near the door of her bogie, where she lost balance and fell from the train. She hailed from Muzaffarnagar district of Bihar.

Held

New Delhi: A 23-year-old man and his wife were arrested for allegedly robbing a person in north Delhi's Kashmere Gate area. Punit and Shivani are residents of Loni in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, they said, adding that two of their accomplices are on the run. Information was received regarding a robbery in a moving auto-rickshaw in Kashmere Gate area.

Traffic

Gurugram: In an effort to enhance road safety at one of the critical traffic intersections in the city, a traffic trial will be held at Rajeev Chowk here from March 26 to 28. On these three days, dedicated autorickshaw stands will be created and lane streamlining will be taken up to ensure the smooth flow of traffic and avoidance of dangerous crossovers, they said, adding that the initiative is also expected to enhance pedestrian safety.

'Liquor prohibition needed, but must not be enforced in haste'

Bhopal, Mar 25 (PTI):



Kailash Vijayvargiya

Liquor prohibition must take place in Madhya Pradesh but it should be implemented after proper study and not in haste, BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya said on Friday.

The issue of prohibition is assuming importance as a topic of political discussion in the state with former CM and senior BJP leader Uma Bharti coming out in support of such a move while the state government, on the other hand, recently unveiled an excise policy for 2022-23 which has several measures to boost revenue from sale of alcohol.

"Liquor should be banned but there is also

need to study it. In our state, liquor or toddy is associated with the culture and religious rituals of our nearly 23 per cent tribal population. The results will not be good if it is enforced in haste," Vijayvargiya told reporters.

He also refused to comment on Bharti recently leading a group of people

to a liquor vend and pelting a stone at its shelves lined with liquor bottles.

He was speaking at a press conference to announce the organisation of the 'National Pitthu (Sitolia) Tournament' to be held in Bhopal from March 28 to April 1, in which 30 teams from across the country will take part.

The BJP leader said even Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his 'Mann ki Baat' programme, has spoken about promoting traditional sports as they don't require much paraphernalia for organising.

Replying to a query on not having contested a poll since 2013 and whether he would do so in the future, Vijayvargiya said he left such decisions

to the party leadership.

Asked whether there was a chance of a new leadership in MP as some segments have been speaking about new entrant and Union civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, he said the party had not taken any decision on this.

"Shivraj ji (MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan) is doing a good job and the next polls will be contested under his leadership itself," Vijayvargiya added.

Vijayvargiya, who is BJP general secretary in charge of West Bengal, alleged there was no democracy in the eastern state and even serious offences like rape are taken up by the police if some functionary of the ruling Trinamool Congress makes a phone call.

Curtains soon for Jaya death panel, Sasikala's version propeller

Chennai, Mar 25 (PTI):

Over 150 witnesses have so far appeared before an inquiry commission probing the circumstances surrounding late Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalithaa's death and its work is all set to be completed soon, more than four years after it was constituted. VK Sasikala's affidavit of 2018 and submissions of doctors of the Apollo Hospitals that treated the late AIADMK supremo formed the pivot on which the panel largely revolved to find answers to questions on the leader's death.

In the process, as many as 158 witnesses have deposed before the commission, which

Jayalithaa's niece Deepa and nephew Deepak, doctors, top officials and AIADMK's C Vijayabaskar, M Thambi Durai, C Ponnaiyan and Manoj Pandian. Deepa and Deepak had raised doubts over circumstances surrounding their aunt's death. Over 100 witnesses were cross examined and this includes those by counsel for Sasikala and the hospital's advocate on matters having a bearing on treatment to Jayalithaa. Seven were petitioner-witnesses including Madurai-based P Saravanan, formerly with the DMK and now in the BJP. Sasikala's relatives and Jayalithaa's cook Rajammal, IAS, IPS officials and paramedics were among

others who had deposed before the panel.

While the panel's work appears to be almost over, it is expected to be become clear soon if the counsels for Sasikala or Apollo Hospitals would make or not any more submissions. Following that, work on submission of report to the government would be taken up by the panel.

Politically, the deposition of top AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam (OPS) asserting that he does not have any suspicion about 'Amma's' death and that he personally has respect and admiration for Sasikala, is a pointer that murmurs over leadership may not end soon in the main opposition AIADMK.

Team questions quality of material used in Paradiso complex

Gurugram, Mar 25 (PTI):



Chintels Paradiso complex in Gurugram, Haryana.

The IIT Delhi team conducting a structural audit of a Gurugram residential complex where two people died as a building partially collapsed last month found the structures aging faster than expected and questioned the quality of material used.

The team has recommended procedures for a systematic structural analysis. It said there was significant corrosion in the steel reinforcement in Tower G of the complex.

Two women were killed after the dining room floor of a sixth-floor apartment of Tower D at Chintels Paradiso in Sector 109 came down on February 10, triggering the collapse of roofs and floors directly under it, till the first floor.

"It is felt that there is a

possibility of the presence of issues related structural design, material quality, and construction quality in the structures. Each of these possibilities needs to be investigated through a detailed survey, testing, assessment on-and-off the site, and analysis programme," the team said in a preliminary report.

"In order to assess the possibility of the presence of deficiencies in structural design in the structures,

it is recommended that a detailed structural design of the structures be carried out. For this purpose, a recognised structural designer of the choice of the authorities, who would be available to work under the guidance of the committee from IIT Delhi, may be engaged. "Since the repair work that was in progress could also have had a role to play in the collapses, it is requested that the detailed repair procedure being fol-

No questions should be raised on EVMS

New Delhi: Kiren Rijju on Friday said no questions should be raised on electronic voting machines (EVMS) as they are kept in the Election Commission's custody after being handed over to the poll panel by manufacturers.

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

The government is considering proposals for linking Aadhaar with the electoral rolls to check fraudulent voting and granting of online voting to Indians working abroad, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijju said in Lok Sabha on Friday.

'SHEETLA ASHTAMI'



Devotees gather to worship Goddess Sheetla Mata, on the occasion of 'Sheetla Ashtami', during a fair at a school, in Fatehpur Shekhawati, Rajasthan on Friday.

'Govt considering to link Aadhaar with electoral rolls'



Law Minister Kiren Rijju

Rijju said electoral fraud is a serious matter and the government is considering at the union law minister's level how to check fraudulent voting.

Linking Aadhaar with the electoral roll is one of the ways. As of now linking Aadhaar with electoral rolls is voluntary. Our aim is to ensure 'one nation, one electoral roll' to check dou-

ble names in electoral rolls and fraudulent voting and ensure a clean voting process, he said during Question Hour.

Replying to a supplementary question on the proposal to grant voting rights to 'Pravasi' Indians, the minister said the government has suggested to the Election Commission to look into how to give voting rights to

those Indians who are working abroad or whether to allow them online voting.

But before taking any decision, we have to ensure safety and transparency of the process and that it is free from malfunctioning, he said. When Congress member Manish Tewari asked whether the source code of the EVMS remains with the company which manufactures the EVMS or it is passed on to the EC, Rijju said it was like appointment of judges.

The judges are appointed by the government but once they are appointed, they become independent. No one should question the EVMS and there should not be any inference too, he said.

AP Govt flouts Constitution, other norms in fiscal management

Amravati, Mar 25 (PTI):

The YS Jagan Mohan Reddy government in Andhra Pradesh violated the Constitution of India and bypassed the Legislature in spending public money to the tune of Rs 1.10 lakh crore, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has observed. In its report on the state's Finance Accounts for the year ended March 2021, the CAG exposed the gross financial impropriety and mismanagement of the Jagan Mohan Reddy government, wherein thousands of crores of rupees were spent without authorisation.

The Comprehensive Financial Management System (CFMS) has also come in for rebuke by the statutory auditor. The report in two volumes was presented to the Legislature here on Friday.

"There was an excess disbursement of Rs1,10,509.12 crore over the authorisation made by the State Legislature during the financial year 2020-21. This is in violation of Articles 204 and 205 of the Constitution, under which "no money shall be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund except under appropriation made by Law by the State Legislature," CAG Girish Chandra Murmu noted.

This vitiated the system of budgetary and financial control and encouraged financial indiscipline in management of public resources, Murmu observed. The state government, according to the CAG report, transacted a sum of Rs 48,284 crore through "special bills."

On being questioned by the Principal Accountant General, the Special Chief Secretary (Finance) "rati-

fied the backend transactions" overstepping his powers. "The procedure for carrying out these adjustment transactions is laid down in the treasury code. Ratifying the backend transactions is not within the powers of the Special Chief Secretary (Finance)," the CAG pointed out. Following audit objections, the state government issued an order on October 12, 2021, entrusting the activities managed by the Centre for Financial Systems and Services to Director of Treasury and Accounts and others. "This only confirms the contention of Audit that the operation of special bills was unauthorised," the CAG said. The CAG also found that transactions amounting to Rs 26,839 crore were "not in consonance with the Treasury Code."

ED attaches Sena MLA Sarnaik's assets in NSEL PMLA case

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):



The ED on Friday said it has attached assets worth Rs 11.35 crore of Shiv Sena MLA Pratap Sarnaik in the money laundering case linked to the National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL). The federal probe agency issued a provisional order under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) for attachment of two flats and a parcel of land in Thane (near Mumbai) "held by" Sarnaik.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) is probing the NSEL case after taking cognisance of a 2013 FIR of the economic offences wing (EOW) of the Mumbai Police against its directors, key officials and 25 default-

ers. The accused hatched a "criminal conspiracy" to defraud the investors, induced them to trade on the platform of the NSEL, created forged documents like bogus warehouse receipts, falsified the accounts and thereby committed criminal breach of trust in respect of Rs 5,600 crore of approximately 13,000 investors, the ED said.

Probe found that "the money collected from various investors were diverted by borrowers/trading members of NSEL for other activities like investment into real estate, repayment of outstanding debts and other activities."

Talking about the role of Sarnaik and his linked companies, it said that a firm called Aastha Group, a defaulting member of NSEL, has liability of Rs 242.66 crore towards the exchange. "Aastha Group diverted Rs 21.74 crore of Vihang Aastha Housing Projects LLP in the period of 2012-13. Out of total amount of Rs 21.74 crore received by Vihang Aastha Housing Projects LLP, Rs 11.35 crore was transferred to Vihang Enterprises and Vihang Infrastructure Pvt. Limited, both firms controlled by Pratap Sarnaik and his family members," the ED alleged.

'Shares deep relationship with Mamata, she's sister to me'

Jaipur, Mar 25 (PTI):

West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar, who has been at loggerheads with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, on Friday said he shares a deep relationship with her like a brother.

At the same time, he is not a "proactive governor" but a "copybook governor", who believes in the rule of law, Dhankhar said here, adding he will never violate the dignity of the Constitution at the behest of anyone.

He referred to various occasions when he had a showdown with the West Bengal CM while stressing that he won't do anything



West Bengal Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar addressing a seminar at Rajasthan Assembly in Jaipur on Friday.

beyond the constitutional limits. Dhankhar was speaking as the chief guest in a seminar on the "Role of Governors and MLAs in Furtherance of

Democracy", organised by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's Rajasthan chapter in the state Assembly building.

"People may not have knowledge but my personal relationship with the chief minister is very deep, of brother and sister. Our dialogue is continuing," he said. He made the remark while talking about a recent controversy over summoning the West Bengal state Assembly at 2 am on March 7, the timing of which was changed to 2 pm after a fresh cabinet proposal. An imbroglio over the timing started after Dhankhar had on February 24 summoned the Assembly at 2 am on the basis of a proposal by the Mamata Banerjee cabinet, which was later clarified as a typographical error.

War in Ukraine nearing possibly more dangerous phase

Washington, Mar 25 (AP):

President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine is approaching a new, potentially more dangerous phase after a month of fighting has left Russian forces stalled by an outnumbered foe.

He is left with stark choices how and where to replenish his spent ground forces, whether to attack the flow of Western arms to Ukrainian defenders, and at what cost he might escalate or widen the war.

Despite failing to score a quick victory, Putin is not relenting in the face of mounting international pressure, including sanctions that have battered his economy. The Western world is aligned largely against Putin, but there have been no indications he is losing support from the majority of the Russian public that relies predominantly on state-controlled TV for information.

Ukrainian defenders, outgunned but benefitting from years of American



A Ukrainian soldier inspects a destroyed Russian APC after recent battle in Kharkiv, Ukraine.

and NATO training and an accelerating influx of foreign arms and moral support, are showing new signs of confidence as the invading force struggles to regroup.

Russian shortcomings in Ukraine might be the biggest shock of the war so far. After two decades of modernization and professionalization, Putin's forces have proved to be ill-prepared, poorly coordinated and surprisingly stoppable. The extent of Russian troop losses is not known in detail, although NATO estimates that between 7,000 and 15,000 have died in the first four weeks potentially as many as Russia lost in a decade of war in Afghanistan.

Robert Gates, the former CIA director and defense secretary, said Putin has got to be stunningly disappointed in his military's performance.

Here we are in Ukraine seeing conscripts not knowing why they're there, not being very well trained, and just huge problems with command and control, and incredibly lousy tactics, Gates said at a forum sponsored

by The OSS Society, a group honouring the World War II-era intelligence agency known as the Office of Strategic Services.

Battlefield trends are difficult to reliably discern from the outside, but some Western officials say they see potentially significant shifts. Air Vice-Marshal Mick Smeath, London's defense attaché in Washington, says British intelligence assesses that Ukrainian forces probably have retaken two towns west of Kyiv, the capital.

It is likely that successful counterattacks by Ukraine will disrupt the ability of Russian forces to reorganize and resume their own offensive towards Kyiv, Smeath said. Ukraine's navy said it sank a large Russian landing ship near the port city of Berdyansk.

Faced with stout Ukrainian resistance, Russian forces have resorted to bombardment of urban areas but made little progress capturing the main prize Kyiv. The Pentagon said Wednesday

that some Russian troops were digging in at defensive positions outside of Kyiv rather than attempting to advance on the capital, and that in some cases the Russians have lost ground in recent days.

In an assessment published, the Atlantic Council said a major Russian breakthrough is highly unlikely.

Not long before Putin kicked off his war Feb 24, some US military officials believed he could capture Kyiv in short order perhaps just a few days and that he might break the Ukrainian military within a couple of weeks. Putin, too, might have expected a quick victory, given that he did not throw the bulk of his pre-staged forces, estimated at more than 150,000, into the fight in the opening days. Nor did his air force assert itself. He has made only limited use of electronic warfare and cyberattacks.

Putin is resorting to siege tactics against key Ukrainian cities, bombing from afar with his ground troops largely stagnant.

North Korea tests biggest ICBM, US adds sanctions

Seoul, Mar 25 (AP):

North Korea said Friday it test-fired its biggest yet intercontinental ballistic missile under the orders of leader Kim Jong Un, who vowed to expand the North's nuclear war deterrent while preparing for a long-standing confrontation with the United States.

The report by North Korean state media came a day after the militaries of South Korea and Japan said they detected the North launching an ICBM in its first long-range test since 2017.

The launch extended a barrage of weapons demonstrations this year that analysts say are aimed at forcing the United States to accept the idea of North Korea as a nuclear power and remove



Hwasong-17 ICBM launch, at an undisclosed location in North Korea on Friday.

crippling sanctions against its broken economy that has been further damaged by pandemic-related difficulties.

The Hwasong-17, which was fired at a high angle to avoid the territorial waters of neighbours, reached a maximum altitude of 6,248 kilometers (3,880 miles) and travelled 1,090 kilometers (680 miles) during a 67-minute flight before landing in

waters between North Korea and Japan, Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said.

KCNA claimed the launch met its technical objectives and proved the ICBM could be operated quickly during wartime conditions.

The South Korean and Japanese militaries had announced similar flight details, which analysts say suggested that the missile could reach targets 15,000 kilometers (9,320 miles) away when fired on normal trajectory with a warhead weighing less than a tonne. That would place the entire US mainland within striking distance.

Believed to be about 25 meters (82 feet) long, the Hwasong-17 is the North's longest-range weapon and, by some estimates, the world's biggest road-mobile ballistic missile system.

Lankan President meets Tamil minority leaders

Colombo, Mar 25 (PTI):

For the first time since taking office over two years ago, Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Friday met leaders of the TNA, the country's most prominent Tamil political grouping, officials said.

The Tamil National Alliance (TNA) and Rajapaksa have failed to meet for talks since Rajapaksa assumed office in November 2019.

A group of TNA Parliamentarians last month staged a protest in front of the Presidential Secretariat demanding to meet the President and discuss the issues faced by the Tamil people in the north and east of the island nation. The TNA had asked for a meeting with Rajapaksa several times ever since he was elected in November 2019. At least on two occasions, the meeting had been cancelled at the last minute without any reason, the Tamil leaders had

charged at the protest.

The TNA wants the 13th Amendment to the Constitution to be made "meaningful" to address the political concerns of the Tamil minority.

The 13th Amendment was the result of the Indo-Lanka Accord of 1987, inked by the then Sri Lankan President JR Jayawardena and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

It provides for devolution of powers to the minority Tamil community in Sri Lanka. India has continually reaffirmed its commitment to protect the rights of Sri Lanka's Tamil community through the full implementation of the 13th Amendment, early convening of Provincial Council elections and achieving reconciliation. However, the LTTE, who led a three-decade-long armed campaign for a separate Tamil homeland, rejected the 13th Amendment, saying it offered too little in the form of power sharing to meet Tamil aspirations for self-determination.

UNIVERSITY GRADUATES



Nihon University graduates pose in their hakama kimonos before attending their graduation ceremony in Tokyo, Japan on Friday.

Session adjourned without tabling no-trust motion against Imran

Islamabad, Mar 25 (PTI):

Pakistan National Assembly's crucial session on a no-trust motion against embattled Prime Minister Imran Khan was adjourned on Friday without tabling of the resolution, amid vociferous protests from opposition lawmakers.

National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser said that the session was adjourned till 4pm on March 28 due to the demise of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf lawmaker Khayal Zaman.

According to Pakistan's Parliamentary conventions, the first sitting

after the death of a lawmaker is limited to the prayers for the departed soul and tributes from fellow lawmakers.

Several prominent opposition members, including Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly

Shehbaz Sharif, Pakistan Peoples' Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari and co-chair Asif Ali Zardari were in the Parliament House on Friday to participate in the much-anticipated session.

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER IN CHIEF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NAVA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice
Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Tenders are invited for the following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	95334 First Call 14.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF SARDI- SHIVPUR-TENDUPARA ROAD (LENGTH 2.25 KM) DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code - W22710) (NABARD Yojana)	268.39
2	95272 First Call 14.03.2022	Construction of NH-930 Khairkatta to Chikhalakasa Road Length 5.90 K.M i/c Bridge and Culverts AT DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (NABARD Yojana)	778.79
3	95338 First Call 14.03.2022	Construction of Sehpal to Ranwahi Road Length 5.70 k.m i/c Bridge & Culverts At Distt.-Rajnandgaon. (NABARD Yojana)	789.96
4	95273 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Vidhyak Grih Gram Pairitola- BiteiraWia-Khoppa Road At Block Chhuriya Length 5.30 K.m. i/c Bridge & Culverts AT DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (NABARD Yojana)	542.92
5	95274 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Chivarakuta to Dongararka Road (Length 6.30 k.m.), i/c. Culverts, Distt. Mahasamund. (Dn. Mahasamund) (Nbard scheme)	862.71
6	95333 First Call 15.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF MASOURA- KUDRA ROAD LENGTH 5.00 K.M. DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code - W22019) (NABARD Yojana)	585.38
7	95339 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Hadapathara to Salhejhariya Road (Length 3.725 k.m.), i/c. Culverts at Distt. Mahasamund. (Dn. Mahasamund) (NABARD Yojana)	428.82
8	95342 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Jaitgundra- Morkutumb-Bharitola Road Length 4.75 K.M i/c Bridge & Culverts At Distt Rajnandgaon. (NABARD Yojana)	421.18
9	95335 First Call 15.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF PENDRY CHOWK TO MATUKPUR ROAD LENGTH 6.70 K.M. DISTT. KOREA (C.G.) (Work code - W22018), (NABARD Yojana)	794.37
10	95336 First Call 15.03.2022	CONSTRUCTION OF SILFILI COLLEGE TO HIRADABRI ROAD (including Culverts), LENGTH 5.85 K.M. DISTT. SURAJPUR (C.G.) (Work code W22440) (NABARD Yojana)	795.01
11	95385 First Call 15.03.2022	Construction of Fagdutola-Khoratola Road Length 3.60 K.M Block Chhuriya AT DISTT.-Rajnandgaon (NABARD Yojana)	435.68

Last Date of Tender Downloading For Dates 06.04.2022. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer (Central Tender Cell)
Office Of Engineer In Chief
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar
G-6896/5

Advertisement No. 05/2022

PUBLIC NOTICE
It has come to notice that a few Universities in People's Republic of China have started issuing notices for admission to various degree programmes for the current and upcoming academic years.

In this context, any prospective student needs to be aware that the Government of People's Republic of China has imposed strict travel restrictions in the wake of COVID-19 and suspended all visas since November 2020. A large number of Indian students have not been able to return to China to continue their studies due to these restrictions. Thus far, there has been no relaxation in the restrictions. Further, the Chinese authorities have conveyed earlier that courses will be conducted online.

As per the extant rules, UGC and AICTE do not recognize such degree courses done only in online mode. without prior approval. In view of the above, students are advised to exercise due diligence in choosing where to pursue higher education to avoid further problems in employment or higher studies.

Member Secretary **Secretary**
All India Council for **University Grants**
Technical Education **Commission**

Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Limited
(A Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking)
(ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified)
1st Floor, Udyog Bhawan, Ring Road No. 1, Telibandha, Raipur (C.G.) - 492006
CIN : U45203CT1981SG001853, PAN:AABCM6288N, GST Reg.No.22AAACM6288N5Z
Phone: 0771-8621000 Fax: 0771-2583794
Website : www.csidc.in
Email address : csidc.cg@nic.inside_raipur@yahoo.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(Through e-Procurement Portal Only)
NIT No. 11/CSIDC/E.E./Division-III/2021-22 Raipur, Dated 25/03/2022

Chhattisgarh State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., Raipur (CSIDC), a Government of Chhattisgarh Undertaking constituted under the Companies Act, engaged in Industrial Infrastructure Development & Other Related Activities in the State invites tender for the work of "Sewerage Disposal System for Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC), Sector-22, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar (C.C.)."

Registered Contractor in CGPWD or in appropriate class in other dept.	Probable Amount of Contract (PAC) (INR Crores)	Last Date for Submission of Tender
Class-B & Above	2.78	19/04/2022

The tender document containing detail ed terms & conditions, scope of works and other details can be downloaded from the web portal (website) <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> from 30/03/2022 Time 17:01 and shall be submitted online only. Amendment in tender, if any, will only be uploaded on the website and shall not be published in any newspaper.

NOTE: The interested tenderers for online submission of tender may contact CG e-Proc Helpdesk. Operated by **Mjunction Services Limited**, they may reach Helpdesk using 18004199140 (from 9 AM to 11 PM) (therein press 2 for CG e-Proc) or you can email them at Helpdesk_eproc@cgswan.gov.in.

S-31899/2 **Executive Engineer (Division-III)**
कार्यालय एवं दस्तावेज हेतु स्थान उपलब्ध, वेबसाईट देखें www.csidc.in

SBI भारतीय स्टेट बैंक STATE BANK OF INDIA

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Publication of Notice regarding possession of property u/s 13(4) Of SARFAESI Act 2002
Manendragarh Branch
Address: Main Market, Manendragarh, Koriya, CG

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security interest 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 9 of the security interest of (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against each account.

The Borrower 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 STATE BANK OF INDIA for an amount and interest thereon.

Name of account/ Borrower & address	Name of Proprietor/ partners/Guarantors/ owner of property etc	Description of the property mortgaged/charged	Date of demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding
Shri Suresh Kumar Agrawal S/O Shri Phoolchand Agrawal ward no-16, Near Old Nagar Palika building, Hazari Chowk, Dist- Koriya (CG)	Guarantor & Owner of property- Shri Suresh Kumar Agrawal S/O Shri Phoolchand Agrawal	Khasra No-282, area 4232 Sqft. Situated at ward no-16, Near Old Nagar Palika building, Hazari Chowk, Dist-Koriya(CG) owned by Shri Suresh Kumar Agrawal S/O Shri Phoolchand Agrawal. Boundaries:- North:-House of Durga Prasad Kejriwal South:- House of Shri Chhedi Lal Agrawal East:- Road West:- Road/Street	03/01/2022	22/03/2022	Rs. 97,39,325/- (Rupees Ninety Seven Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Five Only) as on 03.01.2022 and further interest, cost, s etc. thereon.

Date: 24/03/2022
Place: manendragarh

Authorized Officer
State bank of India Manendragarh Branch
(Br. Code- 00425) Main Road, Manendragarh
Distt.- Koriya (C.G.) India 497442

इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक India Post Payments Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)
Corporate Office, Speed Post Centre Building, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi - 110001

RECRUITMENT OF VACANCIES (INCLUDING BACKLOG) IN SCALE II, III, IV, V, VI & VII ON REGULAR & CONTRACT BASIS

Advertisement No.: IPPB/HR/CO/REC/2021-22/03
Applications are invited for appointments to the following posts on regular & contract basis :

Department	Scale	Post/Designation	Type of Employment	No. of Vacancies
Technology	VI	Chief Technology Officer	Contract	1
	V	AGM - Enterprise/ Integration Architect	Regular	1
	IV	Chief Manager - Digital Technology	Regular	1
	III	Senior Manager - System/ Database Administration	Regular	1
Information Security	III	Senior Manager - Security Administration/Architect	Regular	1
	II	Manager - Security Administration	Regular	1
Product	V	AGM - BSG (Business Solutions Group)	Regular	1
	IV	Chief Manager - Retail Products	Regular	1
Operations	IV	Chief Manager - Retail Payments	Regular	1
	VII	GM-Operations	Regular	1
Compliance Function	VI	Chief Compliance Officer	Contract	1
Finance	IV	Chief Manager - Finance	Regular	1

Post/Grade/Scale	Age (as on 01-03-2022)	Experience in Officer Cadre	Pay Scale
Manager (MMGS-II)	23 to 35 years	3 Years	48,170 - 69,810
Senior Manager (MMGS-III)	26 to 35 years	6 Years	63,840 - 78,230
Chief Manager (SMGS-IV)	29 to 45 years	9 Years	76,010 - 89,890
Assistant General Manager (SMGS-V)	32 to 45 years	12 Years	89,890 - 1,00,350
Deputy General Manager (TEGS-VI)	35 to 55 years	15 Years	1,04,240 - 1,16,120
General Manager (TEGS-VII)	38 to 55 years	18 Years	1,16,120 - 1,29,000

IMPORTANT DATES :

(i) Opening date for On-line Registration of Applications	26.03.2022 : 10.00 AM
(ii) Last date of On-line Submission of Applications with Fee	09.04.2022 : 11.59 PM

For detailed advertisement, please visit our official website <https://ippbonline.com/web/ippb/current-openings>

Place: New Delhi
Date : 26.03.2022
davp - 06346/12/0007/2122

Sd/-
Chief HR Officer



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 9 No. 352

US inspired CUET

The Central University Common Entrance Test (CUCET) or the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) is a computerised entrance exam for admission to 45 central universities in India wherein one's Class 12 marks won't matter. The universities can use the Class 12 marks as one eligibility criterion at best. It will be conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) in the first week of July. UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar had announced. The application window will be open in the first week of April. An association of private schools had written a letter to Union Education Minister, expressing apprehension that the introduction of CUET from the 2022-23 academic session may encourage "coaching culture" among students. The fact that CUET will be based on NCERT books will encourage students from state boards and ICSE to take coaching since they follow different books. The CUET will have three parts: compulsory language, 27 subject domains, and general test on quantitative reasoning, logical and analytical reasoning, numerical ability, and general knowledge and current affairs. Schools will only become a medium for clearing CUET. Some teachers allege that whole focus of NEP 2020 for school education has got diluted. The attempt of UGC to put emphasis on CUET must be taken in context of SAT system of US. It seems UGC wants to emulate US system for college admissions and CUET is inspired by SAT. The SAT is a standardized test widely used for college admissions in the United States. Since its debut in 1926, its name and scoring have changed several times, originally called the Scholastic Aptitude Test, it was later called the Scholastic Assessment Test, then the SAT I: Reasoning Test, then the SAT Reasoning Test, then simply the SAT. The SAT is wholly owned, developed, and published by the College Board, a private, not-for-profit organization in the United States. It is administered on behalf of the College Board by the Educational Testing Service, which until recently developed the SAT as well. The test is intended to assess students' readiness for college. Recently, SAT has been used by universities across the world for undergraduate admissions and will go completely digital by 2024, the College Board, a global body that conducts the test had announced. The SAT is recognised in the US, UK, Canada, Singapore, Australia, Germany and most recently, in India. As more students in Indian cities prepare for SAT with coaching institutes to study either in India or outside India, UGC perceives case for CUET. The number of Indian students taking the SAT has reportedly gone up in recent years. As the test came under fire in recent years for favouring skilled test-takers as well as wealthy students, more and more colleges moved to test-optional admissions. The pandemic accelerated that shift, with Ivy League colleges joining the move away from mandatory testing. As UGC demands unified testing, some states and universities in US question about relevancy of test like SAT. The California State University Board of Trustees voted unanimously this week to no longer use standardized SAT and ACT tests in undergraduate admissions. Even though many colleges in US aren't mandating scores, at least one group of students are still sending them with wealthier parents who can afford coaching. In the current application cycle for current high school seniors, 52 percent of US students in the wealthiest households submitted scores this school year, according to data from the Common Application. Experience of US suggests that demand for CUET coaching will rise in India, forcing parents to spend money.

Subsidise electric cooking

Oil manufacturing companies (OMCs) have raised the price of domestic cooking gas (LPG) by Rs 50 per cylinder. This abrupt price increase corresponds to a spike in international energy rates. Also, it is the first surge in LPG rates since 6 October, 2021. Usually, the price of an LPG cylinder varies from state to state due to local taxes levied by the state government. According to reports, the LPG rates are revised on the average international rate for benchmark fuel and foreign exchange rate. LPG has now become more expensive than cooking using electricity in some states. With no increase in power tariff this fiscal year in Chhattisgarh, people are advised to buy and use electric appliances for cooking some parts of their food in a day. Union commerce minister Piyush Goyal has repeatedly suggested people to use electric appliances and reduce LPG consumption. The idea of using electricity for cooking, as suggested by Piyush Goyal, is most welcome. This transition from using imported LPG and piped gas to electricity for cooking would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ease the burden on the central exchequer and eliminate a portion of hydrocarbons from the nation's import bill, improving the balance of payments. With electricity, indoor air pollution would be even lower than in the case of natural gas or LPG. Bottling cooking gas in cylinders and ferrying the cylinders across the land is an energy- and emission-intensive activity. Power lines already reach every village, so the additional cost of transporting energy would be minimal, when electricity takes the place of cooking gas. With electricity, indoor air pollution would be even lower than in the case of natural gas or LPG. Bottling cooking gas in cylinders and ferrying the cylinders across the land is an energy- and emission-intensive activity. Power lines already reach every village, so the additional cost of transporting energy would be minimal, when electricity takes the place of cooking gas. In addition, the government needs to reduce tax on price of electric appliances like induction, infrared cooktops, microwave ovens, toasters, air fryers, electric kettles and electric steam cookers. The state governments can also arrange for distribution and subsidy for electric cooking similar to LED bulbs. Direct transfer of energy is a much more efficient way of cooking, hence induction converts almost 80 percent of its electromagnetic energy into the food as compared to a mere 40 percent of burner energy being transferred to food in the case of LPG stove.

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

BALLOON LAUNCH



A man holds onto a hot air balloon as it is launched along the Red River during the "Get on Hanoi 2022" festival in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Wonderment about lack of uprising inside Congress party

RK SINHA

After careful assessment of the assembly election results in the five states, one can infer that the existence of the Congress party in India is close to its impending doom. In Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa, and Manipur, the Congress was brushed aside by the voters. These results are proof that if the Congress isn't freed from the clasp of the Gandhi family, its presence in Indian politics shall be diminished to nothing more than a relic of the ancient past. Once the Election Commission had announced the election schedule on January 9, Priyanka Gandhi immediately began conducting roadshows and door-to-door campaigns at 42 places. She also contacted around 340 assembly constituencies through nukkad natak, virtual rallies, and other channels. Her political campaigns were extensively witnessed over all the five states. Rahul Gandhi also spent a lot of time campaigning in Uttar Pradesh, but a little less when compared to his sister. The Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel, Sachin Pilot, Deepender Hooda, renowned poet and chief of Congress Minority Cell, Imran Pratapgarhi, were also seen working hard on the field. Imran Pratapgarhi single-handedly orchestrated six dozen meetings. However, the results were a true reflection of their efforts. In Uttar Pradesh, Priyanka and Rahul had to face off against powerful opponents like the Honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Yogi

Adityanath, JP Nadda, and Rajnath Singh. As anticipated, Congress was handed a crushing defeat in Uttar Pradesh and the remaining states. Congress has been out of power in Uttar Pradesh since 1989. The last Chief Minister of UP from the Congress party was Vir Bahadur Singh. That is disheartening because not too long ago, Uttar Pradesh used to be a Congress stronghold and the origin of the Nehru family. For the sake of its survival, the leadership of Congress must be given to a worthy leader who can take decisions and adequate vision. In that regard, there is only one ray of hope for Congress, that is Ashok Gehlot. But the daunting question that arises is if he is willing to give up the Chief Minister's position, to take command of the party as its new leader? There is a negligible chance of this outcome materializing. Recall that prior to the elections of these five states, wherever Rahul Gandhi held rallies in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly elections, Congress was rejected by the voters. His party did not even open its account in the West Bengal Assembly elections. The party with which extraordinary leaders like Pandit Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sardar Patel, and Chittaranjan Das were associated is now taking its last breath. What is even more pitiful is that there were no efforts made to save it from such a pitiful end. Alongside the Gandhi family, some other party leaders will also have to take responsibility for the apocalyptic defeat of the Congress. There are dozens of so-called leaders, including Kapil Sibal, P Chidambaram, and Abhishek Manu Singhvi of Congress who have no relation with the public. These entitled leaders live their lives comfortably in the luxurious government allotted bungalows in Lutyens Delhi. Most of them are high-paid lawyers. During their time off from advocacy, they start doing politics as a hobby to pass their time and stay

relevant in the media. They believe that they are doing huge service to the party by simply appearing in the pretentious debates hosted by news channels. Time and again, Priyanka Gandhi kept reiterating that she would work by staying in Uttar Pradesh. If so, then why didn't she contest the election? Why does she avoid contesting elections? What kind of a leader runs away from the task of contesting elections. When the hijab controversy made headlines, Priyanka Gandhi said, "Girls have the right to wear hijab. If anyone wants to wear a bikini, they can wear that too." Should the leader of a national party make such a cheap statement? On what grounds was Priyanka Gandhi speaking in favor of wearing hijabs in schools? Will anyone in India come to school wearing a bikini? Priyanka Gandhi should understand that the voters of the country see everything. In September last year, with the blessings of Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi, JNU's tukde-tukde gang leader Kanhaiya Kumar had entered Congress. This was the same Kanhaiya Kumar who accused the Indian Army jawans of committing heinous acts like rape in Kashmir. Was Congress also standing by Kanhaiya Kumar's absurd and absurd allegations? Priyanka Gandhi never clarified on what basis Kanhaiya Kumar was accusing the Indian Army? If one supports the anti-national elements, the public will serve them justice in the elections. Neither Rahul nor Priyanka know the fickleness of the public. They do not have any concrete and patient opinions on any vital questions. Rahul Gandhi wants to replace Narendra Modi, and Priyanka wishes to become the second Indira Gandhi. However, both of them have not been able to understand India yet. That is why today, the condition of the Congress party has become very despicable. They seem to have made up

their mind to bring about the destruction of Congress. Everything was going well in Punjab before their intrusion. After they removed the political stalwart, Captain Amarinder Singh, from the position of the Chief Minister and made a non-serious prankster like Navjot Singh Sidhu, the head of the party, the downfall of Congress in Punjab began. The consequences of their decisions are pretty evident. Let us recall the last Lok Sabha elections (2019). Except in Kerala and Punjab, the performance of the Congress was not satisfactory anywhere. Congress won in Punjab only because of the leadership of former Patiala King Captain Amarinder Singh. Rahul Gandhi pitted Navjot Singh Sidhu against the same Captain Amarinder Singh. Sidhu is extremely special to Rahul Gandhi, and he was given entry into the Congress party even after the reluctance of the captain. Rahul Gandhi had sent Sidhu to campaign across the country. During his campaigns, he used vile and abusive language against BJP and Modi Ji. As nothing misses the public's watchful eyes, wherever Sidhu went, his party was defeated. Debate and dialogue should continue to thrive in a democracy. There should be a lot of fruitful discussions in the Parliament too. That is a prerequisite for the strength and stability of any democracy. But since when did democracy allow making petty baseless allegations on your political opponent? The central leadership in Congress is continuously weakening. Central leadership is powerful when it has some credibility among the people. Rahul Gandhi is not able to get the party any victory. One cannot help but wonder why there is no uprising in Congress against the leadership of the Gandhi family.

(RK Sinha is senior editor, columnist, and former MP.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Strike purpose

Again Bank Strike by some trade unions but for what purpose? Answer is for no purpose of bank employees and only to make happy their Animus. Bank trade unions are adopting this old weapon to go on strike just to satisfy their own goal which have no link with the welfare of a common bank employee. During the period of Rajiv Gandhi these unions strongly opposed the computerization in banking sector and ultimately accepted the offer when some monetary benefits were provided and in this way country had suffered a lot. In the strike only three unions are going on strike who are affiliated with communist. Moreover this strike has nothing to do with banking and its staff problems whereas there are many problems of banking staff which are pending for the last 25 years and here I shall narrate one such problem: The first disability Act was passed by the parliament in 1996 and the second disability Act was passed in 2016. And due to this, there cannot be any disparity between the abled and disabled, and I had already several times brought it to the notice of these union leaders but due to the insensitive attitude towards the disabled these leaders have till today not even acknowledged the representation. And how can we expect from them that they will take up the matter with the government? The strike is called with the ill-conceived notions without caring for the national interests. I appeal to the government not to call these leaders for any negotiations until and unless the demand of the disabled is put forward in their charter of demands. I also appeal to all employees of the banks to put pressure on the leaders to shun the indifferent attitude towards the disabled. Recently, family pension was enhanced. I sent representations to Finance Minister as well as to the other dignitaries, including Union leaders bringing to their notice how the legal heirs of disabled will be adversely impacted, and for loss of family pension, these leaders who are holding the positions in a trade union, as well as their predecessors who were at the helm of affairs previously, are equally responsible for the legal heirs of family pensioners. Now I appeal to these leaders to come forward for these family pension holders and show their capabilities to handle the issues for the infringement of their constitutional rights. As the parliament Session is going on so I had sent Representation to Speaker Lok Sabha and requested him not to pass the bill for Privatisation of two nationalised banks without removing the clause which infringed the constitutional rights of Disabled. In addition to that I had sent Representations to 27 members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and requested them to take up matter in the parliament. In this regard I had sent Representation to principal Secretary to PM also. One more fact which is worth mentionable is that total persons covered under this disparity are very very a few Repeat very very a few and can be counted on fingers. Trade union leaders are answerable to Disabled and their legal heirs for infringement of their legitimate rights.

Yash Pal Ralhan, Jalandhar



WHAT THEY TWEET!



Aviral@aviralbhat
Maggi noodles weighing 270,000 metric tonnes were sold last year. Assuming a price of 160 INR/Kg that is 4,320 Cr of sales. Maggi alone would be the 300th largest company in India by revenue, as large as Aditya Birla Fashion, Colgate and 2x bigger than Zomato. Just one product.

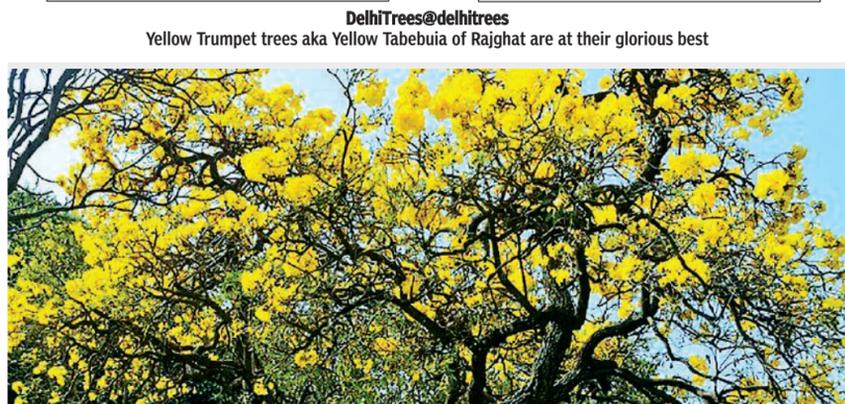
Sandeep@sandeep_PT
There never was a more corrupt instrument made than the Electoral Bonds. It institutionalises all black money donations, under a black curtain of faux legality (SBI, bonds ...), and removes from public gaze the dirty game of collecting donations (white or black) at all levels.



Birender@bsdhanoo
The Soviet philosophy behind their tank design was "flood the battlefield with tracks to overwhelm the tech advantage the West enjoyed", low silhouette (aided by an auto loader), minimal crew comfort and a powerful main gun. Hasn't changed much for Russia till the arrival of T-14

Harsh@harshmadhusudan
If anything, despite being behind China which in turn is behind America, certainly per capita - India has the more stable political system compared to China. But then again, the Chinese society is too coherent to not reorient its state when needed though it won't be pretty maybe.

DeshBhakt@TheDeshBhakt
Heartbreaking scenes from Afghanistan, girls pleading at the gates of schools, as they are turned away - denied dignity & an education. This is what Taliban power has come down to - fighting against little girls! But expected, when religious fundamentalists come to rule the roost



DelhiTrees@delhitrees
Yellow Trumpet trees aka Yellow Tabebuia of Rajghat are at their glorious best

Jayaprakash@Jp_Loksatta
Sri Lanka's food & economic crisis is due to whimsical policies, reckless populism & fiscal profligacy. It is a cautionary tale for all poor nations. Many states in India are indulging in reckless short-term freebies for electoral gain, ignoring growth & core functions.

BRIEF

Acquires



New Delhi: Gance InMobi has acquired Gambit Sports for undisclosed amount as part of its plan to build the biggest platform for NFT-based live gaming experiences across markets. Gance COO Piyush Shah said we also aim to launch creator-led NFTs for live gaming.

Completes

New Delhi: Torrent Power on Friday announced the completion of the acquisition of 50 MW solar power plant from Lightsource bp and UKCI for an enterprise value of Rs 300 crore. The SPV (special purpose vehicle) operates a 50 MW solar power plant, commissioned in April 2018, situated in Maharashtra.

Partners



Mumbai: Bounce Infinity has partnered with Jaipur-based EV maker BattRE to provide its battery swapping network to the latter. Bounce CEO Vivekananda Hallelkere said we are confident that we have alliance of partnership to push forward into next phase of growth.

Co-lending

New Delhi: Edelweiss Housing Finance Limited (EHFL) on Friday said it has partnered with the country's largest lender SBI for co-lending towards priority sector home loans to self-employed entrepreneurs and salaried customers. A subsidiary of Edelweiss Financial Services, EHFL said this alliance will leverage the combined reach of both the partners in tier II and tier III markets to ensure timely disbursement of housing credit to customers.

Opens



Kolkata: Larsen & Toubro group's IT company, Mindtree announced opening of its first development centre in Kolkata engaging 1,000 professionals. Mindtree CEO MD Debashis Chatterjee said we look forward to growing our infrastructure and operations.

IPO

New Delhi: Veranda Learning Solutions said it has fixed the price band at Rs 130-137 per share for its Rs 200 crore initial public offering that will open on March 29. The Initial Public Offering (IPO) will remain open from March 29 to 31.

Gujarat again tops NITI Aayog's 'Export Preparedness Index 2021'

■ 70% exports have been dominated by five states

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Gujarat, for the second consecutive year, has topped the Niti Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2021 which is aimed at assessing the readiness of the states in terms of their export potential and performance.

Gujarat was followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, according to the government think tank's report.

Union territories and states like Lakshadweep, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Ladakh and Meghalaya were placed at the bottom. The index, prepared in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness, can be used by states and Union



NITI Aayog members release 'Export Preparedness Index 2021' in New Delhi on Friday.

Territories (UTs) to benchmark their performance against their peers and analyse potential challenges to develop better policy mechanisms to foster export-led growth at the sub-national level.

The ranking is based on four main pillars: policy, business ecosystem, export ecosystem and export performance, and 11 sub-pillars like export promotion policy and business environment. The index's primary goal is to instil

competition among all states (coastal, landlocked, himalayan and UTs/city-states) to bring about favourable policies, ease the regulatory framework, create necessary infrastructure and assist in identifying strategic recommendations for improving export competitiveness. Releasing the report, NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said growth of India's exports is 36 per cent, while the world trade growth is

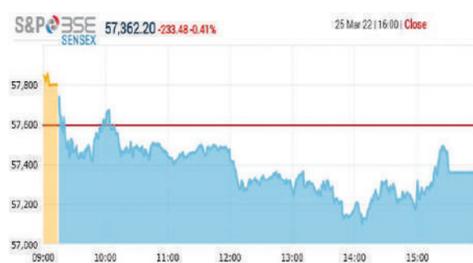
30 per cent. "After a very long time, we will see India's share in world merchandise trade increasing from 1.6 to 1.7 per cent," he said, adding, sectors which contributed in the growth include vehicles, electrical machinery, iron and steel.

Kumar said that the value of global trade is USD 24 trillion, of which India's export is worth USD 400 billion, so there is "massive" potential. He called for a target to quadruple India's share in the global trade in the next ten years. He also urged all the states to have district export plans and promotion committees.

The ranking showed that there are some states which can do much better by preparing an institutional and policy framework for exports, Kumar said, adding that some of the performances abroad can be measured in terms of export expansion in their markets.

Sensex, Nifty decline for 3rd day as HDFC Bank, TCS slide

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):



Market benchmark Sensex declined over 233 points on Friday, extending its losses to a third day as index majors HDFC Bank, TCS and Infosys went down amid a mixed trend in global equities.

The 30-share BSE benchmark dropped 233.48 points or 0.41 per cent to settle at 57,362.20. During the day, it tanked 495.44 points to 57,100.24.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty declined 69.75 points or 0.40 per cent to settle at 17,153.

"The Indian equity market continue to be in a grind, influenced by and reacting to incremental news flow on the global front, especially related to the geopolitical situation and Fed rhetoric. The two key challenges and monitorables for the markets in the near term are the persistent inflationary pressures and the rising bond yields," said Milind Muchhala, Executive Director, Julius Baer.

Titan, Tech Mahindra, Maruti Suzuki India, Wipro, Nestle India, TCS, Larsen & Toubro, HCL Technologies, Tata Steel and HDFC Bank were among the major laggards.

On the other hand, Dr Reddy's, Asian Paints, Reliance Industries Limited, Bharti Airtel, State Bank of India and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the gainers.

In the previous session, the BSE Sensex had declined 89.14 points or 0.15 per cent to settle at 57,595.68. The NSE Nifty declined 22.90 points or 0.13 per cent to 17,222.75.

Elsewhere in Asia, bourses in Shanghai and Hong Kong ended lower,

while Tokyo and Seoul settled with marginal gains. In early trading, the FTSE 100 in London fell 0.2 per cent to 7,454.92 and the DAX in Frankfurt was off less than 0.1 per cent at 14,267.95. The CAC in Paris sank 0.1 per cent to 6,550.00.

On Wall Street, the future for the benchmark S & P 500 index gained 0.2 per cent. That for the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 0.1 per cent. In Asia, the Shanghai Composite Index lost 1.2 per cent to 3,212.24 while the Nikkei 225 in Tokyo gained 0.1 per cent to 28,149.84. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong fell 2.5 per cent to 21,404.88.

Rupee rises 11 paise to 76.22 against USD, bullion falls

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

The rupee rose further by 11 paise to 76.22 against the US dollar on Friday, tracking the weakness in the American currency in the overseas market.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 76.15 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 76.12 and a low of 76.29.

The rupee quoted at 76.22 at 1530 hrs, registering a rise of 11 paise over its previous close. In the previous session, the rupee had appreciated 6 paise to settle at 76.33 against the US dollar.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the

greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, fell 0.16 per cent to 98.62. The rupee rebounded amid dollar softness and lower crude oil prices but trimmed the early gains following weaker domestic equities and foreign fund outflows, said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Ahead of the financial year-end, the rupee tends to show a high swing on the back of rebalancing-related inflows and outflows, Parmar added.

"The balance of risks for USDINR remains skewed to the upside following geopolitical worries and broad based selling by foreign institutions.

Spot USDINR is expected to settle in the range of 76 to 76.50 this month, medium term direction remains bullish as long as it holds 75.70," Parmar noted. Bullion prices fell on global cues. Gold futures on Friday fell by Rs 98 to Rs 51,980 per 10 grams as participants cut down their bets amid a weak global trend. On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for April delivery declined by Rs 98 or 0.19 per cent to Rs 51,980 per 10 grams in a business turnover of 6,603 lots.

Analysts attributed the fall in prices to trimming of positions by investors, tracking a weak trend in international market.

Spectrum auction to be conducted soon

■ 5G service to be launched by year end

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Spectrum auctions will be conducted very soon, and the next-generation 5G services are expected to commence before the end of the year, Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan said in the Rajya Sabha on Friday.

Replying to a supplementary question during Question Hour, Chauhan also said that the four companies have been allotted spectrum for conducting trials and added that the trials are expected to be completed soon. In parallel, the minister said that the telecom regulator



TRAI has also been asked to give its recommendations related to the upcoming auction. "We will conduct auctions very soon. By the end of this year, we will start 5G services in the country," he said.

He also asserted that state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd

(BSNL) will begin its 4G services this year. The minister said that a "great revolution" has taken place in the telecom sector over the last seven years and that data consumption has soared while tariffs are at the lowest.

There is a robust public grievance mechanism in

place and complaints pending for over 48 hours are escalated to senior officials, Chauhan said.

The government has taken a slew of measures to revive telecom PSUs BSNL and MTNL.

The quality of BSNL services will also improve with the launch of the state-owned corporation's 4G services, he asserted.

Chauhan also outlined the reforms undertaken by the government in the telecom sector and cites measures like re-definition of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue).

In a written reply, Communication Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said, "There is no decline in the number of mobile subscribers in the country in the year 2020-21."

NEW LAUNCH

OKHI-90
The Responsible Choice

Okinawa Autotech launches OKHI-90 electric scooter in New Delhi, Friday.

SIDBI acquires 7.84% stake in ONDC for Rs 10 cr

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) on Friday said it has acquired 7.84 per cent stake in open public digital infrastructure platform, ONDC, for Rs 10 crore. "SIDBI, the apex Financial Institution for financing and development of MSMEs in the country, has acquired 7.84 per cent stake in the open public digital infrastructure framework entity named Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) through an investment of Rs 10 crore," it said in a release. Hoping that its investment in ONDC will help develop digital infrastructure to democratize digital commerce in the country, S Ramann, CMD, SIDBI said the infrastructure created would serve as a public good by augmenting market access for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

Union Bank of India launches 25 next-gen MSME branches

Taking the tally to 50 locations across India

Mumbai, Mar 25: Union Bank of India launched another set of its next-gen MSME focused branches i.e., Union MSME First Branches (UMFB's) at 25 locations across the country, taking the total of UMFB's to 50 locations pan India.

The branches were inaugurated by Nidhu Saxena, Executive Director of the bank at a virtual event held this Tuesday.

The Bank had earlier launched 25 such MSME focused branches which resulted in enhanced customer experience and quantity of business generated. The new branch locations were identified based on geo-analytics,



field discussions and are located close to SME clusters to enable easy access for its clients. In keeping with its aspiration of delivering maximum value & fast turn-around time to its SME customers, the branches will have dedicated relationship managers & product teams who will provide all products like MSME Loans, deposits, forex services, LC/BG, credit cards, insurance products etc. under one roof.

Govt keeping close watch on trade amid Russia-Ukraine crisis

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

The government is continuously monitoring the opportunities that the Russia-Ukraine war has opened up for India and is in dialogue with traders to ensure more exports of wheat and other commodities, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal told the Rajya Sabha on Friday.

Replying to supplementaries during Question Hour, he said Indian wheat exports are set to cross 70 lakh metric tonnes this year from merely 2 lakh metric tonnes two years ago.

Goyal said many ships and containers have been blocked in several European countries fol-



Piyush Goyal

steps are required to be taken it will take action," he told the members in the upper house.

He also said that the government is in dialogue with exporters and importers and those involved in business and various measures are being taken to ensure that payments come on time and businesses do not suffer.

"India, despite the constraints due to Covid, has achieved exports of USD 400 billion, which is historic as India has never achieved this figure," he also said.

The minister said India has been continuously monitoring the opportunities this opens up for India and Indian exporters.

RBI central board discusses impact of geopolitical crises

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

Amid the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India on Friday discussed the overall impact of current global geopolitical crises on the Indian economy.

The 594th meeting of the Central Board of Directors of RBI was held on Friday at Bengaluru under the Chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das, the RBI said.

"The Board in its meeting reviewed the various areas of operation of the Bank and the current economic situation, global and domestic challenges including the overall impact of current global geopolitical crises," it said. Further, the Board discussed the Reserve Bank's activities during the cur-



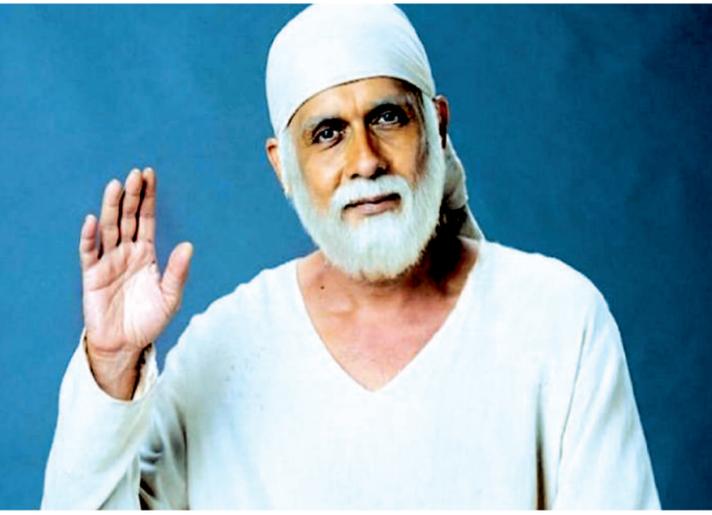
RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das inaugurates the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub in Bengaluru.

rent accounting year 2021-22. The Board also approved the budget for the accounting year 2022-23. Deputy Governors Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao, and T

Rabi Sankar, attended the meeting.

Other Directors of the Central Board Satish K Marathe, S Gurumurthy, Revathy Iyer and Sachin Chaturvedi too attended the meeting.

The release further said Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Sanjay Malhotra, Secretary, Department of Financial Services also participated in the meeting.



'Mere Sai: Shraddha Aur Saburi' to highlight it's fourth vachan

The ongoing track of Sony Entertainment Television's Mere Sai: Shraddha aur Saburi has now moved on to highlight Sai's fourth vachan, 'Jo Shirdi Me Aayega, Aapad Door Bhagayega'. The story revolves around Vishnu, who is undergoing bad times along with the rest of his family. While Sai takes him away from the village, his 'punya pratap' comes to his family's aid in his absence. The track further highlights the moral fight between a corrupt police officer, Moreshwar, who has been transferred to Shirdi recently, and Sai, who collects chanda for a famine-stricken family in Shirdi itself. Although Sai warns Moreshwar, he still plans to rob a government relief convoy headed for the same village. Tushar Dalvi, who plays the role of Sai Baba says "Shirdi has always been considered to be a sacred, holy place since time immemorial. Evil always surrounds us, but it is our decision whether we allow for it to impact us. The latest track in the show displays to the audience the greys and errors of human life and human choices, and how these affect society at large. The audience will be compelled to think of the storyline from both perspectives, but I'm confident that they will choose the right path in every walk of life." Tune in to Mere Sai: Shraddha aur Saburi, Monday to Friday at 7 P.M. only on Sony Entertainment Television.

Ronit Bose Roy hosts 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan'!



Every society that strives for peace and harmony has a darker side of reality that is ridden with crime. While we may come to know about many of those crimes on news and social media, there still exists a range of aggravating crimes whose stories remain untold. COLORS brings forth these stories to light with its rousing new crime show 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan'. Hosted by Indian television's icon Ronit Bose Roy, this show depicts a riveting series of 65 episodes covering

the range of crimes that this country witnesses including honour killings, crimes of passion, crimes related to family disputes over various reasons, sexual harassment, 'modern crimes' in the onset of social media amongst others. On turning the host for the show, Ronit Bose Roy mentions, "I feel honoured to have a chance at hosting a show with such a powerful concept. 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan' on COLORS sheds light on soul-stirring crime stories based on real-life incidents.

This venture aims to reflect the hard-hitting realities of our society on the back of its mesmerizing episodes. Narrating these stories gives me a wonderful opportunity to create a deeper connection with them. Kudos to COLORS for taking the initiative of spreading awareness amongst our viewers while also giving them the entertainment that they deserve!" Stay tuned to 'India's Most Sansanikhez Kahaniyaan' every Saturday-Sunday at 10:30 pm only on COLORS.

Priyanka Chopra, Kaitlyn Dever, Chloe Fineman sizzle at Oscars bash

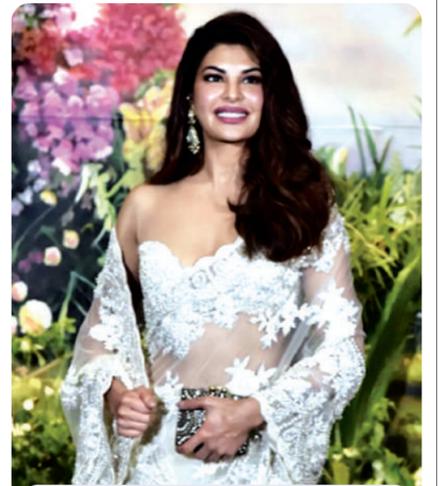
With the Oscars week underway, the celebrations for the prestigious awards ceremony are in full-swing with Oscar parties raising the excitement further. Recently, stars from Hollywood and international cinema, attended several events and the pictures, accessed by 'Variety', are stunning to say the least. Reinaldo Marcus Green, Jamie Dornan, and Donall O Healai were all suited up for the Oscar Wilde Awards at The Ebell of Los Angeles. Another set of pictures, accessed by 'Variety', show Saniya Sidney and Aunjanue Ellis put their best fashion foot forward at the Essence 15th Annual Black Women in Hollywood Awards at the Beverly Wilshire hotel. Storm Reid was also seen sporting a light yellow coloured gown for the same with British actor Damson Idris donning a cloud grey coloured suit for the said event. Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Aziz Ansari were seen sharing a laugh at the Celebrate South Asian Excellence event at UTA where Kal Penn and Joseph Patel too registered their presence. Justice Smith, Nat Wolff, Chloe Fineman, Tinx, Olly Sholotanat, Kaitlyn Dever, Joey King, Chase Stokes and Kathryn Newton graced the Vanity Fair and BACARDÍ Rum Celebrate Vanities: A Night for Young Hollywood at Musso & Frank Grill. Yvette Nicole Brown and Maitreyi Ramakrishnan were seen acing their fashion game at the Emily's List Oscars Week Discussion at the Four Seasons in Beverly Hills along with Chiney Ogwumike, Amber Tamblyn and Gloria Calderon Kellett.



Fan question Kajal Pisal on portraying a mom to an adult actor on-screen

Actress Kajal Pisal is currently seen in the role of a mother of a young boy (played by Puneet Choksey) who is almost her age, on the show 'Sirf Tum'. She is often questioned by fans on social media on playing a role disproportionate to her age. Talking about it Kajal says: "I'm glad that people are watching and appreciating my work. I don't regret playing a role over my age as audience do understand and classify your real age. Whenever I take up a role I just make sure to see my screen timing and importance in the story. If that is strong and creatively written I do not mind to act. After all we act nothing changes in real life." Kajal went on to reveal that she shares a healthy relationship with everyone on sets. "I'm lucky to have the opportunity to know some beautiful and extremely talented people on set. Everyone of us share healthy bond. We all are in or around same age and young. It's just the role and story we act elder or younger. Offscreen we all are like friends. I'm enjoying portraying my role." Kajal is known for featuring in shows like 'Bade Achhe Lagte Hain', 'Saath Nibhaana Saathiya' and 'Naagin 5', among others.

Working with John was extremely comfortable and fun, says Jacqueline



After 'Housefull 2', 'Race 2' and 'Dishoom', John Abraham and Jacqueline Fernandez will be seen sharing screen space in the upcoming film 'Attack'. The actress says the movie has an extremely strong narrative and that working again with action star was extremely comfortable and fun. The film is about India's first super soldier played by John Abraham. The film is helmed by Lakshya Raj Anand. It also features Rakul Preet Singh. 'Attack' (part 1) is not an ordinary action movie, it showcases sci-fi angle, a complex drama and a narrative with a question mark on how in future India handles terrorism. Talking about the chemistry and working with John once again, Jacqueline said: "It's always a pleasure to work with John, I am really looking forward to the audience's reaction to the film. It's an interesting storyline and extremely strong narrative and working again with John was extremely comfortable and fun." 'Attack' (Part 1) also stars Prakash Raj, Ratna Pathak Shah as they combine their forces to bring the audiences a special adrenaline pumping action entertainer to be watched exclusively in cinemas. Dr. Jayantilal Gada (Pen Studios), John Abraham (JA Entertainment), and Ajay Kapoor Productions present John Abraham's action entertainer 'Attack', which will be released worldwide by Pen Marudhar. The movie is slated to hit the cinemas on April 1.

HOROSCOPE SATURDAY MARCH 26

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18

With no major highs or lows, you will have a balanced day today. You will handle everything with great efficiency and Ganesha gives you a pat on your back for that. Continue to work hard for the day as your efforts will get noticed and not only that, you will also understand the value of your hardships.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Today will not find you in the best of spirits. You need to guard against being sad for the smallest of reasons. Pessimistic thoughts could creep in, owing to some external influences. You need to keep your will-power strong to remain positive. Increasing your awareness will help you see things with more truth and clarity, says Ganesha.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20

Your work and family will vie with each other for your attention. Merry-making will seem a good idea in the evening. Your desire for name and fame will meet with success shortly, maybe even today! Ganesha showers his blessings on you.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21

Passion and romance are in the air, Taurus, so make the most of the great atmosphere! Everyone seems to be in a festive mood. You feel close to others and feel profound gratitude for the loved ones in your life. Consider leaving work early to go home to snuggle up close with your special someone. Be sure to be extra open about sharing your feelings today.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21

It's time you took stock of your personal life. Is there someone you want to propose but are afraid to do so? Ganesha advises you not to let the fear of rejection stop you from making an effort. There are strong indications that you will be accepted if you speak your heart today.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22

Ganesha believes that you are likely to have a heightened interest in the study of philosophy and the working of the metaphysical world. This may be mere curiosity or a part of your effort to improve your professional skills. Your ability to read the human mind and understand human nature better than anyone else will help you take charge when needed.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23

It's fun, fun and more fun on the horizon! Ganesha foresees you taking time out for some leisure and frolic today. Broaden your horizon with a bit of travel since you are very likely to be going on a small trip to recharge your batteries. When it comes to work 'ac' which you seem to have put on hold 'ad' it is a matter of pride for you to play the role that you essay within your company. But for today, don't forget the sunscreen, reminds Ganesha.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22

Contemplating on past successes will help you gather the resources for achieving more of it in the near future. New contacts will help you make considerable headway on the road to success. Ganesha says your amiable nature will help you in getting along easily with people.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23

Ganesha says that you need to be more careful in your work field as your enemies or your competitors will try to pull you down today. You will have to be very careful in making business agreements or negotiations regarding give and take in the business. You will see your beloved grow distant from you today.

Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22

Long pending task of getting your home renovated may begin today. There are a couple of object de art that have caught your eyes and you wish to decorate your home with those artefacts. You may even plan a small celebration to share your home's new look! A great day indeed.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 31

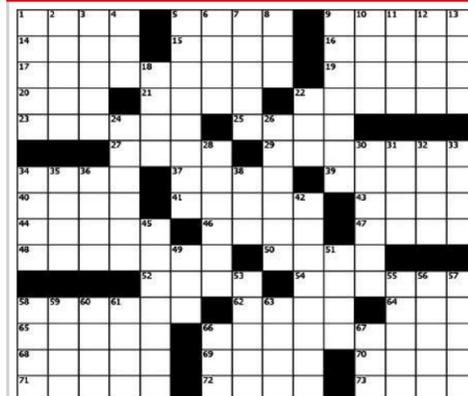
Beauty therapies or a new hair do, pick one; makeover and personal grooming is on your mind. Once you decide to shop, nothing in the world can stop you. You have decided to de-stress yourself with shopping. Clothes and jewellery is what your wardrobe is awaiting for, says Ganesha.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20

Generally, it is difficult for you to maintain a cool head over your shoulders, especially during the stressful times. But, to everyone's surprise, you will display remarkable composure while dealing with challenges today, feels Ganesha.

CROSSWORD

250



ACROSS

- Lady's undergarment
- Mushroom part
- Highway curves
- Agreeable
- Band instrument
- Figure
- Started
- Roman gown
- Poor grade
- Insult

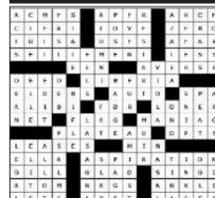
DOWN

- Discover
- Sign up
- Ocean current
- Horse strap
- Type of paint
- Computer output
- Klutz's cry
- Fathered
- Biblical locale
- Musical tones
- On cloud
- Big

- Pepper's companion
- Behaves
- Enormous
- Sensed
- Profit and
- Uses the oven
- Decree
- Rocker
- Turner
- Exclamation of discovery
- France's capital
- Reckless one
- Occurrence
- Greedy deity
- Hereditary carrier
- Salamanders
- Left
- Native minerals

- Rope loops
- Fiesta item
- Funnyman
- Idle
- Tenant's monthly bill
- Summer coolers
- Sandwich store
- Eden resident
- Duration
- School group (abbr.)
- Most strict
- Signs up
- Male child
- Burden
- Gape
- Piggy bank user
- Old pronoun
- tax
- Unclosed
- Great review
- Depicted
- Isn't, slangily
- Wrinkle remover
- Grass moisture
- Id's partner

SOLUTION 249



IPL returns home bigger than ever

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

Indian cricket's crown jewel, the IPL, is back home: bigger, better and longer. It will be the first time since 2011 that 10 teams be fighting it out for the most coveted T20 trophy in world cricket.

Two new entrants, Lucknow Supergiants and Gujarat Titans, fetching a combined price of approximately USD 1.7 billion shows that brand IPL keeps getting bigger. It took 14 years but the league has now well and truly gone global.

The owners of the iconic Manchester United also wanted a slice of the IPL pie but lost to the RPSG Group and Britain-based CVC group on the bidding table.

With the COVID situation under control in the country, the board's top brass can breathe easy and after a two year gap, IPL is set to be held in India in its entirety with at least 25 percent capacity of crowd allowed in stadiums this season.

The number of games have been increased to 74 from 60 with the addition of new teams, extending the IPL window to over two months.

All teams however will play 14 games each like in the past but will a longer tournament impact the

intensity and quality of cricket, only time will tell. The board has learnt from the harsh lessons of the 2021 edition when the tournament had to be suspended midway due to the raging pandemic and could only be completed in the UAE four months later.

No air travel will be required this season with all the league games to be organised in four venues in Maharashtra (three Mumbai and one in Pune).

For curators, maintaining the trueness of pitches over two months will be a challenge but at least the half of the tournament is set to be a high-scoring affair.

One can expect more bounce on the red soil pitches of Wankhede, CCI and D Y Patil while the black soil surface in Pune is expected to offer more turn.

With Supergiants and Titans building their teams from scratch and the existing franchises having to release a chunk of their players before the mega auction, the 2022 edition can well be one of the most competitive in tournament history.

Ahead of the World Cup to be played in Australia later this year, the IPL will also decided fate of a few Indian players.



Farewell season for Dhoni?

Dhoni has done a Dhoni by giving up CSK captaincy three days before their opening game. While his decision did not come as a shock, it has fuelled speculation whether he would feature in all the games. The 40-year-old stepping aside has also put the spotlight on Ravindra Jadeja, who will be captaining a high-profile team for the very first time. Jadeja's stellar form in international cricket over the last couple of years would surely give him the confidence to lead from the front and in times of crisis, he will anyway have Dhoni by his side.

No home advantage for MI?

Rohit Sharma has insisted that there will be no home advantage for Mumbai Indians but he and the likes of Kieron Pollard, Suryakumar Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Ishan Kishan won't certainly mind playing in their own backyard. Having let go of Pandya brothers and Trent Boult, the team doesn't look the same formidable outfit at least on paper. At Royal Challengers Bangalore, all eyes will be on Virat Kohli like usual, though, he has happily relinquished the captaincy. With the burden of leading the side off his shoulders, the former India skipper is expected to come back to his batting best and play an important role in taking the team to its elusive title. Longtime CSK batter Faf du Plessis has been given the captaincy with a hope that he would be able to do what has not been done before at RCB.

Time for Iyer, K L and Hardik to enhance captaincy credentials

Having led Delhi Capitals to their first ever final, Iyer was sidelined from captaincy following a shoulder injury. He decided to go back into the auction and KKR paid big money for his services. The stylish batter has shown rich form for India of late and he will be hoping to carry that into the IPL and inspire KKR to their third title. His India teammate Hardik Pandya's progress will be followed closely over the course of the IPL. Having lost his place in the Indian team due to his inability to bowl regularly following a back surgery in 2019, Hardik has a point to prove. It is still not clear if he would bowl often in the IPL, making his form with the bat all the more crucial. Either way, he will have to come up with something special to resurrect his career and also ensure first timers Gujarat put up a competitive show. Hardik's close friend K L Rahul will also need to inspire a young unit. Success eluding him as captain, both at India and IPL level, the opener will be eyeing another prolific season with the bat besides leading an exciting bunch of cricketers.

Lyon spins Australia to series-clinching win in Lahore

Lahore, Mar 25 (AP):

Pakistan failed Friday to hold out in the last session of the third and final cricket test which Australia won by 115 runs to clinch the series 1-0.

The hosts were dismissed for 235 in their second innings on a worn-out wicket as Australia enjoyed a successful end to its first test series in Pakistan since 1998. Resuming on 73-0, and entering the final session at 190-5, Pakistan collapsed against veteran off-spinner Nathan Lyon, who got plenty of turn and bounce from a fifth-day wicket and finished with 5-83 from 37 overs. Australia was rewarded for setting Pakistan a challenging target of 351 after boldly declaring its second innings at 227-3. Pakistan had conceded a decisive 123-run lead after scoring 268 in its first in-



Australia's players pose with the trophy after winning the third and final Test cricket match against Pakistan, claiming historic series win at the Gaddafi Cricket Stadium in Lahore on Friday.

nings in reply to Australia's 391. Lyon bowled an unchanged marathon spell of 28 overs on the last day. Pacer Pat Cummins clean bowled No. 11 Naseem Shah to finish off Pakistan.

Opener Imam-ul-Haq (70) and captain Babar Azam

(55) scored fighting half centuries but the rest of Pakistan's batters crumbled against the menacing reverse swing of Cummins, who took 3-23, and the sharp spin of Lyon.

The first test ended in a tame draw at Rawalpindi

where the pitch was rated as below average by the ICC. Babar's brilliant 196 in more than 10 hours denied Australia a win at Karachi where Pakistan played out 171.4 overs in more than five sessions and forced an epic draw.

Australia survive Bangladesh scare, finish on top

Wellington, Mar 25 (PTI):

Australia overcame a few anxious moments before getting past Bangladesh by five-wickets, a win that ensured them a top-of-the-table finish after the group stage matches of the ICC Women's World Cup here on Friday.

Australia took regular wickets through spin to reduce Bangladesh to 135 for six from their 43 overs after the start of the contest was delayed by rain.

Spin continued to dominate as Bangladesh took the ball, Salma Khatun reducing Australia to 41 for four at the first drinks break before a defiant Beth Mooney guided her side with an unbeaten 66.

Put into bat, Bangladesh made a steady start before



the spin of Ashleigh Gardner and Jess Jonassen was introduced.

Gardner got the first wicket, dismissing Murshida Khatun for 12 from 17 balls as Rachael Haynes held on to a good catch.

That brought Fargana Hoque to the crease and she became the first Bangladeshi woman to

pass 1000 ODI runs before nicking Annabel Sutherland behind to Alyssa Healy for eight.

Australia then smartly reviewed to have Sharmin Akther given out LBW as Bangladesh slipped to 58 for three.

The experienced Nigar Sultana and Rumana Ahmed played calmly, taking five runs off the next

25 balls before Nigar departed for seven from 30 balls when trying to relieve the dot ball pressure.

Bangladesh continued to build promising partnerships. Rumana and Lata Mondol added 33 for the fifth wicket before the former was caught by Jonassen at mid-off for Gardner, leaving the Tigresses on 95 for five with 8.4 overs remaining.

Lata was the final wicket to fall as Megan Schutt had her stumped after she top-scored with 33 from 63 balls, wicketkeeper Alyssa Healy whipping off the non-existent bails after they were removed due to the blustery conditions.

Salma was there at the end on 15 not out from 23 balls as Bangladesh set Australia 136 to win, no easy task given the weather.

Another win for Naomi Osaka at Miami Open



Miami Gardens, Mar 25 (AP):

Two days, two wins and making it look easy. Naomi Osaka sure seems like herself again. The former world No. 1 is through to the third round at the Miami Open, easily handling 13th-seeded Angelique Kerber of Germany 6-2, 6-3 on Thursday. It was every bit as one-sided as the score made it seem, with Osaka winning 89% of first-serve points and 61 of the 100 points played in the match overall.

It means a lot to me, said Osaka, unseeded in Miami after falling to No. 77 in the world because she's missed considerable time to focus on her mental health in recent years. She's the first high-seeded player I've beaten this year. Osaka's win set the tone for a day where 11 seeded women were ousted from the

tournament, a stunning series of results headlined by Romania's Irina-Camelia Begu defeating top-seeded Aryna Sabalenka 6-4, 6-4. Begu had lost 17 of her last 18 matches against top-10 players entering Thursday. Also gone: No. 3 seed Anett Kontaveit. She lost to Ann Li, a 21-year-old American who got her first win over a top-10 opponent a 6-0, 3-6, 6-4 triumph. Kerber is ranked 15th in the world; the last time Osaka defeated a top-15 ranked player was when she topped then-No. 10 Serena Williams in the 2021 Australian Open semifinals. Osaka went on to win that tournament and hasn't been to a final since, but her win over Kerber who had been 4-1 against Osaka entering Thursday certainly made her look the part of a Miami contender.

IPL 2022: The ones who let their bat do the talking

Mumbai, Mar 25 (PTI):

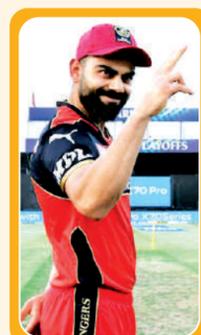
The T20 format tailor-made for them, batters always attract attention for the sheer entertainment value they bring in form of huge sixes and crushing boundaries. PTI takes a look at batters, who are expected to shine and make a difference to the success of their respective teams in the cash-rich event, starting Saturday.



Shreyas Iyer

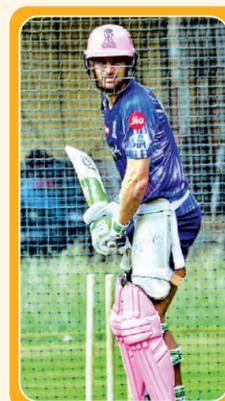
business and playing on home grounds will give him an edge while making strategies. The 27-year-old India batter has played 4 Tests, 26 ODIs and 36 T20s.

The newly-appointed Kolkata Knight Riders skipper can single-handedly turn the game on its head. The Mumbaier, who has played 87 IPL matches and has scored 2,375 runs, will be eager to prove a point in his new role. His ability to soak the pressure and play a fearless brand of cricket makes him one of the best in



Virat Kohli

Having shed the burden of captaincy, star India and Royal Challengers Bangalore player Kohli would be expected to play more freely and regain the touch. The top-order batter, when in full flow, is a treat to watch and will be more than keen to prove a point as an enforcer. Having piled up 6,283 runs from 207 matches, Virat is the all-time leading run-scorer in the lucrative event.



Jos Buttler

The England wicket-keeper batter, one of the most destructive willow wielders of his era, would turn out for Rajasthan Royals again. The right-handed batter has 1,968 runs from 65 matches and is a proven match-winner for his team and his franchise. He would also have the advantage of getting to play on batting-friendly tracks in Mumbai and Pune and has the ability to pummel any good attack into submission when in the mood with the range of shots at his disposal. Buttler's form would be crucial if RR have to win a second title and his experience of playing 88 T20s would also come in handy.



David Warner

The swashbuckling Australian opener returns to Delhi Capitals, from where he started his IPL journey. The aggressive stroke-maker has played 150 IPL matches and amassed 5,449 runs in the tournament, playing for various franchises. He has four hundreds and 50 half centuries and thus is one to look forward to. A destructive opener, who will not have any captaincy pressure, would rather play more freely and his role would be vital for his side.



Shikhar Dhawan

The left-handed opener, who has been picked by Punjab Kings, has scored over 450 runs in each of the last six editions of the tournament. Dhawan with 5,784 runs is second only to Virat Kohli in terms of most runs scored in the history of IPL and the southpaw needs 216 runs to breach the 6,000-run mark. At his new franchise, Gabbar' would be keen to justify his price tag of Rs 8.25 crore.

Peace and tranquillity in border areas must for normal ties: India to China at Jaishankar-Wang talks

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

India on Friday clearly told China to complete the disengagement process in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh quickly, asserting that bilateral ties cannot return to normal if the situation in the border areas is "abnormal".

In his nearly three-hour "candid" talks with visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar conveyed that restoration of normalcy in ties will require restoration of peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

"If we are both committed to improving our ties then this commitment must find full expression in the ongoing disengagement talks," Jaishankar said at a media briefing shortly after the talks.

Describing the current situation as a "work in progress", he also said that relations between India and China have been "disturbed" as a result of



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar addresses the media during a press conference, after his meeting with China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi, in New Delhi.

the Chinese actions in April 2020. Wang flew into Delhi from Kabul on Thursday evening in an unannounced trip in the first highest-level visit to India by a Chinese leader after the border standoff in eastern Ladakh erupted nearly two years ago.

Referring to a series of military and diplomatic talks between the two sides, the external affairs minister said progress has been achieved on several friction points from the disengagement perspec-

tives and this process needs to be taken forward.

"I would describe our current situation as a work in progress, obviously at a slower pace than desirable and my discussions with Foreign Minister Wang Yi today were aimed at expediting that process," Jaishankar said. To a question, Jaishankar referred to the presence of a large number of troops in the border region in contravention of laid down norms and agreements. "If you ask

me if our relationship is normal today, my answer to you is no, it is not. It cannot be normal if the situation in border areas is abnormal," Jaishankar said. "Foreign Minister Wang spoke about China's desire to return to normalcy (in the relationship) while also referring to the larger significance of our ties. I was equally forthcoming that India wants a stable and predictable relationship but restoration of normalcy will obviously require a restoration of peace and tranquillity," he added. Jaishankar said the military and diplomatic talks produced positive outcomes but noted that the situation in the region was not normal.

"We have a situation where peace and tranquillity in the border areas have been disturbed. So the situation there is not normal. (if) the situation there is not normal, if peace and tranquillity is the foundation of the basis of how we are going forward, then obviously that is also disturbed," he said.

LIQUOR FAIR



Devotees distribute liquor during annual fair at the shrine of Baba Rode Shah in the village of Bhoma Wadala, some 35 kms from Amritsar, Friday. During the course of the mela, it is common to see devotees, making their way to the samadhi with bottles and containers full of liquor, which are distributed as prasad.

MHA calls meeting to finalise Assam-Meghalaya border pact on Mar 29

Shillong, Mar 25 (PTI) : The Ministry for Home Affairs (MHA) has fixed March 29 to finalise the border agreement signed between Assam and Meghalaya in January to settle the dispute in six of the 12 areas of difference, an official said on Friday. Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma and his Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma, along with senior officials of the two North-eastern neighbours, were asked to be in the national capital for the meeting. "We have received a formal communication from the MHA about the meeting on finalising the border agreement on March 29 in New Delhi. The CMs and border committee officials of both states have been asked to be prepared for the tripartite

meeting," an official of the Meghalaya Chief Minister's Office here told PTI. The meeting was earlier scheduled to be held on March 27 but it was postponed by two days. The chief ministers of Meghalaya and Assam signed a memorandum of understanding at Guwahati on January 29 to resolve the boundary dispute in six locations Tarabari, Gizang, Hahim, Boklapara, Khanapara-Pillangkata and Ratacherra in the first phase. It was then sent to the MHA for examination. Meghalaya was carved out of Assam as a separate state in 1972 and it had challenged the Assam Reorganisation Act, 1971, leading to disputes related to 12 areas in different parts of the shared 884.9 km border.

BJP MP moves resolution in RS to set up research foundations to revive ancient Indian knowledge

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

BJP MP Rakesh Sinha moved a resolution in Rajya Sabha on Friday, urging to establish research foundations at state and district level to revive the ancient Indian knowledge tradition.

The resolution, moved during the private member's business hours, suggested that these new institutes be built on the lines of the National Research Foundation established under the New Education Policy.

The resolution suggested to make it mandatory for all universities and colleges of the country to collect information about the

local culture, various streams of knowledge and other information.

It also proposed to provide options to students of all disciplines to join this research in part-time mode and give them a diploma or degree for this work.

It has also suggested to grant national recognition to traditions pertaining to art, literature, culture, discussions and festivals which have been existing for hundreds of years.

While moving the resolution on the floor of the house, Sinha said India is an ancient civilisation which has developed through thousands of years of civilizational

journey, and built a knowledge tradition that has been renowned for its excellence in all spheres of human life, from philosophy to science, and from agriculture to the arts.

According to him, the Indian knowledge tradition had to face neglect due to the long years of colonial slavery as the colonial culture tried to create a sense of inferiority towards it.

Indian knowledge tradition was destroyed by the western education system introduced by Lord Macaulay during the colonial period, which aimed to alienate Indians from their knowledge tradition," he said, adding even

Mahatma Gandhi, in his speech in 1931, summed it up as "Beautiful tree perished".

While starting a debate over the resolution, Trinamool Congress member Jawhar Sircar said he fully agrees with Sinha that "we must all take pride in the achievements of India".

"He has spoken a lot of good things and I complement him," he said, adding, "We cannot turn wheels of the history. They were exploiters. They tried to captivate our minds, there is no doubt about it. They have changed our mindset and we require readjustments."

'Give sensitive reply to sensitive questions'

JD(U) MP to Law Minister in LS

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI): JD(U) leader Rajiv Ranjan Singh on Friday objected to Law Minister Kiren Rijiju's reply in Lok Sabha to a question on voting rights of prisoners, saying he should be mindful of facts and sensitivity of questions while answering them. This came after the minister, while replying to a question by LJP member Chandan Singh, said every elector has the right to vote in elections in the country and those in prison are also encouraged to vote but voting cannot be made compulsory for the electors. "Minister said that anyone, either in jail or out of jail, has right to vote. In my understanding it is beyond facts," Rajiv Singh, who is also the JD(U)

president, said while objecting to the minister's reply during the Question Hour.

When a person is sent to judicial custody, his fundamental rights are seized and voting is a fundamental right, he said.

"So I want to request the minister that a sensitive answer should be given for sensitive questions," Rajiv Singh said. Responding to the JD(U) member's statement, Rijiju said all citizens are equal for the government and he cannot say, as the law minister, that under-trials do not have voting right. "When a matter is subjudiced, we cannot comment," the minister said, adding that people contest elections from behind bars and also win.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



Women holding a kalash on their heads take out a religious procession from Gandhi Nagar Shani Sai Temple, in Kanpur, Friday.

Ex-MLAs to get pension for one term only: Punjab CM

Chandigarh, Mar 25 (PTI):

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Friday said former MLAs will now get pension for only one term, doing away with the practice of drawing the benefit for each term served by them. "Ex-MLAs in Punjab, even if they have won twice, five times or ten times, they will now get pension for one term only," said Mann in a video message while adding that several MPs are also getting pension for remaining MLAs earlier. The CM said money saved from it will be spent on the welfare of people. "Our political leaders, including MLAs, seek votes from you with folded hands by saying that give us a chance to serve you," Mann said addressing peo-

ple. But you will be surprised to know that several MLAs who won thrice, four times or five times and then after losing the elections or after not getting tickets for contesting the polls, get lakhs of rupees in pension per month, Mann said.

"Somebody gets Rs 3.50 lakh and somebody gets Rs 4.50 lakh and somebody gets Rs 5.25 lakh as pension. It puts a financial burden of crores of rupees on the exchequer," Mann said. A reduction will also be made in their family pensions as well, Mann stated. Mann said he has given necessary directions to the officers concerned in this regard. An MLA gets a pension of Rs 75,000 per month for one term. Thereafter, an additional

66 per cent of the pension amount is given for each subsequent term. A few days ago, SAD patriarch Parkash Singh Badal, who is 11-time legislator, had said he will not accept pension as an ex-MLA. The nonagenarian had asked the Punjab government and the Vidhan Sabha speaker to divert his pension to some social work, "preferably to help some needy girl students in their education". MPs should contribute Rs 5 crore each from MPLADS funds to help rehabilitate Kashmiri Pandits: AAP member New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI) AAP member Sanjay Singh on Friday suggested that all MPs should contribute Rs 5 crore each from their MPLADS funds to help rehabilitate

Kashmiri Pandits. Participating in a discussion in Rajya Sabha on a resolution moved by BJP MP Rakesh Sinha urging the government to establish research foundations at the state and district levels to revive the glorious Indian ancient knowledge tradition, Singh said that more needs to be done than just paying lip service to the plight of Kashmiri Pandits.

"What steps has the government taken in the last seven years to rehabilitate Kashmiri Pandits? We should discuss that...please pass a resolution in the House, every member should give his MPLAD fund of Rs 5 crore for the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits. I am ready for that," he stated.

CBI granted consent to probe bribe allegations by Malik: J&K LG

Jammu, March 25 (PTI):

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that the CBI has been given consent to probe allegations made by former J&K governor Satya Pal Malik of being offered bribe to clear two files when he was in office. He said that the probe will make "everything crystal clear". Malik had in October last year claimed that he was offered Rs 300 crore in bribe to clear a file each belonging to "Ambani" and an "RSS-affiliated man" during his tenure. At present the Meghalaya governor, Malik said that he cancelled the deals, and praised Prime

Minister Narendra Modi for supporting his decision by saying there is no need to compromise on corruption. "If someone sitting on such a high post has said anything, then it needs to be probed. We have sent our consent to CBI to probe both allegations, Sinha told reporters at a press conference here.

Sinha said that he considered the allegations and decided that truth needs to come out. Malik in his allegation last year had said that he was offered a bribe of Rs 150 crore each for clearing two files, one of them related to Ambani and other to a former minister in the previous Mehbooba Multi-led (PDP-BJP coalition) government.

Gita not a religious book, but one on philosophy: Acting NCM chief

New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

Officiating chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities Syed Shahezadi on Friday said the Bhagavad Gita is not a religious book but one on philosophy, days after the Gujarat government announced making it a part of school syllabus.

The Gujarat government last week announced in the state Assembly that the Bhagavad Gita would be a part of the school syllabus for Classes 6 to 12 across the state from the academic year 2022-23.

A few days later, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj

Bommai said a decision on introducing the Bhagavad Gita in school curriculum would be taken after discussions as he maintained that the scripture imparts moral values.

Asked about the Gujarat government's move and other states talking about introducing the Bhagavad Gita in school curriculum, Shahezadi said, in her personal opinion, it "is not a religious book, it is a philosophy book".

"It can be looked at from the point of view of philosophy. Studies are also being done on it abroad," she said at a press conference at the NCM headquarters here.

Asked why the Quran or other religious texts were not being proposed to be introduced in school curriculum, the officiating chief of the NCM said, "We do not stop anyone. We want that respect for each other's religion should increase. We want books made available from all religions. We have made many recommendations to the Education Ministry."

"In my personal opinion, we did not tell anyone to read Bhagavad Gita, or don't read Quran, it depends on the individual. We can look at it from the point of philosophy also, something that is related to the country and its identity," Shahezadi said.

Asked about the Hijab issue, she said, "The country does not run on yours and my sentiments, it runs on the Constitution. The court has given an order and we have to follow it."

There is a court judgement and it has to be accepted, she added.

Her remarks come a day after the Supreme Court refused to accord urgent hearing on the pleas challenging the Karnataka High Court verdict which dismissed the petitions seeking permission to wear hijab inside the classroom and stated that the headscarf is not a part of the essential religious practice in Islam.

BJP's Roopa Ganguly demands President's Rule in WB over Birbhum deaths



New Delhi, Mar 25 (PTI):

BJP's Rajya Sabha member Roopa Ganguly on Friday demanded the imposition of President's Rule in West Bengal in the wake of violence and deaths in the state's Birbhum district, leading to a massive protest by the TMC members and a brief

adjudgement of the House proceedings.

Ganguly broke down as she raised the issue of eight people, including two children, being burnt to death in Bogtui village in Birbhum, saying to be born in West Bengal is not a crime.

During the Zero Hour (morning session), she raised the issue and demanded that President's Rule be imposed in the state.

"(People) were burnt to death.... There is no trust in police," Ganguly said, adding that the autopsy report points out that the victims were first beaten up and locked up, before being burnt to death.