



BRIEF



A woman covers herself to get protection from the scorching sun on a hot summer day, in Gurugram, Wednesday.

Charge

New Delhi: Former IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura assumed charge as the chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities on Wednesday after being re-nominated to the post. Lalpura had resigned as the chairperson of the commission earlier this year after being fielded by the BJP from Punjab's Rupnagar constituency in the assembly polls. Subsequently, he lost the assembly polls.

Kidnapped

Agra: A class 11 girl was allegedly kidnapped from outside her school by two bike-borne persons on Wednesday, police here said. The girl was dropped outside her school in Rajapur Chungi area at around 8.25 am by her uncle, police said. They said the alleged kidnapers and the girl were captured on CCTV. "According to the family, the girl's uncle had dropped her at school at 8.25 am. When he was leaving, he saw two men forcibly carrying his niece on a bike."

Security

Shahjahanpur: Police have stepped up security for the family of the victim in the 2013 rape case against Asaram Babu after her father claimed a threat to his life and that of his family members from the supporters of the self-styled 'godman'. Superintendent of Police (city) of Shahjahanpur Sanjay Kumar told PTI on Wednesday that three constables have been posted to provide security to the family.

Watery grave

Gorakhpur: Three people, including two teenaged girls, drowned after a boat carrying them capsized in the Gandak river in Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday morning, police said. According to the police, 10 people were going for wheat harvesting in a field across the river in a small boat when it capsized. A woman and two teenaged girls drowned while seven others were rescued, Superintendent of Police (SP) of Kushinagar Sachindra Patel said.

Weather
High 39 Low 28

MARKET
NIFTY 17,475.65
SENSEX 58,338.93

BULLION
GOLD 53,106
SILVER 69,465

CM urges Shah to resume special assistance

Given to Naxal affected districts

- Baghel meets Union Home Minister Amit Shah
- CM requests continuation of GST compensation Ch'garh
- Home Minister assures all possible help to Ch'garh on Naxal front



New Delhi, Apr 13:

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel today met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and discussed impact of GST on the resources of the state, Naxal related issues and coordination with central paramilitary forces. During the meeting here, the Chief Minister also raised various issues including increasing com-

munication facility in Naxal affected areas, deployment of two more battalions of CRPF in Bastar and formation of 'Bastariya' Battalion. He also urged the Union Minister to resume the special assistance given to seven Naxal affected districts of Chhattisgarh. "Discontinuing the GST

compensation to the states will have an impact on the state's economic condition. If funds are not available for development work in Naxal-affected states, it will have a great impact on the state's economy," the chief minister said requesting a sympathetic consideration for the state. He also discussed the issues related to the development of Naxal affected districts such as expansion of road network, livelihood development, development of banks and infrastructure etc. Baghel said that iron ore is available in abundance in Bastar region. If iron ore is made available at 30 percent discount to the steel plants to be set up in Bastar, then investment of hundreds of crores and thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities will be created there. He said that due to difficult geographical areas, grid

electricity is yet to reach in large part. The fulfillment of the energy requirement of the common man and their economic development is possible only by the installation of large number of solar power plants. The Chief Minister urged for grants to build a cold chain for the processing and sale of minor forest produce, forest medicines and various types of horticulture crops in the forest areas. The Home Minister has assured all possible help to Chhattisgarh on the Naxal front. Chhattisgarh Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Subrat Sahu and Chhattisgarh DGP Ashok Juneja were also present at the meeting. The union minister assured to consider the requests and suggestions on all fronts put forth by the Chief Minister.

Govt approves Rs 5911 cr for Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The government on Wednesday approved Rs 5,911 crore for the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) which will focus on empowering elected representatives of panchayati raj institutions for leadership roles and help 2.78 lakh rural local bodies achieve the sustainable development goals. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the continuation of the revamped RGSA from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2026 to develop governance capabilities of panchayati raj institutions (PRIs). Under the revamped RGSA, the focus will shift towards "capacitating" the elected representatives of PRIs for leader-

ship roles to develop an effective third tier of government. The initiative is expected to enable them to deliver on localization of SDGs (sustainable development goals) for nine themes, - poverty free and enhanced livelihood in villages; healthy village, child-friendly village, water sufficient village; clean and green village; self-sufficient infrastructure in village, socially secured village; village with good governance; and engendered development in village. "The revamped RGSA will help improve Panchayati Raj Institutions and ensure development in villages. It will help bridge the gap between the rural and urban areas and strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions across the country," I&B Minister Anurag Thakur told reporters here.

K'taka Minister booked for 'abetment of suicide'

■ Refuses to quit

Bengaluru, Apr 13 (PTI):

Senior Karnataka Minister R Eshwarappa has been booked for abetment of suicide in connection with the alleged suicide of a 37 year-old civil contractor who had accused him of corruption, but remained defiant in the face of mounting pressure for his ouster from the state Cabinet, saying there was no need for his resignation. Stepping up pressure, opposition Congress urged state Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot to dismiss Eshwarappa from the council of Ministers, even as the embattled BJP leader called for a probe into the 'conspiracy' behind the death of Santosh

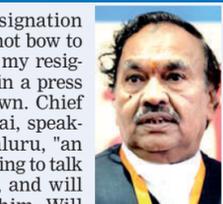
CONTRACTOR'S DEATH

'Will not resign'

■ Refuses to quit

Bengaluru, Apr 13 (PTI):

"The question of my resignation does not arise at all. I will not bow to the opposition demand for my resignation," Eshwarappa said in a press conference at his home town. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, speaking to reporters in Mangaluru, "an FIR has been filed." "I am going to talk to him (Eshwarappa) now, and will collect information from him. Will talk to him on a few things over the phone and will summon him for a one-to-one discussion."



K Patil, who had levelled the bribery charges against him earlier. While Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said he would speak to Eshwarappa on the issue to find out what actually happened, BJP general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Arun Singh maintained this was not a simple incident and that every aspect of it would be investigated. The family members of Patil refused to accept his body until the accused in the case are not arrested. Earlier, the Udupi police filed an FIR against Eshwarappa, the Rural Development

487 trees to go for Central Vista's PMO enclave

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Central Public Works Department will transplant 487 trees for the construction of an 'Executive Enclave' as part of the Central Vista redevelopment plan, according to official documents. The Executive Enclave will house the new Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat, India House and the National Security Council Secretariat. According to a revised proposal for environmental clearance to the Rs 1,381-crore project, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) recently informed the Delhi state-level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) that it would maintain 1,022 trees at the site, so as to have a tree per 80 square metre of plot area as per the guidelines of the Union environment ministry. In a meeting held on April 9, the SEAC recommended to the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) to grant environmental clearance to the project which would come

up on a plot area of 81,808 square meters. In a meeting on January 31, the SEAC had asked the CPWD to increase the number of trees to be retained at the site. "About 80 per cent of existing trees are proposed to be removed. This is an excessively high number," the SEAC had said. Based on the SEAC's recommendations, the CPWD revised the proposal, increasing the number of trees to be retained at the site to 320 from 154. According to the new proposal, there are 807 trees at the site as compared to the earlier estimate of 784. The CPWD also informed the panel that of the 487 trees to be transplanted, 397 will be transplanted at Raj Ghat and 90 on a plot in the vicinity. The project proponent will retain 320 trees and plant an additional 702 trees at the site to meet the criteria of a tree per 80 square metre of plot area, it told the SEAC. The CPWD will do compensatory plantation of 4,870 trees at NTPC, Badarpur.

ED attaches Nawab Malik's assets under PMLA

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it has attached multiple assets of jailed Maharashtra minister and NCP leader Nawab Malik under the anti-money laundering law in a case against fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim and his underworld gang. The federal probe agency said in a statement that it has issued a provisional order attaching properties belonging to "Mohammed Nawab Mohammed Islam Malik alias Nawab Malik, his family members, Solidus Investments Pvt. Ltd. and Malik Infrastructure under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)." The properties include Goawala compound and a commercial unit in Mumbai's suburban Kurla (West), a 147.79-acre agricultural land located in Osmanabad district of

Maharashtra, three flats in Kurla (West) and two residential flats in Bandra (West). In a related development, the Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to consider listing for hearing 62-year-old Malik's appeal seeking immediate release from prison in this money laundering case. The ED arrested Malik in Mumbai in February in the money laundering case registered against Ibrahim and others. This ED case was filed after studying a February FIR of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) that booked Ibrahim and other members of his gang like Anees Ibrahim, Chhota Shakeel, Javed Chikna and Tiger Memon. "The FIR (of the NIA) stated that Dawood Ibrahim, after he left India, started controlling his criminal activities in India through his close associates such as Haseena Parkar (Dawood's sister) and others."

UGC notifies guidelines

Student can pursue two academic programmes simultaneously

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The University Grants Commission (UGC) on Wednesday notified guidelines for pursuing two academic programmes simultaneously in physical, online or distance learning mode. UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar on Tuesday announced that the commission has decided to allow students to pursue two full-time and

same-level degree programmes in physical mode simultaneously either at the same university or from different universities. The guidelines come into effect from Wednesday, and no retrospective benefit can be claimed by students who have already done two academic programmes simultaneously prior to the notification of these guidelines. "A student can pursue two full-time academic

programmes in physical mode provided that in such cases, class timings for one programme do not overlap with the class timings of the other programme. A student can pursue two academic programmes, one in full-time physical mode and another in Open and Distance Learning (ODL), online mode or up to two ODL and online programmes simultaneously," the guidelines read.

Cyber attacker demands Rs 57 cr from OIL

Guwahati, Apr 13 (PTI):

PSU major Oil India, which suffered a cyberattack disrupting its operations in Assam, has received a ransom demand of USD 75,00,000 (over Rs 57 crore) from the perpetrator, officials said on Wednesday. A case was registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Information Technology Act, 2000, after the company lodged a complaint with the police. The public sector undertaking OIL and the government exchequer have incurred a huge financial loss due to the cyberattack - ransomware, as the business through the IT system has been seriously affected, OIL Manager (Security) Sachin Kumar said in the police complaint.

'Coal mining projects in Surguja will displace tribals and destroy forests'

Surguja, Apr 13:

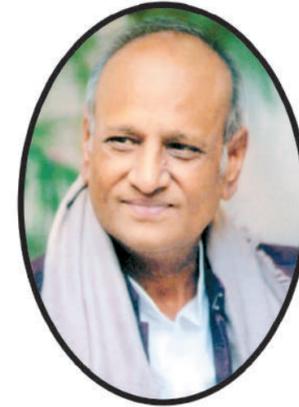
Environment activists have claimed the Chhattisgarh government's move to give nod to two coal mining projects in Surguja division will lead to displacement of several tribals and destruction of forests. The state government recently gave its clearance to Parsa coal block and second phase of the Parsa East Kente Basan coal mine in Surguja division. The mines were allotted to Rajasthan Rajya

Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RRVUNL) after Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot met his Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel last month, seeking to clear hurdles in the development of these mines, according to officials. However, Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan convener Alok Shukla told PTI that the state government gave permission for mining in biodiversity-rich and ecologically sensitive Hasdeo Arand region while ignoring the wel-

fare of local tribals and the environment. "Mining in these areas will result in the displacement of hundreds of tribals and destruction to 1,70,000 hectare of forest, he claimed. He claimed that according to the mine-affected tribals, the permission for diversion of forest land for the Parsa mining project was granted on the basis of "fake" gram sabha documents. For the last three years, they have been demanding a probe into the matter and quashing of the fake report,

he said. "In October last year, tribals from these areas marched 300 km to the state capital Raipur and met Governor Anusuya Uikey, who had then asked the state government for an impartial probe into the matter," he said. In such a situation, the final approval granted to these mines is a violation of provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act-1996, the Forest Rights Act-2006 and fifth schedule of the Constitution, the activist claimed.

विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि



स्व. प्रकाशचंद्रजी माहेश्वरी
जन्म : 15-11-1940 महाप्रयाण : 14-4-2005

जायते-म्रियते लोके, सर्वदा बहवो जनाः ।
स जातः येन यातेन, ज्ञाति वंश समुन्नतिम् ॥

इस संसार में हमेशा अनेक लोग जन्म लेते हैं और मृत्यु को प्राप्त हो जाते हैं। लेकिन उनका ही जन्म सार्थक होता है जिनके माध्यम से समाज और वंश की सब प्रकार से उन्नति होती है।

CENTRAL
Chronicle
परिवार

In-depth review of existing gauthans initiated

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: On Wednesday, review meeting was conducted to understand the actual status of the existing gauthans in the district. The District Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure chaired the meeting that was attended by the nodal officers.

Here it could be recollected that Gauthan Pahuch Diwas was organised on April 07 and April 08, during which all the nodal officers were asked to inspect their respective Gauthans and take stock of the innovations going on here and assess the strengths and weaknesses. The review conducted on Wednesday was related to

the report cards prepared by the nodal officers during their review visits to Gauthans in their area.

Collector Dr Bhure while chairing the meeting mentioned that the Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel intends to work in villages according to the concept of Mahatma Gandhi's Suraji villages where the villages need to be made self-sufficient. It is with the Gauthans that the villages would become self-reliant.

The purpose of organizing Gauthan Reach Day was to assess the overall status of the operation of Gauthan becomes fully visible to the administration. The details of the activities, strengths, shortcomings in each Gauthan



should be prepared so that action can be taken to improve them. He said that Gauthan of Suraji villages should be the best in every respect.

In the feedback of Gauthans it was found that some Gauthans are doing very good work. In some there is a lot of focus on innovations. Somewhere the

production of vermicompost was giving good and effective result. Thus, some Gauthans are doing good work and some are average. During the review it was found that if some technical problems are removed, then all the Gauthans will start functioning at a very good level. The Collector took retails



from all the nodal officers about the problems being faced in Gauthans. He said that these problems would be removed in the next fortnight. SDM Vinay Poyam and District CEO Shailesh Bhagat were also present in the meeting.

In the feedback, many nodal officers informed that the office bearers of

the Gauthan committee are very active. However, some nodal officers said that the kind of activism that is expected is not there in the office bearers of the Gauthan Committee. The Collector asked the nodal officers to maintain constant communication as the office bearers of the Gauthan committee as the

end result reflects the working of the Committee and the nodal officer. If Gauthan does not appear to be in good shape or has not performed as per the potential to do a lot which does not send a good message among people. So keep working with constant co-ordination. The problem of water came to light in some of the Gauthans. The Collector directed for its immediate redressal.

The Collector gave certain instructions for further which seeks that the nodal officers should inspect Gauthan four times in a week. Then one day of the week to review the extent to which the instructions given by him were followed. He said that all

Gauthans should have arrangement of CPT, barricading, enough water, fodder and shade.

There should be sufficient number of vermiculture tanks, dung should be produced, there should be continuous production of vermiculture manure. Do not fill all the tanks at once. Other livelihood activities should be continued in Gauthan.

Collector asked AREO to encourage people to take other crops instead of just paddy under Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana. He said that spread more and more awareness regarding its benefits. Through the Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana, now an avenue has been opened for the farmers to earn profit from other crops as well.

Book of poems 'Anhad' released

**Central Chronicle News**

Bhilai, Apr 13: Under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Durg Unit, the poetic collection 'Anhad' was released. The poems have been penned by Sangeeta Singh Baghel.

The chief guest of the program was Ravi

Srivastava (President, Chhattisgarh State Hindi Sahitya Sammelan) while Gulbir Singh Bhatia presided over. Present as special guests were Santosh Jhanjhi, Mrs Sharad Kokas, Nasir Ahmed Sikandar and Gilbert Joseph.

The program was conducted by Surendra

Pandey. Also present at the function were District Education Officer Abhay Jaiswal, Ahilya Thakur, Rajesh Chatterjee, Amit Ghosh, Dinesh Parsai, Pushpa Purshotman, Kalpana Dwivedi, Pramod Kirolikar and other dignitaries. The eminent dignitaries appreciated the poems.

Alumini Interaction organised at St Thomas College

**Central Chronicle News**

Bhilai, Apr 13: PG Department of Biotechnology and Microbiology, St Thomas College, jointly organised an alumni interaction and

lecture with Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC) the other day. "The title of seminar was "Scientific illustrations and scientific communications". The guest speaker was Dr

Disha Chauhan, an Alumini of St Thomas College Bhilai. The resource person, Dr Chauhan is Entrepreneurship & Technology Outreach Consultant, C-CAMP

Bangalore. She spoke about different ways of representing scientific data into different modes of communication like research papers, books, articles etc. She talked about the possible career in the field of scientific communications. She

interacted with students and made them illustrate their own versions of biological concepts. This activity helped students in visualising information other than textbook knowledge. Number of beneficiaries who attended was 60.

SSIPMT Raipur collaborates with Young Indians (CI)

**Central Chronicle News**

Bhilai, Apr 13: Shri Shankracharya Institute of Professional Management & Technology, Raipur has collaborated with Young Indians (Confederation of Indian Industry). Young Indians is an important part of Confederation of Indian Industry that works towards the future development of Indian Youths. It has become an efficient entity in past

19 years by establishing 57 city chapters and registering 4000 students under its cap. More than 30000 youth are part of this organization. Youngsters of less than 45 years of age, who have achieved success at young age in business or job are associated with the organization. The Young Indian works on three pillars- Youth leadership, Country development and thought leadership. The organization conducts camps to make people aware about organ donation, road safety measures, etc through its members. It also works for education, environment, Health, employment, sports, etc. Nishant Tripathi, Chairman BG of the insti-

tute stated that SSIPMT has always been ready to promote societal events along with education and placement. It has been the hallmark of Teaching Learning, Innovation, Technology, Research, and Startups that the institute holds 12 Patents, 6 startups, and many research papers in its credit. In this reference Prof Nitin Jain-Dean, Training and Placement added that the youth plays vital role in the development of any country, and now SSIPMT and Young Indian will work in collaboration to help India to become a developed nation. Ritesh Gandecha- Chairperson, Youth Vertical; Sonam Pateria and Rahul Garg represented Young India whereas Dr Alok Kumar Jain-Principal, SSIPMT and Prof Nitin Jain- Dean, Training & Placement represented SSIPMT.

One day online session conducted on 'Menstrual Health and Hygiene'



Bhilai, Apr 13: Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari organized a one-day online session on "Menstrual Health and Hygiene" in collaboration with Global Hunt Foundation on April 5, 2022 in seminar hall. The seminar focused on menstrual cycle, local taboo, health and hygiene conditions. The programme started at 11:00 hrs. The dignitary on this occasion was Mehak Kaushik, manager, Global Hunt

Foundation. Mehak Kaushik started her career by undertaking a research of 1500 children in the largest resettlement colony of Delhi. At Global Hunt Foundation she further expanded this experience where through diverse social level projects a change was planned within the targeted community. Seminar was very interactive and knowledge full, students participate in questioning and answering session. Students were very much

satisfied from the seminar and they got aware about problems and safety in the time of menstruation. The Program was conducted under the core surveillance of Dr Anshita Gupta Soni Principal Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari and was coordinated by Neelima Janardan, Assistant Professor at Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari. All other faculty members Preeti Chandrakar, Preeti Goldar, Nikita Verma, Suman Srivastav, Lakkanya Dewangan, Vinita Gotti, Rohini Armo were present for smooth conduction of the event. Dr JK Upadhyay, Vice Chairman, SRI, MK Shrivastava, Director, SRIP, Kumhari encouraged girl students to break such taboo prevalent in society and motivated them to be confident in future.

कोरोना वायरस से डरें नहीं, सावधानी बरतें

बाबासाहेब डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर

की जयंती की हार्दिक मंगलकामनाएं एवं बधाईयां..

नरेन्द्र खोब्रागड़े अध्यक्ष
इन्द्रकुमार रामटेके उपाध्यक्ष
जे.बी. पाटिल उपाध्यक्ष
डी.आर. सहारे उपाध्यक्ष

संतोष भिमटे महासचिव
पुष्पीराज मणवीर सचिव
बुद्ध कुमार निरखुरे सचिव
प्रकाश मेघाम सचिव
भीमराव पाटिल कोषाध्यक्ष

सहसचिव-दुर्गाप्रसाद चौरे, शुद्धोधन भिवगड़े, शोभा पाटिल, सदस्य-अलका खोब्रागड़े, आशीष रामटेके, नामदेव दुकारे, श्रीराम चोरपड़े, चन्द्रमान कुसरे, यशवंत मेघाम, शैलेंद्र भागत, माधुरी बौद, भागवत बागडे, अशोक नदेश्वर, संजय चौहान, अनिल बागडे, संवानंद मेघाम

भारतीय बौद्ध महासभा भिलाई
(पं.क्र. - 1119)

बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर सांस्कृतिक भवन, सेक्टर-6, भिलाई (छ.ग.)

सभी देशवासियों को

डॉ. बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर

की जयंती की कोटि-कोटि हार्दिक बधाईयां व मंगलकामनाएं.....

अनिल मेश्राम

प्रदेश अध्यक्ष
दि बुद्धिष्ठ सोसायटी ऑफ इंडिया शाखा छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य कार्य, प्रान्ताध्यक्ष
अजाक्स, प्रदेश संरक्षक परिसंघ छ.ग. राज्य

सांखला ब्रदर्स परिवार

की ओर से

महावीर जयंती

की

हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

पचरीपारा, दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

Happy **Mahavir** Jayanti

AMIT JAIN

AMIT JAIN CONSTRUCTION

Akash Ganga, Bhilai, Durg

Happy **Bhagwan Mahavir Janam Kalyanak**

Payal Jain

Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Durg Women's Wing Unit Sanitation Brand Ambassador Municipality Corporation Durg Social Worker Fort

CSERC imposes hike of 10 Paise per unit for domestic consumers

15 Paise per unit for all other consumers

CSERC accepts revenue loss of Rs 386 cr as against Rs 1004 cr projected by three Co's for 2022-23



Commission has reduced the annual revenue requirement by CSPDCL from Rs 19,336.76 cr to Rs 17115.85 cr.

In this way for FY 2022-23, the Commission has fixed the average power production cost at Rs 6.22 per unit and which as per the power tariff of 2020-21 at Rs 6.08 is just 14 Paise extra. In case if the entire amount of Rs 1004 cr worth of revenue loss would have been compensated then an average hike of 5.39% had to be imposed, but the Commission approved revenue loss of Rs 386 cr and according to which an average 2.31% hike in power tariff was approved from the existing rates.

The Commission has decided to hike the power tariff for domestic consumer to 10 Paise per unit and for rest all other consumers it is 15 Paise per unit. For HT steel industry consumers of 220 kv and 132 kv, a hike of 5 Paise per

BJP opposes hike in electricity tariff

Raipur, Apr 13: Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) on Wednesday opposed the hike in the electricity tariff of 10 paise per unit for domestic consumers and 15 paise per unit for Industries as declared by the Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission. In a statement issued here, the former Chief Minister Dr Raman Singh said that the state government is once again imposing economic burden on the people with the hike in electricity and added that it is against the promise made by the Congress to reduce the electricity tariff. He further added that while the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel keeps on crying foul over price hike of essential goods, he is resorting to political drama which has been proved with the hike in electricity tariff. He claimed that the Congress government has been exposed with the above decision.

unit has been imposed. For the industries coming under HV-5 category, including 'Poha', 'Murmura' mills a relaxation of 5% has been given in the power cell in the power tariff. The same provision has been introduced for LV-5 category 'Poha' and 'murmura' mills and provided them 5% relaxation in power cess.

Relief to farmers:

The consumers of agriculture power pumps without subsidy will continue to get rebate of 20% in power cess. For the power pumps installed in the farms of the farmers and the pump connection for agriculture use in the farms the facility of 100 watt load utilization has been introduced. Keeping

in mind interest of the farmers, the Commission has continued sanction of light and fans upto 100 watt.

Consumption per unit	*Hike (Rs.)
100	10
200	20
300	30
400	40
500	50
600	60
700	70
800	80
900	90
1000	100

(*In the above calculation, the benefits to the consumers under 'Bijili bill half yojana' and duty and cell charged by the state govt has not been included. There is no hike in the fixed charges)

TRAFFIC DIVERTED



Due to bike rally by the members of Ambedkar Samaj, the traffic in city was diverted and many had to face problems in hot summer.

Justice Minhajuddin elected Waqf Board Chairman

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 13: The newly-appointed members of Chhattisgarh Waqf Board on Thursday unanimously elected Justice Gulam Minhajuddin as the new Chairman of the Board. According to the information received, Board member Faizal Rizvi proposed the name of Justice



Minhajuddin for the said post which was approved by the other members during a meeting here.

Former MLA Imrah Memon, IAS Officer Ifrat Ara, IG Firms & Registration, Md Firoj Khan, Sajid Memon, Chief Executive Officer of Chhattisgarh State Waqf Board were also present on the occasion. Earlier, the newly-nominated members of the Board were accorded warm welcome by the officials.

CM suggests PM to include cultural upliftment as a parameter

To evaluate the development of Aspirational districts



duce at support price, conservation-promotion of folk art, folk dance and archeology, organic farming, forest rights lease should be included in monitoring indicators of Transformation of Aspirational District



Programme (TADP). "I am happy to say that Chhattisgarh has done a wonderful job on all these parameters", said Baghel. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister noted in his letter that there are a total of 10 aspirational

districts in our state, out of which 8 districts are completely in Scheduled Area and 07 districts are under tribal dominated Bastar division affected by Left Wing Extremism. Grading is done among the aspirational districts on the basis of various parameters by NITI Aayog from time to time to review and evaluate the development of these aspirational districts.

Pointing out that culture and traditions have a special contribution in our forest and rural life which brings a sense of harmony, enthusiasm and self-reliance in the

lives of the locals, Mr. Baghel suggested that the elements of cultural upliftment should also be given due importance and attention in the concept of aspirational districts.

"With the addition of aforementioned indicators, I am sure that the efforts being made for the holistic development of the aspirational districts will also be taken care of and the hope with which this separate monitoring system of the aspirational districts has been started will also be successful", said Mr. Baghel in his letter.

Land of NIC auctioned for Rs 51.51 lakh

Raipur, Apr 13:

As per instructions by the Chief Minister to take action against fake Chit Fund Companies (CFCs), the auction of property of Chit Fund Co - Nirmal Infrahome Corporation (NIC) was done here on Wednesday. NIC is having 0.834 hect land in Kharora under Raipur district and its auction was done today.

The market rate of this land is 3.50 times and it was purchased by Amit Agrawal at the cost of Rs 51.51 lakh with highest bidding in the auction. The government would return the amount invested by people in this Chit Fund Company through this amount. Collector Saurabh Kumar had attached

Chit Fund Co NIC had 0.834 hect land in Kharora

the property of NIC in Kharora and after which the DJM office issued orders for its auction and directed Tehsil Kharora to take further action.

The auction was held in the Tehsil office premises in Kharora. Prior to this entire case was registered by Tehsildar as per government's procedure. In this case Chit Fund Company Nirmal Infrahome Corpn Ltd., MP Nagar Bhopal was also issued notice.

In the auction procedure, information was also issued

under the provisions of Civil Procedure Conduct. The valuation of the property in Kharora owned by NIC was also done by the Patwari and RI and which according to the market value came out to be Rs 13.91 lakhs.

The publication of news of auction of 0.834 hect land by NIC in Kharora was also done in the local newspaper and in this auction a total of 8 persons took part in Kharora tehsil office.

In this Amit Agrawal with highest bidding of Rs 51.51 lakh won the auction and the other highest bid of Rs 51.21 lakh was made by Gopi Nashine. During this auction, Tehsildar Kharora- KK Sahu, RI and Patwari and bidders for the auction were present.

Various prog mark PNB's 128th Foundation day

Bhilai, Apr 13:



spected citizens and said that PNB is the first indigenous bank of India which was established by the great patriot Sh. Lala Lajpat Rai Ji and other great personalities on 12 April 1895 with the aim of accelerating the growth & development of the country. Punjab National Bank is a leading Nationalized Bank in the

country and since its inception, this bank has been playing its part in financial inclusion and development of the nation with great diligence. He said that our bank is the first indigenous bank which has seen many ups and downs, yet it is standing firm till date. Today we are at the second position in the field of bank-

ing, but if we do our work with hard work and dedication, then in the coming four-five years we will be on the first position. For this, every officer-employee will have to discharge his/her duties towards the bank honestly. On the occasion of foundation day, customers were felicitated in all Branch Offices across Circle Bhilai.

Six of gang with two dozen bikes worth Rs 10 lakh seized

Raipur, Apr 13: It was on tip from an informer that a person is looking for client to sell a bike at Bhanpuri triangle in Khamtarai area of capital city that a combined team of Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and Khamtarai thana identified the person and nabbed him. He disclosed his name as Tikeswar Dewangan, R/o Gondwara Khamtarai, Raipur. When the team members asked about the documents of the vehicle, he failed to give satisfactory answer and continued to mislead the team. When seriously interrogated he informed that he along with his

other 5 members in the team have stolen many two-wheelers and based upon which the police arrested all the five accused viz. Shafiq, Rajesh Sahu, Roshan Singh, Khilashwar Sahu alias Nanu and minor boy. When interrogated all five accused informed that they have stolen more than 25 vehicles using master key not only from Raipur, but also from Durg District under different thanas. The stolen vehicles have either being parked in the Raipur railway station or at the City Centre Mall parking area and at other places. Set aside this they are also

using some of the vehicles for day-to-day use. It was as per location from the accused, a total of 25 two-wheelers worth Rs 10 lakh were seized and the accused have changed the registration no. of vehicles in order to hide its identity. A case under section 379 of IPC was filed against the accused for stealing 14 vehicles in Khamtarai thana and DD Nagar thana, New Rajendra Nagar thana, Civil Lines thana and others. The rest of the 11 vehicles seized a case was filed under section 379 of IPC in Khamtarai and Ganja thana of capital city.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri to visit Mahasamund today

Mahasamund, Apr 13: Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) & Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri will be on visit to Mahasamund tomorrow on April 14. Mr. Puri will leave Raipur at 8:00 am by car and will reach Mahasamund at 9:30 am. He will attend a local programme here and chair a meeting of district officials. Minister Hardeep Singh Puri will leave from Mahasamund at 3:30 pm for the Raipur.

Top BJP leaders to hold review meeting today

Raipur, Apr 13:

anniversary. Party sources said that the BJP wants to make the programme a major event to highlight the importance of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar to the party. Later, the top leaders would be holding a series of meeting including the Core Group meeting to discuss key issues including the just held Khairagarh by-elections. BJP Secretary in-charge Nitin Nabin, State BJP President Vishnu Deo Sai and others would also be participating in the various programmes and also be attending the meeting with the senior leaders on Thursday.

Highest domestic placement package offered is Rs 42.15 LPA

Top 10 percentile students of IIM gets average CTC of more than Rs 25 LPA

Raipur, Apr 13:

The Indian Institute of Management Raipur is pleased to announce that Final Placements for its PGP 2020-22 batch have been successfully completed. Even under difficult circumstances caused by the global pandemic, the institution was able to overcome the challenges of virtual medium and propel its legacy forward. The participating batch of 252 students witnessed over 110+ recruiters taking part in the campus recruitment process. The students were offered various coveted roles in the areas of Finance, Sales and Marketing, Strategy & Consulting, Operations, General Management and HR. The average salary package for the batch stood at Rs.17.73

Lakh per Annum (LPA) which marks an increase of 17 percent. This exhibits a strong faith in the institution by previous as well as the new recruiters in the students of IIM Raipur. The median salary of Rs. 16.95 LPA indicates a very well distributed and stable recruiting across students and sectors. The top 10 percentile of students received a CTC of more than 25 LPA and top 50 percentile students have received an average CTC of more than 21 LPA. Among the batch, the highest domestic placement package offered is Rs. 42.15 LPA, an increase of 40% over last year. The average placement package for the top 25 percentile of the students is Rs. 24 LPA - another noteworthy accomplishment that adds to IIM Raipur's grow-

ing reputation. The placement records of IIM Raipur have steadily improved in the last five years. Also, we were able to diversify our recruiting base into all sectors of the economy. The offers are well spread out across sectors with Consulting, Banking Financial Services & Insurance Sector (BFSI), Manufacturing, IT/ITES, Analytics, Education, Advertising, and Healthcare accounting for most of the offers. The highest number of students were recruited in Strategy & Consulting sector with an average salary and maximum salary of Rs 18.37 LPA and Rs 32.21 LPA, respectively. IT/ITES was the second-highest recruiting sector with a Rs 17.74 LPA average and a maximum salary offered at 42.15 LPA. BFSI sector was the

third largest recruiter with Rs 18.19 LPA and Rs 23.5 LPA as average and maximum compensation. While the strongest pool of recruiters came from the prominent sector of Analytics and Consulting, offering an average salary of Rs 18.15 LPA and a compensation of Rs 32.21 LPA on the high end, IIM Raipur effectively retained all the major recruiters with many new recruiters joining in for campus placements. Sales and Marketing came second with an average salary of 17.48 LPA and the highest salary of Rs 31.90 LPA. Financial Management & Operations came next with average offers of Rs. 16.72 LPA, and Rs. 18.64 LPA, respectively. Students were also offered General Management roles with Rs 16.29 LPA on average.

महावीर नयंती, वैशाखी पर्व

इस अवसर पर डॉ. भीमराव आंबेडकर नयंती की प्रदेश की समस्त जनता को बधाई एवं हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

मा. बृजमोहन अग्रवाल जी

विद्यालय- रायपुर दक्षिण विद्यालय एवं पूर्व केम्ब्रिज स्कूल (उ.प्र. रायपुर)

विनीतः रायपुर स्वागत एवं प्रोत्साहन समिति

We shall strengthen the social organizations: Baghel

Surajpur, Apr 13:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti festival organized at Surajpur today. While addressing the Jayanti Mahotsav at Mata Karma Chowk of Surajpur, he said that there is immense power in social collectivization and dedication. Following the path of Bhakta Mata Karma, he called upon to make social organizations more strong to unite the society and work towards removing social disparity. The Chief Minister wished for the happiness and prosperity of the state by offering prayers at the devotee Mata Karma temple in Karma Dham. On this occasion, he hoisted the religious flag of Mata Karma. Mr. Baghel also announced the approval of 20 lakh rupees for the construction of social building of



Sahu Samaj in the program. During the program, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel was honored by the SahuSamaj. Chief Minister Baghel, while addressing the function, extended greetings and best wishes to all the people on Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti. Referring to the message of Mata Karma, he said that if we have unwavering faith, reverence and dedication in our mind, then there is no such goal which cannot be achieved. Mother Karma had proved that

the devotion of the devotee has the power to force the God to appear in front of the devotee. The Chief Minister said that the State Government has declared a public holiday on Karma Jayanti, but due to Corona crisis, the celebrations of Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti could not be organized for the last two years. Now when the situation has become normal, public and religious events have started happening again. The Chief Minister said that Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti is

- Following the path of Mata Karma,
- CM attended the Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti celebrations at Surajpur
- Approval of 20 lakh rupees for the construction of Community building of Sahu society

celebrated in every village of Chhattisgarh with great devotion and enthusiasm. He said that though this function is organized by the SahuSamaj, but people from all the communities of the village take part in it enthusiastically. There is also a tradition of taking out Kalash Yatra and Shobha Yatra in villages during the Jayanti celebrations in Chhattisgarh. Through this, the devotees remember Mata Karma, Lord Krishna and Balabhadra. Khichdi

a 'prasad' was also distributed as Bhog to Lord Jagannath. The Chief Minister said that there is power in social organization and dedication, we have to work for social harmony and brotherhood by connecting the society and removing the bitterness in the society by following the path of devotee Mata Karma. Urban Administration and District In-Charge Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahriya, School Education Minister Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam, Surguja Development Authority Chairman Mr. Khelsai Singh, Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Parasnath Rajwade wished good luck to the devotees of Mata Karma Jayanti on this occasion. He said that an atmosphere of social organization, harmony and brotherhood should be maintained and the organization should move forward by making it strong.



On the eve of Ambedkar Jayanti, Ambedkarites took out massive bike rally here on Wednesday.

2.96 cr sanctioned for the lining work

Raipur, Apr 13:

Ministry of Water Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh has granted an administrative approval of Rs. 2.96 cr to the Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Project Raipur for the purpose of remodeling work, canal im-

provement and lining work of Uridagaon reservoir located in Baderajpur development block of Kondagaon district. With the renovation of this reservoir, a shortfall of 269 hectares in its irrigation potential will be filled and a total of 364 hectares will be supplied with water for irrigation.

Order regarding fine for not wearing mask lifted

Raipur, Apr 13: The state government has suspended with immediate effect the order issued by the Health and Family Welfare Department on March 25, 2021, imposing a fine of Rs 500 for not wearing a mask or face cover in public places. An order in this regard has been issued by the ministry on April 8.

IAS Association invites CM to attend the conclave



Raipur, Apr 13: The delegation of IAS Association, Chhattisgarh had a courtesy call on Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his residence office here this evening. The conclave is being organised by the IAS Association from April 14 to April 16 in Raipur. The delegation invited Chief Minister Mr. Baghel to attend the IAS Conclave-2022 being organised

by the association on April 15 as the chief guest. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel thanked the association for inviting to the IAS Conclave and extended his best wishes for the event. On this occasion the President of IAS Association Chhattisgarh, Manoj Pingua along with R. Prasanna, Mrs. R. Sangeeta, Mayank Chaturvedi and other officials were present.

A talk on 'Languages of Inequality: Some Thoughts on Practices of Disciplines'

Raipur, Apr 13:

As part of Intersections, a monthly lecture series, the Department of Liberal Arts at IIT Bhubaneswar hosted Prof Sowmya Dechamma C C (Head, Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad) to present a lecture on "Languages of Inequality: Some Thoughts on Practices of Disciplines". In order to examine inequalities amongst languages in terms of power structures, Prof Sowmya Dechamma discussed Comparative Literature as a discipline which unpacks the relationship be-



tween literature on one hand and other areas of knowledge and belief - such as the arts, philosophy, ethnography, and history - on the other. She commented on the interdependence of translation and Comparative Literature, observing that translation cannot exist without comparison and

vice versa. She also suggested that the association between culture/knowledge and power between translation and imperialism can be illuminated through a renewed awareness of the link between transfer of learning and transfer of power. National cultures at large have been consolidated through this process, and the making of Comparative Literature in postcolonial nation-states and its relationship with numerous 'minor' languages and 'minoritized' people that are made visible within nationalised cultures needs a self-representation and a self-translation that is yet to be done. Prof Dechamma also problematized translation itself and underlined the importance of questioning our everyday use of language by asserting that no text is entirely original because language itself, in its essence, is already a translation.

CM Baghel pays tribute to Sant Kanwar Ram

On his Birth Anniversary

Raipur, Apr 13:

Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel has greeted the people of Sindh society while paying tribute to Sant Kanwar Ram on his birth anniversary on April 13. Mr. Baghel has said that Sant Kanwar Ram was in the company of saints since childhood. Due to the influence of the saints, he was engrossed in the devotion of God and through his hymns, Sufi

Kalams, he conveyed the message of love and kindness to the people. The sweetness and simplicity of his voice impressed everyone in general. He showed the whole world the path of truth, non-violence, universal brotherhood, renunciation and sacrifice. He took the message of Sindh Sufi culture to the masses. Mr. Baghel said that Sant Kanwar Ram, with his life values gave a new outlook to philanthropy and human ideals.

Govt accepts demand of health workers



Raipur, Apr 13:

Responding to the call of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Swasth Karmachari Sangh (CPSKS), health workers all over the state observed three day strike from April 11-13 in support of their 26 point charter of demands. The strike paralysed the health sector. On April 13, Chief Secretary, Public Health and Family Welfare Department called a delegation of CPSKS for a discussion on their charter of demands. The dele-

gation comprised of state president O P Sharma, Alok Mishra, Mohammed Aslam, S P Dewangan and others. The discussion was fruitful and it was agreed upon that a proposal mentioning about wage anomalies will be sent to Finance and GAD within seven days, there will be change in the timings of OPD, as like police personnel health department employees will get 13 month salary, change in the post

name of staff nurse, benefit of three and four increments and Class IV staff nurse to get washing allowance, special allowance to radiographer, risk allowance to MLT, 34% DA and HR as per seventh pay and as per the demand of CPSKS three day strike period will be converted to CL. O P Sharma thanked the administration for giving a sympathetic consideration to their demands and assured to bring the health sector back to track.

State Govt assured to extend best possible support to the Industries & Real Estate sector: Kawasi Lakhma

Raipur, Apr 13:

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and CREDAI Chhattisgarh jointly organized a programme on Infra Dialogue: Progressive Chhattisgarh along with the Road show on EXCON, on April 11, 2022 at Raipur. This initiative brought together all the policy makers, law makers & statesmen including Industry leaders and stakeholders from the infrastructure, Real Estate and construction equipment sectors in a platform to discuss about the reforms, Opportunities and way forwards. The session started with the Welcome address by Mr Umesh Chittlangia, Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council while the theme setting was done by Mr Mrinal Golechha, President, CREDAI Chhattisgarh. The Chief Guest of the Session Kawasi Lakhma, Minister of Commerce &

- CII, CREDAI Chhattisgarh organised programme on Infra Dialogue: Progressive Chhattisgarh along with the Road show on EXCON

Industries, Government of Chhattisgarh assured the Industry & Real estate delegates to extend best possible support from the State Government. The Guest of Honour Ajaz Dhebar, Mayor of Raipur showed his concern about illegal colonizers and encroachments and has assured to take strict action against such. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Vivek Dhand, IAS(Retd.) Chairman RERA Chhattisgarh said, "We ensure Transparency & Efficiency in Real Estate sector regarding



sale of plot, apartment, building & Real Estate project in Chhattisgarh". Further he added that a master plan has to be devised & implemented by State Government keeping in my mind the future growth of Chhattisgarh. Mr Anand Singhania gave a brief insight of current scenario of Real Estate in Chhattisgarh. The session was followed by roadshow in the city today to announce CII EXCON which witnessed the participation of senior officials from the Government along with indus-

try leaders and stakeholders from the infrastructure and construction equipment sector. EXCON South Asia's largest construction equipment and construction technology trade fair, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is scheduled to be held from 17 - 21 May 2022 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre, Bengaluru. Mr Gopi Krishna More, Managing Director, Torsa Machines Ltd said, "This is the eleventh edition of the EXCON and our theme this year is on

"Building India for a New World: Competitiveness, Growth, Sustainability, Technology". EXCON will exemplify the role of smart technologies and innovation in India's infrastructure development to achieve the vision of making India the global hub for Construction Equipment Manufacturing by 2030. Indian Construction Equipment Manufacturers' Association is the Sector Partner, and the National Highways Authority of India and Builders Association of India are supporting Partners for EXCON. The session was concluded by formal vote of Thanks by Mr Siddharth Agrawal, Vice Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh. CII & CREDAI's initiative witnessed great response by distinguished participants from different associations, real estate developers from various districts, and officials from relevant departments making this event a grand success.

State govt is working continuously to provide quality education: Agrawal

Balconagar, (Korba), Apr 13:

State Revenue and Disaster Management Minister, Jaisingh Agrawal said that the State Government is working continuously to provide quality education and best educational environment in the state of Chhattisgarh. Many achievements have been made in this direction in the last three years. He said that the children of poor and economically weaker families can also study through English medium, so that they can get high quality education, for this the state government has opened Swami Atmanand English medium schools at different places and high level education facilities are available, said Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal on the occasion of cycle distribution program to girl students in Balco Nagar Sector-3. Revenue Minister Jaisingh Agrawal distributed cycles to the girl students and wished them a



bright future. Earlier the minister inaugurated the function by worshipping Goddess Saraswati and lighting the lamp. Addressing the program, Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal further said that today good quality cycles are being distributed to the girl students in this school, due to the availability of cycles to the girl students, they will be able to travel from home to school and from school to home. Their efforts time will be

saved, which they will be able to use in their studies. While conveying his best wishes to the girl students, he said that you should study a lot, move ahead and bring laurels to the district and the state. Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal further said that work will be done to renovate, upgrade and provide necessary facilities to all the schools located under Korba Municipal Corporation area, action is being taken in this direction. On this occasion,

Mayor Rajkishore Prasad said in his address that Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management Jai Singh Agrawal is continuously providing guidance and contribution for the all round development of the area as well as education and health facilities in Korba. With his efforts, at corporation's ward no. 01, a grand building of Government Higher Secondary School is being constructed at a cost of Rs. 7 crore. He said that

we are all fortunate that for the development of Korba, we are getting his constant guidance, as a result of which we are being successful in our work. During the cycle distribution program, the parents of the girl students were present in large numbers, the parents expressed their gratitude to the Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal for providing free cycles to the girl students. On this occasion, the Principal of the school Mrs. Manokanta Pal presented her detailed report regarding the school and apprised about the studies, teaching work and achievements achieved there. On this occasion, former Vice-President of District Panchayat Ajay Jaiswal, former corporator Mahesh Agarwal, Mr Badrikiran, Chairman of Education Committee, Prabhat Dadsena, Dushyant Sharma, Vice Principal NK Rathore, including a large number of parents and other citizens were present.

New Delhi/Raipur, Apr 13: On World Health Day, Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, organized voluntary blood donation camps across its operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh to support local government blood banks. Nearly 900 units of blood were donated by employees and business partners across Jharsuguda and Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district) in Odisha, and BALCO in Korba, Chhattisgarh, where the company has its operations. In Odisha, Vedanta Aluminium conducted a multi-specialty health camp for local communities in Kalahandi district in association with Medicover Hospitals and Vedanta Hospital, Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district), which covered more than 300 people from 35 villages. At Jharsuguda, the company also conducted a special eye check-up camp for vehicle drivers and various health awareness sessions for employ-

- To support local blood banks

ees and families, community members and school children. Speaking about Vedanta Aluminium's blood donation drive, Mr. Rahul Sharma, CEO -Aluminium Business, Vedanta Ltd., said, "We are glad to play our part in this noble cause that will help our local blood banks in providing timely and effective treatment to patients. Community Health is an important pillar of our social endeavours, and we have deep interventions such as the Vedanta Hospital at Lanjigarh, Upcoming Pathology Lab & Diagnostic Centre at Jharsuguda, Mobile Health Units for door-to-door service, health camps, etc. to help improve the quality of life in the region. Beyond health, we are working in the realms of sustainable livelihood, quality educa-

tion, skill development, women's empowerment and community infrastructure, to bring about socio-economic transformation in the lives of local communities." Appreciating the volunteers' contribution, Dr. Silwanti Jojo, in-charge of Odisha Red Cross Blood Bank, Jharsuguda, "Blood donation is a humanitarian act, which can go on to save several lives. Mega blood collection drives ensure that rural blood banks are well-stocked to make blood readily available to hospitals during times of need. I commend Vedanta Aluminium's volunteers for coming forward and creating a positive difference in the community. Their contribution will go on to save many lives in the days to come." It is notable here that Vedanta Aluminium provides a wide spectrum of basic and specialized health services in and near its areas of operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

Heavy rain and hailstorm runs life out of gear



Central Chronicle News
Mainpur, Apr 13: Heavy rain wreaked havoc in Mainpur area, with life going out of control and many areas were reported to be in the clutches of darkness as electric poles were uprooted and supply cut off due to strong winds. Huts were blown

up, trees were uprooted and normal life went out of gear pertaining to the sudden change in weather. Various villages of the development block area including Tehsil Headquarter Mainpur Nagar, were plunged in darkness as torrential rain with strong thunderstorms and hailstorm

caused havoc fiercely, for about half an hour. As dozens of trees and electric poles fell due to the strong in Mainpur Gariaband Devbhog National Highway Road, in Gobra, Kulhadighat and many places along the route, the traffic was disrupted for hours. The telecommunication

system has also been affected and as these days marriage functions are going, many families were affected to the untimely rains. Villagers Dayaram Yadav, Bisahu Yadav, Yogendra Yadav informed that two electric poles were uprooted and a huge tree fell down in the vil-

lage and the entire area is sans electricity supply. Heavy damage to Mahua trees were also reported as for the first time in the last 15 years, this year there has been a bumper production of Mahua, but due to the heavy storm many trees with fruits were badly affected.

VS Secretary Sharma pays courtesy visit to Guv

Central Chronicle News

Sheorinarayan, Apr 13: The newly appointed Secretary of Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha Dinesh Sharma visited Raj Bhavan and paid courtesy visit to the Governor Ansuuya Uike.

It needs to be mentioned here after the formation of Chhattisgarh state in 2000 it is for the first time a person from Janjgir-Champa has been appointed to the post of Vidhan Sabha Secretary. Till now persons from MP has decorated this post.



Lakhma lays stone for devp works worth 10.8 crore



Central Chronicle News

Sukma, Apr 13: Industries Minister Kawasi Lakhma inaugurated various development works costing Rs 10 crore 8 lakh and performed bhoomipujan in the sensitive village of Badesatti, located about 45 km away from Sukma district headquarter. These include the inauguration of development works costing Rs 8 crore 26 lakh and bhoomipujan of development works to be constructed at a cost of Rs 1 crore 82 lakh.

Addressing the general meeting organized on the occasion, Minister Lakhma said that tribals are very significant to the state and the State Government is committed for the empowerment, social upliftment and economic development of the tribals. He further said that forest produce is the main source of income for the tribals. The State government is procuring 65 types of forest produce from Tribals which has contributed to the tribals source of income. Due to

which the life of the forest dwellers is improving. In the districts of Surguja division including Bastar, Tamarind, Mahua, Tora etc. forest produce processing centers are being established. So that more benefits can be provided to the tribal community by adding value to the forest produce. Sukma Municipality President Jagannath Sahu, Vice President Smt. Aisha Hussain, public representatives, officials and villagers of the area were present on this occasion.

Central Chronicle News

Takathpur, Apr 13: On the occasion of 400th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur, under the convenorship of Sikh Society Chhattisgarh and Station Road Gurudwara Raipur Committee, Sandesh Yatra has set out for Chhattisgarh which was welcomed and rallied by Sikh society in Takathpur town also.

The Sandesh Yatra in association with Chhattisgarh Sikh Samaj Takhtpur gave a hearty welcome to the procession at Sri Gurunanak Mangal Bhavan and under the patronage of Sri Guru Granth Sahib and under the leadership of Panch Pyare, the townspeople, including the Sikh community, flocked to see the message journey. Chhattisgarh Samaj President Surendra Singh Chhabra said that it is a matter of pride that Sri Guru Nanak Mangal Bhavan has been launched

Yatra started on April 9 and will continue till April 22



with this Yatra. Congress state secretary Ashish Singh Thakur, former chairperson of women's commission Harshita Pandey, Nagar Palika President Mrs. Pushpa Munna Srivas were also welcomed and honored by the Sikh community. The Sandesh Yatra Rally reached Manyari River Bridge via New Bus Stand, Bajrang Nagar, Mahatma Gandhi Chowk, Old Bus Stand Chowk, Sangam Nagar, Maa Mahamaya

Chowk, Maharana Pratap Chowk from where the journey started to its destination. In the Yatra while the men were adorned in saffron turban and white robe, the women were draped in white sari and kesariya dupatta. Convener Chhattisgarh Sikh Samaj Surendra Singh Chhabra, Raipur Station Road Gurudwara Pradhan Niranjan Singh Khanuja, Inderjit Singh Chhabra, Tejendra Singh

Hoor, Satnam Khanuja, Rajendra Saluja, Inderjit Singh Bhuppi, Takhtpur Guru Singh Sabha Committee Pradhan Kulwant Singh Hoor, Former MLA Jagjit Singh Makkar, Manjit Singh Khanuja, Trilok Singh Bagga, Gurucharan Singh Hoor, Puja Sindh Panchayat President Rakesh Mandani, Prithvi Pal Singh Hoor, Harjeet Singh Ichchhapurani, Bhagwant Singh

Malhotra, Kalyan Singh Hoor, Ravindra Singh Khurana, Secretary Upendra Singh Khurana, Jaspal Khurana, Atamjit Singh Makkar, Harikishan Makkar, Guljit Khurana, Harcharan Hoor, Brijpal Singh Hoor, Dalbir Makkar, Amit Pal Bagga, Rajpal Khanuja, Raman Hoor, Manjeet Singh Chanchal, Nagarpalika Vice President Representative Bala Thakur, Councilor Komal Singh, Nainal Sahu, Tekchand Karda, Pushpa Narendra Ratre, Mukim Ansari, Ishwar Devangan, Pratibha Kashi Devangan, Paramjit Lovely Hoor, Kailash Devangan, Shiv Devangan, Lakshmi Yadav, Krishna Kumar Sahu, Sunil Ahuja, Alderman Basant Gupta, Vimala Jangde, Azmat Nattu Jayasi, Chandra Prakash Devangan, Ajay Luther, Rajveer Hoor, Kishan Sachdev, Dilip Tolani, Vinod Tolani, Ramesh Karda, Rajesh Soni and many others were present.

Awareness created about energy conservation

In a workshop organised by CREDA Zonal Office Jagdalpur

Central Chronicle News

Jagdarpur, Apr 13: One-day workshop for creating awareness about energy conservation was organised by CREDA Zonal Office Jagdalpur in a private hotel here on Friday. In this workshop detailed



information was given on taking benefits from the energy equipments in day-to-day life and also in Cold

Storage. In this workshop, EE CREDA Raipur JN Baiga, Dr Priyanka Pachouri, Nihar Ranjan, EESL- Rakesh Sahu, Mukesh Bhargav from Indsol, Akhilesh Verma from FICCI gave information about energy conservation and its benefit to all those present. SE CREDA PK Jain, DD Sidar, NK Rai, officers and employees from all districts of the Division were present in large number.

In this workshop, all the heads of the departments from district Bastar, and engineers and teachers and students from Polytechnic and owners of Cold Storage were also invited, so that awareness can be created about energy conservation on large scale. In this workshop awareness was created about energy efficient fans, ACs, fridge, and other electronic and electrical gadgets.

SS Gaur expresses gratitude towards CM

For financial assistance of Rs 1 lakh to victims of stabbing

Central Chronicle News

Anwari, Apr 13: For last few days, there was an incident of stabbing in Gram Singdehi dependent upon Gram Panchayat Sirve of Anwari block and in this two youths from Singdehi were badly stabbed by youths from Bhakhara. In view of this with efforts of member Krishak Kalyan Parishad Shashi Singh Gaur and Dugdh Sangh President Vipin Sahu that CM Bhupesh Baghel granted a sanc-



tion of Rs 1 lakh as grants for treatment of the two. Till date one of the hands of victim Rishabhdev Sahu of Singdehi has not got full cured and his brother is also undergoing treatment. On extending help of Rs 1 lakh as financial assistance by CM Bhupesh Baghel, Shashi Singh Gaur has expressed gratitude towards him.

APPOINTMENT

Walk-In-Interview on 17.04.2022 (Sunday) at 11:00 AM for the post of Principal (CBSE School)
 Qualification :- Post Graduate & B.Ed Compulsory
 Experience :- 3 to 5 year of Experience in Respective field (CBSE School Only)
 Other Posts (PGT) : Chemistry, Accountancy, Computer Science Hindi & English
 Qualification :- Post Graduate in the Specific field with B.Ed
 Experience :- 2 years in CBSE School
 Venue :- Gurunanak English Senior Secondary School, Sector-6, Bhillai, Durg (C.G.) Mob. No.: 9098258266

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all people that Shri Amli Kumar Agrawal, S/o Shri Madan Agrawal & Mohammad Yusuf Raza, S/o Late Mohammad Ishak Raza, R/o Telibandha Raipur who has sold the A Open Land bearing the Part of Kh. No. 454/4, Area 1906 Sqft. Situated at Mauza - Gogaon, P.H.No. 107/50, Tah - Raipur, Distt. Raipur to Smt. Beby Sahu, W/o Shri Indrajeet Sahu, R/o Gogaon Raipur by registered Sale deed Dt. 23.12.2019.
 That Smt. Beby Sahu, W/o Shri Indrajeet Sahu, R/o Gogaon Raipur who has sold the above said property to Smt. Suman Chandrawanshi, W/o Shri Madhav prasad Chandrawanshi, R/o Gudharyi Raipur by registered Sale deed Dt. 15.02.2021.
 That the original Pre. Sale deed, dated 23.12.2019 deed is lost somewhere. Whose report is complained in related police station Thana Gudharyi, Raipur on 10.04.2022.
 That Smt. Suman Chandrawanshi desire to mortgage the same property forgetting loan to my Client Axis Bank Pandri, Raipur Whose ever whether individual society, Association, Bank or housing board have any claim right authority are title over it, he should within 05 days of publication of this public notice approach and apprise this office under the following address of his claim and objections.
 After expiry of 05 days no objection shall be entertained, such objection deemed invalid and void and shall be not tenable. Please take notice
 Please take notice
 Date - 13.04.2022
 Yours truly,
 Vijay Rathore, Advocate
 Off. Cum Res. - Behind of Barat Gas Godam Laxmi Nagar, Pachpadi Naka, Raipur (C.G.)
 Mob. 9425202167

NAME CHANGE

It is inform to the general public that I Ashok Paliwal S/o. Narendra Chandra Paliwal Residing at A-61, Anandam World City, Kachna, Raipur (C.G.) 492007 have changed my old name Ashok Paliwal S/o. Narendra Chandra Paliwal. So in future I should be recognised by my new name that is Ashok Narendra Paliwal S/o. Narendra Chandra Paliwal in all government and other documents.
 Ashok Narendra Paliwal
 - ADDRESS -
 A-61, ANANDAM WORLD CITY, KACHNA, RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH, 492007

AXIS BANK LTD.

Asset Sales Centre, 2nd Floor, Chakra chambers, Opp. New Bus Stand, Jeevan Bima Marg, Pandri, Raipur 492004
 Controlling office: Axis House, Bombay Dyeing Compound, Pandurang Butkar Marg, Worli, and Mumbai - 400025.
 SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSET
 Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(b) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules.
 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the constructive/physical (Physical) possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Secured Creditor will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on 29-04-2022 for recovery of Rs. 18503242.08/- on 31.12.2017 along with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred up to the date of actual payment and/or realization) due to the secured creditor from ATGC BIOTECH (The reserve price for the Property: Rs. 10,820,526/- and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 108,2052.6/-)
 Account Number Location / Details of the Immovable Property (as applicable) Secured Assets possessed and put for sale Encumbrances, if any known to the Bank.
 Loan No. Collateral Security- No Encumbrances as per knowledge of Bank
 91403001957308 All that Diverted Land & Construction in the name of Shri Amar Das Purnea bearing Khazra No. 1581 / 56, (before mutation Khazra no. 1581/2) total area 4352 Square Feet situated at Mouja - Kushalpur, Mahamaya Mandir Ward, Ward No. 62, P.H. No: 106A, Street No. 7, Sector - 2, Near Kadam Chowk, Professor Colony, Raipur Khazra, RIC, Tehsil & District - Raipur, Chhattisgarh - 492001.
 Boundary-On the North - Others land On the South - Road On the East - Others land On the West - Land of Halahar Ram Patel
 For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in the secured creditor's website i.e. <https://www.axisbank.com/auCTION-notices/>
 Date: 14-April-22
 Place: Raipur
 Authorized Officer
 AXIS Bank Ltd

Regional Office, Atal Nagar Naya Raipur (C.G.)

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 / Mortgagee'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.

S. No.	Borrower Name	Detail of Possessed Property	Demand Notice Amount	Demand Notice Date
1.	M/s. Mahaveer Agency, Prop. Kamal Kumar Lodha.	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Land and double storied building situated at Nazul Sheet No. 28/D, Plot no. 135, ward no. 06, Kayasth Para, Thakur Dev Gali, Durg, Owned by Shri Kamal Kumar Lodha. Bounded: On the South- House of Agrawal, On the North- House of Gupta.	₹ 20,50,371.42 with interest and applicable charges thereon.	04.02.2022 Possession Notice Date 08.04.2022
2.	M/s. Alam Sale Prop. Abdul Kadir Khan.	Land Details- Ph. No. 14, Kh. No. 6622, Kripal Nagar, Kohka, Purani Basti, Ward No.9, Bhillai Chhattisgarh-490023, Rea-2684 Sqft. Valuation-Rs. 47,20,000/- Bounded: On the South- Ojha & Rath's Land, On the North- Road, On the West- House of Loknath, On the East- Chaudhary's Land.	₹ 80,78,754.00 with interest and applicable charges thereon.	30.12.2021 Possession Notice Date 11.04.2022

Regional Office, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur (C.G.)

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE U/S 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

Borrower's & Guarantor's Name & Address	Type	Details of Mortgaged Property
	Limit	
Abhay Kumar Singh (Borrower) Shree Leathers Complex, Phool Chowk, Opp. Hanuman Mandir, G.E. Road, Raipur (C.G.)-492001.	Housing Loan	EMT of part of Kh. No. 240/4 (Old) & 204/26 (New) Flat No. 408 on 4th Floor, Area-910 Sqft. Ph. No. 114, RIC, Raipur-1, "Milestone Apartment", Amliidi, Ward No. 46, Raipur. Boundaries: East-Central Bank Open Sky, West- Corridor, North-Central Bank Open Sky, South- Flat No. 401.
	Loan Outstanding	
Archana Singh (Guarantor), W/o. Abhay Kumar Singh, Shree Leathers Complex, Phool Chowk, Opp. Hanuman Mandir, G.E. Road, Raipur (C.G.)-492001.	Total Dues	
	₹ 3,46,422.00 NPA Dt. 12.12.2017 with further interest thereon	

The Borrower mentioned above has availed total credit facilities as mentioned above from CANARA BANK and the mentioned Guarantors provided guarantee and secured by way of mortgaged of above mentioned property. The borrower failed to adhere to terms and conditions of sanction. The account became irregular and classified as NPA as mentioned above as per RBI guidelines. The Bank intends to enforce the said property mortgaged by you and issued Demand Notice as mentioned above for recovery of outstanding amount as mentioned above with interest and expenses thereon under registered post with acknowledgment due which were not served to the borrowers and guarantors. Hence this publication issued. Hereby Borrower/Guarantor are called upon to pay the amount mentioned above with rate of interest (Contractual Rate), costs, charges etc., thereon within 60 Days from the date of publication falling which the undersigned will be constrained to initiate action against mortgaged property under section 13(4) and the provision of said Act to realize our Bank's dues. Your attention is invited to provisions of the Sec (8) of Sec (13) of the act in respect of time available to you to redeem the secured assets.
 Date: 13.04.2022 Place: Raipur (CG) Authorized officer / CANARA BANK

BRIEF

Cleared

Jammu: The Maratha Basti shantytown near the Jammu railway station wore a deserted look with a majority of its dwellers, hailing from different parts of the country and some Rohingya Muslims, having left after packing their belongings. Dozens of families that are yet to leave are also packing their belongings and are ready to leave after the district administration issued a notice, asking them to vacate the railway land. Over 150 shanties, including 41 belonging to Rohingyas.

Shot

Gurugram: Two bike-borne assailants fired several rounds at the house of a liquor businessman in Pataudi and fled the spot, police said. Nobody was injured in the incident, they said. The incident which took place was captured in CCTV cameras installed at the house of liquor businessman Chander Bhan Sehgal, who is also the president of Pataudi municipality, police said. Just before the firing incident, Sehgal was threatened by gangster Goldy Barar over call made from Canada.

Hits

Noida: A 53-year-old police constable was hospitalised here after a speeding SUV hit him while he was putting up barricades on a city road, officials said. The incident took place near Sector 59 Metro station under the Sector 58 police station limits, the officials said. Constable Devdutt Sharma was hospitalised after the incident and is undergoing treatment. The SUV, a Mahindra Scorpio, was allegedly being driven by a woman with two-three more passengers in the vehicle.

Issues

New Delhi: The South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) issued notices to various government departments after it found mosquito breeding on their premises. Notices were issued to the Archaeological Survey of India and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) as well as Delhi government's Public Works Department (PWD), Irrigation and Flood Control and Delhi Jal Board (DJB). Move comes after Delhi reported eight cases of dengue during last week.

Robbed

Gurugram: Two brothers were robbed of Rs 60,000 and their mobile phones at gunpoint by two unidentified men in the Sohna area here, police said. According to complaint filed at Bhandoli police station by Sahraj, a resident of Nuh, he was going on a motorcycle with his brother Armaan to buy a buffalo. When they reached a residential society located near Dhani flyover in Sohna, two youths came on a bike. The miscreants took them at gunpoint and started beating, then robbed.

'Raj Thackeray doing BJP's bidding, his speech bereft of issues'

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):



Sharad Pawar

NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Wednesday alleged that Raj Thackeray is doing the BJP's bidding, a day after the MNS president battled for the Uniform Civil Code and stressed the need for controlling population growth in the country.

When queried about Raj Thackeray's ultimatum to the state government to remove loudspeakers from mosques till May 3, Pawar said, "the government will think over it seriously", but didn't elaborate.

He also dismissed Raj Thackeray's allegation that he (Pawar) is an atheist. "I go to temples but don't believe in showing off," the NCP chief told reporters. Pawar alleged that attempts are being made to disturb the social unity in Maharashtra and communal ideology is being promoted in the state. Addressing a Maharashtra Navnirman

Sena (MNS) rally in Thane on Tuesday night, Raj Thackeray had said that if the Shiv Sena-led state government did not remove the high-decibel loudspeakers from mosques before May 3, MNS workers will play the Hanuman Chalisa in front of mosques.

"It is obvious that we got to hear through his (Raj Thackeray's) speech what the BJP guided him," Pawar said.

He said the MNS chief did not utter a single word about the BJP but targeted the Nationalist Congress

Party—a key constituent in the tripartite Maha Vikas Aghadi government led by Shiv Sena.

"He tried to discharge the responsibility which the BJP may have given him," Pawar added.

In his speech, Raj Thackeray had batted for the Uniform Civil Code and stressed the need for controlling population growth in the country.

Pawar also termed "childish" Raj Thackeray's claim that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had raided the family members of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, but not the latter's cousin Supriya Sule, who is the daughter of the Pawar senior.

Ajit Pawar is the nephew of Sharad Pawar.

Hitting out at the MNS chief, Pawar said that people need not take seriously the statements of a person who makes a statement once in six months or a year.

Senior BJP leader, two others from HP join AAP

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

A senior BJP leader from Himachal Pradesh joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) here on Wednesday, saying he was fed up with the policy of the saffron party.

Harmel Dhiman, who was national executive member of the BJP's Scheduled Caste Morcha, joined the AAP along with his supporters in the presence of senior party leaders. Along with Dhiman two other BJP leaders from Himachal Pradesh Devraj and Jagdish Pawar also joined the AAP.

Addressing a press conference, senior AAP leader and Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said more BJP leaders from Himachal Pradesh are set to join the Arvind Kejriwal-led party soon.



Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain with former VP of BJP's HP SC Morcha Harmel Dhiman during a press conference, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Dhiman ji is a well-known face in Himachal Pradesh. Fed up with the BJP's policy, he is joining the Aam Aadmi Party. He was actively associated with the BJP for the past 30 years and was serving as the national executive member of the BJP's SC Morcha, Jain told reporters. Dhiman also served as

vice president of the BJP's Himachal Pradesh SC Morcha earlier, he added.

While Devraj had been two-time Mandal president for the BJP in Himachal Pradesh, Pawar was two term Pradhan (village head) and served as the member of the block development council and district council in the

Heatwave scorches Jharkhand

Mercury above 40 degC in most Dists



A summer day with high temperature in Ranchi on Wednesday.

Ranchi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Jharkhand reeled under heatwave conditions on Wednesday with the maximum temperature shooting past the 40 degrees Celsius mark in most parts of the state, weather officials said.

Heatwave conditions also gripped Ranchi, once the summer capital of un-

divided Bihar. Ranchi has been registering a of maximum around 40 degrees Celsius for the past two days.

The city recorded the season's highest temperature at 40.2 degrees Celsius on Monday. It was 39.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, four notches above the normal, the weather office said. Daltonganj boiled on

Tuesday, recording the state's highest temperature at 44.8 degrees Celsius, which was 5.5 notches above normal. Jamshedpur simmered at 42 degrees Celsius, 2.6 notches higher than normal.

Bokaro, Chaibasa, Garhwa and Giridih also recorded temperatures between 40 and 43 degrees Celsius.

"Relief from the sweltering weather conditions is unlikely in the next couple of days. Heatwave conditions are likely to continue in some pockets of north-west, central and south-eastern parts of Jharkhand," said Abhishek Anand, the in-charge of the Ranchi Meteorological Centre.

Nadda distributes foodgrains to beneficiaries of PMGKAY

Visits PDS outlet in Delhi

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):



BJP National President JP Nadda distributes ration to beneficiaries of PMGKAY in New Delhi, Wednesday.

The Narendra Modi government's free ration scheme PMGKAY benefited 80 crore people and did not allow the country's poverty level to increase despite the pandemic and resultant lockdown, BJP president J P Nadda said on Wednesday.

Nadda visited a public distribution system (PDS) outlet in east Delhi's Kailash Nagar and distributed packets of foodgrains to beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojna (PMGKAY).

He undertook the activity as part of the BJP's 'samajik nyay pakhwada' (fortnight dedicated to so-

cial justice) campaign. The Modi government is "proactive, pro-responsive and pro-people", the BJP president said.

The COVID-19-induced lockdown was imposed on March 24 in 2020 and Prime Minister Modi announced the PMGKAY on March 26, he said. Under

NH-24 TRAFFIC JAM



Traffic jam on NH-24 Nizamuddin Bridge, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Making Hindi compulsory in NE up to Class-X will create disharmony

Kohima, Apr 13 (PTI):



School students in Arunachal Pradesh.

The North East Students' Organisation (NESO), a conglomeration of eight students' bodies, has taken umbrage over the Centre's decision to make Hindi a compulsory subject till Class 10 in the region, contending that the move will be detrimental for indigenous languages and create disharmony. In a letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, NESO called for immediate withdrawal of the unfavorable policy, suggesting that indigenous languages should be made compulsory in their native states till Class 10, while Hindi should remain an optional or elective subject. Shah had said at a meeting of the Parliamentary Official

Language Committee in New Delhi on April 7 that all northeast states have agreed to make Hindi compulsory in schools till Class 10. It is understood that the Hindi language accounts for approximately 40-43 per cent of native speakers in India, however it is worth noting that there is a plethora of other native languages in the country, which are rich, thriving and vibrant in their own perspectives, giving India an image of a

diverse and multilingual nation, NESO said. In the northeast, each state bears its own unique and diversified languages spoken by different ethnic groups ranging from Indo-Aryan to Tibeto-Burman to Austro-Asiatic families, the organisation, comprising the All Assam Students' Union, Naga Students' Federation, All Manipur Students' Union and All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union among others, said.

Interfaith marriage sparks political row in Kerala

Kozhikode, April 13 (PTI):



New married couple in Alappuzha.

A recent interfaith marriage of a Muslim activist of the ruling CPI(M)'s youth wing DYFI, has stirred up a political storm after the relatives of the Christian bride alleged "love jihad", with a senior left party leader supporting the charge, only to retract his statement later.

As the issue snowballed into a major controversy, the Marxist party on Wednesday made it clear that there was nothing unnatural in interfaith marriages and the campaign of 'love jihad' was a creation of RSS and Sangh Parivar.

Relatives of Jyotsna Mary Joseph, a nurse in Saudi Arabia, levelled "love jihad" allegation after she recently walked

out on her family and married Shejin, a local DYFI leader belonging to the Muslim community, without their consent. A section of the Christian community in Thiruvambady here including nuns staged demonstrations against the alleged 'love jihad' in connection with

the incident. A statement issued by the CPI(M) district secretariat member and former MLA George M Thomas supporting the allegations of 'love jihad' added more fuel to the row and triggered an intense social media campaign by a section of people against the ruling party. However,

the CPI(M) district leadership intervened and made Thomas issue a clarification. Love jihad is a term used by the right wing outfits to claim that Muslim men lure women from other faiths to convert them into Islam. Denouncing Thomas' remarks, P Mohanan, CPI(M) Kozhikode district secretary, said that his party has never referred to inter-religious marriages as 'love jihad'. "Love Jihad is a term used by the RSS and Sangh forces to attack religious minorities. The CPI(M) has already made its stand clear on the topic. Marriage is the choice of individuals and the legal system of the country permits adults to get married according to their choice," he told reporters here.

Gahlot flags off 80 AC low-floor CNG buses

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):



Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot flags off 80 new air-conditioned buses, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot on Wednesday flagged-off 80 new air-conditioned low-floor CNG buses from Rajghat Cluster Bus Depot here. According to officials, these newly-inducted buses are equipped with modern facilities like panic button, GPS and are disable-friendly. These buses also have Intelligent Transport System (ITS) through which all these buses can be monitored on real time basis, they said.

These public transport vehicles also have 'bus kneeling with ramp' feature for differently-abled people and also are equipped with fire detection and suppression system, officials said. Flagging-off the buses, Gahlot said these are mod-

ern and environment friendly vehicles and will help in reducing pollution in the city. With the induction of these 80 low-floor AC CNG buses, the public transport bus fleet size has grown to 7,080, the highest in Delhi so far, officials said. Gahlot had even last month, 100 AC low floor CNG buses were inducted

in the fleet under the government's cluster bus scheme while one electric prototype bus was also flagged-off. In January, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had flagged off 100 low floor AC CNG buses and one prototype e-bus from Rajghat Depot in Gahlot's presence.

BRIEF

Crash

Jakarta: An overloaded truck carrying 29 people hit a cliff and flipped over near an illegal gold mine in Indonesia's West Papua province on Wednesday, killing 17 people and leaving others injured, police said. The truck, overloaded with miners and their families, was headed to the capital of West Papua province Manokwari to celebrate Easter. They were on their way from a mining area in Minyambou village of Arfak Mountain district when it hit a cliff and rolled upside-down.

Bust

Madrid: Spanish police have confiscated a huge hemp plantation in the northern province of Navarra and arrested three suspected growers, Spain's Civil Guard said Wednesday. The Civil Guard said the 1,025-acre plantation was the largest of its kind in Europe. Police said the owner reported that his crop was for industrial use. But investigators suspected the hemp plants were being sent to Switzerland and Italy to be turned into cannabidiol, which is illegal in Spain.

Sovereignty

Portland: Tribes in Maine, US gave up some of their rights to the state when they settled their land claims more than 40 years ago. They want to change that agreement so they can enjoy the same self-governing rights as the other Native Americans. The Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet and Mi'kmaq view legislative debate this week, ahead of the midterm elections, as their best opportunity for establishing rights to self-determination. It also sought ways to co-manage.

Killed

Abuja: An armed gang has killed more than 100 people in a remote part of northern Nigeria, survivors and local authorities said. The attackers targeted four villages in the Kanam area of Plateau State, the most recent in a series of violent attacks in Nigeria's north. Such attacks in Nigeria's northern region have become frequent, especially between Fulani Muslims who are mostly cattle herders and communities from the Hausa and other ethnic groups who are mainly farmers.

Outbreak

London: European health officials investigating an outbreak of salmonella linked to chocolate Easter eggs that has sickened at least 150 children across the continent said they suspect it was due to bad buttermilk in a Belgian factory. In an assessment of the continuing outbreak, experts at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the European Food Safety Authority said they had matched the same salmonella strain currently infecting people.

Russia yet to slow Western arms express into Ukraine



Ukrainian servicemen study a Swedish-made Carl Gustaf M4.

Washington, Apr 13 (AP):

Western weaponry pouring into Ukraine helped blunt Russia's initial offensive and seems certain to play a central role in the approaching, potentially decisive, battle for Ukraine's contested Donbas region. Yet the Russian military is making little headway halting what has become a historic arms express.

The US numbers alone are mounting: more than 12,000 weapons designed

to defeat armored vehicles, some 1,400 shoulder-fired Stinger missiles to shoot down aircraft, and more than 50 million rounds of ammunition, among many other things. Dozens of other nations are adding to the totals.

The Biden administration is preparing yet another, more diverse, package of military support possibly totaling \$750 million to be announced in coming days, a senior US defense official said Tuesday. The official

Biden calls Russia war as genocide

Des Moines: President Joe Biden has said Russia's war in Ukraine amounted to genocide, accusing President Vladimir Putin of trying to wipe out the idea of even being a Ukrainian.

spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss plans not yet publicly announced. The additional aid is a sign that the administration intends to continue expanding its support for Ukraine's war effort.

These armaments have helped an under-gunned Ukrainian military defy predictions that it would be quickly overrun by Russia. They explain in part why Vladimir Putin's army gave up, at least for now, its attempt to capture Kyiv, the capital, and has narrowed its focus to battling for eastern and southern Ukraine.

Australian minister tries to end Solomons-China pact

Canberra, Apr 13 (AP):

Australia's Minister for International Development and the Pacific Zed Seselja has flown to the Solomon Islands in a bid to prevent a possible Chinese military presence in the South Pacific island nation.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Wednesday confirmed Seselja's visit, which occurred a day earlier, after the Solomon Islands announced on April 1 it had initiated a security pact with China. Two top Australian intelligence officials, Australian Secret



Australia's Minister for International Development and the Pacific Zed Seselja meets Solomon Islands PM Manasseh Sogavare.

Intelligence Service boss Paul Symon and Office of National Intelligence Director-General Andrew Shearer, have since met Solomon Islands Prime

Minister Manasseh Sogavare. The Solomon Islands government has said it won't allow China to build a military base there and China has de-



Cargo trucks wait to cross to the United States during blockade at Jeronimo-Santa Teresa international crossing in Mexico.

WAITING TO CROSS

'Human element key driver of India-US relations'



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar addresses US Secretary of State Antony Blinken at Howard University Founders Library, in Washington, DC.

Washington, Apr 13 (PTI):

The India-US relationship has undergone a "real transformation" in the last two decades and a key driver of this partnership has been its human element, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Tuesday.

"The (India-US) relationship has undergone a real transformation in the last two decades. Whether it is our strategic and security cooperation or our economic or technology partnerships, it is making its weight increasingly felt in world affairs," Jaishankar said in his interaction with students of the Howard University here. "A key driver of this change has been its human element. The 4.4 million Indian diaspora has literally defined our image in this society and helped forge rela-

tionships that are an enormous source of strength for us in our work," he said, making a joint appearance with US Secretary of State Tony Blinken, a day after the India-US 2+2 Ministerial. "At its centre (are) our students, academics, researchers, and professionals who have contributed to America's progress even as they remain the bridge between our two societies. For our ties to grow, it is equally necessary that there is a better understanding of India and the world on the part of young Americans," he said.

"Your appreciation of a civilizational state and a democratic and a fellow democratic polity that is daily overcoming enormous odds is essential. After all, we are natural partners only when our people have a strong sense

of connect," he told the students.

"And that is why Secretary Blinken, and I were especially pleased yesterday to launch the Working Group on Education and Skill Development that he spoke about. It will enable us to explore a range of opportunities that exist in the field of education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship," he said. According to Jaishankar, policymakers in both countries are sharply aware of the immense difference that our educational collaboration can make. On the Indian side the 2020 National Education Policy contemplates, indeed prioritizes international cooperation in education. "At the American end, we recognize the renewed focus on the STEM sector including in activities which we are both part of the Quad," he noted. In his remarks, Blinken said that the US-India strategic partnership, he is convinced, is absolutely crucial and essential for addressing the problems of the 21st century. The Howard University, a prestigious black research varsity in the American capital, has played an important role in building bonds between India and the US, the Secretary of State Tony Blinken has said.

Lankan PM offers to hold talks with protesting youths

Colombo, Apr 13 (PTI):

Amid rising protests in Sri Lanka over the unprecedented economic crisis, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Wednesday offered to hold talks with the agitators who are demanding resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and all members of his family from the government.

The protests entered its fifth day on Wednesday and since it began on Saturday, it was carried out round-the-clock by



Mahinda Rajapaksa

youths demanding a total transformation of the "corrupt political culture", which they claim has been prevailing in the island nation since it

gained Independence from Britain in 1948.

According to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office, Rajapaksa is willing to hold discussions with the protesting youths who are camping at Galle Face esplanade located near President Gotabaya's secretariat.

The prime minister has said if the protestors are ready for talks, he would extend an invitation for their representatives to meet for discussions, the statement noted.

Endangered pangolins get fresh chance

Freeing pangolins into wild is crucial process

Cape Town, Apr 13 (AFP):

The hospital room is air-cooled to feel like a pangolin's burrow. The patient, Lumbi, is syringed with a protein-packed smoothie, given a daily dose of medicine and has his vital signs checked. Lumbi is being treated for a blood parasite after he was rescued from traffickers during a police sting in South Africa's northern Limpopo province late last year. He and several other



Pangolin monitor Donald Davis, opens the cage to release a rescued pangolin named 'Stevie' at the Manyoni Private Game Reserve.

pangolins in the room are patients of Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital, founded in 2016 to treat and rehabilitate indigenous wildlife. They were confiscated from poachers in South Africa

and neighbouring countries, including Namibia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Many pangolins are in a horrendous state when they are rescued and need of medical care, after being kept in

sacks and car boots for weeks with no food or water. "It's like an ICU (intensive care unit) for pangolins," said Nicci Wright, the wildlife rehabilitation specialist attending to Lumbi. The pangolins are kept at a secret site during treatment, which takes anything from weeks to months, before they can be released back into the wild. Although pangolins have existed for around 80 million years, medically little is known about them. "They are so different to other animals. They really are," said Wright, who has been working with pangolins since 2008.

Indian Consulate in Shanghai closes in-person services

Beijing, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Indian Consulate in Shanghai has announced the suspension of in-person consular services as China's gleaming business hub with 26 million people struggled with mounting COVID-19 cases, putting the country's dynamic zero-case policy to the test.

Indian citizens in Eastern China Region may apply at the Embassy of India, Beijing for availing urgent consular services, the Consulate said in a notice issued on Tuesday.

New COVID-19 vaccine offers better protection

To immunocompromised people



CoVac-1 vaccine

Washington, Apr 13 (PTI): A newly developed COVID-19 vaccine induces a robust immune response in immunocompromised patients, including those with cancers like leukaemia and lymphoma, according to early results from a small trial.

The findings, presented at the American Academy of Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting in Louisiana, US, show that the vaccine, called CoVac-1, induced T-cell immune responses in 93 percent of patients with B-cell deficiencies. "To our knowledge, CoVac-1 is currently the only peptide-based vaccine candidate

specifically developed and evaluated for immunocompromised patients," said Juliane Walz, senior author of the study, and a professor at the University Hospital Tubingen in Germany. A peptide vaccine is the one where the protein pieces are injected directly, rather than being encoded via messenger RNA (mRNA).

Tunisia TV series sparks polygamy row

Tunis, Apr 13 (AFP):

A Ramadan TV series dealing with polygamy has sparked a heated debate in Tunisia, an Arab pioneer in women's rights that banned the practice decades ago.

"Baraa" (Arabic for "innocence") has also been criticised by rights activists and secular politicians for its portrayal of customary "orfi" marriage, religious unions



Tunisian actors (L to R) Fethi Haddaoui and Ahlam Fekih look on during the filming of the Tunisian television series 'Baraa'.

not sanctioned by the state. Both practices are punishable by up to a year

in prison under the country's 1956 family code.

But in one episode, the series' main character, Wannas, declares to his wife and children that he has the right to marry a second woman under Islamic law, which "trumps all other laws".

The series, aired at prime time after observant Muslims break their daytime fast, has sparked a backlash on social media.

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खाण्ड, दन्तेवाड़ा

(ई - मेल - eedan-phe-cg@nic.in)

//ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निरस्तीकरण सूचना//

एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र 'ए' प्रतिशत दर पर निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी थी। उक्त निविदा में ठेकेदार द्वारा अपात्र होने के कारण निविदा निरस्त किया जाता है जो निम्नानुसार है :-

निविदा क्रमांक	सिस्टम टैण्डर क्रमांक	ग्राम / विकासखण्ड	रेट्रोफिटिंग / सिंगल विलेज	अनुमानित लागत
130 / 17.02.2022	93225	बुसपदर / गौदम, द्वितीय काल	सिंगल विलेज	87.83 लाख

कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खांड दन्तेवाड़ा

G-90280/1

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खाण्ड, दन्तेवाड़ा

(फोन / फॅक्स नं. - 07856-252362, ई - मेल - eedan-phe-cg@nic.in)

//ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट शुद्धिपत्र//

एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र 'ए' प्रतिशत दर पर निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी थी। जिसमें किसी भी ठेकेदार द्वारा भाग नहीं लेने के कारण उक्त निविदा की तिथि आगे बढ़ाई जाती है एवं ठेकेदार / फर्म के एक से अधिक कार्य हेतु बिड कंपासिटी देखा जावेगा। कार्य का नाम :- जल जीवन मिशन के अंतर्गत सिंगल विलेज का कार्य।

निविदा क्रमांक	शुद्धिपत्र क्रमांक	सिस्टम टैण्डर क्रमांक	ग्राम / विकासखण्ड	अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)	रिमांक
206 / 23.03.2022	01	95921	बिंजाम / गौदम	151.33	
207 / 23.03.2022	01	95923	बुमाम / दन्तेवाड़ा	76.16	
209 / 25.03.2022	01	95984	धितालूर / दन्तेवाड़ा	113.12	
210 / 25.03.2022	01	95985	धनीकरका / कटेकल्याण	91.56	
211 / 25.03.2022	01	95986	कुन्देली / दन्तेवाड़ा	67.27	
212 / 25.03.2022	01	95987	पूरुकी / दन्तेवाड़ा	88.10	
213 / 25.03.2022	01	95988	नेतापुर / दन्तेवाड़ा	76.77	

निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें एवं अन्य जानकारी वेबसाइट पोर्टल http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in पर दर्शित हैं। टीप :- निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 25.04.2022 है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खांड, दन्तेवाड़ा

G-90281/3



CENTRAL Chronicle

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Crowd with emotions

In the last few days, incidents of communal violence were reported across many states including Gujarat, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. In age of social media and constant connectivity, spreading of clashes across a large geographical area is not surprising. Clashes were also reported from Jawahar Lal University in Delhi. Politicians of both governing and opposition political parties have begun the usual blame game. Riots are not new to South Asian countries but at present the coordination due to modern telecommunication has added a new dimension. Need to look into historical context of riots, particularly in India. Taken together, the historicization of the crowd, emotions, and violence allows us to overcome a number of dichotomies: Between the riot that essentially always remains the same, and the riot that can only be viewed as a fragment, between the learned and the spontaneous, between emotions and interests, not only by showing that interests generate emotions, but also by showing that the actors had a vital desire to experience certain emotions, which would transform them and thus change the fate of their community. We have seen debates on their historical origins, whether they were developments that had come to the fore already in the seventeenth and eighteenth century, or a result of British colonialism, on their moving forces, whether elites manipulated the crowd, or subalterns pursued their own agenda, on the role of interests and emotions. Individual riots and regional or temporal clusters of riots have been explained through their embedding in social, economic, and political developments, the results of riots, not least their role in the partition of the subcontinent, have been investigated in detail. The concept of the crowd evoked by canonical works such as Gustave Le Bon's work on crowd psychology relies on the image of a large number of people and assumes that 'from the mere fact of their being assembled, there result certain new psychological characteristics.' Crowd psychology suggests an image of large numbers of people, densely packed, moving together as if guided by a single will.

Affect studies, though guided by different questions and, as a rule, quite critical of crowd psychology, meet this approach in their emphasis on the importance of bodily proximity for the generation of contagious emotions, which bypass representation and intentionality. Men came together as a crowd, but they also dispersed and regrouped several times within the same riot. This has implications on how the mobilization of emotions can be conceived. Affect theory focus on the overwhelming character of emotions, which marginalizes the role of the will. This seems particularly convincing for riots, as it permits a downplaying of responsibility: The participants were not themselves, but overcome by violent affects, hate, anger, and fear being the most important. However, a closer look at the sources shows that anger is less central as an emotion than 'josh', which is often translated as 'excitement,' but is much more polysemic and carries connotations of fervour and enthusiasm. 'Josh' could become not only a moral category, an emotion to cultivate, but also one that men strove to experience, and that could turn into an object of desire in itself. Feeling strongly, being able to passionately experience hurt sentiments, was conceived as a sign of virility at the personal level and of vitality at the communal level and these sentiments not only needed to be experienced, but they also had to be shown. One result of the traditional division between emotions and rational debate, at the basis of much of the theorization around the development of the public sphere, is that it forces us to decide between either focusing on the violence, its causes, forms, and results, while neglecting the negotiations accompanying almost every riot, or bringing in the negotiations and reducing emotions to an epiphenomenon. It is now responsibility of state governments to ensure justice for victims of violence.

Centrist Macron

Emmanuel Macron is showing signs of nerves as he steps up his campaigning ahead of the second round of the French presidential election. During a visit to the northern town of Denain, the French president made missteps and appeared unprepared as he came up against unhappy members of the public. With polls suggesting a very tight runoff race between Macron and far-right leader Marine Le Pen, the incumbent is hitting the campaign trail with gusto after taking a light-touch approach ahead of the first round. Denain, one of the poorest towns in France, is a short drive away from Le Pen's electoral fiefdom in the rust belt in northeastern France, where the National Rally has thrived in recent years. Some 41 percent of voters in Denain chose Le Pen in the election's first round. Emmanuel Macro is considered as centrist politician. Can the political centre hold any meaning? That question has gained new urgency as politics becomes more polarized. True, the political centre is hardly full of towering leaders nowadays.

But it still offers enough ground, both in theory and in practice, to build a vastly better alternative to the populism that now rules too many countries. It is the antidote to the post-truth polarization that dominates social media and electoral politics. Some positions allow for only two kinds of centrism. The first he labels procedural, but a better label is pragmatic: when confronted with fragmented political systems, it is the centrists who anchor negotiations and create the conditions for a workable compromise. Such centrism is necessary but uninspiring. Purely pragmatic centrists leave themselves open to the old charge that they, like economists, know the price of everything but the value of nothing. Second type of centrism is positional: a centrist is merely equidistant between left and right, and therefore compelled to leave key choices in the hands of others. One problem with positional centrism is that it seldom succeeds at the polls: voters prefer twice the sugar and all the caffeine. Emmanuel Macron has to convey about his centrism to French citizen to win election.

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: editorcentralchronicle@gmail.com

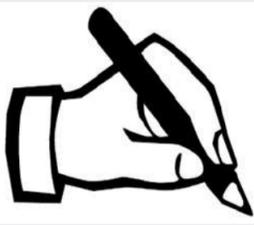
The letters can be edited or rewritten for clarity of thoughts.

EXTREME RACING CAR



(L-R) Leena Gade and Tanner Foust, pro driver and rallycross champion pose in front of the MX Extreme E race car outside of the New York Stock Exchange in US.

Transforming India's healthcare with 'Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY'

**DR RS SHARMA**

The National Health Policy (NHP) of 2017 had listed among its foremost objectives, the achievement of Universal Health Coverage. Achieving a significant reduction in out-of-pocket expenditure due to health care costs was one of another key objectives. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) was conceived out of this vision to move towards a more holistic approach to healthcare service delivery. Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY was not the nation's first tryst with healthcare insurance. Due credit must be given to predecessor schemes such as Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), States schemes like Aarogyasri in Andhra Pradesh, Jeevandayee Yojana in Maharashtra. However, in terms of scope and scale, AB PM-JAY simply dwarfed all existing healthcare insurance interventions. It is for the first time that we now have a health insurance scheme with a pan-India presence being implemented almost everywhere in the country.

As of April 1, 2022, Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY in alliance with State health schemes covers a beneficiary base of more than 14 Crore families (70 Crore individuals). Almost 18 Crore individuals have been identified under the scheme and provided with an Ayushman card. AB PM-JAY has facilitated almost 3.28 Crore hospitalizations providing treatment worth over Rs 37,600 Crores. All this has been achieved in a little over 3.5 years and amidst the greatest global pandemic in recent times. As I reflect on the trajec-

tory of Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY, the scheme's success is mounted on the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the versatile policy framework conceptualized by the Cabinet. This policy framework crystallized the guiding principles behind Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY. Let us discuss these principles.

AB PM-JAY was launched with 1,393 treatment packages covering treatment for various medical specialties like oncology, neurosurgery, cardiovascular surgery etc up to Rs 5 Lakhs per beneficiary family. This was subsequently increased to 1,670 treatment packages. The benefits package under AB PM-JAY was comprehensive covering pre and post hospitalisation expenses. Additionally, all pre-existing conditions were covered from day one of the policy period. The portability feature empowered beneficiaries from the remotest villages to seek treatment at the most advanced healthcare facilities. Under AB PM-JAY considerable flexibility was provided to the States and Union Territories (UTs) in choosing their mode of implementation, beneficiary database and creating the network of hospitals. Further, NHA diligently pursued convergence with the existing State based schemes. Currently, AB PM-JAY is implemented in alliance with more than 25 State-specific health schemes. Additionally, District Implementation Units were set up in over 600 districts across the country to ensure that the administrative reach of AB PM-JAY to the beneficiary's doorstep.

Renewed impetus has been given to

extending the scheme benefits to the marginalized sections of society covered under the Socio-Economic Caste Census database. Likewise, AB PM-JAY has adopted an enlightened approach towards ensuring gender-specific equity. The erstwhile RSBY scheme had mandated a limit of adding up to 5 family members. Unfortunately, this led to the exclusion of female members of the household, especially the girl child. However, under AB PM-JAY, this capping was done away with. Women account for approximately 50 percent of Ayushman cards generated using NHA IT platform and 47 percent of authorized hospital admissions. One of the problems that afflicted in the past was fragmented IT systems for the schemes like Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY. Therefore, under AB PM-JAY, a highly versatile technology platform was developed to aid in beneficiary identification, transaction management and hospital empanelment. This award-winning IT platform is now active across 26 States and UTs. As a result, SHAs and NHA have gained granular insights into the scheme to aid in evidence-based policymaking and necessary course correction, where required.

Under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY both public and private hospitals have been empanelled for providing healthcare services to the scheme beneficiaries. The participation of the private sector has increased avenues for the scheme's beneficiaries to seek treatment and concurrently reduced the burden on tertiary care facilities in the public sector. Under AB PM-JAY, it was ensured that public hospitals would be equally reimbursed for their services and at the same rates as that of private hospitals. This has also supported public sector hospitals to create a pool of untied funds that could be sustainably invested in infrastructure and human resources. The complementary role of the public and private sector hospitals has been vital in ensuring that the scheme implementation proceeded seamlessly.

One of the key activities that I greenlighted upon assuming charge of NHA was the 'Aapke Dwar Ayushman'. Under Aapke Dwar Ayushman, a grassroots

network of frontline healthcare workers, Gram Panchayat officials and village-based digital entrepreneurs were used to undertake door-to-door mobilization of beneficiaries across communities. Special night camps were set up for daily wagers. These efforts translated into the creation of more than 4.7 Crore Ayushman cards since January 2021, an increase of 55% in the Ayushman cards generated by NHA IT system. NHA is launching Aapke Dwar Ayushman with renewed vigour. This time we are focusing on States such as Assam, Bihar, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh.

Although a lot has been done under the PMJAY ecosystem to make it more accessible and acceptable to the beneficiaries we still have a few issues. Much more focus is required on the beneficiary saturation by reaching out to all eligible beneficiaries and issuing maximum Ayushman cards. There is also a need to increase empanelment of the hospitals in the underserved areas. We are also working at increased uptake of scheme in government hospitals and see that they are able to utilise the funds reimbursed for upgradation of their infrastructure. For the private sector we are working at revising the HBP rates so that they are more acceptable for the private sector hospitals. We have received interest from various countries in the Asian and African regions who have been working closely with the NHA/the Health Ministry and evinced interest in various health sector-related programmes, including Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY.

Aside from this, I would also like to take this opportunity to give credit to the entire Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY ecosystem consisting of NHA, SHAs, DIUs, Implementation support agencies, Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitras, frontline healthcare workers, Ayushman card creators from partner agencies such as CSC / UTIITS for their tireless support in making AB PM-JAY such a grand success. However, going forward much more needs to be done to help the scheme realize its full potential.

(Dr RS Sharma is Chief Executive Officer of National Health Authority.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

War goal

We were made to hear that Russia desires to lend support to the people of the Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine where Russian-speakers are being "systematically tortured" by the State force. But is there any proof that Russian-speakers are indeed being subjected to such butchering in the Donbas region. Even if Russian allegations are assumed to be true; then it should have limited its military aid within that region only, that too taking on only the Ukrainian force. But why such bombardment and missiles, thereby "gifting" unfathomable miseries to innocent civilians. But the actual goal is to extend the frontier of Russia. So another "logic" arrives in the form "Ukraine was originally a part of the Russian empire". So by blaming Lenin and Gorbachev for awarding a distinct identity to Ukraine; Putin desires to "amend historical wrongs". Why is Ukraine "hobnobbing with NATO". It seems they are legitimising Russian aggression by throwing the ball of accusation in the court of Ukraine. Ukraine, being a sovereign independent country, holds every legitimate right to determine whether it would join NATO or not. Ukraine being advised to have a negotiation with Russia so as to stop the war. Neither is it war nor has the violence started by Ukraine. Far from being a war, it is nothing but a barbaric aggression by a totalitarian regime upon a weaker democratic country. So advising Ukraine to negotiate with Russia imparts a message that both nations are on equally wrong footing when the fact remains that Ukraine is merely defending its territory from the Russian invasion. Now, a message to the "Neutral" brigade whose stance actually benefits the aggressor. Yes, the aggressor needs to be promptly taken to task; "neutrality" merely awards the aggressor a renewed boost due to lack of protest. It must not be forgotten that Russia had shown its aggressive colours way back in 2014 when it annexed Crimea from Ukraine. While most of the nations remained "neutral" at that time; those who opposed it did not take matters to a justified conclusion thereby enabling Russia to remain with the global "mainstream" and turn more audacious.

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata

No surprise

For a nation that has repeatedly experienced and undergone a chequered and turbulent tryst with democracy, the latest development in Pakistan should come as no surprise to an independent political observer. Given the fact that no Prime Minister of Pakistan has completed his normal term in office, the events have again exposed the political vulnerability and the fragility of a country trying to nurture and sustain democracy since its inception. As in the case with India, the apex judiciary appears to be the final saviour with its assurance that it would strive to pass a reasonable order.

Suresh, via email

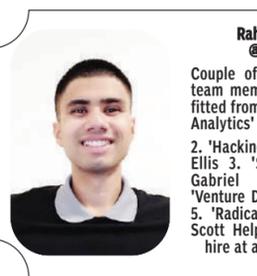
WHAT THEY TWEET!

**Kiran@KiranKS**

Whether it was Mahathir Mohamed of Malaysia, KP Sharma Oli of Nepal or Imran Khan of Pakistan - anyone who went against India's Modi in the neighborhood, hasn't lasted long. Even Xi Jinping is facing massive trouble locally. See Shanghai videos.

Amrullah@Saleh2

This gave me a reason to laugh after a relatively longer while. I once explained to him how his army and the ISI were supporting terrorism i.e. HQN, Quetta Shura & others perhaps behind his back & presented him with evidence. He said with PTI in power it isn't possible. Poor Khan.

**Rahul Mather @Rahul_J**

Couple of books that our team members have benefited from greatly: 1. 'Lean Analytics' - Alistair Croll 2. 'Hacking Growth' - Sean Ellis 3. 'Superthinking' - Gabriel Weinberg 4. 'Venture Deals' - Brad Feld 5. 'Radical Candor' - Kim Scott Helpful for an early hire at a startup.

Aman@AmanKayamHai
May all things be in vain like...**Paras@paraschopra**

There's almost infinite things you could have done at any point of time in life, yet you had to choose only one. Which means no matter what you would have chosen, regret would have remained. So no matter what you do, you can't get rid of regret. Hence, the concept is meaningless.

**Madhavan@madversity**

Insurance companies need to take note of mob violence. This cannot be under force majeure clauses. Approach to courts seeking damages from government on failure to enforce law is a clear possibility both as individual compensation & under PIL provisions.

Navdeep@Singh

There are some high achievers here, including those who have done a lot for the society in so many different ways. But the moment there's excessive (direct or tacit) usage of "I" in their conversations, the glory of a substantial part of their achievements is rendered nugatory.

BRIEF

Acquires



New Delhi: RR Kabel on Wednesday said it has acquired Luminous Power's home electrical business (HEB) from French engineering company Schneider. MD Shreegopal Kabra said it will further strengthen RR Kabel's consumer electrical business portfolio.

Bookings

New Delhi: Ashiana Housing on Wednesday reported a 7 per cent increase in its sales bookings at Rs 575.25 crore during the last financial year. Sales bookings in the financial year 2020-21 stood at Rs 534.68 crore, according to a regulatory filing. The company sold 14.76 lakh square ft in FY22 as against 14.97 lakh square ft in the preceding fiscal. "1,051 units were booked in FY22 vis-a-vis 1,131 units booked in FY21," the filing said.

Funding



Chennai: IT security startup Securden, Inc has received USD 10.5 million (about Rs 80 crore) in a Series A investment led by Tiger Global Management. CEO Bala Venkatramani said this expertise and excitement they bring will help us emerge as a leader.

Launches

New Delhi: Music and entertainment company Mirchi on Wednesday announced the launch of its operation in Dallas city of Texas in the US in partnership with FA Radio International LLC. Targeting the South Asian diaspora across markets, Mirchi has introduced its radio, digital, and live event solutions to the city.

Ambassador



New Delhi: Havells India on Wednesday said its consumer durables brand, Lloyd, has roped in former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly as its Brand Ambassador for Eastern Indian markets. Ganguly will endorse Lloyd range of consumer durables, through promotion.

Unveils

New Delhi: SAP India on Wednesday announced the launch of an immersive mobile experience centre 'Transformation Express' to advance cloud adoption and drive business transformation for the Indian mid-market. In a statement, SAP said it also will foster industry-academic partnerships to familiarise the next-generation youth with emerging technologies to make them future-ready.

Govt in discussion with World Bank over coal mine closure framework

New Delhi, Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The coal ministry is in discussions with the World Bank for collaboration on the mine closure framework, a government official said on Wednesday.

Coal Additional Secretary M Nagaraju said the government is committed to ensuring that mines are properly and scientifically closed for the benefit of the society.

"We are now actually collaborating with the World Bank to develop a coal mine closure framework," Nagaraju said during a webinar.

Vast experience of the World Bank in handling mine closure cases in different countries will be highly beneficial and facilitate the adoption of the best practices and standards in handling mine closure cases.



The additional secretary also said both renewable energy (RE) and coal will go hand in hand complementing each other for some more time and then RE will take over the energy security of the country.

The ministry had earlier said it is in the process of finalising a robust mine closure framework on three major aspects - institutional governance; people and communities; and environmental reclamation and land re-purposing on the principles of just transition.

The ministry had earlier said that as of now, the Indian coal sector is doing its best to fulfill the country's energy demand by augmenting coal production.

At the same time, it is also taking various initiatives towards adopting the path of sustainable development with an emphasis on care for the environment and the host community.

However, the Indian coal sector, the ministry had said, is relatively new to the concept of systematic mine closure. Mine closure guidelines were first introduced in 2009, re-issued in 2013 and are still evolving.

"As coal mining in India had started long ago, our coalfields are replete with several legacy mines remaining unused for long. In addition, mines are closing and will close in future also due to reasons such as exhaustion of reserves, adverse geo-mining conditions, safety issues, etc," the ministry had said.

These mine sites should not only be made safe and environmentally stable but the continuity of livelihood should also be ensured for those who were directly or indirectly dependent on the mines, it had said.

Cabinet clears signing pact between Sebi, Canada's MSC

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved signing of a pact between the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and Canada's Manitoba Securities Commission.

The bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) seeks to have a formal basis for cross-border co-operation in the area of securities regulations. It would facilitate mutual assistance, contribute towards efficient performance of supervisory functions, aid in imparting technical domain knowledge and enable effective enforcement of the laws and regulations governing securities markets, according to an official release.

Exports up 20% to USD 42 bn in March

Reaches USD 420 bn in FY-22

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The country's exports in March 2022 rose 19.76 per cent to USD 42.22 billion on account of healthy performance by sectors such as petroleum products, engineering, and leather, even as trade deficit during the month widened to USD 18.51 billion.

In March 2021, exports stood at USD 35.26 billion, according to a commerce ministry data released on Wednesday. Last month, imports grew 24.21 per cent to USD 60.74 billion, it showed. Trade deficit stood at USD 13.64 billion in March 2021. While total



exports during 2021-22 increased to a record high of USD 419.65 billion, imports too soared to USD 611.89 billion, leaving a trade gap of USD 192.24 billion.

The trade deficit (difference between imports and exports) stood at USD 102.63 billion in 2020-21.

For the first time, India's monthly merchandise exports exceeded USD 40 billion, reaching USD 42 billion in March 2022.

According to the data, the estimated value of services export increased

4.64 per cent to USD 21.76 billion in March 2022.

The services import last month rose 7.33 per cent to USD 13.16 billion.

"The estimated value of services export for April-March 2021-22 is USD 249.24 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 20.94 per cent vis-a-vis April-March 2020-21 (USD 206.09 billion)," the ministry said. Imports during 2021-22 was estimated at USD 144.79 billion, an increase of 23.20 per cent over 2020-21 when it was USD 117.52 billion. "The services trade balance for April-March 2021-22 was estimated at USD 104.45 billion as against USD 88.57 billion in April-March 2020-21, which is an increase of 17.94 per cent," it added.

Sebi penalises BSE, NSE for laxity in detecting misuse of clients' funds

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Capital markets regulator Sebi has penalised stock exchanges - BSE and NSE - for "laxity" on their part in detecting misuse of clients' securities worth Rs 2,300 crore by Karvy Stock Broking Ltd (KSBL).

In two separate orders, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has imposed a fine of Rs 3 crore on BSE and Rs 2 crore on NSE.

The matter relates to KSBL misutilising client securities worth Rs 2,300 crore, belonging to more than 95,000 clients, by pledging them from just one demat account. The funds raised against the pledge were used by KSBL for itself and its group entities. KSBL and its group



entities utilised this money for raising Rs 851.43 crore from 8 banks/NBFCs.

"Without doubt, it was KSBL, which misused clients' securities by unauthorisedly pledging them, and was thus responsible for loss caused by pledging securities which it did not own, including loss to investors as well as loss to banks and NBFCs who loaned funds to KSBL against securities which did not belong to KSBL," as per the orders passed.

BPCL to invest Rs 200 cr to set up 100 fast EV charging corridors

With 2,000 stations

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Public sector oil marketing company Bharat Petroleum on Wednesday said it will invest around Rs 200 crore this fiscal to set up 100 fast electric vehicles charging corridors having 2,000 stations along the busiest 100 national highways.

The company has recently opened its first EV charging corridor along the Chennai-Trichy-Madurai highway with one charging unit. The second corridor will come up on the Kochi-Salem section of the National Highway 47 within the next two months, BPCL executive director for retail B S Ravi told PTI on Wednesday. Ravi said in case a charging



unit does not need a booster transformer, such a unit which will be a full-fledged centre offering rest rooms, refreshments/food court, among other amenities can be ready at a cost varying from Rs 7-12 lakh, and if the unit needs a transformer then the cost will go up to Rs 25 lakh.

"Given this cost variance, we have budgeted for around Rs 200 crore investment this fiscal as we plan to set up as many as 2,000 fast charging stations across 100 corridors by March 2023," Ravi said.

He said for the long-term, the company has

Rupee slips 3 paise at 76.18 against USD, gold falls

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

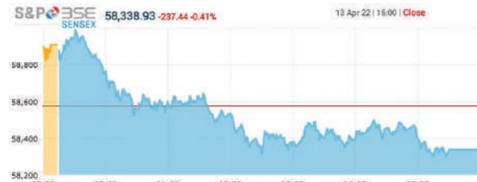
The rupee declined 3 paise to close at 76.18 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday, tracking the strength of the greenback in the overseas market and weak domestic macroeconomic data.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 76.15 against the American currency, then slipped further to 76.26. It finally settled at 76.18, down 3 paise over its previous close.

On Tuesday, the rupee fell 24 paise to end at 76.15. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.13 per cent higher at 100.42.

"The US Dollar index broke above the USD 100 mark (a level that was last seen in May, 2020) post the CPI data release," according to Emkay Global Financial Services. The US CPI report released on Tuesday showed that inflation in the United States rose to a four-decade high of 8.50 per cent in March.

Markets surrender early gains, Sensex declines 237 pts



Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Equity benchmarks wiped out early gains and settled lower for the third day in a row on Wednesday, with the Sensex falling over 237 points, pulled down by HDFC twins amid persistent foreign fund outflows and mixed global trends.

Despite a firm opening, the Sensex failed to hold on the momentum and declined 237.44 points or 0.41 per cent to settle at 58,338.93. During the day, it tanked 285.14 points or 0.48 per cent to 58,291.23.

On similar lines, the NSE Nifty dipped 54.65 points or 0.31 per cent to finish at 17,475.65.

From the 30-share Sensex pack, HDFC, HDFC Bank, Maruti, Dr Reddy's, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finserv, PowerGrid and Kotak Bank were among the major lag-

gards. In contrast, ITC, Sun Pharma, Hindustan Unilever Limited, State Bank of India and NTPC were among the prominent gainers.

"Nifty remained volatile with a largely negative bias throughout the session," according to Rupak De, Senior Technical Analyst at LKP Securities.

In the previous trade, the Sensex declined 388.20 points or 0.66 per cent to settle at 58,576.37. The Nifty went lower by 144.65 points or 0.82 per cent to finish at 17,530.30.

Meanwhile, retail inflation soared to a 17-month high of 6.95 per cent in March, and remained above the Reserve Bank's upper tolerance level, while factory output grew just 1.7 per cent in February, according to official data released.

Domestic stainless steel demand expected to reach 20 MT

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Domestic stainless steel demand is expected to reach 20 million tonne (MT) by fiscal year 2047, according to a report.

In 2021-22, the country's demand for stainless steel was 3.7-3.9 MT, as per the 'Stainless Steel Vision Document 2047' released here on Wednesday.

The report was launched by Additional Secretary, Steel, Rasika Chaube at the ongoing Global Stainless Steel Expo (GSSE) 2022.

The three-day event, which is organised by Ministry of Steel, Jindal Stainless Ltd (JSL) and Virgo Communications.



The report said it expects, "stainless demand to register a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.6-7.5 per cent over fiscals 2022-2025 and reach 4.6-4.8 MT."

Further, sectors like construction, infrastructure, and manufacturing -- key contributors to the GDP -- are expected to drive the growth.

Thus, the consumption is expected to reach 12.5-12.7 MT and 19-20 MT by fiscal

years 2040 and 2047, respectively.

As of March 2022, India's installed stainless steel capacity is at 6.6-6.8 MT. The capacity utilisation is estimated to have improved from 50 per cent in 2021 fiscal year to 58-60 per cent in 2022, it said.

The report further said India needs to develop enough capacities while improving the utilisation to meet the estimated demand.

India is the second largest consumer of stainless steel and one of the fastest growing markets. The country's per capita stainless steel consumption has more than doubled to 2.5 kg in 2022 fiscal from 1.2 kg in 2010.

Global NCAP gives three-star adult safety rating to Hyundai Creta, i20

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Vehicle safety group Global NCAP has given three-star adult occupant protection to Hyundai's Motor India's mid-sized SUV Creta and premium hatchback i20 after conducting crash tests.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor's (TKM) Urban Cruiser received four-star safety rating.

Vehicles are rated from zero to five based on their safety features and automobiles with a higher rating considered safer for occupants. In a statement, Global NCAP said it tested the basic versions of Creta and i20, featuring two frontal airbags and ABS.

The mid-sized SUV recorded an unstable structure and the risk of injury to the lower legs and feet of the driver, it stated. "Lack of ISOFIX anchorages and three point

TKM Urban Cruiser gets four-star rating

belts in all seating positions explains the child occupant protection results. Global NCAP was surprised to see in such a new model the lack of three point belts in all seating positions, lack of ESC and no side head impact protection as standard," the vehicle safety group noted.

During the assessment, i20 showed an unstable structure, a risk of the driver's head and weak protection to the driver's chest, it added.

TKM's Urban Cruiser, which was also tested in its most basic safety spec comprising two frontal airbags and ABS, showed a stable structure, and adequate to good protection of critical body regions of the adults.

Passenger vehicle sales dip nearly 4% in March

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Passenger vehicle wholesales in India declined nearly 4 per cent to 2,79,501 units last month, auto industry body SIAM said on Wednesday.

Passenger vehicle (PV) dispatches from factories to dealerships in March 2021 stood at 2,90,939 units.

As per the latest data by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), two-wheeler sales also fell 21 per cent to 11,84,210 units as compared with 14,96,806 vehicles in March 2021. Motorcycle sales declined 21 per cent to 7,86,479 units as against 9,93,996

units in March 2021. Scooter sales were also down 21 per cent to 3,60,082 units from 4,58,122 vehicles a year ago. In the 2021-22 fiscal, total PV wholesales rose by 13 per cent to 30,69,499 units from 27,11,457 units in 2020-21. However, total two-wheeler dispatches declined by 11 per cent to 1,34,66,412 units in last fiscal as compared with 1,51,20,783 units in 2020-21. Three-wheeler sales rose to 2,60,995 units last fiscal from 2,19,446 units in FY21. Similarly, total commercial vehicle wholesales also increased to 7,16,566 units last fiscal as compared with 5,68,559 units in 2020-21.

Imported paper straws to have cost implications

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Manufacturers of small packaged fruit juices and dairy products have sought an extension of the July 1 deadline, for implementing the ban on plastic straws and said imported paper straws are expected to increase their input cost but unlikely to meet the industry's requirement.

Arguing that there is no viable alternative at present, industry body Action Alliance for Recycling Beverage Cartons (AARC) and Home-grown FMCG major Dabur India said there is a need to extend the deadline by at least two



three years for a smooth transition. The government's ban on single-use plastics, to be effective from July 1, will also impact the plastic straws that are packaged with small juice and milk beverage packs sold by food companies. "We would urge the government to extend the implementation

date of the ban till proper infrastructure for producing paper straws locally is developed," Dabur India CEO Mohit Malhotra told PTI. Expressing similar views, AARC said the ban is going to have a big impact as there are no alternatives at the moment.

"The industry has been working on biodegradable PLA straws as alternatives but these are still 9-12 months away from validation. The industry is also looking to import paper straws, whatever could be imported, though there is not enough availability globally," said AARC CEO Praveen Agarwal.

PE inflows in realty sector dips 32% to USD 4.3 bn in FY-22

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Private equity (PE) investments in real estate sector fell 32 per cent to USD 4.3 billion in the last fiscal year mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to property consultant Anarock.

PE investments in real estate stood at USD 6.3 billion in the 2020-21 financial year.

According to Anarock Capital's FY22 year-end edition of its FLUX report, PE inflows in real estate were USD 5.1 billion in FY'20, USD 5.6 billion in FY'19 and USD 5.4 billion in 2017-18 fiscal. The consultant attributed the fall in PE investments in real estate to

the second wave of the COVID-19, leading to multiple lockdowns in various parts of the country.

The consultant expects a recovery in PE investments in the real estate sector on the back of widespread vaccine coverage and improved market sentiments. Shobhit Agarwal, MD & CEO, Anarock Capital, said: "Equity continues to remain around 80 per cent of the total PE investments in Indian real estate." The commercial sector attracted the highest investment in FY22 (38 per cent), followed by the Industrial & Logistics segment (22 per cent) and residential 14 per cent, he added.

Arjun Rampal's 'London Files' character impacted him personally

Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming thriller series, 'London Files', recently spoke about his character Om Singh, a homicide detective who takes on the case of a missing person in the politically divided city of London.

Shedding light on his character, Arjun said, "Om Singh is someone who stays with you, he is real, flawed, hurt and alone." He also revealed that the journey of this character is something that has impacted him personally, actually "a lot more" than he expected. Sharing what's the best way to play a detective, he said, "When you play a detective, you automatically become a skeptic. It's all about proof and conspiracies that you can join the dots to find the truth. So your mind begins to think like that. It changes your way of seeing things and your perspective towards life."

Arjun Rampal

Kangana Ranaut: We rarely have heroines performing action scenes in our films

The teaser of Kangana Ranaut-starrer 'Dhaakad' was unveiled on Tuesday and it depicts the Bollywood actress in an intense spy avatar, acing her action skills while combating enemies and beating them at their own game.

She says that in "our cinema, we rarely have heroines performing action scenes in the real sense."

The actress has learned a number of martial art forms and combat techniques, including hand-to-hand combat to play Agent Agni with panache and elan. The actioner led by Kangana, stars Arjun Rampal, Divya Dutta and Saswata Chatterjee along with a power packed ensemble cast.

Kangana said: "Along with the success of 'Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi', I also enjoyed the love and admiration that came my way for the way I pulled off the action scenes in that film. In our cinema, we rarely have heroines performing action scenes in the real sense. When 'Dhaakad' came my way, I felt happy to see that someone had dared to visualise a woman in a hardcore commercial film as an action heroine."

"I'm all for daredevilry and doing something that pushes the envelope."



There's nothing that does it like a good commercial film."

Arjun Rampal plays the antagonist and his villainous turn is unlike any other and he has ensured that his look is on point. The actor also trained hard for the action sequences for months to make them look authentic. That's not all, the duels between Kangana Ranaut and Arjun

Rampal have been specially designed to amp up the adrenaline of the viewers.

Their clash is something to be savoured on the big screen. Rampal is ably supported by Divya Dutta who has a meaty role as the antagonist. Dutta will be seen in an avatar which will unveil an untapped side to her acting ability.

Filmed across Budapest, Mumbai and Bhopal, the slick entertainer has been shot by award-winning Japanese cinematographer Tetsuo Nagata and the action choreography has been designed by an out-an-out international crew.

Producer Deepak Mukut said: "This is the film that, we hope, sets new standards in how women-led actioners are designed in Bollywood. In every sense of the term, we wanted a slick and engaging action thriller and we went all out to just make that with full gusto and all heart."

"The film has a sensitive subject at its core and I laud at how it's been rendered on screen. It's entertaining and a rollercoaster ride that I relished making."

Director Razeesh Razy Ghai believes, "While constructing this character, we were clear that Agent Agni had to be one of a kind."

Vidyut Jammwal looks back on 9 years of 'Commando: A One Man Army'

Action hero Vidyut Jammwal's film 'Commando: A One Man Army' has clocked nine years of its release on Tuesday and the actor has gone down memory lane.

'Commando: A One Man Army' is the first instalment in the action thriller series. Starring Jammwal, Pooja Chopra, Jaideep Alhawat, Adah Sharma, Esha Gupta and Freddy Daruwala, the movie revolves around the story of Karan, a disavowed Indian commando, who helps protect a woman from a local thug who is hellbent on forcing her to marry him.

Vidyut, who is trained in the martial art of Kalaripayattu, performed his own stunts and martial arts in the film's action sequences.

Remembering the film, Vidyut says, "I'm grateful that the audience embraced the action thriller and showered so much love for the part I essayed. A hero is someone who inspires us to be better and playing Karan gave me the canvas and opportunity to make that impact."

"The film was received with quite a lot of excitement. The highlights for me were the action sequences and the stunts. Nine years of the film brings back memories of what this film meant for action movie fans."

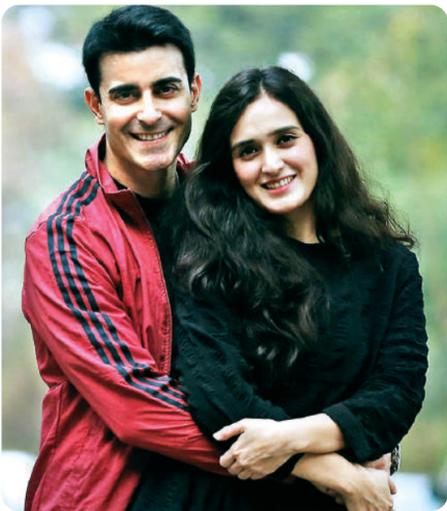
He is currently shooting for 'IB 71' and also announced to star in 'Sher Singh Raana'.



Gautam to deliver a cameo in 'Gud Se Meetha Ishq'

Since the show's promo launch, viewers have been envisioning the show's remarkable love story and, of course, its title track, 'Ishq Bina Kya Jeena Yaara,' which makes the audiences feel incredibly dynamic by the scenic mountain ranges. In the show, 'Gud Se Meetha Ishq' we may also contemplate and foresee that the lead actress Pankhuri Awasthi's husband Gautam Rode might make appearances in the show as he has been approached to deliver a cameo for the show on Star Bharat.

The fans are completely elated and is eagerly waiting to see the phenomenal couple sharing screen for the first time. Along with real life, the most adorable couple will be now seen in 'reel-life' setting the sets on fire with their chemistry. Moreover, the show's lead character, played by the audience's favourite actress Pankhuri Awasthi, will be viewed as a tourist guide who will re-



fute the stereotypes prevalent in this male-dominated society. Pankhuri Awasthi has played a variety of powerful characters in the past, and has always portrayed her versatility. Produced by Film Farm India, the show will soon take the audience to a new love story. While actress Meera

Deosthale plays Pari, a mentally challenged girl, Ishaan Dhawan will be seen in lead roles as photographer Neel Khurana. If we talk about the other cast of the show, then big names like Peelu Vidyarthi, Vishal Chaudhary, Amrapali Gupta, Ananya Khare are also included in its impressive list.

Ishita to don a new avatar for Grand Finale of 'India's Got Talent'

Sony Entertainment Television's most loved talent reality show, India's Got Talent is all set to air the Grand Finale episode this Sunday where the country will get the winner of this season! To make the grand finale even more grandeur, the Top 7 finalists - Ishita Vishwakarma, Rishabh Chaturvedi from Amritsar; Divyansh & Manuraj, Bomb Fire Crew, Warrior Squad, Demolition Crew and BS Reddy have pulled up their socks to present themselves like never before to the fans and viewers.

One of the finalists, Ishita Vishwakarma from Jabalpur who is fondly known as 'Choti Lata,' is all set to mesmerizing one and all with her renditions of song, 'Lag Jaa Gale,' 'Honthon Mein Aisi Baat,' and 'Dafli Wale Dafli Baja' during the grand finale episode. Making her act come to life, Ishita will be seen performing amid a LED fountain in the middle of the stage and with dancers. Ishita, who is a huge fan of the late Lata Mangeshkar ji has time and again proven her mettle on the show with some spectacular performances. She will for the first time, step out of her soft image for the finale! Not only this, for the very first time Ishita will be seen in a completely new avatar wearing a green dress and to top it all, let her hair down!



HOROSCOPE THURSDAY APRIL 14

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18
You are at your best today. A perfect blend of commitment and competency, you will zap people by your persona. By afternoon, your adrenaline will be pumping fast, and you'll agree to complete others' work too. Hats off to you, says Ganesh.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20
If legal hassles have been troubling you of late, they are likely to reach a satisfactory conclusion today, says Ganesh. Your finances look good. Family matters will keep you busy in the afternoon. Your evenings are likely to be filled with music or dance classes.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20
You might want to straighten up the house this morning, Aries. Some unexpected visitors could drop by. With no warning, you could be serving lunch or dinner to a group of ten! Don't panic. Take-out was created for just such an occasion.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21
Friends or work colleagues could introduce you to a field of study that captures your interest, Taurus. You're ready for something new in your life, and the lecture series that has been suggested to you could turn out to provide just the stimulation that you need. Your creative juices are flowing and you'll want to make good use of them.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21
Travel is in store today, Gemini. It could be a spur-of-the-moment trip with a friend. More likely, it will be a series of short trips closer to home. You could visit friends or take advantage of sales and do some shopping. Your active mind will pick up on all sorts of ideas for improving your home.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22
You will be dying to take a break today, and go on a brief pleasure trip with your sweetheart. However, it won't be possible. So in the afternoon, you will have an extended lunch break, making plans for a future trip. A vacation is all you can think of today. Your work may suffer a little, but you will more than make up for it.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23
You can expect your life to change in a fairly dramatic way today, Leo. The change could be subtle at first, but with time and distance you're likely to look back on this day as pivotal. You could receive an intriguing piece of news that sets your head spinning with ideas.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22
Today could have you itching for a change, Virgo. The difficulty is figuring out what you really want to do with your life. A good first step would be to talk to people. Find out what they do and don't like about their careers. Use the library and the internet. Take a profile test, such as Myers-Briggs, to see what types of careers mesh with your personality.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23
You're going to be busy but happy today, Libra. It's likely that a project you've been working on for a long time suddenly yields positive results. You can't help but be delighted, as this achievement comes at a time when you've been questioning your abilities.

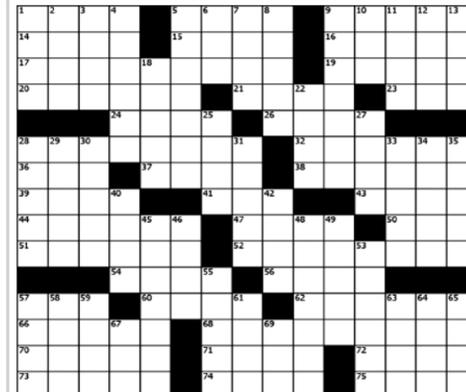
Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22
You could be invited on a last-minute adventure today, Scorpio. By all means, seize the chance! You're certainly ready for a change, and this opportunity could turn out to be just what you've been hoping for. Adventure calls, and whether it's a journey or a lecture, you'll find it enlarges your world in just the way you'd hoped.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 31
If you've been thinking about making a career change, Sagittarius, today is a good day to do some research on professions that interest you. It may be that you're ready to take the leap and start a business of your own. Ideally, you'd have an able partner to help with the planning and execution. Get out your address book and college directory.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20
Technology is going to play a big role in your life today and in the immediate future, Capricorn. It could be that your office is upgrading its systems and you're in charge of getting everyone up to speed on the new equipment. Or it's possible that you'll decide to take a class to increase your technical knowledge.

CROSSWORD

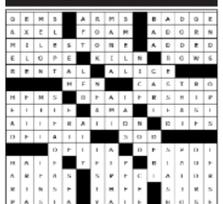
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- ACROSS**
- Space agency (abbr.)
 - Upon
 - Self-respect
 - Lincoln, et al.
 - Billiards
 - Angered
 - Patched a ceiling
 - Eyed flirtatiously
 - ____ citizen
 - Shipped
 - Double agent
 - Bothersome insect
 - Coral ridge
 - Of speech sounds
 - Concurred
 - Yet, poetically
 - Broker's advice
 - Bookworm
 - Assigned job
 - Table part
 - Grow weary
 - Levelled

- Actor ____ Baldwin
- Spy org.
- Eye part
- Told (a story)
- Vocalist ____ Turner
- Achieves
- Pack animal
- Paint
- Type of staircase
- Gorge
- Card game for one
- Divine ____ Callas
- Margarine
- Refusals
- Gives forth
- Dime or penny
- Doctor's "at once!"
- Siestas
- Competent
- Actor ____ Penn
- Appoint
- Perform surgery
- Neither's companion
- Foot digits
- More dated
- Mentor's student
- Oil-drilling equipment
- Misfortunes
- Profound
- Water whirl
- Hues
- Advance upon
- Cultivate
- Campus gp.
- Anchorman ____ Jennings
- Throw
- Start
- Immaculate
- Decree
- Supernatural
- Great fear
- Make socks
- Cheerful
- Mysteries
- Comic ____ Carvey
- Wearing away
- Moved sneakily
- Japanese, e.g.
- Civic gp.
- Summit
- Pillow cover
- Delhi dress
- Horseback game
- Civil disturbance
- Region
- ____ we forget!
- Occupy a chair
- Mauji garland

SOLUTION 268



IPL: Royals, Titans set for high-voltage clash

Navi Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

A battle royale is on the cards when Hardik Pandya's Gujarat Titans take on the Sanju Samson-led Rajasthan Royals, two line-ups armed with potent bowling units in a top-of-the-table IPL showdown here on Thursday.

The Royals put together one of the best if not the best bowling attacks for this season and all their spinners and pacers have been right on the mark.

The seasoned Trent Boult has continued to reign fire with the new ball and has been equally impressive in the slog overs. In the previous game against Lucknow Super Giants, he bowled a fiery opening spell to get rid of skipper KL Rahul and Krishnappa Gowtham in the very first over.

Prasidh Krishna has given a glimpse of why he is touted to be the next fast-bowling sensation in Indian cricket. Alongside Boult, the duo has bowled with pace and aggression.

Rookie Kuldeep Sen too proved he has the stomach to play with the bigwigs. He performed tremendously under pressure on his debut, defending 15 runs off the last over against LSG.

The spin duties, on the other hand, are being ably carried out by senior India



spinner Ravichandran Ashwin and the wily Yuzvendra Chahal. The latter is the leading wicket taker in the league at the moment, spinning the opposition batters in to submission. The leg spinner has 11 scalps at an economy of 6.50.

Ashwin though has not had many breakthroughs,

the off-spinner has operated at an economy of 6.87 and has managed to choke the opposition for runs.

It will be a tall task for the Titans' batters, who are thin on experience, to navigate through the Royals bowling.

The new-entrants have relied heavily on young opener Shubman Gill, who

has been in scintillating form, and Pandya. But the skipper, who is known for his pyrotechnics, has been more restrictive in his approach and his looked to take his innings deep.

Matthew Wade has struggled to get runs while David Miller is also yet to fire, leaving rookies Abhinav Manohar and B

Sai Surdharshan with more responsibility.

However, Rahul Tewatia seems to be loving his role as the finisher tonking sixes at will.

The Titans boast of formidable bowling unit themselves.

The pace bowling department includes the likes of Lockie Ferguson, one of the fastest bowlers in world cricket, senior India quick Mohammed Shami, and Pandya, all attacking wicket-taking bowlers, who can put the opposition under pressure.

Rashid Khan, expectedly, is their most economical bowler. The opposition batters have preferred to play his four overs out rather than go for the big shots.

The Titans bowlers, however, lacked sharpness in the loss against Sunrisers Hyderabad, the team's first defeat this season. It will be interesting to see how they regroup against the Royals batting line up that includes the likes of the flamboyant Jos Buttler, the big-hitting Shimron Hetmyer and Samons besides the prodigiously talented Devdutt Padikkal.

Both teams have won three games and lost one with the Royals perched on top of the points table owing to a superior net run rate, while the Titans are placed fourth.

Djokovic loses clay-court opener at Monte Carlo Masters



Spain's Alejandro Davidovich Fokina celebrates after winning over Serbia's Novak Djokovic during their Monte-Carlo ATP Masters Series tournament tennis match in Monaco.

Monaco, Apr 13 (AP):

Novak Djokovic opened his clay-court season with a surprising loss to Alejandro Davidovich Fokina at the Monte Carlo Masters on Tuesday.

Davidovich Fokina stunned the top-ranked Serb 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-1 in the second round to hand Djokovic another setback as he tries to move on from the controversy surrounding his refusal to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

It makes for rare back-to-back losses for Djokovic, who had not played since being eliminated in the quarterfi-

nals of the Dubai Tennis Championships in February his only previous tournament this year after he was barred from playing at the Australian Open.

Djokovic struggled from the start as the 46th-ranked Spaniard broke him early to pull ahead 4-1 before another break handed him the first set. Davidovich Fokina kept up the pressure and led 3-0 in the second before Djokovic clawed back. But the Serb continued to struggle on his serve and was broken three times in the decider.

Djokovic had beaten Davidovich Fokina in

straight sets twice last year, in Rome and at the Tokyo Olympics.

Djokovic could not defend his Australian Open title in January after he was deported from the country for not being vaccinated. He had to skip tournaments in Indian Wells, California, and Miami because he couldn't travel to the United States for the same reason.

The authorities in France and Monaco lifted most COVID-19 restrictions last month, allowing people who aren't vaccinated into the country and back into restaurants, sports arenas and other venues.

MI need to be ultra-aggressive like CSK to win, says Swann

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Former England cricketer Graeme Swann feels Mumbai Indians should adopt the "ultra aggressive" approach CSK showed against RCB as it aims for its first win of the season.

Both the multiple-times champions lost their opening four games before CSK broke their losing streak with a 23-run win over Royal Challengers Bangalore on Tuesday.

The Rohit Sharma-led MI, however, is still in the look out for their first victory this season.

"Mumbai Indians basically need to take a template from what CSK did against RCB and copy that going forward" Swann said on Star Sports.

"If they can go with an ultra-aggressive intent, they will be able to win (their upcoming matches)," the former off spinner said.



Swann further added that for teams like Mumbai and Chennai who suffered four consecutive defeats in as many games - body language has to be positive going forward.

"Any coach or any captain would demand from his players to show more intensity (on the field), more hard work and want them to show that they mean it (when it comes winning) even if you've lost a few games. So the body language is a good way to go."

FIH Pro League: Experienced India start firm favourites versus new-look Germany

Bhubaneswar, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Indian men's hockey team would look to bank on experience and favourable home conditions when it takes on a new-look Germany with an aim to consolidate its lead at the top of the FIH Pro League standings.

India are currently on top with 21 points from 10 games, four clear of second-placed Germany, who have garnered 17 points from eight matches.

But going into the first of the double-leg tie at the Kalinga Stadium here, the Indians would clearly start as favourites in sultry conditions against a German team that comprises of 12 rookies in its roster.

With a half a dozen out of its 22-member squad making their senior debuts during the two matches on April 14 and 15, the visitors during these matches have decided to

test youngsters ahead of next year's World Cup and 2024 Paris Olympics.

The other reason behind Germany's decision to field a young side is the unavailability of some of their regular players, who are busy with club matches back home.

And it augurs well for the Indians, who are coming into the tie with a bit of confidence, having defeated Netherlands 2-1 and then losing 1-3 against the same opponents in the shoot-out during the return leg at home.

These two matches are in fact India's last home games in the Pro League before they hit the road for away games.

And the Amit Rohidas-led side would definitely look to sign off their home campaign with an all-win record against a less-formidable German side.

India vice-captain and star drag-flicker

Harmanpreet Singh, however, cautioned his teammates against taking the Germans lightly.

"The thing with youngsters is that they will work hard to prove themselves," said Harmanpreet at the pre-match press conference. "Our focus is to make sure we improve as a team and not worry about who is coming."

"When it's experienced opponents, we know what they do, what their strengths are, but we still can't take players we have never faced or seen before lightly. But anyway, we generally know how Germany fares and their style of play."

Germany head coach Andre Henning admitted that coping with the weather would be their biggest task in the upcoming matches as they are coming from sub-zero temperature compared to the extreme humid conditions

Indian GM Praggnanandhaa wins Reykjavik Open chess

Reykjavik, Apr 12 (PTI):

Young Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa on Tuesday won the prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament here with 7.5 points from nine rounds.

The 16-year-old Praggnanandhaa defeated compatriot GM D Gukesh in the final round to emerge sole winner.

Praggnanandhaa turned things around in the all-Indian battle after his opponent blundered when he appeared to be losing. The highly-rated Indian remained unbeaten through the nine rounds and finished with wins over Matthieu Cornette (France) and Gukesh in the last two rounds.

He also posted four other wins, including the one over American Abhimanyu Mishra, who last year became the then youngest Grandmaster at



the age of 12 years and four months. Praggnanandhaa (ELO 2624) gained 13.2 ELO points from the triumph.

He had recently hogged the limelight after stunning world No.1 Magnus Carlsen in an online tournament. Gukesh, who logged six points, finished 17th while GM Abhijeet Gupta took the eighth spot, securing 6.5 points.

The Netherlands GM Max Warmerdam took second place with seven points ahead of Mads Anderson (Denmark), who also scored the same number of points.



Able to do things which I was trying for a while: Dube

Navi Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

The 2022 edition could well be a breakthrough season for all-rounder Shivam Dube, who feels he is finally able to translate his domestic form into the IPL.

The Chennai Super Kings all-rounder paved the way for his team's first win of the season with an unbeaten 95 against RCB on Tuesday night.

I am able to do things, which I was trying for a while. The things I was doing in Ranji Trophy, at the domestic level, but after coming to this (IPL) level, you have to come one level up.

So, I was trying to keep the balance, not think much and back myself. I am following my basic game, not doing anything extra. But yes there is one thing, my confidence is high and I am playing well, Dube said at the post-

match press conference.

The lanky left-handed batter also maintained that he has been backing his game. Dube has been an aggressive batter on the domestic circuit but has not been able to replicate that form at the IPL and international level. He has played 13 T20s and an ODI for India with his last appearance coming back in February 2020. (The team management) has given security and at the same time I back my game. I feel the ball which I can hit, I do that and I am able to connect well, so my confidence is high. I'm trying to play my own game, said the Mumbai batter, who recorded his highest score in the IPL. Dube and Uthappa shared a 165-run stand the highest for the third wicket in the history of IPL. The 28-year-old said they had decided to attack the RCB bowlers after a slow start.

Kim Clijsters retires from pro tennis again



London, Apr 13 (AP):

Four-time Grand Slam singles champion Kim Clijsters has retired from professional tennis again.

The 38-year-old Clijsters, who ended her second retirement in 2019 after a seven-year hiatus, announced Tuesday that she will no longer play official tournaments. I can't wait to see what new adventures will cross my path, the former No. 1 player wrote on Instagram. Clijsters, who already is a member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame, won the

U.S. Open for the first time in 2005 and walked away from tennis two years later at age 23 shortly before getting married. The Belgian player then took about two years off while having a daughter but returned and won the 2009 U.S. Open. She won another championship at Flushing Meadows in 2010, then added an Australian Open title the following season and moved back atop the rankings. Clijsters, who has three children with her husband, Brian Lynch, left the tour again in 2012. They live in suburban New Jersey. It's been on my mind for a while, Clijsters told WTA media. I still love to hit the ball. With my schedule three, four days was enough to keep my rhythm under control but definitely not good enough if I decided to play another tournament. Say, if I picked Australia, it's three, four weeks. That's just not possible at this stage in our family life. Life just sort of takes over, right?

Retired Out We are late already, this will happen a lot going forward: Ashwin

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

R Ashwin feels the IPL is already late in using "retired out" as a tactical move and after becoming the first one to do so, the India spinner expects to see a lot more of it in the near future.

Ashwin batted at No. 6 for Rajasthan Royals against Lucknow Super Giants on Sunday but left the field after two balls in the 19th over to make way for Riyan Parag. He had scored 28 off 23 before retiring himself out.

"T20, as a sport, is heading towards where football has reached. Just like how they're using substitutions, I did something similar (retiring out). Already we're late, but I believe this will happen a lot in the coming days. I don't think it will be a stigma like running

someone out at the non-striker's end," said Ashwin on his Youtube channel.

However, he thinks the move might not work always.

"It might work sometimes and it might not work sometimes. These things happen constantly in football, and we haven't cracked T20 cricket fully yet. This is a millennial sport. This is the next generation's sport. In fact, if you see in football, Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo score goals frequently. But their team's goalkeeper should also save goals and their defenders should defend well. Only then, a Messi or Ronaldo will be in the limelight."



'Free ration ensured food to every household during pandemic'

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Union minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday blamed the global situation, including high oil prices and the Russia-Ukraine conflict besides the pandemic, for price rise and asserted that the government has been taking measures to control it with duties on imports of several essential items like pulses virtually removed.

Addressing a press conference to highlight the benefits of the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana', which provides free ration to over 80 crore people, Goyal said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has underlined his sensitivity to the poor and commitment to the welfare of the weaker sections of society as the programme has ensured that



Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal addresses a press conference, at BJP headquarters in New Delhi, Wednesday.

no household lacked in food during the pandemic for over two years.

Citing adequate availability of grains which has ensured total food security, the minister for commerce & industry, consumer affairs, food & public distribution and tex-

tiles noted that Modi had offered to supply from its stock to the world if the WTO accords permission, and added that the demand India has been receiving from various countries is "historic" and "beyond imagination". The world is looking to India

for exports of grains, he said, noting that anywhere between 20-30 lakh tonnes of wheat have been exported in the last few weeks and a contract for export of 30-35 lakh tonnes of wheat has been signed for April-June quarters.

Wheat export has jumped from two lakh tonnes to 20 lakh tonnes and then to 70 lakh tonnes in the last fiscal and is estimated to be over 100 lakh tonnes in this fiscal, he said. To a question about price rise, especially in the food items, he said global reasons have pushed up inflation everywhere. Costlier food items pushed the retail inflation to a 17-month high of 6.95 per cent in March, much above the upper tolerance level of the Reserve Bank, according to government data released on Tuesday.

TRADITIONAL ATTIRE



Young women in traditional Assamese attire click a photograph before taking part in the Bihu dance on the occasion of Rongali Bihu, on the outskirts of Guwahati, Wednesday.

Govt awaits names from farmers' unions

For setting up panel on MSP

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI): Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Wednesday said the Centre is still awaiting names of members from farmers' unions for setting up a panel on minimum support price (MSP). While announcing the repeal of three contentious farm laws in November last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had promised that a committee would be set up to make MSP system more effective and transparent as well as suggest ways to promote zero budgeting based-agriculture. "We had asked for 2-3 members' names from farmers' unions for the committee on MSP. We have not yet received any names," Tomar told PTI on the sidelines of an event.

Khargone violence

Four more cases against Digvijaya over tweet

Cong leader seeks FIR against CM Chouhan for old post

Bhopal, Apr 13 (PTI):

Police have registered four more FIRs against Congress MP Digvijaya Singh for allegedly promoting religious enmity after he tweeted a picture of a mosque in another state while commenting on communal violence at Khargone in Madhya Pradesh, an official said on Wednesday.

Earlier, a First Information Report (FIR) was registered against Singh in Bhopal on Tuesday evening after a

complaint by local resident Prakash Mande. The four other FIRs were registered on Tuesday night in Gwalior, Jabalpur, Narmadapuram and Satna, the official said. Meanwhile, Singh wrote a letter to Bhopal police commissioner, seeking that an FIR be registered against Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan for allegedly posting a fabricated video about Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on May 16, 2019. In a tweet on Wednesday morning, Singh said, Instead of answering my question they have filed FIR against me. Is that Democracy BJP Model or Modi Model? What about the Hate speeches made by

BJP and RW fraud Babas? Superintendent of Police Vijay Bhadauria said. In Jabalpur, a case was registered on a complaint by Bharat Vikas Parishad, said an official from Omti police station. In Narmadapuram, the Kotwali police lodged a case against Singh on the basis of a complaint by one Vishal Diwan, said inspector Santosh Chouhan. Earlier, in Bhopal, the case against Singh was registered under IPC sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth), 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 465 (forgery) and 505 (2) (public mischief), according to police.

Concerned about fire at Ghazipur landfill: HC

Seeks report from authorities

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court Wednesday expressed its concern over the recent incidents of fire at the Ghazipur landfill site here and sought a status report from the Centre, Delhi government, Delhi Pollution Control Commission, and other concerned authorities explaining the reason behind the fire.

The court also asked the authorities to explain how the fire was dealt with and what they intended to do to avoid it in the future. A

bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi granted three weeks to the respondents to file their response and listed the case for further hearing in May.

"The respondents are directed to file a status report and action taken report disclosing the reason for the outbreak of fire, steps taken to extinguish it, and how respondents propose to ensure that such incident does not occur in the future," ordered the bench also comprising Justice Navin Chawla. The order was passed by the court on its 2015 suo motu case on the issue of air pollution in

the national capital. The court said that the hazardous waste dumped at the site was burnt in the fire and the same resulted in severe air pollution.

"We are concerned about the fire incident at the Ghazipur landfill site in East Delhi. A fire broke out on March 28 and April 9 leading to the burning of hazardous waste dumped at the site, which in turn led to huge smoke generation leading to severe air pollution" the bench said. On April 9, a fire had broken out at the Ghazipur landfill site nearly two weeks after a similar incident at the site on March 28.

HC refuses to interfere with six yrs-plus age requirement

For Class 1 KV admission

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday refused to interfere with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)'s decision fixing six years as the minimum age for applying for admission to class 1 in Kendriya Vidyalayas for the upcoming academic session.

A bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi dismissed an appeal by a five-year-old UKG student, against the single judge order rejecting her challenge to the change in the minimum age criteria which was earlier five years, and noted that the decision was in compli-

ance with the National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP). The bench, also comprising Justice Navin Chawla, said that it did not find merit in the appellant's submission that the age change was sudden and prejudicial.

If the child is five and it is increased to six, what is sudden about it? You will get the chance next year, the court observed. The court said that the appellant would be entitled to apply to KV for class 1 admission next year and this year, it is open to her to seek admission in other schools which are yet to implement NEP.

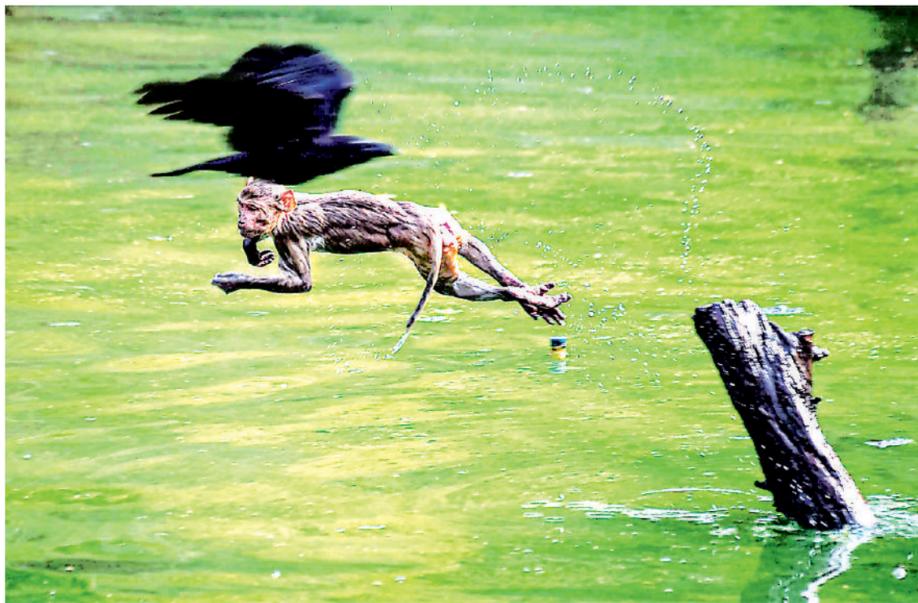
The submission of appellant was, and even before us is, the implementation is being done in a sudden manner to the preju-

dice of the appellant. We do not find any merit in this submission. There is nothing sudden about the implementation of the policy since there would always be a fixed date when the policy would be implemented, the bench said.

In any event, the implementation of the policy would not cause any prejudice to the appellant as she is not being denied the chance to secure admission in class 1. The only difference is that she would be entitled to seek admission in class 1 in a KVS only next year.

If the appellant is desirous of admission in class 1, it is open to her to seek admission in other schools which have not implemented the NEP till date, it added.

BEATING THE HEAT



A monkey jumps into a pond to beat the heat on a hot summer day, in Prayagraj, Wednesday.

AAI provides ambulift facility at 14 airports

To help flyers with reduced mobility

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has equipped its 14 airports with ambulifts to help flyers with reduced mobility in boarding an aircraft. Made-in-India ambulifts have been deployed at these airports as they do not have aerobridge facilities, the AAI said in a statement on Wednesday. The 14 airports where this facility is available are in Dehradun, Gorakhpur, Patna, Bagdogra, Darbhanga, Imphal, Vijayawada, Port Blair, Jodhpur, Belgaum, Silchar, Jharsuguda, Rajkot and Hubli, it mentioned. Airports in Dimapur, Jorhat, Leh, Jammagar, Bhubaneswar and Kanpur will have this facility by the end of this month, it stated.

'Law cannot be challenged in abstract'

SC refuses to entertain plea against Waqf Act

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to entertain a plea challenging the constitutional validity of certain sections of the Waqf Act, as these provisions grant special status to Waqf properties.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Surya Kant said that it cannot direct Parliament to enact a new law and the constitutionality of legislation cannot be challenged in the abstract "which will be a mere academic exercise."

The bench asked advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, who filed the petition, as to how he is affected by the Act and whether any of his proper-

ty has been appropriated under law. Where is the violation of your rights? Show us an example where your property has been appropriated. We cannot challenge the constitutionality of any law in the abstract. This will be a mere academic exercise, the bench said.

Justice Chandrachud said, We need to be very careful when there is a challenge to the constitutionality of legislation. The law has been enacted by a legislative body. There has to be an aggrieved party and there have to be some facts.

He said, There is a settled principle of law that no court whether it's the High Court or the

Supreme Court can issue any mandamus to Parliament to enact a law.

The bench said, In your plea, you are saying that there should be a common law for all the trusts which are within the constitutional domain of Parliament. We cannot direct Parliament and issue the mandamus to enact a law. Justice Kant said that it would actually amount to interference in the functioning of the legislature.

Upadhyay, who appeared in person, said that he has prepared a note of his submission and it can be taken into account. The bench said, We don't want you to make a publicity stunt by reading out the note. Your note says what

is in your writ petition we cannot direct Parliament to enact legislation so two prayers cannot be entertained. Upadhyay said that besides the direction of enacting a new law, he has also challenged the vires of the Waqf Act.

The bench said, Show us a particular case, where you are aggrieved. Have you been persecuted under the law? Has your property been appropriated under the law or have you been evicted? Sorry, we don't entertain such challenges in the abstract. Upadhyay then said that he would like to withdraw and move the High Court to avail his remedy.

The bench then passed the order, Ashwini Kumar

Upadhyay, who appears in person, seeks the permission of the Court to withdraw the petition so as to enable him to pursue such remedies as are available in law. The petition is accordingly dismissed as withdrawn. It said that no opinion has been expressed by this Court on any aspect of the petition.

In his PIL, Upadhyay said that he is challenging the provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995 as these provisions grant special status to waqf properties denying equal status to Trust, Mutts Akharas, and Societies and confer unbridled powers to the Waqf boards to register any property as Waqf property.

Cong leader Harish Dharami accuses party of ignoring him

Dehradun, Apr 13 (PTI):

The dissatisfaction in a section of the Congress in Uttarakhand over the revamp of the state unit has started spilling out into the open with the three-time MLA from Dharchula Harish Dharami on Wednesday accusing the party of ignoring merit in the new appointments.

Dharami said he was always neglected by the party and slammed it for giving precedence to first-timers over those who have kept the Congress' flag flying for years.



Darchula Harish Dharami

He was reacting to the latest organisational revamp in Uttarakhand in which Karan Mahra was

made PCC president, Yashpal Arya the Leader of Opposition and Bhuvan Chandra Kapri the Deputy Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly.

"I was fit for the post of deputy leader of opposition but neglected this time as well," said Dharami who is considered close to former chief minister Harish Rawat. Lashing out at party-in-charge for Uttarakhand Devender Yadav who had said merit was the basis of these appointments, Dharami said, "If first-timers are given precedence over people who have kept the party flag flying for years, is it merit. He said he was born in a family of a soldier who lost both his legs in the 1971 war. "Congress made such a show of respect for the armed force personnel during the run-up to the polls. What became of that?" Dharami asked.



BRIEF



A woman covers herself to get protection from the scorching sun on a hot summer day, in Gurugram, Wednesday.

Charge

New Delhi: Former IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura assumed charge as the chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities on Wednesday after being re-nominated to the post. Lalpura had resigned as the chairperson of the commission earlier this year after being fielded by the BJP from Punjab's Rupnagar constituency in the assembly polls. Subsequently, he lost the assembly polls.

Kidnapped

Agra: A class 11 girl was allegedly kidnapped from outside her school by two bike-borne persons on Wednesday, police here said. The girl was dropped outside her school in Rajapur Chungi area at around 8.25 am by her uncle, police said. They said the alleged kidnapers and the girl were captured on CCTV. "According to the family, the girl's uncle had dropped her at school at 8.25 am. When he was leaving, he saw two men forcibly carrying his niece on a bike."

Security

Shahjahanpur: Police have stepped up security for the family of the victim in the 2013 rape case against Asaram Babu after her father claimed a threat to his life and that of his family members from the supporters of the self-styled 'godman'. Superintendent of Police (city) of Shahjahanpur Sanjay Kumar told PTI on Wednesday that three constables have been posted to provide security to the family.

Watery grave

Gorakhpur: Three people, including two teenaged girls, drowned after a boat carrying them capsized in the Gandak river in Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday morning, police said. According to the police, 10 people were going for wheat harvesting in a field across the river in a small boat when it capsized. A woman and two teenaged girls drowned while seven others were rescued, Superintendent of Police (SP) of Kushinagar Sachindra Patel said.

Weather
High 39 Low 28

MARKET
NIFTY 17,475.65
SENSEX 58,338.93

BULLION
GOLD 53,106
SILVER 69,465

CM urges Shah to resume special assistance

Given to Naxal affected districts

- Baghel meets Union Home Minister Amit Shah
- CM requests continuation of GST compensation Ch'garh
- Home Minister assures all possible help to Ch'garh on Naxal front



New Delhi, Apr 13:

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel today met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and discussed impact of GST on the resources of the state, Naxal related issues and coordination with central paramilitary forces. During the meeting here, the Chief Minister also raised various issues including increasing com-

munication facility in Naxal affected areas, deployment of two more battalions of CRPF in Bastar and formation of 'Bastariya' Battalion. He also urged the Union Minister to resume the special assistance given to seven Naxal affected districts of Chhattisgarh. "Discontinuing the GST

compensation to the states will have an impact on the state's economic condition. If funds are not available for development work in Naxal-affected states, it will have a great impact on the state's economy," the chief minister said requesting a sympathetic consideration for the state. He also discussed the issues related to the development of Naxal affected districts such as expansion of road network, livelihood development, development of banks and infrastructure etc. Baghel said that iron ore is available in abundance in Bastar region. If iron ore is made available at 30 percent discount to the steel plants to be set up in Bastar, then investment of hundreds of crores and thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities will be created there. He said that due to difficult geographical areas, grid

electricity is yet to reach in large part. The fulfillment of the energy requirement of the common man and their economic development is possible only by the installation of large number of solar power plants. The Chief Minister urged for grants to build a cold chain for the processing and sale of minor forest produce, forest medicines and various types of horticulture crops in the forest areas. The Home Minister has assured all possible help to Chhattisgarh on the Naxal front. Chhattisgarh Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Subrat Sahu and Chhattisgarh DGP Ashok Juneja were also present at the meeting. The union minister assured to consider the requests and suggestions on all fronts put forth by the Chief Minister.

Govt approves Rs 5911 cr for Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The government on Wednesday approved Rs 5,911 crore for the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) which will focus on empowering elected representatives of panchayati raj institutions for leadership roles and help 2.78 lakh rural local bodies achieve the sustainable development goals. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the continuation of the revamped RGSA from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2026 to develop governance capabilities of panchayati raj institutions (PRIs). Under the revamped RGSA, the focus will shift towards "capacitating" the elected representatives of PRIs for leader-

ship roles to develop an effective third tier of government. The initiative is expected to enable them to deliver on localization of SDGs (sustainable development goals) for nine themes, - poverty free and enhanced livelihood in villages; healthy village, child-friendly village, water sufficient village; clean and green village; self-sufficient infrastructure in village, socially secured village; village with good governance; and engendered development in village. "The revamped RGSA will help improve Panchayati Raj Institutions and ensure development in villages. It will help bridge the gap between the rural and urban areas and strengthen Panchayati Raj Institutions across the country," I&B Minister Anurag Thakur told reporters here.

K'taka Minister booked for 'abetment of suicide'

■ Refuses to quit

Bengaluru, Apr 13 (PTI):

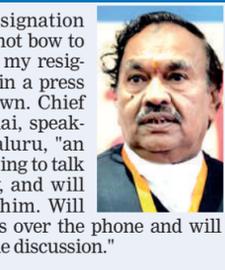
Senior Karnataka Minister R Eshwarappa has been booked for abetment of suicide in connection with the alleged suicide of a 37 year-old civil contractor who had accused him of corruption, but remained defiant in the face of mounting pressure for his ouster from the state Cabinet, saying there was no need for his resignation. Stepping up pressure, opposition Congress urged state Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot to dismiss Eshwarappa from the council of Ministers, even as the embattled BJP leader called for a probe into the 'conspiracy' behind the death of Santosh

CONTRACTOR'S DEATH

■ 'Will not resign'

Bengaluru, Apr 13 (PTI):

"The question of my resignation does not arise at all. I will not bow to the opposition demand for my resignation," Eshwarappa said in a press conference at his home town. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, speaking to reporters in Mangaluru, "an FIR has been filed." "I am going to talk to him (Eshwarappa) now, and will collect information from him. Will talk to him on a few things over the phone and will summon him for a one-to-one discussion."



K Patil, who had levelled the bribery charges against him earlier. While Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said he would speak to Eshwarappa on the issue to find out what actually happened, BJP general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Arun Singh maintained this was not a

simple incident and that every aspect of it would be investigated. The family members of Patil refused to accept his body until the accused in the case are not arrested. Earlier, the Udupi police filed an FIR against Eshwarappa, the Rural Development

487 trees to go for Central Vista's PMO enclave

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Central Public Works Department will transplant 487 trees for the construction of an 'Executive Enclave' as part of the Central Vista redevelopment plan, according to official documents. The Executive Enclave will house the new Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat, India House and the National Security Council Secretariat. According to a revised proposal for environmental clearance to the Rs 1,381-crore project, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) recently informed the Delhi state-level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) that it would maintain 1,022 trees at the site, so as to have a tree per 80 square metre of plot area as per the guidelines of the Union environment ministry. In a meeting held on April 9, the SEAC recommended to the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) to grant environmental clearance to the project which would come

up on a plot area of 81,808 square meters. In a meeting on January 31, the SEAC had asked the CPWD to increase the number of trees to be retained at the site. "About 80 per cent of existing trees are proposed to be removed. This is an excessively high number," the SEAC had said. Based on the SEAC's recommendations, the CPWD revised the proposal, increasing the number of trees to be retained at the site to 320 from 154. According to the new proposal, there are 807 trees at the site as compared to the earlier estimate of 784. The CPWD also informed the panel that of the 487 trees to be transplanted, 397 will be transplanted at Raj Ghat and 90 on a plot in the vicinity. The project proponent will retain 320 trees and plant an additional 702 trees at the site to meet the criteria of a tree per 80 square metre of plot area, it told the SEAC. The CPWD will do compensatory plantation of 4,870 trees at NTPC, Badarpur.

ED attaches Nawab Malik's assets under PMLA

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it has attached multiple assets of jailed Maharashtra minister and NCP leader Nawab Malik under the anti-money laundering law in a case against fugitive gangster Dawood Ibrahim and his underworld gang. The federal probe agency said in a statement that it has issued a provisional order attaching properties belonging to "Mohammed Nawab Mohammed Islam Malik alias Nawab Malik, his family members, Solidus Investments Pvt. Ltd. and Malik Infrastructure under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA)." The properties include Goawala compound and a commercial unit in Mumbai's suburban Kurla (West), a 147.79-acre agricultural land located in Osmanabad district of

Maharashtra, three flats in Kurla (West) and two residential flats in Bandra (West). In a related development, the Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to consider listing for hearing 62-year-old Malik's appeal seeking immediate release from prison in this money laundering case. The ED arrested Malik in Mumbai in February in the money laundering case registered against Ibrahim and others. This ED case was filed after studying a February FIR of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) that booked Ibrahim and other members of his gang like Anees Ibrahim, Chhota Shakeel, Javed Chikna and Tiger Memon. "The FIR (of the NIA) stated that Dawood Ibrahim, after he left India, started controlling his criminal activities in India through his close associates such as Haseena Parkar (Dawood's sister) and others."

UGC notifies guidelines

Student can pursue two academic programmes simultaneously

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The University Grants Commission (UGC) on Wednesday notified guidelines for pursuing two academic programmes simultaneously in physical, online or distance learning mode. UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar on Tuesday announced that the commission has decided to allow students to pursue two full-time and

same-level degree programmes in physical mode simultaneously either at the same university or from different universities. The guidelines come into effect from Wednesday, and no retrospective benefit can be claimed by students who have already done two academic programmes simultaneously prior to the notification of these guidelines. "A student can pursue two full-time academic

programmes in physical mode provided that in such cases, class timings for one programme do not overlap with the class timings of the other programme. A student can pursue two academic programmes, one in full-time physical mode and another in Open and Distance Learning (ODL), online mode or up to two ODL and online programmes simultaneously," the guidelines read.

Cyber attacker demands Rs 57 cr from OIL

Guwahati, Apr 13 (PTI):

PSU major Oil India, which suffered a cyberattack disrupting its operations in Assam, has received a ransom demand of USD 75,00,000 (over Rs 57 crore) from the perpetrator, officials said on Wednesday. A case was registered under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Information Technology Act, 2000, after the company lodged a complaint with the police. The public sector undertaking OIL and the government exchequer have incurred a huge financial loss due to the cyberattack - ransomware, as the business through the IT system has been seriously affected, OIL Manager (Security) Sachin Kumar said in the police complaint.

'Coal mining projects in Surguja will displace tribals and destroy forests'

Surguja, Apr 13:

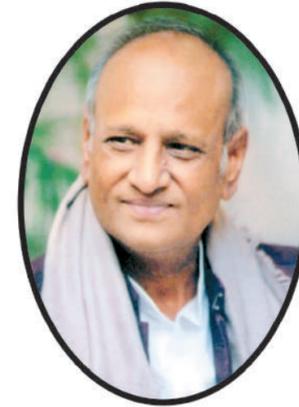
Environment activists have claimed the Chhattisgarh government's move to give nod to two coal mining projects in Surguja division will lead to displacement of several tribals and destruction of forests. The state government recently gave its clearance to Parsa coal block and second phase of the Parsa East Kente Basan coal mine in Surguja division. The mines were allotted to Rajasthan Rajya

Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RRVUNL) after Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot met his Chhattisgarh counterpart Bhupesh Baghel last month, seeking to clear hurdles in the development of these mines, according to officials. However, Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan convener Alok Shukla told PTI that the state government gave permission for mining in biodiversity-rich and ecologically sensitive Hasdeo Arand region while ignoring the wel-

fare of local tribals and the environment. "Mining in these areas will result in the displacement of hundreds of tribals and destruction to 1,70,000 hectare of forest, he claimed. He claimed that according to the mine-affected tribals, the permission for diversion of forest land for the Parsa mining project was granted on the basis of "fake" gram sabha documents. For the last three years, they have been demanding a probe into the matter and quashing of the fake report,

he said. "In October last year, tribals from these areas marched 300 km to the state capital Raipur and met Governor Anusuya Uikey, who had then asked the state government for an impartial probe into the matter," he said. In such a situation, the final approval granted to these mines is a violation of provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act-1996, the Forest Rights Act-2006 and fifth schedule of the Constitution, the activist claimed.

विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि



स्व. प्रकाशचंद्रजी माहेश्वरी
जन्म : 15-11-1940 महाप्रयाण : 14-4-2005

**जायते-म्रियते लोके, सर्वदा बहवो जनाः ।
स जातः येन यातेन, ज्ञाति वंश समुन्नतिम् ॥**

इस संसार में हमेशा अनेक लोग जन्म लेते हैं और मृत्यु को प्राप्त हो जाते हैं। लेकिन उनका ही जन्म सार्थक होता है जिनके माध्यम से समाज और वंश की सब प्रकार से उन्नति होती है।

CENTRAL Chronicle
परिवार

In-depth review of existing gauthans initiated

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: On Wednesday, review meeting was conducted to understand the actual status of the existing gauthans in the district. The District Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure chaired the meeting that was attended by the nodal officers.

Here it could be recollected that Gauthan Pahuch Diwas was organised on April 07 and April 08, during which all the nodal officers were asked to inspect their respective Gauthans and take stock of the innovations going on here and assess the strengths and weaknesses. The review conducted on Wednesday was related to

the report cards prepared by the nodal officers during their review visits to Gauthans in their area.

Collector Dr Bhure while chairing the meeting mentioned that the Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel intends to work in villages according to the concept of Mahatma Gandhi's Suraji villages where the villages need to be made self-sufficient. It is with the Gauthans that the villages would become self-reliant.

The purpose of organizing Gauthan Reach Day was to assess the overall status of the operation of Gauthan becomes fully visible to the administration. The details of the activities, strengths, shortcomings in each Gauthan



should be prepared so that action can be taken to improve them. He said that Gauthan of Suraji villages should be the best in every respect.

In the feedback of Gauthans it was found that some Gauthans are doing very good work. In some there is a lot of focus on innovations. Somewhere the

production of vermicompost was giving good and effective result. Thus, some Gauthans are doing good work and some are average. During the review it was found that if some technical problems are removed, then all the Gauthans will start functioning at a very good level. The Collector took retails



from all the nodal officers about the problems being faced in Gauthans. He said that these problems would be removed in the next fortnight. SDM Vinay Poyam and District CEO Shailesh Bhagat were also present in the meeting.

In the feedback, many nodal officers informed that the office bearers of

the Gauthan committee are very active. However, some nodal officers said that the kind of activism that is expected is not there in the office bearers of the Gauthan Committee. The Collector asked the nodal officers to maintain constant communication as the office bearers of the Gauthan committee as the

end result reflects the working of the Committee and the nodal officer. If Gauthan does not appear to be in good shape or has not performed as per the potential to do a lot which does not send a good message among people. So keep working with constant co-ordination. The problem of water came to light in some of the Gauthans. The Collector directed for its immediate redressal.

The Collector gave certain instructions for further which seeks that the nodal officers should inspect Gauthan four times in a week. Then one day of the week to review the extent to which the instructions given by him were followed. He said that all

Gauthans should have arrangement of CPT, barricading, enough water, fodder and shade.

There should be sufficient number of vermiculture tanks, dung should be produced, there should be continuous production of vermiculture manure. Do not fill all the tanks at once. Other livelihood activities should be continued in Gauthan.

Collector asked AREO to encourage people to take other crops instead of just paddy under Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana. He said that spread more and more awareness regarding its benefits. Through the Rajiv Gandhi Nyay Yojana, now an avenue has been opened for the farmers to earn profit from other crops as well.

Book of poems 'Anhad' released



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: Under the aegis of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Hindi Sahitya Sammelan, Durg Unit, the poetic collection 'Anhad' was released. The poems have been penned by Sangeeta Singh Baghel.

The chief guest of the program was Ravi

Srivastava (President, Chhattisgarh State Hindi Sahitya Sammelan) while Gulbir Singh Bhatia presided over. Present as special guests were Santosh Jhanjhi, Mrs Sharad Kokas, Nasir Ahmed Sikandar and Gilbert Joseph.

The program was conducted by Surendra

Pandey. Also present at the function were District Education Officer Abhay Jaiswal, Ahilya Thakur, Rajesh Chatterjee, Amit Ghosh, Dinesh Parsai, Pushpa Purshotman, Kalpana Dwivedi, Pramod Kirolikar and other dignitaries. The eminent dignitaries appreciated the poems.

Alumini Interaction organised at St Thomas College



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: PG Department of Biotechnology and Microbiology, St Thomas College, jointly organised an alumni interaction and

lecture with Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC) the other day. "The title of seminar was "Scientific illustrations and scientific communications". The guest speaker was Dr

Disha Chauhan, an Alumini of St Thomas College Bhilai. The resource person, Dr Chauhan is Entrepreneurship & Technology Outreach Consultant, C-CAMP

SSIPMT Raipur collaborates with Young Indians (CI)



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Apr 13: Shri Shankracharya Institute of Professional Management & Technology, Raipur has collaborated with Young Indians (Confederation of Indian Industry). Young Indians is an important part of Confederation of Indian Industry that works towards the future development of Indian Youths. It has become an efficient entity in past

19 years by establishing 57 city chapters and registering 4000 students under its cap. More than 30000 youth are part of this organization. Youngsters of less than 45 years of age, who have achieved success at young age in business or job are associated with the organization. The Young Indian works on three pillars- Youth leadership, Country development and thought leadership. The organization conducts camps to make people aware about organ donation, road safety measures, etc through its members. It also works for education, environment, Health, employment, sports, etc. Nishant Tripathi, Chairman BG of the insti-

tute stated that SSIPMT has always been ready to promote societal events along with education and placement. It has been the hallmark of Teaching Learning, Innovation, Technology, Research, and Startups that the institute holds 12 Patents, 6 startups, and many research papers in its credit. In this reference Prof Nitin Jain-Dean, Training and Placement added that the youth plays vital role in the development of any country, and now SSIPMT and Young Indian will work in collaboration to help India to become a developed nation. Ritesh Gandecha- Chairperson, Youth Vertical; Sonam Pateria and Rahul Garg represented Young India whereas Dr Alok Kumar Jain-Principal, SSIPMT and Prof Nitin Jain- Dean, Training & Placement represented SSIPMT.

One day online session conducted on 'Menstrual Health and Hygiene'



Bhilai, Apr 13: Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari organized a one-day online session on "Menstrual Health and Hygiene" in collaboration with Global Hunt Foundation on April 5, 2022 in seminar hall. The seminar focused on menstrual cycle, local taboo, health and hygiene conditions. The programme started at 11:00 hrs. The dignitary on this occasion was Mehak Kaushik, manager, Global Hunt

Foundation. Mehak Kaushik started her career by undertaking a research of 1500 children in the largest resettlement colony of Delhi. At Global Hunt Foundation she further expanded this experience where through diverse social level projects a change was planned within the targeted community. Seminar was very interactive and knowledge full, students participate in questioning and answering session. Students were very much

satisfied from the seminar and they got aware about problems and safety in the time of menstruation. The Program was conducted under the core surveillance of Dr Anshita Gupta Soni Principal Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari and was coordinated by Neelima Janardan, Assistant Professor at Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Pharmacy, Kumhari. All other faculty members Preeti Chandrakar, Preeti Goldar, Nikita Verma, Suman Srivastav, Lokkanya Dewangan, Vinita Gotti, Rohini Armo were present for smooth conduction of the event. Dr JK Upadhyay, Vice Chairman, SRI, MK Shrivastava, Director, SRIP, Kumhari encouraged girl students to break such taboo prevalent in society and motivated them to be confident in future.

Bangalore. She spoke about different ways of representing scientific data into different modes of communication like research papers, books, articles etc. She talked about the possible career in the field of scientific communications. She interacted with students and made them illustrate their own versions of biological concepts. This activity helped students in visualising information other than textbook knowledge. Number of beneficiaries who attended was 60.

कोरोना वायरस से डरें नहीं, सावधानी बरतें

बाबासाहेब डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर

की जयंती की हार्दिक मंगलकामनाएं एवं बधाईयां..

नरेन्द्र खोबरागड़े
अध्यक्ष

इन्द्रकुमार रामटेके
उपाध्यक्ष

जे.वी. पाटिल
उपाध्यक्ष

डी.आर. सहारे
उपाध्यक्ष

संतोष भिन्दे
सहसचिव

पूजितराज नान्दनी
सचिव

बुद कुमार निगम
सचिव

प्रकाश मिश्रा
सहसचिव

भीमराज पाटिल
कोषाध्यक्ष

सहसचिव-दुर्गाप्रसाद चौरे, शुद्धोषन भिवगड़े, शोभा पाटिल, सदस्य-अलका खोबरागड़े, आशीष रामटेके, नामदेव दुफारे, श्रीराम चोरपड़े, चन्द्रमान कुसरे, यशवंत मेश्राम, शैलेंद्र भागत, माधुरी बौद, भागवत बागडे, अशोक नंदेश्वर, संजय चौहान, अनिल बागडे, संवानंद मेश्राम

भारतीय बौद्ध महासभा भिलाई
(पं.क्र. - 1119)

बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर सांस्कृतिक भवन,
सेक्टर-6, भिलाई (छ.ग.)

सभी देशवासियों को

डॉ. बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर

की जयंती की कोटि-कोटि हार्दिक बधाईयां व मंगलकामनाएं.....

अनिल मेश्राम

प्रदेश अध्यक्ष
दि बुद्धिष्ठ सोसायटी ऑफ इंडिया शाखा छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य कार्य, प्रान्ताध्यक्ष
अजाक्स, प्रदेश संरक्षक परिसंघ छ.ग. राज्य

सांखला ब्रदर्स परिवार

की ओर से

महावीर जयंती

की

हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

पचरीपारा, दुर्ग (छ.ग.)

Happy **Mahavir** Jayanti

AMIT JAIN

AMIT JAIN CONSTRUCTION

Akash Ganga, Bhilai, Durg

Happy **Bhagwan Mahavir Janam Kalyanak**

Payal Jain

Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Durg Women's Wing Unit Sanitation Brand Ambassador Municipality Corporation Durg Social Worker Fort

CSERC imposes hike of 10 Paise per unit for domestic consumers

15 Paise per unit for all other consumers

CSERC accepts revenue loss of Rs 386 cr as against Rs 1004 cr projected by three Co's for 2022-23



Commission has reduced the annual revenue requirement by CSPDCL from Rs 19,336.76 cr to Rs 17115.85 cr.

In this way for FY 2022-23, the Commission has fixed the average power production cost at Rs 6.22 per unit and which as per the power tariff of 2020-21 at Rs 6.08 is just 14 Paise extra. In case if the entire amount of Rs 1004 cr worth of revenue loss would have been compensated then an average hike of 5.39% had to be imposed, but the Commission approved revenue loss of Rs 386 cr and according to which an average 2.31% hike in power tariff was approved from the existing rates.

The Commission has decided to hike the power tariff for domestic consumer to 10 Paise per unit and for rest all other consumers it is 15 Paise per unit. For HT steel industry consumers of 220 kv and 132 kv, a hike of 5 Paise per

BJP opposes hike in electricity tariff

Raipur, Apr 13: Bharatiya Janta Party (BJP) on Wednesday opposed the hike in the electricity tariff of 10 paise per unit for domestic consumers and 15 paise per unit for Industries as declared by the Chhattisgarh State Electricity Regulatory Commission. In a statement issued here, the former Chief Minister Dr Raman Singh said that the state government is once again imposing economic burden on the people with the hike in electricity and added that it is against the promise made by the Congress to reduce the electricity tariff. He further added that while the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel keeps on crying foul over price hike of essential goods, he is resorting to political drama which has been proved with the hike in electricity tariff. He claimed that the Congress government has been exposed with the above decision.

unit has been imposed. For the industries coming under HV-5 category, including 'Poha', 'Murmura' mills a relaxation of 5% has been given in the power cell in the power tariff. The same provision has been introduced for LV-5 category 'Poha' and 'murmura' mills and provided them 5% relaxation in power cess.

Relief to farmers: The consumers of agriculture power pumps without subsidy will continue to get rebate of 20% in power cess. For the power pumps installed in the farms of the farmers and the pump connection for agriculture use in the farms the facility of 100 watt load utilization has been introduced. Keeping

in mind interest of the farmers, the Commission has continued sanction of light and fans upto 100 watt.

Consumption per unit	*Hike (Rs.)
100	10
200	20
300	30
400	40
500	50
600	60
700	70
800	80
900	90
1000	100

(*In the above calculation, the benefits to the consumers under 'Bijili bill half yojana' and duty and cell charged by the state govt has not been included. There is no hike in the fixed charges)

TRAFFIC DIVERTED



Due to bike rally by the members of Ambedkar Samaj, the traffic in city was diverted and many had to face problems in hot summer.

Justice Minhajuddin elected Waqf Board Chairman

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Apr 13: The newly-appointed members of Chhattisgarh Waqf Board on Thursday unanimously elected Justice Gulam Minhajuddin as the new Chairman of the Board. According to the information received, Board member Faizal Rizvi proposed the name of Justice



Minhajuddin for the said post which was approved by the other members during a meeting here.

Former MLA Imrah Memon, IAS Officer Ifrat Ara, IG Firms & Registration, Md Firoj Khan, Sajid Memon, Chief Executive Officer of Chhattisgarh State Waqf Board were also present on the occasion. Earlier, the newly-nominated members of the Board were accorded warm welcome by the officials.

CM suggests PM to include cultural upliftment as a parameter

To evaluate the development of Aspirational districts



Raipur, Apr 13: State Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has suggested to include elements of cultural upliftment in the prevailing parameters to check development of aspirational districts of Chhattisgarh.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Baghel has suggested that education in local dialect, reduction in malaria and anemia, procurement of minor forest products at support price, conservation-promotion of folk art, folk dance and archeology, organic farming, forest rights lease should be included in monitoring indicators of Transformation of Aspirational District

Programme (TADP). "I am happy to say that Chhattisgarh has done a wonderful job on all these parameters", said Baghel. Meanwhile, the Chief Minister noted in his letter that there are a total of 10 aspirational

districts in our state, out of which 8 districts are completely in Scheduled Area and 07 districts are under tribal dominated Bastar division affected by Left Wing Extremism. Grading is done among the aspirational districts on the basis of various parameters by NITI Aayog from time to time to review and evaluate the development of these aspirational districts.

Pointing out that culture and traditions have a special contribution in our forest and rural life which brings a sense of harmony, enthusiasm and self-reliance in the

lives of the locals, Mr. Baghel suggested that the elements of cultural upliftment should also be given due importance and attention in the concept of aspirational districts.

"With the addition of aforementioned indicators, I am sure that the efforts being made for the holistic development of the aspirational districts will also be taken care of and the hope with which this separate monitoring system of the aspirational districts has been started will also be successful", said Mr. Baghel in his letter.

Land of NIC auctioned for Rs 51.51 lakh

Raipur, Apr 13:

As per instructions by the Chief Minister to take action against fake Chit Fund Companies (CFCs), the auction of property of Chit Fund Co - Nirmal Infrahome Corporation (NIC) was done here on Wednesday. NIC is having 0.834 hect land in Kharora under Raipur district and its auction was done today.

The market rate of this land is 3.50 times and it was purchased by Amit Agrawal at the cost of Rs 51.51 lakh with highest bidding in the auction. The government would return the amount invested by people in this Chit Fund Company through this amount. Collector Saurabh Kumar had attached

Chit Fund Co NIC had 0.834 hect land in Kharora

the property of NIC in Kharora and after which the DJM office issued orders for its auction and directed Tehsildar Kharora to take further action.

The auction was held in the Tehsil office premises in Kharora. Prior to this entire case was registered by Tehsildar as per government's procedure. In this case Chit Fund Company Nirmal Infrahome Corpn Ltd., MP Nagar Bhopal was also issued notice.

In the auction procedure, information was also issued

under the provisions of Civil Procedure Conduct. The valuation of the property in Kharora owned by NIC was also done by the Patwari and RI and which according to the market value came out to be Rs 13.91 lakhs.

The publication of news of auction of 0.834 hect land by NIC in Kharora was also done in the local newspaper and in this auction a total of 8 persons took part in Kharora tehsil office.

In this Amit Agrawal with highest bidding of Rs 51.51 lakh won the auction and the other highest bid of Rs 51.21 lakh was made by Gopi Nashine. During this auction, Tehsildar Kharora- KK Sahu, RI and Patwari and bidders for the auction were present.

Various prog mark PNB's 128th Foundation day

Bhilai, Apr 13:



Punjab National Bank (PNB), Circle Office, Bhilai has organized various programmes on auspicious occasion of 128th Foundation Day of the Bank on April 12. The programme was first inaugurated by Jitendra Swain, Circle Head, Bhilai by garlanding the photo of the founder of the Bank, Sh. Lala Lajpat Raiji in the premises of the Circle Office, Bhilai.

On this occasion, a cake cutting program was also organized by inviting the customers of the Bank at the Circle Office, Bhilai. The Circle Head expressed his gratitude to all the re-

spected citizens and said that PNB is the first indigenous bank of India which was established by the great patriot Sh. Lala Lajpat Rai Ji and other great personalities on 12 April 1895 with the aim of accelerating the growth & development of the country. Punjab National Bank is a leading Nationalized Bank in the

country and since its inception, this bank has been playing its part in financial inclusion and development of the nation with great diligence. He said that our bank is the first indigenous bank which has seen many ups and downs, yet it is standing firm till date. Today we are at the second position in the field of bank-

ing, but if we do our work with hard work and dedication, then in the coming four-five years we will be on the first position. For this, every officer-employee will have to discharge his/her duties towards the bank honestly. On the occasion of foundation day, customers were felicitated in all Branch Offices across Circle Bhilai.

Six of gang with two dozen bikes worth Rs 10 lakh seized

Raipur, Apr 13: It was on tip from an informer that a person is looking for client to sell a bike at Bhanpuri triangle in Khamtarai area of capital city that a combined team of Anti-Crime and Cyber Unit and Khamtarai thana identified the person and nabbed him. He disclosed his name as Tikeswar Dewangan, R/o Gondwara Khamtarai, Raipur. When the team members asked about the documents of the vehicle, he failed to give satisfactory answer and continued to mislead the team. When seriously interrogated he informed that he along with his

other 5 members in the team have stolen many two-wheelers and based upon which the police arrested all the five accused viz. Shafiq, Rajesh Sahu, Roshan Singh, Khilashwar Sahu alias Nanu and minor boy. When interrogated all five accused informed that they have stolen more than 25 vehicles using master key not only from Raipur, but also from Durg District under different thanas. The stolen vehicles have either being parked in the Raipur railway station or at the City Centre Mall parking area and at other places. Set aside this they are also

using some of the vehicles for day-to-day use. It was as per location from the accused, a total of 25 two-wheelers worth Rs 10 lakh were seized and the accused have changed the registration no. of vehicles in order to hide its identity. A case under section 379 of IPC was filed against the accused for stealing 14 vehicles in Khamtarai thana and DD Nagar thana, New Rajendra Nagar thana, Civil Lines thana and others. The rest of the 11 vehicles seized a case was filed under section 379 of IPC in Khamtarai and Ganja thana of capital city.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri to visit Mahasamund today

Mahasamund, Apr 13: Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) & Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri will be on visit to Mahasamund tomorrow on April 14. Mr. Puri will leave Raipur at 8:00 am by car and will reach Mahasamund at 9:30 am. He will attend a local programme here and chair a meeting of district officials. Minister Hardeep Singh Puri will leave from Mahasamund at 3:30 pm for the Raipur.

Top BJP leaders to hold review meeting today

Raipur, Apr 13:

anniversary.

Party sources said that the BJP wants to make the programme a major event to highlight the importance of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar to the party. Later, the top leaders would be holding a series of meeting including the Core Group meeting to discuss key issues including the just held Khairagarh by-elections. BJP Secretary in-charge Nitin Nabin, State BJP President Vishnu Deo Sai and others would also be participating in the various programmes and also be attending the meeting with the senior leaders on Thursday.

Highest domestic placement package offered is Rs 42.15 LPA

Top 10 percentile students of IIM gets average CTC of more than Rs 25 LPA

Raipur, Apr 13:

The Indian Institute of Management Raipur is pleased to announce that Final Placements for its PGP 2020-22 batch have been successfully completed. Even under difficult circumstances caused by the global pandemic, the institution was able to overcome the challenges of virtual medium and propel its legacy forward. The participating batch of 252 students witnessed over 110+ recruiters taking part in the campus recruitment process. The students were offered various coveted roles in the areas of Finance, Sales and Marketing, Strategy & Consulting, Operations, General Management and HR. The average salary package for the batch stood at Rs.17.73

Lakh per Annum (LPA) which marks an increase of 17 percent. This exhibits a strong faith in the institution by previous as well as the new recruiters in the students of IIM Raipur. The median salary of Rs. 16.95 LPA indicates a very well distributed and stable recruiting across students and sectors. The top 10 percentile of students received a CTC of more than 25 LPA and top 50 percentile students have received an average CTC of more than 21 LPA. Among the batch, the highest domestic placement package offered is Rs. 42.15 LPA, an increase of 40% over last year. The average placement package for the top 25 percentile of the students is Rs. 24 LPA - another noteworthy accomplishment that adds to IIM Raipur's grow-

ing reputation. The placement records of IIM Raipur have steadily improved in the last five years. Also, we were able to diversify our recruiting base into all sectors of the economy. The offers are well spread out across sectors with Consulting, Banking Financial Services & Insurance Sector (BFSI), Manufacturing, IT/ITES, Analytics, Education, Advertising, and Healthcare accounting for most of the offers. The highest number of students were recruited in Strategy & Consulting sector with an average salary and maximum salary of Rs 18.37 LPA and Rs 32.21 LPA, respectively. IT/ITES was the second-highest recruiting sector with a Rs 17.74 LPA average and a maximum salary offered at 42.15 LPA. BFSI sector was the

third largest recruiter with Rs 18.19 LPA and Rs 23.5 LPA as average and maximum compensation. While the strongest pool of recruiters came from the prominent sector of Analytics and Consulting, offering an average salary of Rs 18.15 LPA and a compensation of Rs 32.21 LPA on the high end, IIM Raipur effectively retained all the major recruiters with many new recruiters joining in for campus placements. Sales and Marketing came second with an average salary of 17.48 LPA and the highest salary of Rs 31.90 LPA. Financial Management & Operations came next with average offers of Rs. 16.72 LPA, and Rs. 18.64 LPA, respectively. Students were also offered General Management roles with Rs 16.29 LPA on average.

महावीर नयंती, वैशाखी पर्व

एवं डॉ. भीमराव आंबेडकर नयंती

की प्रदेश की समस्त जनता को बधाई एवं हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

मा. वृजमोहन अग्रवाल जी

विद्यालय- रायपुर दक्षिण विद्यालय एवं पूर्व केम्ब्रिज कॉलेज (उ.प्र. रायपुर)

विनियत: रायपुर स्वागत एवं प्रोत्साहन समिति

We shall strengthen the social organizations: Baghel

Surajpur, Apr 13:

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel attended the Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti festival organized at Surajpur today. While addressing the Jayanti Mahotsav at Mata Karma Chowk of Surajpur, he said that there is immense power in social collectivization and dedication. Following the path of Bhakta Mata Karma, he called upon to make social organizations more strong to unite the society and work towards removing social disparity. The Chief Minister wished for the happiness and prosperity of the state by offering prayers at the devotee Mata Karma temple in Karma Dham. On this occasion, he hoisted the religious flag of Mata Karma. Mr. Baghel also announced the approval of 20 lakh rupees for the construction of social building of



Sahu Samaj in the program. During the program, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel was honored by the SahuSamaj. Chief Minister Baghel, while addressing the function, extended greetings and best wishes to all the people on Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti. Referring to the message of Mata Karma, he said that if we have unwavering faith, reverence and dedication in our mind, then there is no such goal which cannot be achieved. Mother Karma had proved that

the devotion of the devotee has the power to force the God to appear in front of the devotee. The Chief Minister said that the State Government has declared a public holiday on Karma Jayanti, but due to Corona crisis, the celebrations of Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti could not be organized for the last two years. Now when the situation has become normal, public and religious events have started happening again. The Chief Minister said that Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti is

- Following the path of Mata Karma,
- CM attended the Bhakta Mata Karma Jayanti celebrations at Surajpur
- Approval of 20 lakh rupees for the construction of Community building of Sahu society

celebrated in every village of Chhattisgarh with great devotion and enthusiasm. He said that though this function is organized by the SahuSamaj, but people from all the communities of the village take part in it enthusiastically. There is also a tradition of taking out Kalash Yatra and Shobha Yatra in villages during the Jayanti celebrations in Chhattisgarh. Through this, the devotees remember Mata Karma, Lord Krishna and Balabhadra. Khichdi

a 'prasad' was also distributed as Bhog to Lord Jagannath. The Chief Minister said that there is power in social organization and dedication, we have to work for social harmony and brotherhood by connecting the society and removing the bitterness in the society by following the path of devotee Mata Karma. Urban Administration and District In-Charge Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahriya, School Education Minister Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam, Surguja Development Authority Chairman Mr. Khelsai Singh, Parliamentary Secretary Mr. Parasnath Rajwade wished good luck to the devotees of Mata Karma Jayanti on this occasion. He said that an atmosphere of social organization, harmony and brotherhood should be maintained and the organization should move forward by making it strong.



On the eve of Ambedkar Jayanti, Ambedkarites took out massive bike rally here on Wednesday.

2.96 cr sanctioned for the lining work

Raipur, Apr 13: Ministry of Water Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh has granted an administrative approval of Rs. 2.96 cr to the Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Project Raipur for the purpose of remodeling work, canal im-

provement and lining work of Uridagaon reservoir located in Baderajpur development block of Kondagaon district. With the renovation of this reservoir, a shortfall of 269 hectares in its irrigation potential will be filled and a total of 364 hectares will be supplied with water for irrigation.

Order regarding fine for not wearing mask lifted

Raipur, Apr 13: The state government has suspended with immediate effect the order issued by the Health and Family Welfare Department on March 25, 2021, imposing a fine of Rs 500 for not wearing a mask or face cover in public places. An order in this regard has been issued by the ministry on April 8.

IAS Association invites CM to attend the conclave



Raipur, Apr 13: The delegation of IAS Association, Chhattisgarh had a courtesy call on Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel at his residence office here this evening. The conclave is being organised by the IAS Association from April 14 to April 16 in Raipur. The delegation invited Chief Minister Mr. Baghel to attend the IAS Conclave-2022 being organised

by the association on April 15 as the chief guest. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel thanked the association for inviting to the IAS Conclave and extended his best wishes for the event. On this occasion the President of IAS Association Chhattisgarh, Manoj Pingua along with R. Prasanna, Mrs. R. Sangeeta, Mayank Chaturvedi and other officials were present.

A talk on 'Languages of Inequality: Some Thoughts on Practices of Disciplines'

Raipur, Apr 13:

As part of Intersections, a monthly lecture series, the Department of Liberal Arts at IIT Bhubaneswar hosted Prof Sowmya Dechamma C C (Head, Centre for Comparative Literature, University of Hyderabad) to present a lecture on "Languages of Inequality: Some Thoughts on Practices of Disciplines". In order to examine inequalities amongst languages in terms of power structures, Prof Sowmya Dechamma discussed Comparative Literature as a discipline which unpacks the relationship be-



tween literature on one hand and other areas of knowledge and belief - such as the arts, philosophy, ethnography, and history - on the other. She commented on the interdependence of translation and Comparative Literature, observing that translation cannot exist without comparison and

vice versa. She also suggested that the association between culture/knowledge and power between translation and imperialism can be illuminated through a renewed awareness of the link between transfer of learning and transfer of power. National cultures at large have been consolidated through this process, and the making of Comparative Literature in postcolonial nation-states and its relationship with numerous 'minor' languages and 'minoritized' people that are made visible within nationalised cultures needs a self-representation and a self-translation that is yet to be done. Prof Dechamma also problematized translation itself and underlined the importance of questioning our everyday use of language by asserting that no text is entirely original because language itself, in its essence, is already a translation.

CM Baghel pays tribute to Sant Kanwar Ram

On his Birth Anniversary

Raipur, Apr 13:

Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel has greeted the people of Sindh society while paying tribute to Sant Kanwar Ram on his birth anniversary on April 13. Mr. Baghel has said that Sant Kanwar Ram was in the company of saints since childhood. Due to the influence of the saints, he was engrossed in the devotion of God and through his hymns, Sufi

Kalams, he conveyed the message of love and kindness to the people. The sweetness and simplicity of his voice impressed everyone in general. He showed the whole world the path of truth, non-violence, universal brotherhood, renunciation and sacrifice. He took the message of Sindh Sufi culture to the masses. Mr. Baghel said that Sant Kanwar Ram, with his life values gave a new outlook to philanthropy and human ideals.

Govt accepts demand of health workers



Raipur, Apr 13:

Responding to the call of Chhattisgarh Pradesh Swasth Karmachari Sangh (CPSKS), health workers all over the state observed three day strike from April 11-13 in support of their 26 point charter of demands. The strike paralysed the health sector. On April 13, Chief Secretary, Public Health and Family Welfare Department called a delegation of CPSKS for a discussion on their charter of demands. The dele-

gation comprised of state president O P Sharma, Alok Mishra, Mohammed Aslam, S P Dewangan and others. The discussion was fruitful and it was agreed upon that a proposal mentioning about wage anomalies will be sent to Finance and GAD within seven days, there will be change in the timings of OPD, as like police personnel health department employees will get 13 month salary, change in the post

name of staff nurse, benefit of three and four increments and Class IV staff along with staff nurse to get washing allowance, special allowance to radiographer, risk allowance to MLT, 34% DA and HR as per seventh pay and as per the demand of CPSKS three day strike period will be converted to CL. O P Sharma thanked the administration for giving a sympathetic consideration to their demands and assured to bring the health sector back to track.

State Govt assured to extend best possible support to the Industries & Real Estate sector: Kawasi Lakhma

Raipur, Apr 13:

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and CREDAI Chhattisgarh jointly organized a programme on Infra Dialogue: Progressive Chhattisgarh along with the Road show on EXCON, on April 11, 2022 at Raipur. This initiative brought together all the policy makers, law makers & statesmen including Industry leaders and stakeholders from the infrastructure, Real Estate and construction equipment sectors in a platform to discuss about the reforms, Opportunities and way forwards. The session started with the Welcome address by Mr Umesh Chittlangia, Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh State Council while the theme setting was done by Mr Mrinal Golechha, President, CREDAI Chhattisgarh. The Chief Guest of the Session Kawasi Lakhma, Minister of Commerce &

- CII, CREDAI Chhattisgarh organised programme on Infra Dialogue: Progressive Chhattisgarh along with the Road show on EXCON

Industries, Government of Chhattisgarh assured the Industry & Real estate delegates to extend best possible support from the State Government. The Guest of Honour Ajaz Dhebar, Mayor of Raipur showed his concern about illegal colonizers and encroachments and has assured to take strict action against such. Speaking on the occasion, Mr Vivek Dhand, IAS(Retd.) Chairman RERA Chhattisgarh said, "We ensure Transparency & Efficiency in Real Estate sector regarding



sale of plot, apartment, building & Real Estate project in Chhattisgarh". Further he added that a master plan has to be devised & implemented by State Government keeping in my mind the future growth of Chhattisgarh. Mr Anand Singhania gave a brief insight of current scenario of Real Estate in Chhattisgarh. The session was followed by roadshow in the city today to announce CII EXCON which witnessed the participation of senior officials from the Government along with indus-

try leaders and stakeholders from the infrastructure and construction equipment sector. EXCON South Asia's largest construction equipment and construction technology trade fair, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is scheduled to be held from 17 - 21 May 2022 at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre, Bengaluru. Mr Gopi Krishna More, Managing Director, Torsa Machines Ltd said, "This is the eleventh edition of the EXCON and our theme this year is on

"Building India for a New World: Competitiveness, Growth, Sustainability, Technology". EXCON will exemplify the role of smart technologies and innovation in India's infrastructure development to achieve the vision of making India the global hub for Construction Equipment Manufacturing by 2030. Indian Construction Equipment Manufacturers' Association is the Sector Partner, and the National Highways Authority of India and Builders Association of India are supporting Partners for EXCON. The session was concluded by formal vote of Thanks by Mr Siddharth Agrawal, Vice Chairman, CII Chhattisgarh. CII & CREDAI's initiative witnessed great response by distinguished participants from different associations, real estate developers from various districts, and officials from relevant departments making this event a grand success.

State govt is working continuously to provide quality education: Agrawal

Balconagar, (Korba), Apr 13:

State Revenue and Disaster Management Minister, Jaisingh Agrawal said that the State Government is working continuously to provide quality education and best educational environment in the state of Chhattisgarh. Many achievements have been made in this direction in the last three years. He said that the children of poor and economically weaker families can also study through English medium, so that they can get high quality education, for this the state government has opened Swami Atmanand English medium schools at different places and high level education facilities are available, said Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal on the occasion of cycle distribution program to girl students in Balco Nagar Sector-3. Revenue Minister Jaisingh Agrawal distributed cycles to the girl students and wished them a



bright future. Earlier the minister inaugurated the function by worshipping Goddess Saraswati and lighting the lamp. Addressing the program, Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal further said that today good quality cycles are being distributed to the girl students in this school, due to the availability of cycles to the girl students, they will be able to travel from home to school and from school to home. Their efforts time will be

saved, which they will be able to use in their studies. While conveying his best wishes to the girl students, he said that you should study a lot, move ahead and bring laurels to the district and the state. Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal further said that work will be done to renovate, upgrade and provide necessary facilities to all the schools located under Korba Municipal Corporation area, action is being taken in this direction. On this occasion,

Mayor Rajkishore Prasad said in his address that Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management Ja Singh Agrawal is continuously providing guidance and contribution for the all round development of the area as well as education and health facilities in Korba. With his efforts, at corporation's ward no. 01, a grand building of Government Higher Secondary School is being constructed at a cost of Rs. 7 crore. He said that

we are all fortunate that for the development of Korba, we are getting his constant guidance, as a result of which we are being successful in our work. During the cycle distribution program, the parents of the girl students were present in large numbers, the parents expressed their gratitude to the Revenue Minister Mr. Agrawal for providing free cycles to the girl students. On this occasion, the Principal of the school Mrs. Manokanta Pal presented her detailed report regarding the school and apprised about the studies, teaching work and achievements achieved there. On this occasion, former Vice-President of District Panchayat Ajay Jaiswal, former corporator Mahesh Agarwal, Mr Badrikiran, Chairman of Education Committee, Prabhat Dadsena, Dushyant Sharma, Vice Principal NK Rathore, including a large number of parents and other citizens were present.

New Delhi/Raipur, Apr 13: On World Health Day, Vedanta Aluminium, India's largest producer of aluminium, organized voluntary blood donation camps across its operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh to support local government blood banks. Nearly 900 units of blood were donated by employees and business partners across Jharsuguda and Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district) in Odisha, and BALCO in Korba, Chhattisgarh, where the company has its operations. In Odisha, Vedanta Aluminium conducted a multi-speciality health camp for local communities in Kalahandi district in association with Medicover Hospitals and Vedanta Hospital, Lanjigarh (Kalahandi district), which covered more than 300 people from 35 villages. At Jharsuguda, the company also conducted a special eye check-up camp for vehicle drivers and various health awareness sessions for employ-

- To support local blood banks

ees and families, community members and school children. Speaking about Vedanta Aluminium's blood donation drive, Mr. Rahul Sharma, CEO -Aluminium Business, Vedanta Ltd., said, "We are glad to play our part in this noble cause that will help our local blood banks in providing timely and effective treatment to patients. Community Health is an important pillar of our social endeavours, and we have deep interventions such as the Vedanta Hospital at Lanjigarh, Upcoming Pathology Lab & Diagnostic Centre at Jharsuguda, Mobile Health Units for door-to-door service, health camps, etc. to help improve the quality of life in the region. Beyond health, we are working in the realms of sustainable livelihood, quality educa-

tion, skill development, women's empowerment and community infrastructure, to bring about socio-economic transformation in the lives of local communities." Appreciating the volunteers' contribution, Dr. Silwanti Jojo, in-charge of Odisha Red Cross Blood Bank, Jharsuguda, "Blood donation is a humanitarian act, which can go on to save several lives. Mega blood collection drives ensure that rural blood banks are well-stocked to make blood readily available to hospitals during times of need. I commend Vedanta Aluminium's volunteers for coming forward and creating a positive difference in the community. Their contribution will go on to save many lives in the days to come." It is notable here that Vedanta Aluminium provides a wide spectrum of basic and specialized health services in and near its areas of operations in Odisha and Chhattisgarh.

Heavy rain and hailstorm runs life out of gear



Central Chronicle News
Mainpur, Apr 13: Heavy rain wreaked havoc in Mainpur area, with life going out of control and many areas were reported to be in the clutches of darkness as electric poles were uprooted and supply cut off due to strong winds. Huts were blown

up, trees were uprooted and normal life went out of gear pertaining to the sudden change in weather. Various villages of the development block area including Tehsil Headquarter Mainpur Nagar, were plunged in darkness as torrential rain with strong thunderstorms and hailstorm

caused havoc fiercely, for about half an hour. As dozens of trees and electric poles fell due to the strong in Mainpur Gariaband Devbhog National Highway Road, in Gobra, Kulhadighat and many places along the route, the traffic was disrupted for hours. The telecommunication

system has also been affected and as these days marriage functions are going, many families were affected to the untimely rains. Villagers Dayaram Yadav, Bisahu Yadav, Yogendra Yadav informed that two electric poles were uprooted and a huge tree fell down in the vil-

lage and the entire area is sans electricity supply. Heavy damage to Mahua trees were also reported as for the first time in the last 15 years, this year there has been a bumper production of Mahua, but due to the heavy storm many trees with fruits were badly affected.

VS Secretary Sharma pays courtesy visit to Guv

Central Chronicle News

Sheorinarayan, Apr 13: The newly appointed Secretary of Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha Dinesh Sharma visited Raj Bhavan and paid courtesy visit to the Governor Ansuuya Uike.

It needs to be mentioned here after the formation of Chhattisgarh state in 2000 it is for the first time a person from Janjgir-Champa has been appointed to the post of Vidhan Sabha Secretary. Till now persons from MP has decorated this post.



Lakhma lays stone for devp works worth 10.8 crore



Central Chronicle News

Sukma, Apr 13: Industries Minister Kawasi Lakhma inaugurated various development works costing Rs 10 crore 8 lakh and performed bhoomipujan in the sensitive village of Badesatti, located about 45 km away from Sukma district headquarter. These include the inauguration of development works costing Rs 8 crore 26 lakh and bhoomipujan of development works to be constructed at a cost of Rs 1 crore 82 lakh.

Addressing the general meeting organized on the occasion, Minister Lakhma said that tribals are very significant to the state and the State Government is committed for the empowerment, social upliftment and economic development of the tribals. He further said that forest produce is the main source of income for the tribals. The State government is procuring 65 types of forest produce from Tribals which has contributed to the tribals source of income. Due to

which the life of the forest dwellers is improving. In the districts of Surguja division including Bastar, Tamarind, Mahua, Tora etc. forest produce processing centers are being established. So that more benefits can be provided to the tribal community by adding value to the forest produce. Sukma Municipality President Jagannath Sahu, Vice President Smt. Aisha Hussain, public representatives, officials and villagers of the area were present on this occasion.

Central Chronicle News

Takathpur, Apr 13: On the occasion of 400th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur, under the convenorship of Sikh Society Chhattisgarh and Station Road Gurudwara Raipur Committee, Sandesh Yatra for Chhattisgarh which was welcomed and rallied by Sikh society in Takathpur town also.

The Sandesh Yatra in association with Chhattisgarh Sikh Samaj Takhtpur gave a hearty welcome to the procession at Sri Gurunanak Mangal Bhavan and under the patronage of Sri Guru Granth Sahib and under the leadership of Panch Pyare, the townspeople, including the Sikh community, flocked to see the message journey. Chhattisgarh Samaj President Surendra Singh Chhabra said that it is a matter of pride that Sri Guru Nanak Mangal Bhavan has been launched

Yatra started on April 9 and will continue till April 22



with this Yatra. Congress state secretary Ashish Singh Thakur, former chairperson of women's commission Harshita Pandey, Nagar Palika President Mrs. Pushpa Munna Srivas were also welcomed and honored by the Sikh community. The Sandesh Yatra Rally reached Manyari River Bridge via New Bus Stand, Bajrang Nagar, Mahatma Gandhi Chowk, Old Bus Stand Chowk, Sangam Nagar, Maa Mahamaya

Chowk, Maharana Pratap Chowk from where the journey started to its destination. In the Yatra while the men were adorned in saffron turban and white robe, the women were draped in white sari and kesariya dupatta. Convener Chhattisgarh Sikh Samaj Surendra Singh Chhabra, Raipur Station Road Gurudwara Pradhan Niranjan Singh Khanuja, Inderjit Singh Chhabra, Tejendra Singh

Hoor, Satnam Khanuja, Rajendra Saluja, Inderjit Singh Bhuppi, Takhtpur Guru Singh Sabha Committee Pradhan Kulwant Singh Hoor, Former MLA Jagjit Singh Makkar, Manjit Singh Khanuja, Trilok Singh Bagga, Gurucharan Singh Bagga, Gurudayal Singh Hoor, Pujya Sindhi Panchayat President Rakesh Mandani, Prithvi Pal Singh Hoor, Harjeet Singh Ichchhapurani, Bhagwant Singh Malhotra, Kalyan Singh Hoor, Ravindra Singh Khurana, Secretary Upendra Singh Khurana, Jaspal Khurana, Atamjit Singh Makkar, Harikishan Makkar, Guljit Khurana, Harcharan Hoor, Brijpal Singh Hoor, Dalbir Makkar, Amit Pal Bagga, Rajpal Khanuja, Raman Hoor, Manjeet Singh Chanchal, Nagarpalika Vice President Representative Bala Thakur, Councilor Komal Singh, Nainlal Sahu, Tekchand Karda, Pushpa Narendra Ratre, Mukim Ansari, Ishwar Devangan, Pratibha Kashi Devangan, Paramjit Lovely Hoor, Kailash Devangan, Shiv Devangan, Lakshmi Yadav, Krishna Kumar Sahu, Sunil Ahuja, Alderman Basant Gupta, Vimala Jangde, Azmat Nattu Jayasi, Chandra Prakash Devangan, Ajay Luther, Rajveer Hoor, Kishan Sachdev, Dilip Tolani, Vinod Tolani, Ramesh Karda, Rajesh Soni and many others were present.

Cycle will make going to school much easier: Baij

Distributes 237 cycles in 13 Schools



Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Apr 13: LS MP Deepak Baij and MLA Chitrakot Rajman Bainjam distributed 237 cycles to students of 13 different Schools in Lohandiguda under Saraswati Cycle Yojana (SCY) here on Tuesday. On this occasion LS MP Baij said that the parents who are unable to send their children to school through other modes of transport, for them the state government is distributing cycles free-of-cost under SCY, so that

they do not face problems in going to schools. The state government under SCY is providing cycles to girl students free of cost so that they can go and come back from school and do not face any problems. In this programme, Mahesh Kashyap, Malti Baij, Yogesh Baij, Laxman Kashyap, Bhavar Mourya, Gomati Baghel, Paro Kashyap, Jayanti Yadav, Ramesh Kashyap, Bahram Manjhi, and all Janpad members and tehsildar from Lohandiguda area and women and child devp officers were present.

Awareness created about energy conservation

In a workshop organised by CREDA Zonal Branch

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Apr 13: One-day workshop for creating awareness about energy conservation was organised by CREDA Zonal Office Jagdalpur in a private hotel here on Friday. In this workshop detailed information was given on taking benefits from the energy equipments in day-to-day life and also in Cold Storage. In this workshop, EE CREDA Raipur JN Baiga, Dr Priyanka Pachouri, Nihar Ranjan,



EESL- Rakesh Sahu, Mukesh Bhargav from Indsol, Akhilesh Verma from FICCI gave information about energy conservation and its benefit to all those present. SE CREDA PK Jain, DD Sidar, NK Rai, officers and employees from all

districts of the Division were present in large number. In this workshop, all the heads of the departments from district Bastar, and engineers and teachers and students from Polytechnic and owners of Cold

Storage were also invited, so that awareness can be created about energy conservation on large scale. In this workshop awareness was created about energy efficient fans, ACs, fridge, and other electronic and electrical gadgets.

Panchayati Raj reps and CSFC officials hold discussions

Central Chronicle News

Jagdalpur, Apr 13: Discussions were held with Panchayati Raj representatives of Bastar district today under the chairmanship of Sergius Minj, Chairman, Chhattisgarh State Finance Commission (CSFC). During which, emphasis was laid on strengthening the Panchayati Raj institutions financially. The meeting was attended by Chhattisgarh State Finance Commission Chairman Shri Sergius Minj as well as Zila Panchayat President Smt. Vedwati Kashyap, Secretary Satish Pandey, Zila Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Rohit Vyas, Additional Collector Arvind Ekka along with Zila Panchayat, Janpad Panchayat officials and Gram Sarpanchs. During the discus-



sion with the representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions, Chairman of the Chhattisgarh State Finance Commission Sergius Minj said that the responsibility of the Commission is to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions financially. He informed that this is the 4th Financial Commission constituted in the state of Chhattisgarh and through today's discussion a plan will be prepared for the financial requirement of Panchayati Raj Institutions for 2025-2030 and its fulfillment. In the meeting, financial sta-

ment in monitoring of financial performance, and other aspects were discussed. Village Assets of Panchayat, tax revenue, non-tax revenue, amount received on recommendations of State Finance Commission, grants received from other schemes of state government, amount received on recommendations of Central Finance Commission, grants received from MP & MLA fund, establishment expenses, citizen Expenditure on facilities, maintenance expenditure, expenditure on funds received on recommendations of Finance

Commission, payment on interest, expenditure on building construction, water supply, possible annual income and expenditure and suggestions for improving the economic situation were also discussed.

SS Gaur expresses gratitude towards CM

Central Chronicle News

Anwari, Apr 13: For last few days, there was an incident of stabbing in Gram Singdehi dependent upon Gram Panchayat Sirve of Anwari block and in this two youths from Singdehi were badly stabbed by youths from Bhakhara. In view of this with efforts of member Krishak Kalyan Parishad Shashi Singh Gaur and Dugdh Sangh President Vipin Sahu that CM Bhupesh Baghel granted a sanction of Rs 1 lakh as grants for treatment of the two. Till date one of the hands of victim Rishabhdev Sahu of Singdehi has not got full cured and his brother is also undergoing treat-

ment. On extending help of Rs 1 lakh as financial assistance by CM Bhupesh Baghel, Shashi Singh Gaur has expressed gratitude towards him.

AFFIDAVIT

1. MARIAM K. JACOB D/O LATE SHRI K. A. JACOB W/O GEORGE ABRAHAM R/O- W/O GEORGE ABRAHAM, HOUSE NO- B1- 5, URJA NAGAR, DEEPA, KORBA, KATGHORA, CHHATTISGARH, 495452, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under :
 1. That I am citizen of India.
 2. That previously my name was mentioned MARIAM K JACOB and after marriage with GEORGE ABRAHAM my name has been changed as MARIAM ABRAHAM.
 3. That in future I will be known by my new name i.e. MARIAM ABRAHAM for all purposes.
 4. That the above statements are true and correct.
 I am Executing this Declaration to be submitted to the Concerned Authorities for the Change of My Name after Marriage.
 Déponent
 R.K. Rathore
 Notary
 Hardibazar
 Regd. No.: CG/2/Hardibazar
 2/8/06/2020

कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद किरन्दुल, जिला दक्षिण बस्तर दन्तेवाड़ा (छ.ग.)
 क्रमांक / 458 / न.प.प. / 2022-23 किरन्दुल, दिनांक 08/04/2022
 || मैनुअल पद्धति प्रथम निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ||
 एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत छत्तीसगढ़ शासन लोक निर्माण विभाग में सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों/ फर्म से डी.एम.एफ./ सी.एस.आर. मद अन्तर्गत 07 नग विभिन्न निर्माण कार्यों कुल लागत राशि 213.53 लाख रु. हेतु प्रपत्र (अ) में मैनुअल निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। महत्वपूर्ण तिथियों का विवरण निम्नानुसार है :-
 1 आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि एवं समय - 20/04/2022 शाम 5.00 बजे तक
 2 निविदा प्रपत्र प्रदाय करने हेतु अंतिम तिथि एवं समय - 27/04/2022 समय शाम 5.00 बजे तक
 3 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि एवं समय - 05/05/2022 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक
 4 निविदा प्रपत्र खोलने की तिथि एवं समय - 05/05/2022 शाम 5.30 बजे तक
 नोट- (1) उपरोक्त कार्यों की निविदा शर्त, विस्तृत निविदा, विज्ञापित, अमानत राशि एवं अन्य नियम शर्त कार्यालयीन दिवस व समय में कार्यालय के लो.नि.विभाग में अवलोकन किया जा सकता है। विभागीय वेबसाइट www.uad.cg.gov.in से भी देखी जा सकती है।
 (2) निविदा प्रपत्र केवल कार्यालय में निर्धारित शुल्क की रसीद जमा कर प्राप्त की जा सकती है।
 मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी
 नगरपालिका परिषद किरन्दुल

BRIEF

Cleared

Jammu: The Maratha Basti shantytown near the Jammu railway station wore a deserted look with a majority of its dwellers, hailing from different parts of the country and some Rohingya Muslims, having left after packing their belongings. Dozens of families that are yet to leave are also packing their belongings and are ready to leave after the district administration issued a notice, asking them to vacate the railway land. Over 150 shanties, including 41 belonging to Rohingyas.

Shot

Gurugram: Two bike-borne assailants fired several rounds at the house of a liquor businessman in Pataudi and fled the spot, police said. Nobody was injured in the incident, they said. The incident which took place was captured in CCTV cameras installed at the house of liquor businessman Chander Bhan Sehgal, who is also the president of Pataudi municipality, police said. Just before the firing incident, Sehgal was threatened by gangster Goldy Barar over call made from Canada.

Hits

Noida: A 53-year-old police constable was hospitalised here after a speeding SUV hit him while he was putting up barricades on a city road, officials said. The incident took place near Sector 59 Metro station under the Sector 58 police station limits, the officials said. Constable Devdutt Sharma was hospitalised after the incident and is undergoing treatment. The SUV, a Mahindra Scorpio, was allegedly being driven by a woman with two-three more passengers in the vehicle.

Issues

New Delhi: The South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) issued notices to various government departments after it found mosquito breeding on their premises. Notices were issued to the Archaeological Survey of India and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) as well as Delhi government's Public Works Department (PWD), Irrigation and Flood Control and Delhi Jal Board (DJB). Move comes after Delhi reported eight cases of dengue during last week.

Robbed

Gurugram: Two brothers were robbed of Rs 60,000 and their mobile phones at gunpoint by two unidentified men in the Sohna area here, police said. According to complaint filed at Bhandoli police station by Sahraj, a resident of Nuh, he was going on a motorcycle with his brother Armaan to buy a buffalo. When they reached a residential society located near Dhani flyover in Sohna, two youths came on a bike. The miscreants took them at gunpoint and started beating, then robbed.

'Raj Thackeray doing BJP's bidding, his speech bereft of issues'

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):



Sharad Pawar

NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Wednesday alleged that Raj Thackeray is doing the BJP's bidding, a day after the MNS president battled for the Uniform Civil Code and stressed the need for controlling population growth in the country.

When queried about Raj Thackeray's ultimatum to the state government to remove loudspeakers from mosques till May 3, Pawar said, "the government will think over it seriously", but didn't elaborate.

He also dismissed Raj Thackeray's allegation that he (Pawar) is an atheist. "I go to temples but don't believe in showing off," the NCP chief told reporters. Pawar alleged that attempts are being made to disturb the social unity in Maharashtra and communal ideology is being promoted in the state. Addressing a Maharashtra Navnirman

Sena (MNS) rally in Thane on Tuesday night, Raj Thackeray had said that if the Shiv Sena-led state government did not remove the high-decibel loudspeakers from mosques before May 3, MNS workers will play the Hanuman Chalisa in front of mosques.

"It is obvious that we got to hear through his (Raj Thackeray's) speech what the BJP guided him," Pawar said.

He said the MNS chief did not utter a single word about the BJP but targeted the Nationalist Congress

Party—a key constituent in the tripartite Maha Vikas Aghadi government led by Shiv Sena.

"He tried to discharge the responsibility which the BJP may have given him," Pawar added.

In his speech, Raj Thackeray had batted for the Uniform Civil Code and stressed the need for controlling population growth in the country.

Pawar also termed "childish" Raj Thackeray's claim that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had raided the family members of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, but not the latter's cousin Supriya Sule, who is the daughter of the Pawar senior.

Ajit Pawar is the nephew of Sharad Pawar.

Hitting out at the MNS chief, Pawar said that people need not take seriously the statements of a person who makes a statement once in six months or a year.

Senior BJP leader, two others from HP join AAP

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

A senior BJP leader from Himachal Pradesh joined the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) here on Wednesday, saying he was fed up with the policy of the saffron party.

Harmel Dhiman, who was national executive member of the BJP's Scheduled Caste Morcha, joined the AAP along with his supporters in the presence of senior party leaders. Along with Dhiman two other BJP leaders from Himachal Pradesh Devraj and Jagdish Pawar also joined the AAP.

Addressing a press conference, senior AAP leader and Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said more BJP leaders from Himachal Pradesh are set to join the Arvind Kejriwal-led party soon.



Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain with former VP of BJP's HP SC Morcha Harmel Dhiman during a press conference, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Dhiman ji is a well-known face in Himachal Pradesh. Fed up with the BJP's policy, he is joining the Aam Aadmi Party. He was actively associated with the BJP for the past 30 years and was serving as the national executive member of the BJP's SC Morcha, Jain told reporters. Dhiman also served as

vice president of the BJP's Himachal Pradesh SC Morcha earlier, he added. While Devraj had been two-time Mandal president for the BJP in Himachal Pradesh, Pawar was two term Pradhan (village head) and served as the member of the block development council and district council in the

Heatwave scorches Jharkhand

Mercury above 40 degC in most Dists



A summer day with high temperature in Ranchi on Wednesday.

Ranchi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Jharkhand reeled under heatwave conditions on Wednesday with the maximum temperature shooting past the 40 degrees Celsius mark in most parts of the state, weather officials said.

Heatwave conditions also gripped Ranchi, once the summer capital of un-

divided Bihar. Ranchi has been registering a of maximum around 40 degrees Celsius for the past two days.

The city recorded the season's highest temperature at 40.2 degrees Celsius on Monday. It was 39.6 degrees Celsius on Tuesday, four notches above the normal, the weather office said. Daltonganj boiled on

Tuesday, recording the state's highest temperature at 44.8 degrees Celsius, which was 5.5 notches above normal. Jamshedpur simmered at 42 degrees Celsius, 2.6 notches higher than normal.

Bokaro, Chaibasa, Garhwa and Giridih also recorded temperatures between 40 and 43 degrees Celsius.

"Relief from the sweltering weather conditions is unlikely in the next couple of days. Heatwave conditions are likely to continue in some pockets of north-west, central and south-eastern parts of Jharkhand," said Abhishek Anand, the in-charge of the Ranchi Meteorological Centre.

Nadda distributes foodgrains to beneficiaries of PMGKAY

Visits PDS outlet in Delhi

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):



BJP National President JP Nadda distributes ration to beneficiaries of PMGKAY in New Delhi, Wednesday.

The Narendra Modi government's free ration scheme PMGKAY benefited 80 crore people and did not allow the country's poverty level to increase despite the pandemic and resultant lockdown, BJP president J P Nadda said on Wednesday.

Nadda visited a public distribution system (PDS) outlet in east Delhi's Kailash Nagar and distributed packets of foodgrains to beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojna (PMGKAY).

He undertook the activity as part of the BJP's 'samajik nyay pakhwada' (fortnight dedicated to so-

cial justice) campaign. The Modi government is "proactive, pro-responsive and pro-people", the BJP president said.

The COVID-19-induced lockdown was imposed on March 24 in 2020 and Prime Minister Modi announced the PMGKAY on March 26, he said. Under

NH-24 TRAFFIC JAM



Traffic jam on NH-24 Nizamuddin Bridge, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Making Hindi compulsory in NE up to Class-X will create disharmony

Kohima, Apr 13 (PTI):



School students in Arunachal Pradesh.

The North East Students' Organisation (NESO), a conglomeration of eight students' bodies, has taken umbrage over the Centre's decision to make Hindi a compulsory subject till Class 10 in the region, contending that the move will be detrimental for indigenous languages and create disharmony. In a letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, NESO called for immediate withdrawal of the unfavorable policy, suggesting that indigenous languages should be made compulsory in their native states till Class 10, while Hindi should remain an optional or elective subject. Shah had said at a meeting of the Parliamentary Official

Language Committee in New Delhi on April 7 that all northeast states have agreed to make Hindi compulsory in schools till Class 10. It is understood that the Hindi language accounts for approximately 40-43 per cent of native speakers in India, however it is worth noting that there is a plethora of other native languages in the country, which are rich, thriving and vibrant in their own perspectives, giving India an image of a

diverse and multilingual nation, NESO said. In the northeast, each state bears its own unique and diversified languages spoken by different ethnic groups ranging from Indo-Aryan to Tibeto-Burman to Austro-Asiatic families, the organisation, comprising the All Assam Students' Union, Naga Students' Federation, All Manipur Students' Union and All Arunachal Pradesh Students' Union among others, said.

Interfaith marriage sparks political row in Kerala

Kozhikode, April 13 (PTI):



New married couple in Alappuzha.

A recent interfaith marriage of a Muslim activist of the ruling CPI(M)'s youth wing DYFI, has stirred up a political storm after the relatives of the Christian bride alleged "love jihad", with a senior left party leader supporting the charge, only to retract his statement later.

As the issue snowballed into a major controversy, the Marxist party on Wednesday made it clear that there was nothing unnatural in interfaith marriages and the campaign of 'love jihad' was a creation of RSS and Sangh Parivar. Relatives of Jyotsna Mary Joseph, a nurse in Saudi Arabia, levelled "love jihad" allegation after she recently walked

out on her family and married Shejin, a local DYFI leader belonging to the Muslim community, without their consent. A section of the Christian community in Thiruvambady here including nuns staged demonstrations against the alleged 'love jihad' in connection with

the incident. A statement issued by the CPI(M) district secretariat member and former MLA George M Thomas supporting the allegations of 'love jihad' added more fuel to the row and triggered an intense social media campaign by a section of people against the ruling party. However,

the CPI(M) district leadership intervened and made Thomas issue a clarification. Love jihad is a term used by the right wing outfits to claim that Muslim men lure women from other faiths to convert them into Islam. Denouncing Thomas' remarks, P Mohanan, CPI(M) Kozhikode district secretary, said that his party has never referred to inter-religious marriages as 'love jihad'. "Love Jihad is a term used by the RSS and Sangh forces to attack religious minorities. The CPI(M) has already made its stand clear on the topic. Marriage is the choice of individuals and the legal system of the country permits adults to get married according to their choice," he told reporters here.

Gahlot flags off 80 AC low-floor CNG buses

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):



Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot flags off 80 new air-conditioned buses, in New Delhi, Wednesday.

Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot on Wednesday flagged-off 80 new air-conditioned low-floor CNG buses from Rajghat Cluster Bus Depot here. According to officials, these newly-inducted buses are equipped with modern facilities like panic button, GPS and are disable-friendly. These buses also have Intelligent Transport System (ITS) through which all these buses can be monitored on real time basis, they said.

These public transport vehicles also have 'bus kneeling with ramp' feature for differently-abled people and are also equipped with fire detection and suppression system, officials said. Flagging-off the buses, Gahlot said these are mod-

ern and environment friendly vehicles and will help in reducing pollution in the city. With the induction of these 80 low-floor AC CNG buses, the public transport bus fleet size has grown to 7,080, the highest in Delhi so far, officials said. Gahlot had even last month, 100 AC low floor CNG buses were inducted

in the fleet under the government's cluster bus scheme while one electric prototype bus was also flagged-off. In January, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had flagged off 100 low floor AC CNG buses and one prototype e-bus from Rajghat Depot in Gahlot's presence.

BRIEF

Crash

Jakarta: An overloaded truck carrying 29 people hit a cliff and flipped over near an illegal gold mine in Indonesia's West Papua province on Wednesday, killing 17 people and leaving others injured, police said. The truck, overloaded with miners and their families, was headed to the capital of West Papua province Manokwari to celebrate Easter. They were on their way from a mining area in Minyambou village of Arfak Mountain district when it hit a cliff and rolled upside-down.

Bust

Madrid: Spanish police have confiscated a huge hemp plantation in the northern province of Navarra and arrested three suspected growers, Spain's Civil Guard said Wednesday. The Civil Guard said the 1,025-acre plantation was the largest of its kind in Europe. Police said the owner reported that his crop was for industrial use. But investigators suspected the hemp plants were being sent to Switzerland and Italy to be turned into cannabidiol, which is illegal in Spain.

Sovereignty

Portland: Tribes in Maine, US gave up some of their rights to the state when they settled their land claims more than 40 years ago. They want to change that agreement so they can enjoy the same self-governing rights as the other Native Americans. The Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet and Mi'kmaq view legislative debate this week, ahead of the midterm elections, as their best opportunity for establishing rights to self-determination. It also sought ways to co-manage.

Killed

Abuja: An armed gang has killed more than 100 people in a remote part of northern Nigeria, survivors and local authorities said. The attackers targeted four villages in the Kanam area of Plateau State, the most recent in a series of violent attacks in Nigeria's north. Such attacks in Nigeria's northern region have become frequent, especially between Fulani Muslims who are mostly cattle herders and communities from the Hausa and other ethnic groups who are mainly farmers.

Outbreak

London: European health officials investigating an outbreak of salmonella linked to chocolate Easter eggs that has sickened at least 150 children across the continent said they suspect it was due to bad buttermilk in a Belgian factory. In an assessment of the continuing outbreak, experts at the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the European Food Safety Authority said they had matched the same salmonella strain currently infecting people.

Russia yet to slow Western arms express into Ukraine



Ukrainian servicemen study a Swedish-made Carl Gustaf M4.

Washington, Apr 13 (AP):

Western weaponry pouring into Ukraine helped blunt Russia's initial offensive and seems certain to play a central role in the approaching, potentially decisive, battle for Ukraine's contested Donbas region. Yet the Russian military is making little headway halting what has become a historic arms express. The US numbers alone are mounting: more than 12,000 weapons designed

to defeat armored vehicles, some 1,400 shoulder-fired Stinger missiles to shoot down aircraft, and more than 50 million rounds of ammunition, among many other things. Dozens of other nations are adding to the totals. The Biden administration is preparing yet another, more diverse, package of military support possibly totaling \$750 million to be announced in coming days, a senior US defense official said Tuesday. The official

Biden calls Russia war as genocide

Des Moines: President Joe Biden has said Russia's war in Ukraine amounted to genocide, accusing President Vladimir Putin of trying to wipe out the idea of even being a Ukrainian.

spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss plans not yet publicly announced. The additional aid is a sign that the administration intends to continue expanding its support for Ukraine's war effort. These armaments have helped an under-gunned Ukrainian military defy predictions that it would be quickly overrun by Russia. They explain in part why Vladimir Putin's army gave up, at least for now, its attempt to capture Kyiv, the capital, and has narrowed its focus to battling for eastern and southern Ukraine.

Australian minister tries to end Solomons-China pact

Canberra, Apr 13 (AP):

Australia's Minister for International Development and the Pacific Zed Seselja has flown to the Solomon Islands in a bid to prevent a possible Chinese military presence in the South Pacific island nation.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on Wednesday confirmed Seselja's visit, which occurred a day earlier, after the Solomon Islands announced on April 1 it had initiated a security pact with China. Two top Australian intelligence officials, Australian Secret



Australia's Minister for International Development and the Pacific Zed Seselja meets Solomon Islands PM Manasseh Sogavare.

Intelligence Service boss Paul Symon and Office of National Intelligence Director-General Andrew Shearer, have since met Solomon Islands Prime

Minister Manasseh Sogavare. The Solomon Islands government has said it won't allow China to build a military base there and China has de-



Cargo trucks wait to cross to the United States during blockade at Jeronimo-Santa Teresa international crossing in Mexico.

'Human element key driver of India-US relations'



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar addresses US Secretary of State Antony Blinken at Howard University Founders Library, in Washington, DC.

Washington, Apr 13 (PTI):

The India-US relationship has undergone a "real transformation" in the last two decades and a key driver of this partnership has been its human element, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Tuesday.

"The (India-US) relationship has undergone a real transformation in the last two decades. Whether it is our strategic and security cooperation or our economic or technology partnerships, it is making its weight increasingly felt in world affairs," Jaishankar said in his interaction with students of the Howard University here. "A key driver of this change has been its human element. The 4.4 million Indian diaspora has literally defined our image in this society and helped forge rela-

tionships that are an enormous source of strength for us in our work," he said, making a joint appearance with US Secretary of State Tony Blinken, a day after the India-US 2+2 Ministerial. "At its centre (are) our students, academics, researchers, and professionals who have contributed to America's progress even as they remain the bridge between our two societies. For our ties to grow, it is equally necessary that there is a better understanding of India and the world on the part of young Americans," he said.

"Your appreciation of a civilizational state and a democratic and a fellow democratic polity that is daily overcoming enormous odds is essential. After all, we are natural partners only when our people have a strong sense

of connect," he told the students.

"And that is why Secretary Blinken, and I were especially pleased yesterday to launch the Working Group on Education and Skill Development that he spoke about. It will enable us to explore a range of opportunities that exist in the field of education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship," he said. According to Jaishankar, policymakers in both countries are sharply aware of the immense difference that our educational collaboration can make. On the Indian side the 2020 National Education Policy contemplates, indeed prioritizes international cooperation in education. "At the American end, we recognize the renewed focus on the STEM sector including in activities which we are both part of the Quad," he noted. In his remarks, Blinken said that the US-India strategic partnership, he is convinced, is absolutely crucial and essential for addressing the problems of the 21st century. The Howard University, a prestigious black research varsity in the American capital, has played an important role in building bonds between India and the US, the Secretary of State Tony Blinken has said.

Lankan PM offers to hold talks with protesting youths

Colombo, Apr 13 (PTI):

Amid rising protests in Sri Lanka over the unprecedented economic crisis, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Wednesday offered to hold talks with the agitators who are demanding resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and all members of his family from the government.

The protests entered its fifth day on Wednesday and since it began on Saturday, it was carried out round-the-clock by



Mahinda Rajapaksa

youths demanding a total transformation of the "corrupt political culture", which they claim has been prevailing in the island nation since it

gained Independence from Britain in 1948.

According to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office, Rajapaksa is willing to hold discussions with the protesting youths who are camping at Galle Face esplanade located near President Gotabaya's secretariat.

The prime minister has said if the protestors are ready for talks, he would extend an invitation for their representatives to meet for discussions, the statement noted.

Endangered pangolins get fresh chance

Freeing pangolins into wild is crucial process

Cape Town, Apr 13 (AFP):

The hospital room is air-cooled to feel like a pangolin's burrow. The patient, Lumbi, is syringed with a protein-packed smoothie, given a daily dose of medicine and has his vital signs checked. Lumbi is being treated for a blood parasite after he was rescued from traffickers during a police sting in South Africa's northern Limpopo province late last year. He and several other



Pangolin monitor Donald Davis, opens the cage to release a rescued pangolin named 'Stevie' at the Manyoni Private Game Reserve.

pangolins in the room are patients of Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital, founded in 2016 to treat and rehabilitate indigenous wildlife. They were confiscated from poachers in South Africa

and neighbouring countries, including Namibia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. Many pangolins are in a horrendous state when they are rescued and need of medical care, after being kept in

sacks and car boots for weeks with no food or water. "It's like an ICU (intensive care unit) for pangolins," said Nicci Wright, the wildlife rehabilitation specialist attending to Lumbi. The pangolins are kept at a secret site during treatment, which takes anything from weeks to months, before they can be released back into the wild. Although pangolins have existed for around 80 million years, medically little is known about them. "They are so different to other animals. They really are," said Wright, who has been working with pangolins since 2008.

Indian Consulate in Shanghai closes in-person services

Beijing, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Indian Consulate in Shanghai has announced the suspension of in-person consular services as China's gleaming business hub with 26 million people struggled with mounting COVID-19 cases, putting the country's dynamic zero-case policy to the test.

Indian citizens in Eastern China Region may apply at the Embassy of India, Beijing for availing urgent consular services, the Consulate said in a notice issued on Tuesday.

New COVID-19 vaccine offers better protection

To immunocompromised people



CoVac-1 vaccine

Washington, Apr 13 (PTI): A newly developed COVID-19 vaccine induces a robust immune response in immunocompromised patients, including those with cancers like leukaemia and lymphoma, according to early results from a small trial.

The findings, presented at the American Academy of Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting in Louisiana, US, show that the vaccine, called CoVac-1, induced T-cell immune responses in 93 percent of patients with B-cell deficiencies. "To our knowledge, CoVac-1 is currently the only peptide-based vaccine candidate

specifically developed and evaluated for immunocompromised patients," said Juliane Walz, senior author of the study, and a professor at the University Hospital Tubingen in Germany. A peptide vaccine is the one where the protein pieces are injected directly, rather than being encoded via messenger RNA (mRNA).

Tunisia TV series sparks polygamy row

Tunis, Apr 13 (AFP):

A Ramadan TV series dealing with polygamy has sparked a heated debate in Tunisia, an Arab pioneer in women's rights that banned the practice decades ago.

"Baraa" (Arabic for "innocence") has also been criticised by rights activists and secular politicians for its portrayal of customary "orfi" marriage, religious unions



Tunisian actors (L to R) Fethi Haddaoui and Ahlam Fekih look on during the filming of the Tunisian television series 'Baraa'.

not sanctioned by the state. Both practices are punishable by up to a year

in prison under the country's 1956 family code.

But in one episode, the series' main character, Wannas, declares to his wife and children that he has the right to marry a second woman under Islamic law, which "trumps all other laws".

The series, aired at prime time after observant Muslims break their daytime fast, has sparked a backlash on social media.

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खाण्ड, दन्तेवाड़ा
(ई - मेल - eedan-phe-cg@nic.in)

//ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट शुद्धिपत्र//

एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से प्रपत्र 'ए' प्रतिशत दर पर निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु (Online) निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी थी। जिसमें किसी भी ठेकेदार द्वारा भाग नहीं लेने के कारण उक्त निविदा की तिथि आगे बढ़ाई जाती है एवं ठेकेदार/फर्म के एक से अधिक कार्य हेतु बिड कंपासिटी देखा जावेगा। कार्य का नाम :- जल जीवन मिशन के अंतर्गत सिंगल विलेज का कार्य।

निविदा क्रमांक	शुद्धिपत्र क्रमांक	सिस्टम टैण्डर क्रमांक	ग्राम/विकासखण्ड	रेट्रोफिटिंग/सिंगल विलेज	अनुमानित लागत
206 / 23.03.2022	01	95921	बिंजाम/गौदम		151.33
207 / 23.03.2022	01	95923	बुमाम/दन्तेवाड़ा		76.16
209 / 25.03.2022	01	95984	धितालूर/दन्तेवाड़ा		113.12
210 / 25.03.2022	01	95985	धनीकरका/कटकल्याण		91.56
211 / 25.03.2022	01	95986	कुन्देली/दन्तेवाड़ा		67.27
212 / 25.03.2022	01	95987	पूरुकी/दन्तेवाड़ा		88.10
213 / 25.03.2022	01	95988	नेतापुर/दन्तेवाड़ा		76.77

निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें एवं अन्य जानकारी वेबसाइट पोर्टल <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> पर दर्शित हैं।
टीप :- निविदा डाउनलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 25.04.2022 है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यात्रिकी खांड, दन्तेवाड़ा

G-90280/1 G-90281/3



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 10 No. 14

Crowd with emotions

In the last few days, incidents of communal violence were reported across many states including Gujarat, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. In age of social media and constant connectivity, spreading of clashes across a large geographical area is not surprising. Clashes were also reported from Jawahar Lal University in Delhi. Politicians of both governing and opposition political parties have begun the usual blame game. Riots are not new to South Asian countries but at present the coordination due to modern telecommunication has added a new dimension. Need to look into historical context of riots, particularly in India. Taken together, the historicization of the crowd, emotions, and violence allows us to overcome a number of dichotomies: Between the riot that essentially always remains the same, and the riot that can only be viewed as a fragment, between the learned and the spontaneous, between emotions and interests, not only by showing that interests generate emotions, but also by showing that the actors had a vital desire to experience certain emotions, which would transform them and thus change the fate of their community. We have seen debates on their historical origins, whether they were developments that had come to the fore already in the seventeenth and eighteenth century, or a result of British colonialism, on their moving forces, whether elites manipulated the crowd, or subalterns pursued their own agenda, on the role of interests and emotions. Individual riots and regional or temporal clusters of riots have been explained through their embedding in social, economic, and political developments, the results of riots, not least their role in the partition of the subcontinent, have been investigated in detail. The concept of the crowd evoked by canonical works such as Gustave Le Bon's work on crowd psychology relies on the image of a large number of people and assumes that 'from the mere fact of their being assembled, there result certain new psychological characteristics.' Crowd psychology suggests an image of large numbers of people, densely packed, moving together as if guided by a single will.

Affect studies, though guided by different questions and, as a rule, quite critical of crowd psychology, meet this approach in their emphasis on the importance of bodily proximity for the generation of contagious emotions, which bypass representation and intentionality. Men came together as a crowd, but they also dispersed and regrouped several times within the same riot. This has implications on how the mobilization of emotions can be conceived. Affect theory focus on the overwhelming character of emotions, which marginalizes the role of the will. This seems particularly convincing for riots, as it permits a downplaying of responsibility: The participants were not themselves, but overcome by violent affects, hate, anger, and fear being the most important. However, a closer look at the sources shows that anger is less central as an emotion than 'josh', which is often translated as 'excitement,' but is much more polysemic and carries connotations of fervour and enthusiasm. 'Josh' could become not only a moral category, an emotion to cultivate, but also one that men strove to experience, and that could turn into an object of desire in itself. Feeling strongly, being able to passionately experience hurt sentiments, was conceived as a sign of virility at the personal level and of vitality at the communal level and these sentiments not only needed to be experienced, but they also had to be shown. One result of the traditional division between emotions and rational debate, at the basis of much of the theorization around the development of the public sphere, is that it forces us to decide between either focusing on the violence, its causes, forms, and results, while neglecting the negotiations accompanying almost every riot, or bringing in the negotiations and reducing emotions to an epiphenomenon. It is now responsibility of state governments to ensure justice for victims of violence.

Centrist Macron

Emmanuel Macron is showing signs of nerves as he steps up his campaigning ahead of the second round of the French presidential election. During a visit to the northern town of Denain, the French president made missteps and appeared unprepared as he came up against unhappy members of the public. With polls suggesting a very tight runoff race between Macron and far-right leader Marine Le Pen, the incumbent is hitting the campaign trail with gusto after taking a light-touch approach ahead of the first round. Denain, one of the poorest towns in France, is a short drive away from Le Pen's electoral fiefdom in the rust belt in northeastern France, where the National Rally has thrived in recent years. Some 41 percent of voters in Denain chose Le Pen in the election's first round. Emmanuel Macro is considered as centrist politician. Can the political centre hold any meaning? That question has gained new urgency as politics becomes more polarized. True, the political centre is hardly full of towering leaders nowadays.

But it still offers enough ground, both in theory and in practice, to build a vastly better alternative to the populism that now rules too many countries. It is the antidote to the post-truth polarization that dominates social media and electoral politics. Some positions allow for only two kinds of centrism. The first he labels procedural, but a better label is pragmatic: when confronted with fragmented political systems, it is the centrists who anchor negotiations and create the conditions for a workable compromise. Such centrism is necessary but uninspiring. Purely pragmatic centrists leave themselves open to the old charge that they, like economists, know the price of everything but the value of nothing. Second type of centrism is positional: a centrist is merely equidistant between left and right, and therefore compelled to leave key choices in the hands of others. One problem with positional centrism is that it seldom succeeds at the polls: voters prefer twice the sugar and all the caffeine. Emmanuel Macron has to convey about his centrism to French citizen to win election.

EXTREME RACING CAR

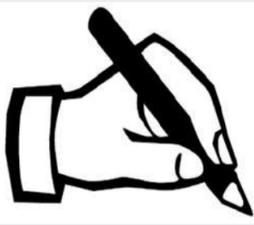


(L-R) Leena Gade and Tanner Foust, pro driver and rallycross champion pose in front of the MX Extreme E race car outside of the New York Stock Exchange in US.

Transforming India's healthcare with 'Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY'



DR RS SHARMA



The National Health Policy (NHP) of 2017 had listed among its foremost objectives, the achievement of Universal Health Coverage. Achieving a significant reduction in out-of-pocket expenditure due to health care costs was one of another key objectives. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY) was conceived out of this vision to move towards a more holistic approach to healthcare service delivery. Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY was not the nation's first tryst with healthcare insurance. Due credit must be given to predecessor schemes such as Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), States schemes like Aarogyasri in Andhra Pradesh, Jeevandayee Yojana in Maharashtra. However, in terms of scope and scale, AB PM-JAY simply dwarfed all existing healthcare insurance interventions. It is for the first time that we now have a health insurance scheme with a pan-India presence being implemented almost everywhere in the country.

As of April 1, 2022, Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY in alliance with State health schemes covers a beneficiary base of more than 14 Crore families (70 Crore individuals). Almost 18 Crore individuals have been identified under the scheme and provided with an Ayushman card. AB PM-JAY has facilitated almost 3.28 Crore hospitalizations providing treatment worth over Rs 37,600 Crores. All this has been achieved in a little over 3.5 years and amidst the greatest global pandemic in recent times. As I reflect on the trajec-

tory of Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY, the scheme's success is mounted on the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the versatile policy framework conceptualized by the Cabinet. This policy framework crystallized the guiding principles behind Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY. Let us discuss these principles.

AB PM-JAY was launched with 1,393 treatment packages covering treatment for various medical specialties like oncology, neurosurgery, cardiovascular surgery etc up to Rs 5 Lakhs per beneficiary family. This was subsequently increased to 1,670 treatment packages. The benefits package under AB PM-JAY was comprehensive covering pre and post hospitalisation expenses. Additionally, all pre-existing conditions were covered from day one of the policy period. The portability feature empowered beneficiaries from the remotest villages to seek treatment at the most advanced healthcare facilities. Under AB PM-JAY considerable flexibility was provided to the States and Union Territories (UTs) in choosing their mode of implementation, beneficiary database and creating the network of hospitals. Further, NHA diligently pursued convergence with the existing State based schemes. Currently, AB PM-JAY is implemented in alliance with more than 25 State-specific health schemes. Additionally, District Implementation Units were set up in over 600 districts across the country to ensure that the administrative reach of AB PM-JAY to the beneficiary's doorstep.

Renewed impetus has been given to

extending the scheme benefits to the marginalized sections of society covered under the Socio-Economic Caste Census database. Likewise, AB PM-JAY has adopted an enlightened approach towards ensuring gender-specific equity. The erstwhile RSBY scheme had mandated a limit of adding up to 5 family members. Unfortunately, this led to the exclusion of female members of the household, especially the girl child. However, under AB PM-JAY, this capping was done away with. Women account for approximately 50 percent of Ayushman cards generated using NHA IT platform and 47 percent of authorized hospital admissions. One of the problems that afflicted in the past was fragmented IT systems for the schemes like Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY. Therefore, under AB PM-JAY, a highly versatile technology platform was developed to aid in beneficiary identification, transaction management and hospital empanelment. This award-winning IT platform is now active across 26 States and UTs. As a result, SHAs and NHA have gained granular insights into the scheme to aid in evidence-based policymaking and necessary course correction, where required.

Under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY both public and private hospitals have been empanelled for providing healthcare services to the scheme beneficiaries. The participation of the private sector has increased avenues for the scheme's beneficiaries to seek treatment and concurrently reduced the burden on tertiary care facilities in the public sector. Under AB PM-JAY, it was ensured that public hospitals would be equally reimbursed for their services and at the same rates as that of private hospitals. This has also supported public sector hospitals to create a pool of untied funds that could be sustainably invested in infrastructure and human resources. The complementary role of the public and private sector hospitals has been vital in ensuring that the scheme implementation proceeded seamlessly.

One of the key activities that I green-lighted upon assuming charge of NHA was the 'Aapke Dwar Ayushman'. Under Aapke Dwar Ayushman, a grassroots

network of frontline healthcare workers, Gram Panchayat officials and village-based digital entrepreneurs were used to undertake door-to-door mobilization of beneficiaries across communities. Special night camps were set up for daily wagers. These efforts translated into the creation of more than 4.7 Crore Ayushman cards since January 2021, an increase of 55% in the Ayushman cards generated by NHA IT system. NHA is launching Aapke Dwar Ayushman with renewed vigour. This time we are focusing on States such as Assam, Bihar, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh.

Although a lot has been done under the PMJAY ecosystem to make it more accessible and acceptable to the beneficiaries we still have a few issues. Much more focus is required on the beneficiary saturation by reaching out to all eligible beneficiaries and issuing maximum Ayushman cards. There is also a need to increase empanelment of the hospitals in the underserved areas. We are also working at increased uptake of scheme in government hospitals and see that they are able to utilise the funds reimbursed for upgradation of their infrastructure. For the private sector we are working at revising the HBP rates so that they are more acceptable for the private sector hospitals. We have received interest from various countries in the Asian and African regions who have been working closely with the NHA/the Health Ministry and evinced interest in various health sector-related programmes, including Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY.

Aside from this, I would also like to take this opportunity to give credit to the entire Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY ecosystem consisting of NHA, SHAs, DIUs, Implementation support agencies, Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitras, frontline healthcare workers, Ayushman card creators from partner agencies such as CSC / UTIITS for their tireless support in making AB PM-JAY such a grand success. However, going forward much more needs to be done to help the scheme realize its full potential.

(Dr RS Sharma is Chief Executive Officer of National Health Authority.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

War goal

We were made to hear that Russia desires to lend support to the people of the Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine where Russian-speakers are being "systematically tortured" by the State force. But is there any proof that Russian-speakers are indeed being subjected to such butchering in the Donbas region. Even if Russian allegations are assumed to be true; then it should have limited its military aid within that region only, that too taking on only the Ukrainian force. But why such bombardment and missiles, thereby "gifting" unfathomable miseries to innocent civilians. But the actual goal is to extend the frontier of Russia. So another "logic" arrives in the form "Ukraine was originally a part of the Russian empire". So by blaming Lenin and Gorbachev for awarding a distinct identity to Ukraine; Putin desires to "amend historical wrongs". Why is Ukraine "hobnobbing with NATO". It seems they are legitimising Russian aggression by throwing the ball of accusation in the court of Ukraine. Ukraine, being a sovereign independent country, holds every legitimate right to determine whether it would join NATO or not. Ukraine being advised to have a negotiation with Russia so as to stop the war. Neither is it war nor has the violence started by Ukraine. Far from being a war, it is nothing but a barbaric aggression by a totalitarian regime upon a weaker democratic country. So advising Ukraine to negotiate with Russia imparts a message that both nations are on equally wrong footing when the fact remains that Ukraine is merely defending its territory from the Russian invasion. Now, a message to the "Neutral" brigade whose stance actually benefits the aggressor. Yes, the aggressor needs to be promptly taken to task; "neutrality" merely awards the aggressor a renewed boost due to lack of protest. It must not be forgotten that Russia had shown its aggressive colours way back in 2014 when it annexed Crimea from Ukraine. While most of the nations remained "neutral" at that time; those who opposed it did not take matters to a justified conclusion thereby enabling Russia to remain with the global "mainstream" and turn more audacious.

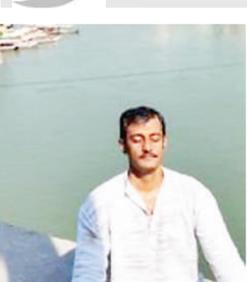
Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata

No surprise

For a nation that has repeatedly experienced and undergone a chequered and turbulent tryst with democracy, the latest development in Pakistan should come as no surprise to an independent political observer. Given the fact that no Prime Minister of Pakistan has completed his normal term in office, the events have again exposed the political vulnerability and the fragility of a country trying to nurture and sustain democracy since its inception. As in the case with India, the apex judiciary appears to be the final saviour with its assurance that it would strive to pass a reasonable order.

Suresh, via email

WHAT THEY TWEET!

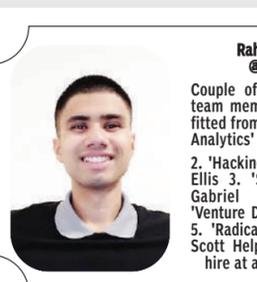


Kiran@KiranKS

Whether it was Mahathir Mohamed of Malaysia, KP Sharma Oli of Nepal or Imran Khan of Pakistan - anyone who went against India's Modi in the neighborhood, hasn't lasted long. Even Xi Jinping is facing massive trouble locally. See Shanghai videos.

Amrullah@Saleh2

This gave me a reason to laugh after a relatively longer while. I once explained to him how his army and the ISI were supporting terrorism i.e. HQN, Quetta Shura & others perhaps behind his back & presented him with evidence. He said with PTI in power it isn't possible. Poor Khan.



Rahul Mather @Rahul_J

Couple of books that our team members have benefited from greatly: 1. 'Lean Analytics' - Alistair Croll 2. 'Hacking Growth' - Sean Ellis 3. 'Superthinking' - Gabriel Weinberg 4. 'Venture Deals' - Brad Feld 5. 'Radical Candor' - Kim Scott Helpful for an early hire at a startup.

Aman@AmanKayamHai
May all things be in vain like...



Paras@paraschopra

There's almost infinite things you could have done at any point of time in life, yet you had to choose only one. Which means no matter what you would have chosen, regret would have remained. So no matter what you do, you can't get rid of regret. Hence, the concept is meaningless.



Madhavan@madversity

Insurance companies need to take note of mob violence. This cannot be under force majeure clauses. Approach to courts seeking damages from government on failure to enforce law is a clear possibility both as individual compensation & under PIL provisions.

Navdeep@Singh

There are some high achievers here, including those who have done a lot for the society in so many different ways. But the moment there's excessive (direct or tacit) usage of "I" in their conversations, the glory of a substantial part of their achievements is rendered nugatory.

BRIEF

Acquires



New Delhi: RR Kabel on Wednesday said it has acquired Luminous Power's home electrical business (HEB) from French engineering company Schneider. MD Shreegopal Kabra said it will further strengthen RR Kabel's consumer electrical business portfolio.

Bookings

New Delhi: Ashiana Housing on Wednesday reported a 7 per cent increase in its sales bookings at Rs 573.25 crore during the last financial year. Sales bookings in the financial year 2020-21 stood at Rs 534.68 crore, according to a regulatory filing. The company sold 14.76 lakh square ft in FY22 as against 14.97 lakh square ft in the preceding fiscal. "1,051 units were booked in FY22 vis-a-vis 1,131 units booked in FY21," the filing said.

Funding



Chennai: IT security startup Securden, Inc has received USD 10.5 million (about Rs 80 crore) in a Series A investment led by Tiger Global Management. CEO Bala Venkatramani said this expertise and excitement they bring will help us emerge as a leader.

Launches

New Delhi: Music and entertainment company Mirchi on Wednesday announced the launch of its operation in Dallas city of Texas in the US in partnership with FA Radio International LLC. Targeting the South Asian diaspora across markets, Mirchi has introduced its radio, digital, and live event solutions to the city.

Ambassador



New Delhi: Havells India on Wednesday said its consumer durables brand, Lloyd, has roped in former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly as its Brand Ambassador for Eastern Indian markets. Ganguly will endorse Lloyd range of consumer durables, through promotion.

Unveils

New Delhi: SAP India on Wednesday announced the launch of an immersive mobile experience centre 'Transformation Express' to advance cloud adoption and drive business transformation for the Indian mid-market. In a statement, SAP said it also will foster industry-academic partnerships to familiarise the next-generation youth with emerging technologies to make them future-ready.

Govt in discussion with World Bank over coal mine closure framework

New Delhi, Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The coal ministry is in discussions with the World Bank for collaboration on the mine closure framework, a government official said on Wednesday.

Coal Additional Secretary M Nagaraju said the government is committed to ensuring that mines are properly and scientifically closed for the benefit of the society.

"We are now actually collaborating with the World Bank to develop a coal mine closure framework," Nagaraju said during a webinar.

Vast experience of the World Bank in handling mine closure cases in different countries will be highly beneficial and facilitate the adoption of the best practices and standards in handling mine closure cases.



The additional secretary also said both renewable energy (RE) and coal will go hand in hand complementing each other for some more time and then RE will take over the energy security of the country.

The ministry had earlier said it is in the process of finalising a robust mine closure framework on three major aspects - institutional governance; people and communities; and environmental reclama-

tion and land re-purposing on the principles of just transition.

The ministry had earlier said that as of now, the Indian coal sector is doing its best to fulfill the country's energy demand by augmenting coal production.

At the same time, it is also taking various initiatives towards adopting the path of sustainable development with an emphasis on care for the environment and the host commu-

nity. However, the Indian coal sector, the ministry had said, is relatively new to the concept of systematic mine closure. Mine closure guidelines were first introduced in 2009, re-issued in 2013 and are still evolving.

"As coal mining in India had started long ago, our coalfields are replete with several legacy mines remaining unused for long. In addition, mines are closing and will close in future also due to reasons such as exhaustion of reserves, adverse geo-mining conditions, safety issues, etc," the ministry had said.

These mine sites should not only be made safe and environmentally stable but the continuity of livelihood should also be ensured for those who were directly or indirectly dependent on the mines, it had said.

Exports up 20% to USD 42 bn in March

Reaches USD 420 bn in FY-22

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The country's exports in March 2022 rose 19.76 per cent to USD 42.22 billion on account of healthy performance by sectors such as petroleum products, engineering, and leather, even as trade deficit during the month widened to USD 18.51 billion.

In March 2021, exports stood at USD 35.26 billion, according to a commerce ministry data released on Wednesday. Last month, imports grew 24.21 per cent to USD 60.74 billion, it showed. Trade deficit stood at USD 13.64 billion in March 2021. While total



exports during 2021-22 increased to a record high of USD 419.65 billion, imports too soared to USD 611.89 billion, leaving a trade gap of USD 192.24 billion.

The trade deficit (difference between imports and exports) stood at USD 102.63 billion in 2020-21.

For the first time, India's monthly merchandise exports exceeded USD 40 billion, reaching USD 42 billion in March 2022.

According to the data, the estimated value of services export increased

4.64 per cent to USD 21.76 billion in March 2022.

The services import last month rose 7.33 per cent to USD 13.16 billion.

"The estimated value of services export for April-March 2021-22 is USD 249.24 billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 20.94 per cent vis-a-vis April-March 2020-21 (USD 206.09 billion)," the ministry said. Imports during 2021-22 was estimated at USD 144.79 billion, an increase of 23.20 per cent over 2020-21 when it was USD 117.52 billion.

"The services trade balance for April-March 2021-22 was estimated at USD 104.45 billion as against USD 88.57 billion in April-March 2020-21, which is an increase of 17.94 per cent," it added.

Cabinet clears signing pact between Sebi, Canada's MSC

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved signing of a pact between the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and Canada's Manitoba Securities Commission.

The bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) seeks to have a formal basis for cross-border co-operation in the area of securities regulations. It would facilitate mutual assistance, contribute towards efficient performance of supervisory functions, aid in imparting technical domain knowledge and enable effective enforcement of the laws and regulations governing securities markets, according to an official release.

Rupee slips 3 paise at 76.18 against USD, gold falls

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

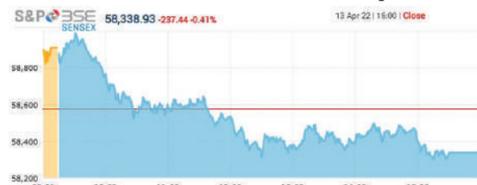
The rupee declined 3 paise to close at 76.18 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday, tracking the strength of the greenback in the overseas market and weak domestic macroeconomic data.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 76.15 against the American currency, then slipped further to 76.26. It finally settled at 76.18, down 3 paise over its previous close.

On Tuesday, the rupee fell 24 paise to end at 76.15. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.13 per cent higher at 100.42.

"The US Dollar index broke above the USD 100 mark (a level that was last seen in May, 2020) post the CPI data release," according to Emkay Global Financial Services. The US CPI report released on Tuesday showed that inflation in the United States rose to a four-decade high of 8.50 per cent in March.

Markets surrender early gains, Sensex declines 237 pts



Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Equity benchmarks wiped out early gains and settled lower for the third day in a row on Wednesday, with the Sensex falling over 237 points, pulled down by HDFC twins amid persistent foreign fund outflows and mixed global trends.

Despite a firm opening, the Sensex failed to hold on the momentum and declined 237.44 points or 0.41 per cent to settle at 58,338.93. During the day, it tanked 285.14 points or 0.48 per cent to 58,291.23.

On similar lines, the NSE Nifty dipped 54.65 points or 0.31 per cent to finish at 17,475.65.

From the 30-share Sensex pack, HDFC, HDFC Bank, Maruti, Dr Reddy's, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finserv, PowerGrid and Kotak Bank were among the major lag-

gards. In contrast, ITC, Sun Pharma, Hindustan Unilever Limited, State Bank of India and NTPC were among the prominent gainers.

"Nifty remained volatile with a largely negative bias throughout the session," according to Rupak De, Senior Technical Analyst at LKP Securities.

In the previous trade, the Sensex declined 388.20 points or 0.66 per cent to settle at 58,576.37. The Nifty went lower by 144.65 points or 0.82 per cent to finish at 17,530.30.

Meanwhile, retail inflation soared to a 17-month high of 6.95 per cent in March, and remained above the Reserve Bank's upper tolerance level, while factory output grew just 1.7 per cent in February, according to official data released.

Domestic stainless steel demand expected to reach 20 MT

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Domestic stainless steel demand is expected to reach 20 million tonne (MT) by fiscal year 2047, according to a report.

In 2021-22, the country's demand for stainless steel was 3.7-3.9 MT, as per the 'Stainless Steel Vision Document 2047' released here on Wednesday.

The report was launched by Additional Secretary, Steel, Rasika Chaube at the ongoing Global Stainless Steel Expo (GSSE) 2022.

The three-day event, which is organised by Ministry of Steel, Jindal Stainless Ltd (JSL) and Virgo Communications.



The report said it expects, "stainless demand to register a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.6-7.5 per cent over fiscals 2022-2025 and reach 4.6-4.8 MT."

Further, sectors like construction, infrastructure, and manufacturing -- key contributors to the GDP -- are expected to drive the growth.

Thus, the consumption is expected to reach 12.5-12.7 MT and 19-20 MT by fiscal

years 2040 and 2047, respectively.

As of March 2022, India's installed stainless steel capacity is at 6.6-6.8 MT. The capacity utilisation is estimated to have improved from 50 per cent in 2021 fiscal year to 58-60 per cent in 2022, it said.

The report further said India needs to develop enough capacities while improving the utilisation to meet the estimated demand.

India is the second largest consumer of stainless steel and one of the fastest growing markets. The country's per capita stainless steel consumption has more than doubled to 2.5 kg in 2022 fiscal from 1.2 kg in 2010.

Sebi penalises BSE, NSE for laxity in detecting misuse of clients' funds

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Capital markets regulator Sebi has penalised stock exchanges -- BSE and NSE -- for "laxity" on their part in detecting misuse of clients' securities worth Rs 2,300 crore by Karvy Stock Broking Ltd (KSBL).

In two separate orders, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has imposed a fine of Rs 3 crore on BSE and Rs 2 crore on NSE.

The matter relates to KSBL misutilising client securities worth Rs 2,300 crore, belonging to more than 95,000 clients, by pledging them from just one demat account. The funds raised against the pledge were used by KSBL for itself and its group entities. KSBL and its group



entities utilised this money for raising Rs 851.43 crore from 8 banks/NBFCs.

"Without doubt, it was KSBL, which misused clients' securities by unauthorisedly pledging them, and was thus responsible for loss caused by pledging securities which it did not own, including loss to investors as well as loss to banks and NBFCs who loaned funds to KSBL against securities which did not belong to KSBL," as per the orders passed.

BPCL to invest Rs 200 cr to set up 100 fast EV charging corridors

With 2,000 stations

Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

Public sector oil marketing company Bharat Petroleum on Wednesday said it will invest around Rs 200 crore this fiscal to set up 100 fast electric vehicles charging corridors having 2,000 stations along the busiest 100 national highways.

The company has recently opened its first EV charging corridor along the Chennai-Trichy-Madurai highway with one charging unit. The second corridor will come up on the Kochi-Salem section of the National Highway 47 within the next two months, BPCL executive director for retail B S Ravi told PTI on Wednesday. Ravi said in case a charg-



ing unit does not need a booster transformer, such a unit which will be a full-fledged centre offering rest rooms, refreshments/food court, among other amenities can be ready at a cost varying from Rs 7-12 lakh, and if the unit needs a transformer then the cost will go up to Rs 25 lakh.

"Given this cost variance, we have budgeted for around Rs 200 crore investment this fiscal as we plan to set up as many as 2,000 fast charging stations across 100 corridors by March 2023," Ravi said.

He said for the long-term, the company has

plans to have 7,000 fast EV charging stations by FY25. But he did not disclose the investment details.

He said the third corridor will most probably be the Mumbai-Bengaluru National Highway 4, and will have multiple units as the highway has amongst the highest traffic.

Ravi said the national oil refiner and marketer, which is the second largest player with close to 30 per cent retail market in petrol and diesel, hopes that the EV ecosystem will grow faster than forecast earlier, and the company wants to play a big role in setting up the basic infrastructure for this ambitious drive.

The government has also announced sops to push domestic manufacturing and sales of electric vehicles.

Passenger vehicle sales dip nearly 4% in March

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Passenger vehicle wholesales in India declined nearly 4 per cent to 2,79,501 units last month, auto industry body SIAM said on Wednesday.

Passenger vehicle (PV) dispatches from factories to dealerships in March 2021 stood at 2,90,939 units.

As per the latest data by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), two-wheeler sales also fell 21 per cent to 11,84,210 units as compared with 14,96,806 vehicles in March 2021. Motorcycle sales declined 21 per cent to 7,86,479 units as against 9,93,996

units in March 2021. Scooter sales were also down 21 per cent to 3,60,082 units from 4,58,122 vehicles a year ago. In the 2021-22 fiscal, total PV wholesales rose by 13 per cent to 30,69,499 units from 27,11,457 units in 2020-21. However, total two-wheeler dispatches declined by 11 per cent to 1,34,66,412 units in last fiscal as compared with 1,51,20,783 units in 2020-21. Three-wheeler sales rose to 2,60,995 units last fiscal from 2,19,446 units in FY21. Similarly, total commercial vehicle wholesales also increased to 7,16,566 units last fiscal as compared with 5,68,559 units in 2020-21.

Imported paper straws to have cost implications

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Manufacturers of small packaged fruit juices and dairy products have sought an extension of the July 1 deadline, for implementing the ban on plastic straws and said imported paper straws are expected to increase their input cost but unlikely to meet the industry's requirement.

Arguing that there is no viable alternative at present, industry body Action Alliance for Recycling Beverage Cartons (AARC) and Home-grown FMCG major Dabur India said there is a need to extend the deadline by at least two-



three years for a smooth transition. The government's ban on single-use plastics, to be effective from July 1, will also impact the plastic straws that are packaged with small juice and milk beverage packs sold by food companies. "We would urge the government to extend the implementation

date of the ban till proper infrastructure for producing paper straws locally is developed," Dabur India CEO Mohit Malhotra told PTI. Expressing similar views, AARC said the ban is going to have a big impact as there are no alternatives at the moment.

"The industry has been working on biodegradable PLA straws as alternatives but these are still 9-12 months away from validation. The industry is also looking to import paper straws, whatever could be imported, though there is not enough availability globally," said AARC CEO Praveen Agarwal.

PE inflows in realty sector dips 32% to USD 4.3 bn in FY-22

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Private equity (PE) investments in real estate sector fell 32 per cent to USD 4.3 billion in the last fiscal year mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to property consultant Anarock.

PE investments in real estate stood at USD 6.3 billion in the 2020-21 financial year.

According to Anarock Capital's FY22 year-end edition of its FLUX report, PE inflows in real estate were USD 5.1 billion in FY'20, USD 5.6 billion in FY'19 and USD 5.4 billion in 2017-18 fiscal. The consultant attributed the fall in PE investments in real estate to

the second wave of the COVID-19, leading to multiple lockdowns in various parts of the country.

The consultant expects a recovery in PE investments in the real estate sector on the back of widespread vaccine coverage and improved market sentiments. Shobhit Agarwal, MD & CEO, Anarock Capital, said: "Equity continues to remain around 80 per cent of the total PE investments in Indian real estate." The commercial sector attracted the highest investment in FY22 (38 per cent), followed by the Industrial & Logistics segment (22 per cent) and residential 14 per cent, he added.

Global NCAP gives three-star adult safety rating to Hyundai Creta, i20

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Vehicle safety group Global NCAP has given three-star adult occupant protection to Hyundai's Motor India's mid-sized SUV Creta and premium hatchback i20 after conducting crash tests.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor's (TKM) Urban Cruiser received four-star safety rating.

Vehicles are rated from zero to five based on their safety features and automobiles with a higher rating considered safer for occupants. In a statement, Global NCAP said it tested the basic versions of Creta and i20, featuring two frontal airbags and ABS.

The mid-sized SUV recorded an unstable structure and the risk of injury to the lower legs and feet of the driver, it stated. "Lack of ISOFIX anchorages and three point

belts in all seating positions explains the child occupant protection results. Global NCAP was surprised to see in such a new model the lack of three point belts in all seating positions, lack of ESC and no side head impact protection as standard," the vehicle safety group noted.

During the assessment, i20 showed an unstable structure, a risk of the driver's head and weak protection to the driver's chest, it added.

TKM's Urban Cruiser, which was also tested in its most basic safety spec comprising two frontal airbags and ABS, showed a stable structure, and adequate to good protection of critical body regions of the adults.

TKM Urban Cruiser gets four-star rating

Vehicle safety group Global NCAP has given three-star adult occupant protection to Hyundai's Motor India's mid-sized SUV Creta and premium hatchback i20 after conducting crash tests.

Toyota Kirloskar Motor's (TKM) Urban Cruiser received four-star safety rating.

Vehicles are rated from zero to five based on their safety features and automobiles with a higher rating considered safer for occupants. In a statement, Global NCAP said it tested the basic versions of Creta and i20, featuring two frontal airbags and ABS.

PE inflows in realty sector dips 32% to USD 4.3 bn in FY-22

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Private equity (PE) investments in real estate sector fell 32 per cent to USD 4.3 billion in the last fiscal year mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to property consultant Anarock.

PE investments in real estate stood at USD 6.3 billion in the 2020-21 financial year.

According to Anarock Capital's FY22 year-end edition of its FLUX report, PE inflows in real estate were USD 5.1 billion in FY'20, USD 5.6 billion in FY'19 and USD 5.4 billion in 2017-18 fiscal. The consultant attributed the fall in PE investments in real estate to

Arjun Rampal's 'London Files' character impacted him personally

Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming thriller series, 'London Files', recently spoke about his character Om Singh, a homicide detective who takes on the case of a missing person in the politically divided city of London.

Shedding light on his character, Arjun said, "Om Singh is someone who stays with you, he is real, flawed, hurt and alone." He also revealed that the journey of this character is something that has impacted him personally, actually "a lot more" than he expected. Sharing what's the best way to play a detective, he said, "When you play a detective, you automatically become a skeptic. It's all about proof and conspiracies that you can join the dots to find the truth. So your mind begins to think like that. It changes your way of seeing things and your perspective towards life."

Arjun Rampal

Kangana Ranaut: We rarely have heroines performing action scenes in our films

The teaser of Kangana Ranaut-starrer 'Dhaakad' was unveiled on Tuesday and it depicts the Bollywood actress in an intense spy avatar, acing her action skills while combating enemies and beating them at their own game.

She says that in "our cinema, we rarely have heroines performing action scenes in the real sense."

The actress has learned a number of martial art forms and combat techniques, including hand-to-hand combat to play Agent Agni with panache and elan. The actioner led by Kangana, stars Arjun Rampal, Divya Dutta and Saswata Chatterjee along with a power packed ensemble cast.

Kangana said: "Along with the success of 'Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi', I also enjoyed the love and admiration that came my way for the way I pulled off the action scenes in that film. In our cinema, we rarely have heroines performing action scenes in the real sense. When 'Dhaakad' came my way, I felt happy to see that someone had dared to visualise a woman in a hardcore commercial film as an action heroine."

"I'm all for daredevilry and doing something that pushes the envelope."



There's nothing that does it like a good commercial film."

Arjun Rampal plays the antagonist and his villainous turn is unlike any other and he has ensured that his look is on point. The actor also trained hard for the action sequences for months to make them look authentic. That's not all, the duels between Kangana Ranaut and Arjun

Rampal have been specially designed to amp up the adrenaline of the viewers.

Their clash is something to be savoured on the big screen. Rampal is ably supported by Divya Dutta who has a meaty role as the antagonist. Dutta will be seen in an avatar which will unveil an untapped side to her acting ability.

Filmed across Budapest, Mumbai and Bhopal, the slick entertainer has been shot by award-winning Japanese cinematographer Tetsuo Nagata and the action choreography has been designed by an out-an-out international crew.

Producer Deepak Mukut said: "This is the film that, we hope, sets new standards in how women-led actioners are designed in Bollywood. In every sense of the term, we wanted a slick and engaging action thriller and we went all out to just make that with full gusto and all heart."

"The film has a sensitive subject at its core and I laud at how it's been rendered on screen. It's entertaining and a rollercoaster ride that I relished making."

Director Razeesh Razy Ghai believes, "While constructing this character, we were clear that Agent Agni had to be one of a kind."

Vidyut Jammwal looks back on 9 years of 'Commando: A One Man Army'

Action hero Vidyut Jammwal's film 'Commando: A One Man Army' has clocked nine years of its release on Tuesday and the actor has gone down memory lane.

'Commando: A One Man Army' is the first instalment in the action thriller series. Starring Jammwal, Pooja Chopra, Jaideep Alhawat, Adah Sharma, Esha Gupta and Freddy Daruwala, the movie revolves around the story of Karan, a disavowed Indian commando, who helps protect a woman from a local thug who is hellbent on forcing her to marry him.

Vidyut, who is trained in the martial art

of Kalaripayattu, performed his own stunts and martial arts in the film's action sequences.

Remembering the film, Vidyut says, "I'm grateful that the audience embraced the action thriller and showered so much love for the part I essayed. A hero is someone who inspires us to be better and playing Karan gave me the canvas and opportunity to make that impact."

"The film was received with quite a lot of excitement. The highlights for me were the action sequences and the stunts. Nine years of the film brings back memories of what this film meant for action movie fans."

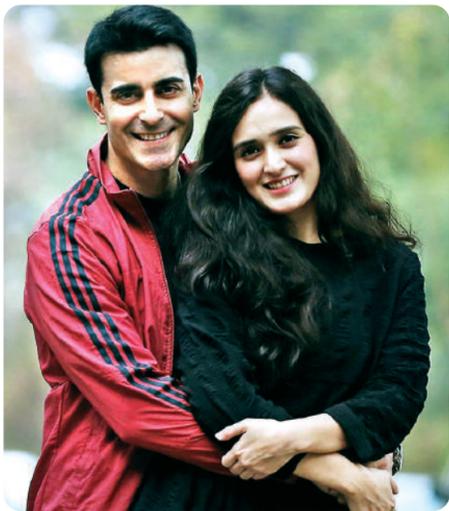
He is currently shooting for 'IB 71' and also announced to star in 'Sher Singh Raana'.



Gautam to deliver a cameo in 'Gud Se Meetha Ishq'

Since the show's promo launch, viewers have been envisioning the show's remarkable love story and, of course, its title track, 'Ishq Bina Kya Jeena Yaara,' which makes the audiences feel incredibly dynamic by the scenic mountain ranges. In the show, 'Gud Se Meetha Ishq' we may also contemplate and foresee that the lead actress Pankhuri Awasthy's husband Gautam Rode might make appearances in the show as he has been approached to deliver a cameo for the show on Star Bharat.

The fans are completely elated and is eagerly waiting to see the phenomenal couple sharing screen for the first time. Along with real life, the most adorable couple will be now seen in 'reel-life' setting the sets on fire with their chemistry. Moreover, the show's lead character, played by the audience's favourite actress Pankhuri Awasthi, will be viewed as a tourist guide who will re-



fute the stereotypes prevalent in this male-dominated society. Pankhuri Awasthi has played a variety of powerful characters in the past, and has always portrayed her versatility.

Produced by Film Farm India, the show will soon take the audience to a new love story. While actress Meera

Deosthale plays Pari, a mentally challenged girl, Ishaan Dhawan will be seen in lead roles as photographer Neel Khurana. If we talk about the other cast of the show, then big names like Peelu Vidyarthi, Vishal Chaudhary, Amrapali Gupta, Ananya Khare are also included in its impressive list.

Ishita to don a new avatar for Grand Finale of 'India's Got Talent'

Sony Entertainment Television's most loved talent reality show, 'India's Got Talent' is all set to air the Grand Finale episode this Sunday where the country will get the winner of this season! To make the grand finale even more grandeur, the Top 7 finalists - Ishita Vishwakarma, Rishabh Chaturvedi from Amritsar, Divyansh & Manuraj, Bomb Fire Crew, Warrior Squad, Demolition Crew and BS Reddy have pulled up their socks to present themselves like never before to the fans and viewers.

One of the finalists, Ishita Vishwakarma from Jabalpur who is fondly known as 'Choti Lata,' is all set to mesmerizing one and all with her renditions of song, 'Lag Jaa Gale,' 'Honthon Mein Aisi Baat,' and 'Dafli Wale Dafli Baja' during the grand finale episode. Making her act come to life, Ishita will be seen performing amid a LED fountain in the middle of the stage and with dancers. Ishita, who is a huge fan of the late Lata Mangeshkar ji has time and again proven her mettle on the show with some spectacular performances. She will for the first time, step out of her soft image for the finale! Not only this, for the very first time Ishita will be seen in a completely new avatar wearing a green dress and to top it all, let her hair down!



HOROSCOPE THURSDAY APRIL 14

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18

You are at your best today. A perfect blend of commitment and competency, you will zap people by your persona. By afternoon, your adrenaline will be pumping fast, and you'll agree to complete others' work too. Hats off to you, says Ganesh.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

If legal hassles have been troubling you of late, they are likely to reach a satisfactory conclusion today, says Ganesh. Your finances look good. Family matters will keep you busy in the afternoon. Your evenings are likely to be filled with music or dance classes.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20

You might want to straighten up the house this morning, Aries. Some unexpected visitors could drop by. With no warning, you could be serving lunch or dinner to a group of ten! Don't panic. Take-out was created for just such an occasion.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21

Friends or work colleagues could introduce you to a field of study that captures your interest, Taurus. You're ready for something new in your life, and the lecture series that has been suggested to you could turn out to provide just the stimulation that you need. Your creative juices are flowing and you'll want to make good use of them.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21

Travel is in store today, Gemini. It could be a spur-of-the-moment trip with a friend. More likely, it will be a series of short trips closer to home. You could visit friends or take advantage of sales and do some shopping. Your active mind will pick up on all sorts of ideas for improving your home.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22

You will be dying to take a break today, and go on a brief pleasure trip with your sweetheart. However, it won't be possible. So in the afternoon, you will have an extended lunch break, making plans for a future trip. A vacation is all you can think of today. Your work may suffer a little, but you will more than make up for it.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23

You can expect your life to change in a fairly dramatic way today, Leo. The change could be subtle at first, but with time and distance you're likely to look back on this day as pivotal. You could receive an intriguing piece of news that sets your head spinning with ideas.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22

Today could have you itching for a change, Virgo. The difficulty is figuring out what you really want to do with your life. A good first step would be to talk to people. Find out what they do and don't like about their careers. Use the library and the internet. Take a profile test, such as Myers-Briggs, to see what types of careers mesh with your personality.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23

You're going to be busy but happy today, Libra. It's likely that a project you've been working on for a long time suddenly yields positive results. You can't help but be delighted, as this achievement comes at a time when you've been questioning your abilities.

Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22

You could be invited on a last-minute adventure today, Scorpio. By all means, seize the chance! You're certainly ready for a change, and this opportunity could turn out to be just what you've been hoping for. Adventure calls, and whether it's a journey or a lecture, you'll find it enlarges your world in just the way you'd hoped.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 31

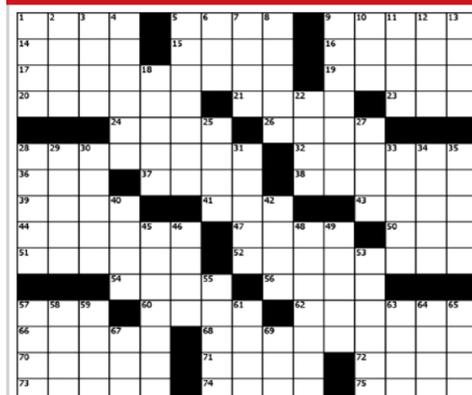
If you've been thinking about making a career change, Sagittarius, today is a good day to do some research on professions that interest you. It may be that you're ready to take the leap and start a business of your own. Ideally, you'd have an able partner to help with the planning and execution. Get out your address book and college directory.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20

Technology is going to play a big role in your life today and in the immediate future, Capricorn. It could be that your office is upgrading its systems and you're in charge of getting everyone up to speed on the new equipment. Or it's possible that you'll decide to take a class to increase your technical knowledge.

CROSSWORD

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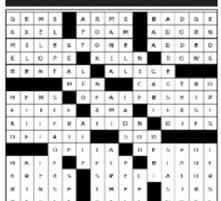
ACROSS

- Space agency (abbr.)
- Upon
- Self-respect
- Lincoln, et al.
- Billiards
- Angered
- Patched a ceiling
- Eyed flirtatiously
- _____ citizen
- Shipped

- Double agent
- Bothersome insect
- Coral ridge
- Of speech sounds
- Concurred
- Yet, poetically
- Broker's advice
- Bookworm
- Assigned job
- Table part
- Grow weary
- Levelled

- Actor _____ Baldwin
- Spy org.
- Eye part
- Told (a story)
- Vocalist _____ Turner
- Achieves
- Pack animal
- Paint
- Type of staircase
- Gorge
- Card game for one
- Divine _____ Callas
- Margarine
- Refusals
- Gives forth
- Dime or penny
- Doctor's "at once!"
- Anchorman _____ Jennings
- Throw
- Start
- Immaculate
- Decree
- Supernatural
- Great fear
- Make socks
- Cheerful
- Mysteries
- Comic _____ Carvey
- Wearing away
- Moved sneakily
- Japanese, e.g.
- Civic gp.
- Summit
- Pillow cover
- Delhi dress
- Horseback game
- Civil disturbance
- Region
- _____ we forget!
- Occupy a chair
- Mauji garland

SOLUTION 268



IPL: Royals, Titans set for high-voltage clash

Navi Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

A battle royale is on the cards when Hardik Pandya's Gujarat Titans take on the Sanju Samson-led Rajasthan Royals, two line-ups armed with potent bowling units in a top-of-the-table IPL showdown here on Thursday.

The Royals put together one of the best if not the best bowling attacks for this season and all their spinners and pacers have been right on the mark.

The seasoned Trent Boult has continued to reign fire with the new ball and has been equally impressive in the slog overs. In the previous game against Lucknow Super Giants, he bowled a fiery opening spell to get rid of skipper KL Rahul and Krishnappa Gowtham in the very first over.

Prasidh Krishna has given a glimpse of why he is touted to be the next fast-bowling sensation in Indian cricket. Alongside Boult, the duo has bowled with pace and aggression.

Rookie Kuldeep Sen too proved he has the stomach to play with the bigwigs. He performed tremendously under pressure on his debut, defending 15 runs off the last over against LSG.

The spin duties, on the other hand, are being ably carried out by senior India



spinner Ravichandran Ashwin and the wily Yuzvendra Chahal. The latter is the leading wicket taker in the league at the moment, spinning the opposition batters in to submission. The leg spinner has 11 scalps at an economy of 6.50.

Ashwin though has not had many breakthroughs,

the off-spinner has operated at an economy of 6.87 and has managed to choke the opposition for runs.

It will be a tall task for the Titans' batters, who are thin on experience, to navigate through the Royals bowling.

The new-entrants have relied heavily on young opener Shubman Gill, who

has been in scintillating form, and Pandya. But the skipper, who is known for his pyrotechnics, has been more restrictive in his approach and his looked to take his innings deep.

Matthew Wade has struggled to get runs while David Miller is also yet to fire, leaving rookies Abhinav Manohar and B

Sai Surdharshan with more responsibility.

However, Rahul Tewatia seems to be loving his role as the finisher tonking sixes at will.

The Titans boast of formidable bowling unit themselves.

The pace bowling department includes the likes of Lockie Ferguson, one of the fastest bowlers in world cricket, senior India quick Mohammed Shami, and Pandya, all attacking wicket-taking bowlers, who can put the opposition under pressure.

Rashid Khan, expectedly, is their most economical bowler. The opposition batters have preferred to play his four overs out rather than go for the big shots.

The Titans bowlers, however, lacked sharpness in the loss against Sunrisers Hyderabad, the team's first defeat this season. It will be interesting to see how they regroup against the Royals batting line up that includes the likes of the flamboyant Jos Buttler, the big-hitting Shimron Hetmyer and Samons besides the prodigiously talented Devdutt Padikkal.

Both teams have won three games and lost one with the Royals perched on top of the points table owing to a superior net run rate, while the Titans are placed fourth.

Djokovic loses clay-court opener at Monte Carlo Masters



Spain's Alejandro Davidovich Fokina celebrates after winning over Serbia's Novak Djokovic during their Monte-Carlo ATP Masters Series tournament tennis match in Monaco.

Monaco, Apr 13 (AP):

Novak Djokovic opened his clay-court season with a surprising loss to Alejandro Davidovich Fokina at the Monte Carlo Masters on Tuesday.

Davidovich Fokina stunned the top-ranked Serb 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-1 in the second round to hand Djokovic another setback as he tries to move on from the controversy surrounding his refusal to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

It makes for rare back-to-back losses for Djokovic, who had not played since being eliminated in the quarterfi-

nals of the Dubai Tennis Championships in February his only previous tournament this year after he was barred from playing at the Australian Open.

Djokovic struggled from the start as the 46th-ranked Spaniard broke him early to pull ahead 4-1 before another break handed him the first set. Davidovich Fokina kept up the pressure and led 3-0 in the second before Djokovic clawed back. But the Serb continued to struggle on his serve and was broken three times in the decider.

Djokovic had beaten Davidovich Fokina in

straight sets twice last year, in Rome and at the Tokyo Olympics.

Djokovic could not defend his Australian Open title in January after he was deported from the country for not being vaccinated. He had to skip tournaments in Indian Wells, California, and Miami because he couldn't travel to the United States for the same reason.

The authorities in France and Monaco lifted most COVID-19 restrictions last month, allowing people who aren't vaccinated into the country and back into restaurants, sports arenas and other venues.

MI need to be ultra-aggressive like CSK to win, says Swann

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Former England cricketer Graeme Swann feels Mumbai Indians should adopt the "ultra aggressive" approach CSK showed against RCB as it aims for its first win of the season.

Both the multiple-times champions lost their opening four games before CSK broke their losing streak with a 23-run win over Royal Challengers Bangalore on Tuesday.

The Rohit Sharma-led MI, however, is still in the look out for their first victory this season.

"Mumbai Indians basically need to take a template from what CSK did against RCB and copy that going forward" Swann said on Star Sports.

"If they can go with an ultra-aggressive intent, they will be able to win (their upcoming matches)," the former off spinner said.



Swann further added that for teams like Mumbai and Chennai who suffered four consecutive defeats in as many games - body language has to be positive going forward.

"Any coach or any captain would demand from his players to show more intensity (on the field), more hard work and want them to show that they mean it (when it comes winning) even if you've lost a few games. So the body language is a good way to go."

FIH Pro League: Experienced India start firm favourites versus new-look Germany

Bhubaneswar, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Indian men's hockey team would look to bank on experience and favourable home conditions when it takes on a new-look Germany with an aim to consolidate its lead at the top of the FIH Pro League standings.

India are currently on top with 21 points from 10 games, four clear of second-placed Germany, who have garnered 17 points from eight matches.

But going into the first of the double-leg tie at the Kalinga Stadium here, the Indians would clearly start as favourites in sultry conditions against a German team that comprises of 12 rookies in its roster.

With a half a dozen out of its 22-member squad making their senior debuts during the two matches on April 14 and 15, the visitors during these matches have decided to

test youngsters ahead of next year's World Cup and 2024 Paris Olympics.

The other reason behind Germany's decision to field a young side is the unavailability of some of their regular players, who are busy with club matches back home.

And it augurs well for the Indians, who are coming into the tie with a bit of confidence, having defeated Netherlands 2-1 and then losing 1-3 against the same opponents in the shoot-out during the return leg at home.

These two matches are in fact India's last home games in the Pro League before they hit the road for away games.

And the Amit Rohidas-led side would definitely look to sign off their home campaign with an all-win record against a less-formidable German side.

India vice-captain and star drag-flicker

Harmanpreet Singh, however, cautioned his teammates against taking the Germans lightly.

"The thing with youngsters is that they will work hard to prove themselves," said Harmanpreet at the pre-match press conference. "Our focus is to make sure we improve as a team and not worry about who is coming."

"When it's experienced opponents, we know what they do, what their strengths are, but we still can't take players we have never faced or seen before lightly. But anyway, we generally know how Germany fares and their style of play."

Germany head coach Andre Henning admitted that coping with the weather would be their biggest task in the upcoming matches as they are coming from sub-zero temperature compared to the extreme humid conditions

Indian GM Praggnanandhaa wins Reykjavik Open chess

Reykjavik, Apr 12 (PTI):

Young Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa on Tuesday won the prestigious Reykjavik Open chess tournament here with 7.5 points from nine rounds.

The 16-year-old Praggnanandhaa defeated compatriot GM D Gukesh in the final round to emerge sole winner.

Praggnanandhaa turned things around in the all-Indian battle after his opponent blundered when he appeared to be losing. The highly-rated Indian remained unbeaten through the nine rounds and finished with wins over Matthieu Cornette (France) and Gukesh in the last two rounds.

He also posted four other wins, including the one over American Abhimanyu Mishra, who last year became the then youngest Grandmaster at



the age of 12 years and four months. Praggnanandhaa (ELO 2624) gained 13.2 ELO points from the triumph.

He had recently hogged the limelight after stunning world No.1 Magnus Carlsen in an online tournament. Gukesh, who logged six points, finished 17th while GM Abhijeet Gupta took the eighth spot, securing 6.5 points.

The Netherlands GM Max Warmerdam took second place with seven points ahead of Mads Anderson (Denmark), who also scored the same number of points.



Able to do things which I was trying for a while: Dube

Navi Mumbai, Apr 13 (PTI):

The 2022 edition could well be a breakthrough season for all-rounder Shivam Dube, who feels he is finally able to translate his domestic form into the IPL.

The Chennai Super Kings all-rounder paved the way for his team's first win of the season with an unbeaten 95 against RCB on Tuesday night.

I am able to do things, which I was trying for a while. The things I was doing in Ranji Trophy, at the domestic level, but after coming to this (IPL) level, you have to come one level up.

So, I was trying to keep the balance, not think much and back myself. I am following my basic game, not doing anything extra. But yes there is one thing, my confidence is high and I am playing well, Dube said at the post-

match press conference.

The lanky left-handed batter also maintained that he has been backing his game. Dube has been an aggressive batter on the domestic circuit but has not been able to replicate that form at the IPL and international level. He has played 13 T20s and an ODI for India with his last appearance coming back in February 2020. (The team management) has given security and at the same time I back my game. I feel the ball which I can hit, I do that and I am able to connect well, so my confidence is high. I'm trying to play my own game, said the Mumbai batter, who recorded his highest score in the IPL. Dube and Uthappa shared a 165-run stand the highest for the third wicket in the history of IPL. The 28-year-old said they had decided to attack the RCB bowlers after a slow start.

Kim Clijsters retires from pro tennis again



London, Apr 13 (AP):

Four-time Grand Slam singles champion Kim Clijsters has retired from professional tennis again.

The 38-year-old Clijsters, who ended her second retirement in 2019 after a seven-year hiatus, announced Tuesday that she will no longer play official tournaments. I can't wait to see what new adventures will cross my path, the former No. 1 player wrote on Instagram. Clijsters, who already is a member of the International Tennis Hall of Fame, won the

U.S. Open for the first time in 2005 and walked away from tennis two years later at age 23 shortly before getting married. The Belgian player then took about two years off while having a daughter but returned and won the 2009 U.S. Open. She won another championship at Flushing Meadows in 2010, then added an Australian Open title the following season and moved back atop the rankings. Clijsters, who has three children with her husband, Brian Lynch, left the tour again in 2012. They live in suburban New Jersey. It's been on my mind for a while, Clijsters told WTA media. I still love to hit the ball. With my schedule three, four days was enough to keep my rhythm under control but definitely not good enough if I decided to play another tournament. Say, if I picked Australia, it's three, four weeks. That's just not possible at this stage in our family life. Life just sort of takes over, right?

Retired Out We are late already, this will happen a lot going forward: Ashwin

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

R Ashwin feels the IPL is already late in using "retired out" as a tactical move and after becoming the first one to do so, the India spinner expects to see a lot more of it in the near future.

Ashwin batted at No. 6 for Rajasthan Royals against Lucknow Super Giants on Sunday but left the field after two balls in the 19th over to make way for Riyan Parag. He had scored 28 off 23 before retiring himself out.

"T20, as a sport, is heading towards where football has reached. Just like how they're using substitutions, I did something similar (retiring out). Already we're late, but I believe this will happen a lot in the coming days. I don't think it will be a stigma like running

someone out at the non-striker's end," said Ashwin on his Youtube channel.

However, he thinks the move might not work always.

"It might work sometimes and it might not work sometimes. These things happen constantly in football, and we haven't cracked T20 cricket fully yet. This is a millennial sport. This is the next generation's sport. "In fact, if you see in football, Messi or Cristiano Ronaldo score goals frequently. But their team's goalkeeper should also save goals and their defenders should defend well. Only then, a Messi or Ronaldo will be in the limelight."



'Free ration ensured food to every household during pandemic'

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

Union minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday blamed the global situation, including high oil prices and the Russia-Ukraine conflict besides the pandemic, for price rise and asserted that the government has been taking measures to control it with duties on imports of several essential items like pulses virtually removed.

Addressing a press conference to highlight the benefits of the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana', which provides free ration to over 80 crore people, Goyal said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has underlined his sensitivity to the poor and commitment to the welfare of the weaker sections of society as the programme has ensured that



Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal addresses a press conference, at BJP headquarters in New Delhi, Wednesday.

no household lacked in food during the pandemic for over two years.

Citing adequate availability of grains which has ensured total food security, the minister for commerce & industry, consumer affairs, food & public distribution and tex-

tiles noted that Modi had offered to supply from its stock to the world if the WTO accords permission, and added that the demand India has been receiving from various countries is "historic" and "beyond imagination". The world is looking to India

for exports of grains, he said, noting that anywhere between 20-30 lakh tonnes of wheat have been exported in the last few weeks and a contract for export of 30-35 lakh tonnes of wheat has been signed for April-June quarters.

Wheat export has jumped from two lakh tonnes to 20 lakh tonnes and then to 70 lakh tonnes in the last fiscal and is estimated to be over 100 lakh tonnes in this fiscal, he said. To a question about price rise, especially in the food items, he said global reasons have pushed up inflation everywhere. Costlier food items pushed the retail inflation to a 17-month high of 6.95 per cent in March, much above the upper tolerance level of the Reserve Bank, according to government data released on Tuesday.

Govt awaits names from farmers' unions

For setting up panel on MSP

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI): Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Wednesday said the Centre is still awaiting names of members from farmers' unions for setting up a panel on minimum support price (MSP). While announcing the repeal of three contentious farm laws in November last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had promised that a committee would be set up to make MSP system more effective and transparent as well as suggest ways to promote zero budgeting based-agriculture. "We had asked for 2-3 members' names from farmers' unions for the committee on MSP. We have not yet received any names," Tomar told PTI on the sidelines of an event.

HC refuses to interfere with six yrs-plus age requirement

For Class 1 KV admission

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday refused to interfere with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS)'s decision fixing six years as the minimum age for applying for admission to class 1 in Kendriya Vidyalayas for the upcoming academic session.

A bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi dismissed an appeal by a five-year-old UKG student, against the single judge order rejecting her challenge to the change in the minimum age criteria which was earlier five years, and noted that the decision was in compli-

ance with the National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP). The bench, also comprising Justice Navin Chawla, said that it did not find merit in the appellant's submission that the age change was sudden and prejudicial.

If the child is five and it is increased to six, what is sudden about it? You will get the chance next year, the court observed. The court said that the appellant would be entitled to apply to KV for class 1 admission next year and this year, it is open to her to seek admission in other schools which are yet to implement NEP.

The submission of appellant was, and even before us is, the implementation is being done in a sudden manner to the preju-

dice of the appellant. We do not find any merit in this submission. There is nothing sudden about the implementation of the policy since there would always be a fixed date when the policy would be implemented, the bench said.

In any event, the implementation of the policy would not cause any prejudice to the appellant as she is not being denied the chance to secure admission in class 1. The only difference is that she would be entitled to seek admission in class 1 in a KVS only next year.

If the appellant is desirous of admission in class 1, it is open to her to seek admission in other schools which have not implemented the NEP till date, it added.

Khargone violence

Four more cases against Digvijaya over tweet

Cong leader seeks FIR against CM Chouhan for old post

Bhopal, Apr 13 (PTI):

Police have registered four more FIRs against Congress MP Digvijaya Singh for allegedly promoting religious enmity after he tweeted a picture of a mosque in another state while commenting on communal violence at Khargone in Madhya Pradesh, an official said on Wednesday.

Earlier, a First Information Report (FIR) was registered against Singh in Bhopal on Tuesday evening after a

complaint by local resident Prakash Mande. The four other FIRs were registered on Tuesday night in Gwalior, Jabalpur, Narmadapuram and Satna, the official said. Meanwhile, Singh wrote a letter to Bhopal police commissioner, seeking that an FIR be registered against Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan for allegedly posting a fabricated video about Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on May 16, 2019. In a tweet on Wednesday morning, Singh said, Instead of answering my question they have filed FIR against me. Is that Democracy BJP Model or Modi Model? What about the Hate speeches made by

BJP and RW fraud Babas? Superintendent of Police Vijay Bhadauria said. In Jabalpur, a case was registered on a complaint by Bharat Vikas Parishad, said an official from Omti police station. In Narmadapuram, the Kotwali police lodged a case against Singh on the basis of a complaint by one Vishal Diwan, said inspector Santosh Chouhan. Earlier, in Bhopal, the case against Singh was registered under IPC sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth), 295-A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 465 (forgery) and 505 (2) (public mischief), according to police.

TRADITIONAL ATTIRE



Young women in traditional Assamese attire click a photograph before taking part in the Bihu dance on the occasion of Rongali Bihu, on the outskirts of Guwahati, Wednesday.

Concerned about fire at Ghazipur landfill: HC

Seeks report from authorities

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court Wednesday expressed its concern over the recent incidents of fire at the Ghazipur landfill site here and sought a status report from the Centre, Delhi government, Delhi Pollution Control Commission, and other concerned authorities explaining the reason behind the fire.

The court also asked the authorities to explain how the fire was dealt with and what they intended to do to avoid it in the future. A

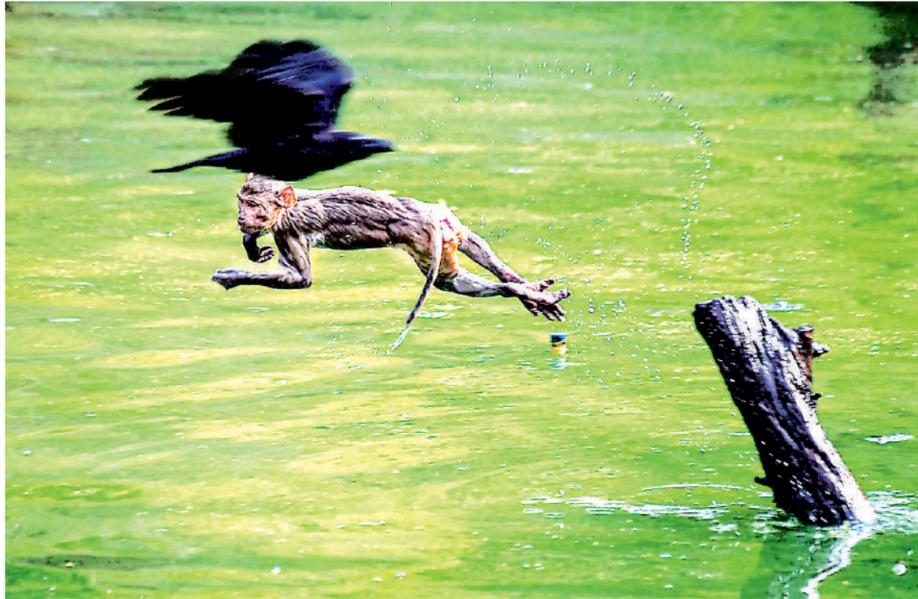
bench headed by Acting Chief Justice Vipin Sanghi granted three weeks to the respondents to file their response and listed the case for further hearing in May.

"The respondents are directed to file a status report and action taken report disclosing the reason for the outbreak of fire, steps taken to extinguish it, and how respondents propose to ensure that such incident does not occur in the future," ordered the bench also comprising Justice Navin Chawla. The order was passed by the court on its 2015 suo motu case on the issue of air pollution in

the national capital. The court said that the hazardous waste dumped at the site was burnt in the fire and the same resulted in severe air pollution.

"We are concerned about the fire incident at the Ghazipur landfill site in East Delhi. A fire broke out on March 28 and April 9 leading to the burning of hazardous waste dumped at the site, which in turn led to huge smoke generation leading to severe air pollution" the bench said. On April 9, a fire had broken out at the Ghazipur landfill site nearly two weeks after a similar incident at the site on March 28.

BEATING THE HEAT



A monkey jumps into a pond to beat the heat on a hot summer day, in Prayagraj, Wednesday.

AAI provides ambulift facility at 14 airports

To help flyers with reduced mobility

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has equipped its 14 airports with ambulifts to help flyers with reduced mobility in boarding an aircraft. Made-in-India ambulifts have been deployed at these airports as they do not have aerobridge facilities, the AAI said in a statement on Wednesday. The 14 airports where this facility is available are in Dehradun, Gorakhpur, Patna, Bagdogra, Darbhanga, Imphal, Vijayawada, Port Blair, Jodhpur, Belgaum, Silchar, Jharsuguda, Rajkot and Hubli, it mentioned. Airports in Dimapur, Jorhat, Leh, Jammagar, Bhubaneswar and Kanpur will have this facility by the end of this month, it stated.

'Law cannot be challenged in abstract'

SC refuses to entertain plea against Waqf Act

New Delhi, Apr 13 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to entertain a plea challenging the constitutional validity of certain sections of the Waqf Act, as these provisions grant special status to Waqf properties.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Surya Kant said that it cannot direct Parliament to enact a new law and the constitutionality of legislation cannot be challenged in the abstract "which will be a mere academic exercise."

The bench asked advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, who filed the petition, as to how he is affected by the Act and whether any of his proper-

ty has been appropriated under law. Where is the violation of your rights? Show us an example where your property has been appropriated. We cannot challenge the constitutionality of any law in the abstract. This will be a mere academic exercise, the bench said.

Justice Chandrachud said, We need to be very careful when there is a challenge to the constitutionality of legislation. The law has been enacted by a legislative body. There has to be an aggrieved party and there have to be some facts.

He said, There is a settled principle of law that no court whether it's the High Court or the

Supreme Court can issue any mandamus to Parliament to enact a law.

The bench said, In your plea, you are saying that there should be a common law for all the trusts which are within the constitutional domain of Parliament. We cannot direct Parliament and issue the mandamus to enact a law. Justice Kant said that it would actually amount to interference in the functioning of the legislature.

Upadhyay, who appeared in person, said that he has prepared a note of his submission and it can be taken into account. The bench said, We don't want you to make a publicity stunt by reading out the note. Your note says what

is in your writ petition we cannot direct Parliament to enact legislation so two prayers cannot be entertained. Upadhyay said that besides the direction of enacting a new law, he has also challenged the vires of the Waqf Act.

The bench said, Show us a particular case, where you are aggrieved. Have you been persecuted under the law? Has your property been appropriated under the law or have you been evicted? Sorry, we don't entertain such challenges in the abstract. Upadhyay then said that he would like to withdraw and move the High Court to avail his remedy.

The bench then passed the order, Ashwini Kumar

Upadhyay, who appears in person, seeks the permission of the Court to withdraw the petition so as to enable him to pursue such remedies as are available in law. The petition is accordingly dismissed as withdrawn. It said that no opinion has been expressed by this Court on any aspect of the petition.

In his PIL, Upadhyay said that he is challenging the provisions of the Waqf Act, 1995 as these provisions grant special status to waqf properties denying equal status to Trust, Mutts Akharas, and Societies and confer unbridled powers to the Waqf boards to register any property as Waqf property.

Cong leader Harish Dharami accuses party of ignoring him

Dehradun, Apr 13 (PTI):

The dissatisfaction in a section of the Congress in Uttarakhand over the revamp of the state unit has started spilling out into the open with the three-time MLA from Dharchula Harish Dharami on Wednesday accusing the party of ignoring merit in the new appointments.

Dharami said he was always neglected by the party and slammed it for giving precedence to first-timers over those who have kept the Congress' flag flying for years.



Darchula Harish Dharami

He was reacting to the latest organisational revamp in Uttarakhand in which Karan Mahra was

made PCC president, Yashpal Arya the Leader of Opposition and Bhuvan Chandra Kapri the Deputy Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly.

"I was fit for the post of deputy leader of opposition but neglected this time as well," said Dharami who is considered close to former chief minister Harish Rawat. Lashing out at party-in-charge for Uttarakhand Devender Yadav who had said merit was the basis of these appointments, Dharami said, "If first-timers are given precedence over people who have kept the party flag flying for years, is it merit. He said he was born in a family of a soldier who lost both his legs in the 1971 war. "Congress made such a show of respect for the armed force personnel during the run-up to the polls. What became of that?" Dharami asked.