

BRIEF



An artist gives final touches to a goddess Durga idol ahead of the Gudi Padwa Festival, in Mumbai, Thursday.

Offline

Kolkata: An estimated 7.45 lakh candidates will appear for the class 12 examinations conducted by the West Bengal board, which will begin on April 2, an official said. On Thursday, in a departure from tradition, the students will write the exams in their respective schools and not in other institutes affiliated to the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education (WBCHSE).

Resign

Bengaluru: Senior politician C M Ibrahim, who had recently announced quitting Congress, on Thursday said his resignation as the Member of Karnataka Legislative Council (MLC) has been accepted by its Chairman. Indicating about joining JD(S) soon and calling it a "true secular party", he predicted that the Congress will come third in the 2023 Assembly polls, after the JD(S) and BJP respectively.

Fire

New Delhi: A fire broke out inside a room at the Kasturba Gandhi hospital in central Delhi on Thursday, officials said. The fire department received information about the blaze around 3.50 pm, they said. Four fire tenders were rushed to the spot and the blaze was doused by 4.20 pm, they said.

Suspended

Bengaluru: Seven teachers who had allegedly allowed hijab-clad girls to write the 10th board examination have been suspended in Gadag district, sources in the Education Department said. The teachers were the exam invigilators at CS Patil School. Two other teachers who were the centre superintendents were also placed under suspension, they added.

Damaged

Srinagar: Over 20 houses suffered extensive damage and property worth crores of rupees was destroyed in two fire incidents in Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital, officials said here on Thursday. A fire broke out in one of the houses in a congested locality in the Noor Bagh area of the city in the early hours of Thursday, officials said.

Weather

High 41 Low 24

MARKET

NIFTY 17,464.75

SENSEX 58,568.51

BULLION

GOLD 51,450

SILVER 67,548

DIP IN COVID CASES

Maha to lift all Covid curbs, masks not must

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTD):

After more than two years, all pandemic-related restrictions including the mandatory wearing of masks will be lifted in Maharashtra from April 2, the Maharashtra government announced on Thursday.

'Gudhi Padwa', the Marathi New Year, falls on April 2 this year.

The decision to lift all the restrictions was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, Health Minister Rajesh Tope told reporters here.

From Gudhi Padwa, all COVID-19 related restrictions under the Epidemic Diseases Act and Disaster Management Act will be withdrawn, Tope said, adding that wearing masks would be voluntary.

In a separate statement, chief minister Thackeray

Bengal lifts all COVID-related curbs

Kolkata: With the COVID-19 situation having considerably improved in West Bengal, the state government on Thursday announced that all curbs related to the contagion would stand withdrawn from midnight. The withdrawal of the restrictions came almost two years after the pandemic struck in March 2020. In a notification, the government, however, stressed on the use of masks and hygiene maintenance. "Accordingly, it is hereby notified that restrictions as currently in force by aforesaid orders are hereby withdrawn. However, advisory in respect of health and hygiene protocols including wearing of masks at all times, hand hygiene and sanitisation of public places shall continue to be strictly observed until further order," it stated. Wearing of face mask will be voluntary from April 2, he said.

No fine in Delhi for not wearing masks

New Delhi: The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) decided on Thursday that there will be no fine for not wearing face masks at public places in the national capital, official sources said. They added that the DDMA, however, is likely to issue an advisory for people, asking them to wear masks at crowded places. Currently, there is a fine of ₹ 500 for not wearing masks at public places in Delhi. The decision was taken at a meeting of the DDMA chaired by Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal. It comes after the city recorded a significant decline in the number of fresh COVID-19 cases over the last few days.

cautioned that though the restrictions are going to be lifted, it is advisable to maintain social distancing, wear mask and take anti-coronavirus vaccines.

Tope told reporters that the US, UK and many

countries in Europe have lifted restrictions related to mandatory masks. In Maharashtra, it has been made voluntary, he said.

To a question whether the state government was taking a risk by lifting the

mask mandate, the health minister said, The chief minister and others (cabinet colleagues) have consulted the State Task Force on COVID-19 and the health department before taking this decision.

Notably, on Wednesday Tope had said that looking at the rise in coronavirus cases in many countries it would not be right to take the risk of doing away with the mask mandate in Maharashtra.

The state government has already eased restrictions on movement and gathering as new cases started declining after the third wave, driven by the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV2, abated by the end of January.

With the lifting of norms, Gudhi Padwa processions can take place without any restrictions this year, Tope said.

According to the health ministry data, India has recorded a total of 4,24,89,004 coronavirus cases so far, of which Maharashtra, a state with a high urban density, saw 77,25,120, the highest in the country.

COLD BLOODED MURDER

Elderly woman among 3 of family found dead

Raigarh, Mar 31:

A 65-year-old woman, her son and minor granddaughter were found dead in their hut in a village in Raigarh district on Thursday, police said.

All the bodies bore injury marks inflicted with a blunt object on their heads which suggest they were murdered, they said.

The incident occurred in Dhawaidad village under Kapu police station limits and the deceased were identified as Duhni Bai, her son Amrit Lal (40) and granddaughter Amrita Bai (14), an official here said.

As per preliminary information, the trio had

gone to a nearby forest to collect mahua flowers on Wednesday and returned to their hut, located in the outskirts of the village which is around 250km away from the state capital Raipur, in the night, he said.

Some local residents spotted them lying in a pool of blood on Thursday morning following which police were informed, he said.

Circumstantial evidence suggests the three were hit on their heads with a stone resulting in their death. However, the exact cause of the death will be known only after postmortem, the official said, adding a case has been registered.

Further investigation was underway, he added.

'Modi's friendly advice turned Prakisha Pe Charcha massive'

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for turning Pariksha Pe Charcha a massive people's movement. Posting a series of tweets a day before the event is scheduled, Pradhan said that Modi's friendly advice and guidance like a family's elderly person turned the event into a mass movement. He said the event was a special and a most sought after day for the student community, and that enthusiasm for it was unmatched. The minister exhorted people to join the session which will begin at 11 am at Talkatora Stadium here. The event, where the prime minister interacts with students, is being organised for the last four years by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. The first three editions of it were held in New Delhi in an interactive town-hall format.

'Unmarried daughter can claim marriage expenses from parents'

Raipur, Mar 31:

The Chhattisgarh High Court has ruled that an unmarried daughter can claim the expenses of marriage from her parents under the provisions of the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956.

A division bench of the high court in Bilaspur was hearing a petition filed by a 35-year-old woman, Rajeshwari, a native of Chhattisgarh's Durg district.

The bench of Justices Goutam Bhaduri and Sanjay S Agrawal on March 21 allowed her plea for hearing by admitting that an unmarried daughter can claim the amount of her marriage from her parents under the provisions of the Hindu



Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, said the petitioner's advocate A K Tiwari.

The bench set aside the order dated 22 April 2016 passed by the Principal Judge of family court Durg and remanded the matter to the family court for adjudication of the same on merits in the spirit of Section 3(b) (ii) of the Act of 1956. The court has directed the parties to appear before the family court.

The petitioner, daughter of an employee of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) Bhanu

SC directs Sharad Yadav to vacate bungalow

By May 31

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Supreme Court on Thursday granted former Union minister Sharad Yadav time till May 31, 2022 to vacate the official bungalow allotted to him as a member of Parliament on humanitarian ground.

The top court asked Yadav to furnish an undertaking within a week to the effect that he will vacate the bungalow by then. In the event of failure to submit the undertaking within a week, Yadav will have to vacate the premises immediately in compliance of an order of the Delhi high court. A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud, Sanjiv Khanna and Surya Kant said, Having heard the counsel, we are of the view that end of justice would be met purely on humanitarian ground, if time to vacate the premises is granted to



the petitioner under May 31, 2022 subject to his filing an undertaking that he shall vacate on or before the said date. It said, The undertaking shall be filed within a period of one week from today failing which the petitioner shall lose the benefit of this order and would be liable to vacate immediately as per the order of the High Court.

At the outset, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Yadav, submitted that it may be possible to resolve the matter at this stage, if reasonable time is granted to the petitioner to vacate the premises.

About the case

The petitioner, daughter of an employee of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) Bhanu Ram, filed a petition in Durg family court under Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, and made a claim that maintenance to the tune of around Rs 20 lakh be given to her in the mode of marriage expense. The family court had on 7 January 2016 dismissed the application by stating that there is no provision in the Act that a daughter can claim the amount of her marriage.

HC order

Challenging the order of the family court, Rajeshwari had moved the high court stating that as per the law, an unmarried daughter can demand the expenses of marriage from her father, claiming that the expense comes under the purview of maintenance, Tiwari said. The bench considered the decision as significant and it has been approved for reporting (AFR), he said, explaining that the case would now be given place in all the law books.

Ram, filed a petition in Durg family court under Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, and made a claim that maintenance to the tune of around Rs 20 lakh be given to her in the mode of

marriage expense. The family court had on 7 January 2016 dismissed the application by stating that there is no provision in the Act that a daughter can claim the amount of her marriage.

ED raids lawyer who filed petitions against Fadnavis

Nagpur, Mar 31 (PTD):



Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). The Mumbai unit of the central agency searched the premises in connection with some land transactions, the police official said. The lawyer's close aide later said that Uke and his brother were taken to the ED office located in Seminary Hills area for interrogation around 11 am. "The officials also brought with them Uke's laptop, some documents and four cellphones belonging to his

Lawyer arrested in money laundering case

The ED on Thursday arrested Nagpur-based lawyer Satish Uke and his brother Pradeep in connection with a money laundering investigation, officials said. They said the two were taken into custody under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and are expected to be produced before a court on Friday. The lawyer, who has filed petitions against senior BJP leader and former Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis in the last few years, was raided by the central probe agency since early morning. Officials claimed the money laundering case against the brothers is related to the purchase of an about 1.5 acre land in Nagpur sometime back and the documents used for the land purchase were allegedly forged.

family members to the ED office for examination," he said. Uke has filed several petitions in courts against BJP leaders, especially former Maharashtra chief minister Fadnavis. In one of his applications, he had sought criminal proceedings against Fadnavis for

the "non-disclosure" of criminal cases in his election affidavit.

Uke has alleged that the BJP leader filed a false affidavit in 2014 by hiding two criminal cases - of cheating and forgery - registered against him in 1996 and 1998.

Extra attempt in UPSC exam

SC asks Govt to consider representation in light of committee report

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Supreme Court Thursday asked the Centre to consider the representation of some aspirants, who could not appear in the UPSC civil services main examination after being infected with COVID-19 and are now seeking an additional attempt, in light of the recommendation made in a recent parliamentary committee report.

In the March 24 report, the committee has said that keeping in view the hardships faced by the student community during the first and second waves of COVID-19, it recommends the government to change its mind and sympa-

thetically consider the demand of civil services examination (CSE) aspirants and grant an extra attempt with corresponding age relaxation to all candidates.

The Centre had last week told the apex court that additional attempt in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) civil services examination is not possible. A bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar was hearing a plea filed by three aspirants who had cleared the UPSC 2021 prelims exam but could not appear in all papers of the main exam after testing positive for COVID-19 and are now seeking an extra attempt to appear in the exams.

Islamabad, Mar 31 (PTD):

Pakistan's National Assembly session was on Thursday adjourned abruptly till Sunday after opposition lawmakers demanded an immediate vote on a no-confidence motion against embattled Prime Minister Imran Khan who has effectively lost majority in the lower house.

As soon as the National Assembly session began at the Parliament House, Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri opened the floor for questions. However, opposition lawmakers demanded an immediate vote on



the no-confidence motion amid chants of "go Imran go".

Suri termed the opposition's attitude "non-serious" and adjourned the session till 11:30 am Sunday when the vote on the no-confidence motion is expected to take place. The deputy speaker also

announced that the meeting of the parliamentary committee would be held in Committee Room No 2.

Earlier, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Babar Awan moved a motion to adjourn the session so the assembly hall could be used for the Parliamentary Committee on National Security's meeting. The motion was rejected after voting. The resolution against the embattled premier was tabled by the Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Shehbaz Sharif on March 28 and it was approved for debate the very same day.

BEST MARCHING CONTINGENT



Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R. Hari Kumar and the Naval Contingent pose with the Best Marching Contingent Trophy for Republic Day Parade 2022.

NEET-PG

SC cancels AIQ mop-up round counselling

Over anomalies in 146 fresh seats

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Supreme Court on Thursday cancelled the All India Quota mop-up round counselling for NEET-PG 2021-22 admissions to resolve the anomalies over 146 fresh seats, which were not available for candidates who participated in round one and two of the process.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud, Surya Kant and Bela M Trivedi directed holding of a special round of counselling for 146 fresh seats and allowed the students, who

have joined the All India Quota (AIQ) or state quota in round two to participate in it. The bench directed the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) to invite options from students within 24 hours and complete the process within 72 hours after the cut-off time for the options. The bench clarified that all the directions have been issued in exercise of its jurisdiction under Article 142 of the Constitution. At the outset, additional solicitor general Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, said that DGHS has decided to drop the 146 fresh seats, which were added for the first time in the mop-up round.

An artist must have self-trust and courage to try something unique, says Madan Lal

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: The career in arts is full of challenges. An artist has to face a number of practical problems in day to day life. A large number of youth get attracted towards fine arts and other art forms and try to make their career. But there are only a few who continue practicing arts throughout their life. The challenges will continue to test your commitment and perseverance all over, said renowned sculptor Madan Lal Gupta during a conversation with Central Chronicle.

An internationally acclaimed sculptor, Madan Lal is a professor of fine arts in Banaras Hindu University. He was in Bhilai for the past one week to conduct the national sculpture workshop organised here under the joint aegis of Lalit Kala



Academy, New Delhi and Bhilai Steel Plant. During the workshop, he gave valuable guidance to the young talents. He further said that as the workshop was of very short period, most of the artists decided to go with the popular designs and did not try something unique. All the participat-

ing artists are very hard-working and dedicated and are doing their job sincerely and seriously. He emphasised that the artists must develop the capacity and courage to bring uniqueness in his art work. "Let the art take over your soul and take your imagination to new level", he said.

Another significant aspect is the strong self-trust. The artist must have confidence over his piece of art. "The people / audiences will try to pull your legs and demoralise you but if you have an unbreakable self-trust, no one will be able to stop you", the veteran Sculptor stated on the basis of his 45-years-long experience. It needs to be mentioned here that Madan Lal is presently applying geometrical designs in his sculptures. He is also renowned for his innovations in Bricks. He was born in the year 1954 in Lalganj Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh. His acquaintance with the aroma and beauty of trees and other plants; regular roaming around the village fields, ponds and lakes; these experiences and reminiscences and other festivities imprinted vividly in his sub-conscious. In class Xth,

Wordsworth's poem 'Daffodils', opened a new world before the sculptor's eye. The wondering eyes of young artist found a new world of literature and fine arts. In his early life his teachers noticed the young child's creative restlessness and advised him to study Visual-Arts at Banaras Hindu University.

His primary mentor, sculptor Ram Chhatpar motivated and guided him to expand his creative interest beyond sculpture to other artistic disciplines, such as painting, music and literature. In 1976, he met eminent sculptor Sankho Chaudhuri and was immediately captivated by his oeuvre and aura. Madan Lal profoundly influenced by mentors in his professional and academic career of sculpture; founded Ram Chhatpar Shilp Nyas India.

Man arrested for wife's murder

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Police have arrested a person on charges of killing his wife. After committing the crime, the accused had injured himself with a knife. He was admitted to the hospital for about one month. Police were constantly watching him and arrested him immediately after his discharge from the hospital.

The accused is identified as Poshan Lal Sahu (42) son of Motiram Sahu a resident of village Kirki (Bemetara). He was presently residing in Arya Nagar, Kohka. On March 07, police had received information that a lady Sadhna Sahu has been murdered by her husband Poshanlal Sahu at village Kolihapuri.

Police team immediately reached the spot and



found the lady lying dead in a pool of blood. The suspect Poshan Lal was also lying injured at the same spot. He was immediately admitted to the hospital.

During investigation, police discovered that Poshan Lal often quarrelled with his wife and suspected her fidelity. The lady had left home with her children and was residing at Kolihapuri.

A dispute between them was under trial at Family Court also. On March 31, Poshan Lal was discharged from the hospital after which police arrested him immediately. He confessed to have murdered his wife with an axe. Later, he injured himself with a knife. Police have booked him under the provisions mentioned in section 302 of IPC.

BSP to bear college education expenses of tribal girls of Abujhmad

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Ranjeeta Uike who hails from Akabeda, a village deep inside forest area of Abujhmad in Bastar is one of the many beneficiaries of SAIL- Bhilai Steel Plant's CSR activities in Rowghat region. Her entire college education expenses are being borne by SAIL-BSP.

SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant has undertaken many activities for upliftment of life of tribal population living in the buffer zone area around its Rowghat Iron Ore Project in Bastar. The area is having inadequate health infrastructure such as hospitals, doctors and other paramedical support.

Other than the Vivekanand Vidyapeeth run by Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Narayanpur, there are hardly any good schools in the region. Providing med-



ical & health services and good schooling facilities for children from the tribal region have therefore been two key areas in which SAIL-BSP is carrying out its CSR activities.

Member of a tribal family residing in Akabeda in Abujhmad, Ranjeeta Uike did her schooling from Vivekanand Vidyapeeth. A meritorious student, she had cleared the tough JEE entrance exams and got admission in IIT, Dhanbad, where she is presently studying with Integrated Science and Mathematics as her subjects.

SAIL-BSP has offered to bear the entire expenditure for Ranjeeta's five-year

course at IIT, Dhanbad. A cheque for Rs 2 lakhs was handed over to Ranjeeta by Manas Biswas, ED (Mines & Rowghat), Bhilai Steel Plant on March 30, 2022, in presence of Swami Vyaptanand, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Narayanpur, senior officers of Mines Dept and other monks of the Ashram.

The amount is the first instalment to cover her first year college fees etc. It is worth mentioning that besides providing mobile medical services to the population in 22 buffer zone villages surrounding in collaboration with Ramakrishna Mission

Ashram, Narayanpur, SAIL-BSP has set up the region's first English Medium School at Antagarh.

The DAV Rowghat Ispat Sr Secondary Public School entirely funded by BSP has more than 300 students on roll from Class 1 to 6. BSP also inducts 10 children from Rowghat region for school education. All these and others from Dalli-Rajhara region study from Class 6 to 10 at Rajhara and Class 11-12 in Bhilai Vidyalaya

SAIL-BSP is also providing nursing education to tribal girls from interior areas around Rowghat. More than 180 girls have so far been provided nursing education at two colleges in Bhilai. Tribal youth from affected families of Rajhara to Rowghat railway line project are also being trained in ITI and then given employment in SAIL-BSP.

Swacchata Pakhwada concludes with mass cleanliness drive

Central Chronicle News



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Cleanliness drive carried out by Bhilai Steel Plant as part of Swacchata Pakhwada concluded on Thursday with about a hundred employees from Town Services Department and Education Department

undertaking a special drive to clean New Civic Centre area. About 25 sacks-full of plastic were collected transforming the area. Executive Director (Personnel & Administration) KK Singh also partook in the swacchata activities. He also interacted with local residents living nearby



and sought their suggestions to keep the area clean. Singh led all participants of the drive to take the Swacchata pledge. Another mass cleanliness drive was undertaken around Jayanti Stadium area on March 30, 2022 under the leadership of U K Jha, CGM Town Services. Public Health

Dept under TSD distributed T-shirts to all participants. The Swacchata Pakhwada activities in the township area have been coordinated by Sunil Chaurasia, AGM, PHD. The cleanliness drive was undertaken under the leadership of Radhika Srinivasan, GM, TSD and G K Dubey, GM, TSD.

Sinter Plants & Blast Furnace 4 record new highs in production

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Bhilai Steel Plant's sinter plants and blast furnaces have concluded the year with some best ever monthly performances.

The Plant's sinter plants 2 and 3 combined to set a new monthly record of 7,33,970 T sinter production one day before the month of March 22 concludes, surpassing the previous

best of 7,33,904 T in March 21.

The Plant's Blast Furnace 4 also set a new record for best month by producing 77,375 T of hot metal one day before the month of March 22 concludes, surpassing previous best of 76,365 T in August 2017.

Blast Furnace 5 set a new day record of 3356 T hot metal on 30th March 22, surpassing previous best day record of 3337 T on 17th May 21.

Police crackdown on online betting racket; three arrested

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: With the arrest of three ruffians, Durg Police claimed to have busted a major racket which was involved in online betting. The accused were creating online IDs on a portal named "Ledger Book".

They were accepting bets on cricket matches, horse racing, greyhound racing, Kabaddi and other games. Police have discovered betting records to the tune of Rs 25 lakhs.

Police have seized Rs 16500 cash, 02 nos laptops, 10 nos mobile phones, 30 passbooks of

15 different banks, 61 nos Debit and credit cards of different banks, 39 nos cheque books from the possession of the accused. Police are collecting information about the debit and credit cards. The bank accounts of the accused have been frozen.

SSP Badri Narayan Meena informed that Durg Police is conducting a continuous campaign against gambling, online betting and other illegal activities. In this sequence, Inspector Jitendra Yadav (SHO, Mohan Nagar) received a tip off regarding online cricket betting.



Acting on this tip off, police conducted a raid at a rented house located in street number 01 of Pushpak Nagar. Three persons were arrested from this house.

The accused Alok Singh

Rajput, Khadag Singh Rajput and Rampravesh Sahu had created online IDs on the Ledger Book and were accepting bets on IPL cricket matches, Horse racing, greyhound racing and kabaddi.

They had provided online IDs to Abhishek, Pintu and others. Police recovered Rs 16500 cash, 02 nos laptops, 10 nos mobile phones, 30 passbooks of 15 different banks, 61 nos Debit and credit cards of different banks, 39 nos cheque books from the possession of the accused.

Police found online transactions to the tune of Rs 25 lakhs made through the laptops. The accused have been booked under the provisions mentioned in Section 4A of the Gambling Act.

Inspector Jitendra Verma (SHO, Mohan Nagar), Inspector Virendra Srivastava

(SHO, Vaishali nagar), ASI Pramod Singh, Constable Manip Agnihotri, Prashant Patankar, Naveen Yadav, Amar Singh, Debravat Singh and Cyber Cell played a vital role in arresting the accused.

The accused are identified as Alok Singh Rajput (32) son of Sudarshan Singh Rajput a resident of Pushpak Nagar; Khadag Singh Rajput (29) son of Kamlesh Singh Rajput a resident of Surya Nagar Tata Line Camp 02; and Rampravesh Sahu (22) son of Devanand Sahu a resident of Contractor Colony Government Hospital Supela.

Satyawan Nayak lifts Champions Trophy of Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Senior Manager in SAIL-BSP's Public Relations Department, Satyawan Nayak lifted the prestigious Champions Trophy of Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 organized by Rajbhasha Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant.

The last phase of Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 was organized in the Ispat Bhawan auditorium. Chief General Manager (C&IT) Prem Kumar Jha was present in this competition as the chief guest. The top five teams of the

plant gave their presentations. Senior Manager, Public Relations Department Satyawan Nayak was successful in winning the title of winner through his article and presentation in the Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 organized in two phases.

According to the rules of this competition, the Rajbhasha Coordinating Officer of the department who wins the title is also honored. Under this rule, Senior Manager Satyawan Nayak, being the Rajbhasha Coordinating Officer of the Public Relations Department,



was also honored with a plaque at the function. Thus, Nayak was able to achieve double success.

General Manager In-charge (MS), Subrata

Prahraj, General Manager (C&IT) Sameer Gupta, General Manager (PPC) Sanjay Kumar, General Manager (SMS-2) Dinamani Nayak, General

Manager (URM) Shishir Shukla and Deputy General Manager (Personnel-Iron & Steel) Ajay Kumar were present as Judges of the competi-

tion. Congratulating the winners Chief General Manager (C&IT) as the chief guest, Prem Kumar Jha in his succinct re-

marks said that it is a matter of pride for us that the use of Hindi has started increasing in the technical field as well. With the use of Hindi, we will be able to take our team forward. They also praised the efforts of the Rajbhasha Department of BSP.

It may be noted that the Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 was organized by the Rajbhasha Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant.

The theme was "Best performance by solving workplace problems". The competition on this topic was organized in two phases. In which the participating teams of various depart-

ments presented their entries. The top five best teams were invited for presentation in the last phase after evaluating the summary and power point presentation related to the topic by the judges in the first phase. The five teams that reached the final stage included C&IT, RCL, Rajhara Mines, Power & Blowing Station and Public Relations Department.

The program was conducted and coordinated by Assistant Manager (L&A and Rajbhasha) Jitendra Das Manikpuri. Manoj Soni of the Rajbhasha Department proposed the vote of thanks.

CM transfers a total amount of Rs 1124.92 cr

Into the bank accounts of farmers, livestock farmers, landless agri labourers, WSHGs and tendu patta collecting families

Fourth installment of Rs 1029.31 cr

Central Chronicle News



cessing of minor forest produce have positively transformed the rural economy and villages in the state. Today, Godhan Nyay Yojana is being appreciated across the country and many states of the country are looking forward to adopt this scheme of Chhattisgarh Government.

At the programme, Chief Minister transferred a total amount of Rs.1124 crore 92 lakh to the bank accounts of farmers, rural landless agricultural labourers, tendu patta collecting families, cattle rearing villagers, women's groups directly. On this occasion, he inaugurated 4 new sub-divisions and 23 new tehsils in the state. He also launched a web portal to review the redressal of revenue related complaints. For the expansion of Chief Minister's Urban Slum Health Scheme in the municipal councils and nagar panchayats of the state, Mr. Baghel dedicated 60 new medical mobile units.

During the program, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel announced that the honorarium and fi-

- Rural landless labor families provided Rs 71.8 cr as second installment
- Payment of Rs 13.62 cr to cow dung sellers, cattle farmers, Gauthan committees and women's groups
- Insurance claim amount of Rs 10.91 cr to 728 tendu patta collecting families
- Honorarium of Mayor, Chairman, President and

- V-P of Municipal Corporation, Nagar Panchayat and also the honorarium of all the councilors to be doubled, announced Chief Minister
- Funds of Mayors, Presidents and Councilors increased by one and a half times
- Financial power of the officials of urban bodies to be doubled

nancial powers of all the municipal corporations, chairman, speakers and vice-chairman of the municipality as well as of the councilors will be doubled. Likewise the amount for funds of the mayor, chairman and councilor will also be increased by one and a half times. Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel further announced the sanction of Rs 579 crore to all the urban bodies of the state for infrastructure development and public utility works. This includes sanction of Rs 10 crore each to municipal corporations, Rs 5 crores each to municipalities and Rs 3

crores each to nagar panchayats for development works. At the program, Chief Minister transferred an amount of Rs 1029.31 cr to the accounts of 20 lakh 58 thousand farmers of the state as the fourth installment under Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana. In order to provide financial support and justice to rural landless families, Chief Minister deposited an amount of Rs 71 crore 8 lakh in the bank accounts of 3 lakh 55 thousand landless families under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumiless Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana (RGGKMN).

During the program, Chief Minister the payment of Rs 13.62 crore to the cow dung vendors, Gauthan committees and women's groups under Godhan Nyay Yojana. Under this scheme, Rs 226.18 crore has been paid by the state government to the cattle rearers, self-help groups and Gauthan committees. Under Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Collectors Social Security Scheme, an insurance amount of Rs 10 crore 91 lakh was paid to 728 Tendupatta collector families.

Speaker of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Dr. Charan Das Mahant presided over the programme. Former Member of Parliament Mr. P.L. Punia, Agriculture and Water Resources Minister Mr. Ravindra Choubey, Forest Minister Mr. Mohammad Akbar, Urban Administration and Development Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahriya, Revenue Minister Mr. Jai Singh Agrawal also addressed the programme saying that Chhattisgarh the state is writing a new story of development under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel. Today Chhattisgarh model is being discussed all over the country. Chhattisgarh has shown the nation and the world how local resources can be used for development and bring about a positive change in the lives of people.

'JYOT FOR NAVRATRI'



In-charges of different temples are keeping the pots ready for the 'jyots' to be lighted on occasion of 'Chaitra Navratri' starting from April 2.

Bhupesh govt should immediately hike DA of govt employees: Sai

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday said that the state government should increase the Dearness Allowance of the State Government employees online with the benefits passed by Centre to central government employees. In a statement issued here, the State BJP President Vishnu Deo Sai said that instead of criticizing Centre on every issues, the Chief Minister



Bhupesh Baghel should immediately increase the DA of the employees as well as Pensioners. He also had a dig on Chief

Minister over his comment on increase of Rs 11 per day of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and added that daily wage of Rs 204 is appropriate. He also alleged that the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel is patronizing the corruption being practiced by Congress leaders across Chhattisgarh. Sai also reminded him about the reported irregularities in distribution of ration for weaker section of society.

Assembly Secretariat bid farewell to PS Gangrade

Dinesh Sharma to assume office as new Administrative Head on Friday

Central Chronicle News



from time to time to ensure a strong Parliamentary arrangement during the proceedings of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly. He added that the contribution of Gangrade with his Parliamentary experience and knowledge would always be remembered in Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly.

Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Leader of Opposition Dharmial

Kaushik, Deputy Speaker Manoj Singh Mandavi and Assembly Secretary Dinesh Sharma shared their experience in their association with outgoing Principal Secretary Gangrade. It is notable that after retirement, the Principal Secretary Gangrade was twice given extension for a period of 6 months each and another term of 3 months before formally retiring here on Thursday.

Congress launches 'Mehangai mukth Bharat Abhiyan'

Raipur, Mar 31: All the district organisations of Congress staged massive protest against increasing price hike in petrol, diesel, LPG and other important commodities by the Modi government at the Centre and registered protest using empty a garlanded LPG cylinder and a two-wheeler as symbol of protest and playing a 'bell' launched its 'Mehangai Mukth Bharat Abhiyan' at Rajiv Gandhi Chowk, near Netaji Subhash Stadium here on Thursday. In the protest held in capital city, PCC state in-Charge PL Punia, PCC Chief Mohan Markam took part in the protest. The Congmen also



launched protest putting cylinders in front of their houses and at many places they beat 'Nagadas' to protest. This particular campaign of PCC would be launched in three different phases.

Congress state in-Charge PL Punia said that in the year 2014 the cost of petrol was Rs 64 per litre and diesel at Rs 55 per litre and the same has now crossed Rs 100 each. The price of

LPG earlier was Rs 450 per cylinder and it has now being hiked to Rs 1051 per cylinder. Similarly the central government has increased the Excise duty in last 8 years and recovered total of Rs 26 lakh crore from it. Punia charged that it is only profiteering which the central government is worried about and is least bothered about the common men. PCC Chief Mohan Markam said that

with hike in prices of diesel, the cost of other day-to-day products has increased manifold. BJP had come to power with promise to bring 'good days ahead', but with all this people are now being made to face 'bad-days'. BJP is literally attacking in the pockets of common men and it is Congress which is struggling for them.

This inflation-free Bharat Abhiyan was held in Raipur urban and rural, Balodabazar, Gariyaband,

Mahasamund, Dhamtari, Balod, Durg Urban and Rural area, Bhilai city, Bemetara, Rajnandgaon urban and rural areas; Jagdalpur urban and rural areas, Sukma, Narayanpur, Kondagaon, Bijapur, Kanker, Dantewada, Bilaspur urban and rural areas; Gorela, Pendra, Marwahi, Mungeli, Korba urban and rural areas; Raigarh rural, Jashpur, Surguja, Balrampur, Koriya and all other district headquarters.

Prices increased after elections: CM

Speaking to media persons at the airport CM Bhupesh Baghel said that till the elections in the five states, there was no hike in the prices of fuel, LPG or other commodities and no sooner the elections are over the prices have been hiked. Baghel said that there is shortfall in the prices of crude oil at international level and questioned as to why the prices of fuel have been hiked.

More than 40000 candidates participated in the Mahapariksha campaign



Raipur, Mar 31: Many interesting sights were seen in the student assessment under the read-write campaign. In spite of the scorching heat, the examinees took part enthusiastically in the Mahapariksha campaign. Large number of seniors and youngsters from various parts of the state participated in the examination.

Under the direction of Rajesh Singh Rana, Director and Member Secretary of State Literacy Mission Authority, in many districts, volunteer teachers including the Chairman of District Literacy Mission Authority and Collector, CEO, District Panchayat, District Education Officer, Principal, Diet and teachers participated enthusiastically. Additional Director of State Council of Educational Research and Training Dr. Yogesh Shivhare and Assistant Director and Nodal Officer of State Literacy Mission

Authority Mr. Prashant Kumar Pandey visited Gogaon examination center in Raipur district. Dinesh Kumar Tank, Assistant Director of State Literacy Mission Authority visited Durg District Examination Center. Monitoring was done by Project Advisor, Reading and Writing Campaign Mrs. Nidhi Agarwal and Ms. Neha Shukla. Similarly, at the district level, observations were made by Collector, Ward Corportor, Joint Director, Public Education Office, District Education Officer, Principal, District Education and Training Institute, District Project Officer, District Mission Coordinator, Samagra Shiksha. The State Control Room was established in the State Literacy Mission Authority office and the District Control Room in the Collectorate of District Headquarters or District Panchayat.

Regional Saras Mela: Tremendous enthusiasm among people

For natural products made by the women self-help groups of 'Bihaan'.

Raipur, Mar 31: The 10-day regional Saras Mela was inaugurated by the Chairman of Chhattisgarh Housing Board, Mr. Kuldeep Singh Juneja, at Chhattisgarh Haat complex at Pandri, Raipur. The fair has been organized for the exhibition and sale of products manufactured by women self-help groups formed under Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission (BIHAN). The program started with a state song.

Juneja encouraged the craftsmen by visiting the stalls at the exhibition site. People are easily attracted towards the natural products made by the women self-help groups of 'Bihaan'. In the program, Director Village Industries, Sudhakar Khalkho, State Director of Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission, Mrs Iffat Ara, Joint Mission Director, R.K. Jha was also



present. In the ten-day fair, along with Chhattisgarh, materials made by rural communities of many states have been displayed. Food stalls of Chhattisgarhi cuisine have been set up in the fair. Attractive presentation of cultural programs by folk artists was also staged. The fair will be organized every day from 11 am to 9 pm and people visiting the exhibition will also be able to enjoy the cultural evening. The regional Saras Mela has been organized under the Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission - "Bihan" scheme, run by the Panchayat and Rural Development Department of the State Government for the prosperity and employment of the villages. In the fair, arrangements have been made for exhibition-

cum-sale of many unique organic products manufactured by women self-help groups formed in rural areas of the state under 'Bihaan'. The products of village industries like kosa, silk, khadi, handloom, bell metal, terracotta, bamboo, wood crafts etc. are available for exhibition and sale. Chemical free special products like aromatic rice, black rice, spices, oil, rare forest produce based products, honey etc. have also been made available for sale in the fair from different districts of the state. Excellent products made by rural women from many states including Assam, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan are also available for exhibition-cum-sale in the fair.

Govt extends date of Property Tax deposit till April 15

Raipur, Mar 31: Chhattisgarh government on Thursday extended the last date of submission of Property Tax for 15 days following instructions from the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel here.

Now the Public can deposit the Property Tax in Civic Bodies till April 15 as the March 31 was so far last date of the submission of Property Tax. Similarly, the Urban Administration Department has provided a relaxation of 15 days to Public for the submission of Property Details and subsequent Property Tax. Order issued here stated that the officials have been directed to ensure social distancing in maintained during the payment of Property Tax during the working hours in government offices. Administration has also advocated for door to door visit for collection of the outstanding Property Tax or encourage people to make online payments against Property Tax.

CM launches online monitoring portal

To review the resolution of revenue cases

Continuous monitoring of revenue cases will also be done from the CM's office

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Thursday launched an online monitoring portal to review the disposal of revenue cases within the stipulated time frame, from his residence office here. Through this portal, continuous monitoring of revenue works including name transfer, account division, demarcation, diversion and tree felling can be done. Chief Minister's Office, Revenue Minister's office and senior officials concerned.

Revenue cases should be resolved within the time limit under the Public Service Guarantee

Act. However, the common citizens face a lot of troubles due to delay in disposal of revenue cases. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel gave instructions to the Revenue Department to make arrangements for online monitoring of disposal of revenue cases keeping in view convenience of common citizens and for constant review of revenue cases.

An online monitoring portal has been added in 'Bhuiyan' software for redressal of unresolved cases of name transfer, account division, demarcation, diversion and tree felling, whose deadline has been crossed. In a bid to ensure timely disposal of cases, monitoring will be done directly from Chief Minister's Office, Revenue Minister's Office, Chief Secretary's Office, Revenue Department Secretary, Director Land Records, Divisional Commissioner and District Collector's level through the monitoring portal.

Baghel made several important announcements to strengthen the local self-govt

An amount of Rs 579 cr will be approved for the development of cities

Approval of Rs 5 cr for development works in municipalities, Rs 3 cr for Nagar Panchayats

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has made several important announcements to strengthen local self-government in a programme organized at his residence office here today. Chief



Minister Baghel has announced to sanction Rs 5 crore for infrastructural development in all the municipalities of the state and development works worth Rs 3 crore for Nagar Panchayats. Similarly, an amount of Rs 140 crore has also been announced for development work in 14 municipal corporations of the state. In this way, a total of

Rs 579 crore has been announced by the Chief Minister for strengthening the local self-government.

In a bid to fulfill the concept of empowering local self-government, the Chief Minister has announced to double the existing financial powers of all the office bearers of urban bodies. Mr. Baghel also announced to double

the honorarium of all the mayors, chairman, president of all municipalities and Nagar Panchayats, vice-presidents and all councilors of the state besides announcing to hike mayor, president and councilors fund by one and half times. This has been done to encourage public representatives of urban bodies to do better development work in their areas. Chief Minister said in his address that it is the result of the hard work and dedication of the people's representatives of the urban bodies of the state that Chhattisgarh has achieved the title of cleanest state of the country three times in a row.

More than 10 lakh household tap connections

Raipur, Mar 31: As per the directions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudrakumar, pure drinking water is being supplied in rural areas of the state. A total of 10 lakh 2 thousand 756 household tap connections have been installed in the state so far under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Work is being done expeditiously to complete the works of Jal Jeevan Mission in the stipulated time frame. Detailed review of the works of solar based, retrofitting, multi village and single village schemes is being done from time to time by Jal Jeevan Mission Director Mr. Topeshwar Verma. He has instructed the officials concerned to make arrangements for running water in schools, sub-health centers and Anganwadi centers, ISA training and complete the work of wall writing and painting to promote the works of Jal Jeevan Mission in a time bound manner.

FIRE IN THANA



Fire broke out in Pandri thana area and in this many seized vehicles parked inside were gutted in fire.

CM to visit Sakti, Patan today

● Baghel to attend the Chetrichand Festival to be held in capital city Raipur

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will be on a visit to Sakti, the development block headquarters of Janjgir-Champa district and Patan development block of Durg district on April 1 and he will attend various programs there. Chief Minister will return to Raipur at 6.30 pm and attend the Chetrichand festival at 8.30 pm at Hotel Sayaji, Raipur.

According to the tour schedule, Chief Minister will leave from Police Ground Raipur at 11.20 am and reach Sakti, the development block headquarters of Janjgir-Champa district at 12 noon. After attending the welcome

program at Sakti's Kachahri Chowk, he will unveil the statue of Late Bisahu Das Mahant at Hatri Chowk. Chief Minister will address the general assembly at 1.15 pm at Budhwari Bazar Ground in Sakti, after inaugurating and laying the foundation for various development works.

After the program, he will leave for Kesra village of Patan development block in Durg district via helicopter and will attend the program of Chhattisgarh Dadsena Kalar Samaj at 3.30 pm. Chief Minister will reach village Borenda by car at 4.10 pm and will attend the convention of Nishad Samaj at Shri Ram Mandir there. After this, he will reach Patan at 5 pm and will inaugurate the Hamar Lab at the Community Health Center there. Mr. Baghel return to Raipur at 6.30 pm.

CM launches 4 new sub-divisions and 23 new Tehsils

In the state for strengthening revenue administration

Ch'garh now has a total of 100 sub-divisions and 202 Tehsils

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the state government is continuously working to bridge the gap between people and the administration under administrative decentralization in the state. In this line, Chief Minister inaugurated 4 new revenue sub-divisions and 23 new Tehsils in the state in a programme organized at

his residence office today. At present there are 96 sub-divisions and 179 Tehsils in Chhattisgarh. The introduction of new sub-divisions and Tehsil will facilitate in the smooth implementation of government schemes and strengthening administration.

The four new sub-divisions launched by Chief Minister today include Tokapal in Jagdalpur district, Marwahi in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district, Bhayathath in Surajpur district and Mainpur in Gariaband district. Similarly, new Tehsils launched today include Sipat and Bodri in Bilaspur district, Sakola (Kotmi) in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district, Adhbar in Janjgir-Champa district, Sariya and Chhal in Raigarh dis-

trict, Barpali, Ajarbahar and Pasan in Korba district, Chando, Raghunathnagar and Dora-Kochli in Balrampur-Ramanujan district, Biharpur in Surajpur district, Suhela and Bhatagaon in Balodabazar-Bhatapara district, Ahiwara in Durg district, Nandghat in Bemetera district, Sarona in North Bastar Kanker district, Barsoor in South Bastar Dantewada district, Kutru and Gangaloor in Bijapur district and Chhote Dongar and Kohkameta in Narayanpur district.

With the addition of 4 new sub-divisions and 23 new Tehsils, now there will be a total of 100 sub-divisions and 202 Tehsils in the state. Speaker of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Dr. Charandas

Mahant, former Rajya Sabha MP P.L. Punia, Revenue Minister Mr. Jai Singh Agrawal, Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey, Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahriya, Excise Minister Kawasi Lakhma, Women and Child Development Minister Anila Bhediya, Food Minister Amarjeet Bhagat, Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar, Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudra Kumar along with other Parliamentary Secretaries and MLAs, Chief Secretary Mr. Amitabh Jain, Additional Chief Secretary Mr. Subrat Sahoo and senior administrative officials were present on the launch occasion.



Students took out rallies, take part in competitions

● Amrit Mahotsav

Central Chronicle News

Konta/Sukma, Mar 31: Under the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence 2022, on Thursday under the guidance of Sukma district administration, a tricolor rally and various competitions were organized in Kumharras. In the program organized in the post and pre matric hostel Sukma, first of all the students took out a rally and remembered the brave martyrs of the country by shouting slogans of Jai Cheer. A meeting was or-

ganized after the rally. Speeches, Desh Bhakti songs were presented by the students. Along with this, students who have done excellent work in education, sports, invention and other fields were also rewarded.

Deputy Collector Shrikant Korram, Ajay Modiyam, Assistant Commissioner Tribal Development Ganesh Sori, who were present as special guests in this dignified program, addressed the students and inspired them to illuminate their names by doing special work in education, sports and other fields.

Healthcare facilities now available at the doorstep of people

In Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats

CM launches the expanded version of CMUSHS by flagging off 60 MMUs

Raipur, Mar 31: With an aim to provide people an easy access to health services in the close vicinity of their homes, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel flagged off 60 mobile medical units for all the municipalities and nagar panchayats of the state, under the expansion program of Chief Minister Urban Slum Health Scheme.

Chief Minister Urban Slum Health Scheme was launched on 01 November 2020 to provide health services to people in urban areas at their doorstep. In the first phase, doctors have been providing their services

through 60 Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) ambulances in all 14 municipal corporations. At the medical camps held under the scheme, beneficiaries are provided free consultation, treatment, medicines and lab test facilities through the Mobile Medical Units. Under this scheme, Dai Didi clinics have also been started to provide better health services to women near their homes.

As the first phase of the scheme turned out to be a resounding success, State Government has decided to expand the implementation of this scheme in all the municipalities and nagar panchayats of the state. In the next phase, health services will be provided to the people in the municipalities and city panchayats through 60 new mobile medical units. The scheme has been expanded to Panchayats as well. On this occasion,

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Dr. Charandas Mahant, Rajya Sabha MP Mr. P.L. Punia, Home Minister Mr. Tamradhwaj Sahu, Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey, Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahria, Excise Minister Kawasi Lakhma, Women and Child Development Minister Anila Bhediya, Revenue Minister Jaisingh Agarwal, Food Minister Amarjeet Bhagat, Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar, Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudra Kumar, several Parliamentary Secretaries and MLAs, Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain, Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo, Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh and senior administrative officers of the concerned departments were also present.

Sahu Community take out rally



● On Bhakt Mata Karma jayanti

Raipur, Mar 31: 1006th birth anniversary of Bhakt Mata Karma jayanti was celebrated under the supervision of District Sahu Sangh president Meghraj Sahu and shobha yatra was taken out from G u d h i y r a i, Ramsagarpara, Telghani

Naka Chowk to Karma Dham Krishna nagar Santoshi Nagar. After Shobha Yatra reached Karma Dham Mata Karma Ashram, nuptial knot was tied of 19 couples and they were blessed by State Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu.

On this office bearers of Sahu Community and many others were present in large number.

Baghel will bestow Rs 226 cr for the devp works in Sakti on April 1

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will bestow an amount of Rs 226 crore 26 lakh 90 thousand on April 1 for 30 different works in Sakti, the constituency of Janjgir-Champa district. These development works will include the inauguration of 11 different works worth Rs 13 crore 67 lakh 80 thousand and 19 works costing Rs 212 crore 59 lakh including Bhoomipujan.

Among the works that the Chief Minister will inaugurate in Sakti, he will also inaugurate 4 roads constructed at a cost of 10.79 crores. These include the Markamgodhi to Khushudera Amlidih approach road at a cost of Rs 2.53 crore, the road from the village of Baghoda to Sukharikala at a cost of Rs 2.22 crore, village Kadari to Gatwa road at a cost of Rs 2.50 crore and Sanjaygram to

Basti Baradwar road at a cost of Rs 3.54 lakh is included in these development works. Apart from this, construction of a shed for an oxygen plant in the government hospital building of Sakti at a cost of Rs 20 lakh, 2 units work shed strong room at village Gadgodi at a cost of Rs 30 lakh, Darang Anicut at a cost of Rs 2 crore 5 lakh 70 thousand will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister. Apart from this, the construction of an art and culture room at Bamhanidih's Government Higher Secondary School, Baradwar at a cost of Rs 7 lakh, a laboratory room at a cost of Rs 7.6 lakh, construction of a library room at a cost of Rs 9 lakh, 7 lakh for the construction of computer room in the Government Higher Secondary School, BDM Saragaon will be inaugurated.

Among the works for which the Chief Minister will perform Bhoomi Pujan, under the Jal Avardhan Yojana at a cost of Rs 101 crore 52 lakh, Jal Jeevan mission 96 crores 74 lakh and Grameen Jal praday yojna Similarly, 11 crore for the development works in Achnakmar, Maldi Suvadara, the road from village Bukuramunda Basti to Dhanpur Jarve Marg, from Bailachuha to Jagdalli, CC road from village Dhanpur to village Gudhwa, CC road cum drain construction in village Temer, a bhumiujan will be done for these development works. Moreover, Rs.78 lakh has been sanctioned for all these establishments. Along with this, Bhumi Pujan of Chandra (Chandranahu) social building is included in the municipality Sakti at a cost of 20 lakhs.

GPIL-Ecopel emerge winners of the SAMCT season-12



Raipur, Mar 31: The finals of the Suresh Agrawal Memorial corporate cricket tournament (SAMCT) was played today at Hira Sports ground - VIP road, Fundhar. The finale was in between teams from Infiniti Services and GPIL Ecopel. After winning the toss IS captain Mohd. Israar opted bowling first, the batsman's while losing only 2 wickets made the history of this

12 year long tournament recording 213 runs in a single inning. While playing the next innings the batsmen of Infiniti collapsed in their game at not even the one fourth score of the target and could score only 32 runs losing all the wickets and that's what made Ecopel the winners of the final match which was led by Captain Abhishek Agrawal. The outstanding performanc-



es and half centuries of the batsman like Sawant Singh and Yashwant Dhinwar were the key to the success of the winning team, but what meteorically changed the game was an expert bowler named S. Chandrashekhar Rao who snatched 5 wickets and also taking a Hat trick too, he was also awarded with the best bowler of the series reward. A young bats-

men Mr. Hemant Sahu making 87 runs while not out was felicitated with the man of the match tag, while one more experienced player from the Team Infiniti Mr. Irfan Chagal got rewarded with the Man-of-the-Series trophy. A young batsman from Jindal Steel and Power Limited Raigarh Susantakumar Ghedai was awarded as the best batsman of the tournament.

Stronger public health systems for Primary Health Care System in state

Raipur, Mar 31: Chhattisgarh, USAID's flagship health system strengthening project NISHTHA, implemented by Jhpiego, aims to transform, redesign and re-engineer primary healthcare in India for the provision of equitable, comprehensive and client-centered primary healthcare that contributes to improved health outcomes for India's marginalized and vulnerable populations, including women and girls. NISHTHA's goal is to create a strong, responsive, accessible, sustainable and affordable primary healthcare system that ensures effective delivery of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services and integrating the provision of quality services for control of tuberculosis. NISHTHA is supporting Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in strengthening the delivery of



comprehensive primary healthcare through the Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers program across 12 intervention states including Chhattisgarh. In March 2020, when the entire world was hit by the pandemic, NISHTHA acted swiftly by being the first movers in providing technical support at the national level and state level for a robust and comprehensive COVID-19 response and strengthening the health system's capaci-

ty to make it more resilient for public health threats. This included empowering more than 32,000 frontline workers with the right skills and expertise to prevent and slow the spread, providing technical and policy level support to national and state governments for COVID-19 response; developing risk communication materials to create awareness on COVID-19 prevention and address vaccine hesitancy, supporting local communities, especially vul-

nerable populations, with the tools needed to fight COVID-19 and ensuring continuation of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, as well as other essential services for all sub-sections of the population including marginalized communities. The COVID-19 pandemic also highlighted the importance of strengthening WASH services for improving health outcomes. In view of this, NISHTHA in partnership with Unilever is working towards expanding the reach and impact of healthy hygiene behaviors among targeted communities for improved health and well being. NISHTHA is working closely with Chhattisgarh state government for strengthening comprehensive primary healthcare, strengthening COVID-19 response and improving healthy hygiene behaviours in the community.

Promptly resolve the compensation payment amount under RBC 6-4: Collector

Mahasamund, Mar 31:

District Collector Nilesh Kumar Kshirsagar said that good work is being done by various departments in the flagship schemes of the state government, and its photographs should be kept compulsorily. For better implementation of government schemes, the officers of the concerned department should continuously take feedback from their field level employees and the officers themselves should visit the workplace and observe the work being done by their department, the Collector instructed. The Collector

also instructed officials to resolve pending cases Chief Minister Jan Choupal, Public Service Guarantee, Public Grievance, PM Portal, following the directions of the Hon'ble High Court. He said Rajiv Gandhi Rural Landless Agricultural Mazdoor Nyay Yojana, Survey of Other Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections and allotment and regularization of 7500 square feet of land in urban areas and payment of pending compensation amount under RBC 6-4 should be done according to the target. The Collector also has directed to inspect all the dilapidated

hostels, ashrams and school buildings in the district and submit the security related investigation report. While reviewing the important scheme of the state government, Rajiv Yuva Mitan Club Scheme, he said that under this scheme a club is to be formed in the district. In this regard, Chief Executive Officer of all Janpad Panchayat, Urban Bodies and Chief Municipal Officer of Nagar Panchayat have been directed to examine the applications and take action as well as release the amount to all the sub-divisional officers' revenue clubs constituted.

Diagnostic Multi-lab not established after announcement by CM

Dhantari, Mar 31:

Diagnostic lab has not been established in the region, after eight months of announcement by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Patients and their relatives are here forced to opt the services of private costly labs for diagnostic test ranging from sugar, blood pressure index, thyroid and other such test which accounts for more than 251.

As per reports the CM had announced the establishment of multi labs in the district, but the openings are yet to be practically duplicated on grounds. Itwari Bazar region of the district was chosen for the

laboratory setting and a tender was also passed but owing to the complexities and norms in management and disposal of waste from the laboratory, no operator has shown interest in the proceedings. But according to officials, the operator is solely responsible for the running of the lab, but the management will be undertaken by the Municipality.

What officer says:

"Tender proceedings were announced three times, but no operator came forward to start the setting. A tender will be announced shortly."

R K Padamwar,
Executive Engineer

Weekly deadline meeting concludes

**Koriya, Mar 31:**

Under the chairmanship of Collector Kuldeep Sharma, the weekly deadline meeting was held here in which the Collector directed the Women and Child Development Department to identify the children suffering from the problem of cleft lip, palate, clubfoot in the district, in coordination with the Health Department. The children with deformities

will be treated under the National Child Health Program. He also directed the Health and Women and Child Development Department to make a diet plan for improving the nutrition and hemoglobin of women with mutual coordination and said that the implementation of the action plan would be started through Anganwadis.

Along with this, the Collector also took information about institutional delivery, antenatal care,

Janani Shishu Suraksha Yojana, and Maternity Vandana Yojana and ensured the benefits to the beneficiaries. Here it takes a mention that for making a positive effort towards better health of women in the district, hemoglobin test is being done and free doses of iron sucrose and iron folic acid tablets are being distributed to anemic women at nearby health centers.

On the special initiative of the Collector, Samadhan Tuhar Duar Camp is being organized at the Panchayat level in the district, where possible, cases are also being resolved on the spot. While reviewing the camp in the meeting, the Collector said the resolution of applications like pension received in the camp, new ration card and adding name in ration card would be reviewed daily.

Sukma SP to be honored with DG disc and citation

Konta, Mar 31:

According to the information received, once again SP Sunil Sharma will be honored for efficient leadership of Sukma district's police chief with his hard work and dedication. In the encounter that took place in Murkam Nala Chintalnagar police station area on 26 November 2021, the joint action of CRPF and District Force achieved success due to great co-ordination and efficient leadership, in which the dreaded Naxalite Madvi Bhima (Basta Bhima) was killed. A huge quantity of ammunition was also confiscated. Along



with Sukma SP Sunil Sharma, two DRG jawans Vinay Kumar Dudhi (Head Constable), Soyam Ekka (Head Constable) will also be honored for their good performance.

DPS students to be part of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' today

DC appeals students to take maximum advantage**Rajnandgaon, Mar 31:**

5TH edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC) is all set to happen tomorrow, April 1 at 11 am. The fifth edition of PPC will be observed as an event where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be interacting with not only students but also parents and teachers from all over the nation.

The interaction would be based on overcoming the examination stress and to enjoy the 'Festival of Examination', informs Delhi Public School Rajnandgaon Principal and District Coordinator (DC) Mrs Urmila Dixit. PPC 2022 will be held at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi. Highlighting the mission of Pariksha Pe Charcha, the slogan of the 5th PPC is 'Pariksha Ki

**Mrs Urmila Dixit**

Baat, PM Ke Saath'. According to the Ministry of Education, Pariksha Pe Charcha is an initiative of the larger movement - Exam Warriors.

It is a step taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to ensure the stress-free atmosphere for youngsters during the seasons of examination. Terming Pariksha pe Charcha, a

public movement, DPS Rajnandgaon Principal Mrs Urmila Dixit outlined the importance of this year's PPC in wake of the country coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and exams shifting back to offline mode. Underlining the importance of initiatives like PPC in building the knowledge-based economy of 21st century, she said that PPC is becoming a formal institution through which Prime Minister interacts directly with the students.

Mrs Dixit informed that students can witness the live telecast of PPC and same will also be shown in the school through internet and projector.

She has appealed to all the parents and students to be part of this programme and help themselves beat the exam stress. She added, students can also learn about the new system of examination and better equip themselves to face the examination.

Maniram elected block president

**Masturi, Mar 31:**

Salesman Maniram Kurre was unanimously elected as the vendor union president of Masturi block. All the vendors of the block present in the meeting apprised them of the difficulties faced during the distribution of ration and emphasis was laid on forming an organization by meeting each other's problems. On which state president B.P. Shukla giving

his consent, allowed the formation of the executive committee by mutual agreement. Vendors strengthened the organization by making mutual coordination and formed a new executive committee, in which the salesman Maniram kurre of Masturi was elected as the chairman. Along with this, Arvind Singh Dahria, Ravi Shankar Dhiwar, Secretary Divendra Kant, Secretary, Virendra Anuragi,

Treasurer Shyam Khandekar, General Secretary Hemant Madhukar, Arun Jagande, Spokesperson Umashankar Madhukar and senior seller Parmeshwar Tiwari, Rakesh Gupta, Ramlal Kenwat have been included on the post of Vice President. During this, vendors including Sheikh Afzal, Ram Narayan Bhardwaj, Dhanraj Nayak, Mukesh Patle were present.

Narendra Jain appointed President SJS

Khairagarh, Mar 31: A well-known social service person and established young entrepreneur Narendra Jain has been appointed as President of 'Sakal Jain Srisangh' (SJS). In general meeting of Sangh, Narendra Jain was nominated as the President with full majority. It is notable here that Sakal Jain Srisangh is a well-known institution for social service in Khairagarh region and of which Narendra Jain was serving as Vice-President for last four years. Presently he is also trustee of Shri Jain Pasharnath Jain Shewtamber Mandir Trust and has also served as President of Vyapari Sangh and as President of Government College as well. It is notable here that during Corona pandemic amidst adverse conditions, Narendra Jain with help of different 'Sanghs' passed on benefits to the needy and distributed food and other ration materials to needy persons. The newly elected President of Sakal Jain Shrisangh Khairagarh Narendra Jain was extended greetings by outgoing President



Kamlesh Gidiya, corporator Ajay Jain, Vardhman Sthanakwasi Sangh President Amrutlal Sankhala, Pasharnath Jaini Shewtamber Mandir Trust head trustee Narendar Dakliya, President Digamber Jain Samaj Dulichand Gidiya, President Gyangachch Bhanwar Lal Chopda, Nemichand Chopda, Ghevachand Kothari, Uttamchand Chajed, Subhash Kothar, Deepak Vaikh, Abhay Jain, Pramod Salecha, Gaindmal Chopda, Sanjay Parekh, Khemraj Parekh, Pradeep Dakliya, Manoj Gidiya, Kapil Baidh, Rakesh Chopda and other members of Sakal Jain Samaj.

Daughter-in-law files complaint against father-in-law

Father-in-law also files similar complaint**Of beating and scolding her****Dongargarh, Mar 31:**

Shyam Chand Shukla of Gram Panchayat Nagtarai and his daughter-in-law Yogita Shukla has filed complaint of beating against each other and filed complaint in Dongargarh thana. The complainant Yogita Shukla, R/o Khursipar, Durg, W/o Late Manish Shukla (25), informed the Police that she got married on 4 Feb 2015 as per Hindu norms to Manish Shukla of Nagtarai. She informed that her husband used to drink liquor and was often falling ill and he died on 29 Oct 2019. Yogita is having a four year old girl from Manish and she continued living with her in-laws in Bhilai and used to

visit her parent's house in-between. Yogita informed that she is not having good relations with her in-laws and the case is presently going on in Durg court.

It was on March 26 at around 12:30 she had been to Nagatarai Society and reached her in-law's house at 2:00 pm and at that time her mother-in-law, father-in-law and 'devrani' were present. Here Yogita's informed that her father-in-law questioned about her presence and on this she informed that she had come to take ration along with her brother.

By this time her father-in-law Shyamchand Shukla of around 60 yr age took her out from the house holding her with the hairs and started scolding her and threatened her to kill and started beating her with

hands, fists and wooden stick. Due to this she suffered injuries on her palms, back side below abdomen and on her head. In-between her brother Aakash Tiwari tried to save her and he also fell prey to beating by her father-in-law.

This was seen by her mother-in-law and 'devrani' and nearby people and hearing so much of abuse and disrespect she became fearful and based upon which a complaint was lodged.

On the other hand, complainant Shyamchand Shukla S/o Lt. Ramnihar Shukla, (54) informed the Police that Yogita Shukla is her daughter-in-law and after marriage both my son and daughter-in-law were living in rented house refusing to take care of their mother/ mother-in-law.

It was in 2019, my son died and after this my daughter-in-law went to live along with her son with her father Dinesh Tiwari. It was on March 26, Shyamchand informed that when he woke up, he found that both my daughter-in-law and her brother are beating him using a plastic chair and when he ran for rescue and came out of the house, he found that both are scolding him and beating me with hands and legs and threatened me with killing. I received injuries on my head, hands, and other places and this was witnessed by my younger daughter-in-law Jaya Shukla, neighbour Siyaram Verma and tried to save me, Shyamchand added. On this report was filed against Yogita and her son and the matter was taken into investigation.

Villagers return defying Chakka-jam obliging to faith in Collector



Mainpur, Mar 31: As many as hundreds of villagers from around eight gram panchayats in the district, cancelled their protest on National Highway 130, obliging to assurance by District Collector Namrata Gandhi. Demanding electricity, roads, health centers and other facilities hundreds of villagers had warned an indefinite Chakkajam on the Highway, and were planning a protest for a long time stretch. For the unversed the villagers of these remote villages have chosen the road to protest registering complaints over slow development in their respective villages, after which the administration on the instructions of

Collector Namrata Gandhi has started many developmental projects in the region, and on the assurances of the officials the villagers decided to put a stay on their protest. The protesting villagers were from Gram Panchayats Aadgadi, Gauna, Bhootheda, Shoba, Pajapadav, Koldi, Garhadeh and Goregaon. The villagers have submitted a memorandum to SDM Suraj Sahu, SP CK Thakur, SDOJ Anup Gupta and VK Jain and other officials. The administration and police forces were deployed to avert any situation, but after assurance from the Collector and officials the villagers have pulled back the protest.

Dance prog by Youth Welfare Society concludes

**Mungeli, Mar 30:**

Mungeli Youth Welfare Society sponsored state level dance competition concluded here with several dancers and troupes taking part in the event. Dancers from various parts of the state took part in the event and performed. The finals took part in the Agar sports

Complex in which Shiva Ahirwar and Avi Tiwari of Bilaspur, Manish Rao from Bhilai, Abhishek Soni from Rajnandgaon bagged prizes and captivated the audience with their scintillating performances. All the winners were given mementoes and cash prizes which ran from 2100, 15000 and 11000 respectively. In the

grand finale, singer Swarna Diwakar gave a melodious performance and the program was judged by national dancer Anjali Saini. The program was anchored by Nupur Verma of Bhilai. The event was sponsored by Hemendra Goswami of Dev property dealing and Abhishek Soni of Suresh Jewelers.

Machines take over manual workers in MNREGA

Fingeshwar, Mar 31:

In villages of Fingeshwar Block, work under MNREGA scheme is under process, but a big part of it is being done by heavy machines in place of manual labourers. Many contractors and officials of the region have given green signal to machines taking over workers, leading to scarcity of work for the manual laborers. Santosh Sahu, Agnuram Tarak and other villagers of village Tarra have alleged that panchayats are allotting MNREGA work on contractual mode and work worth 15.66 lakhs has been allotted to Public Works Chairman of Janpad Panchayat. The work being done is also not

to the grade of construction norms, and the construction is showing breaks and cracks at many places due to lack of non regularization of water leveling, they said. On the other hand, the contractor has charged the scarcity of water behind the cracks. Same way the villagers also informed that JCB machines were used to dig and level the work, cutting short manual labour. The height of the shed under construction is informed to be less than the prescribed height. In this construction of 15.66 lakh, 3.15 lakh is of 15th finance plan. In spite of protest by the villagers the work is under progress in the region and many workers are deprived of work.

<p>आम सूचना</p> <p>सर्वसामान्य को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरा पत्निका रमेश कुमार् अग्रवाल आ. स्व. बाबुलाल अग्रवाल उम्र 53 वर्ष निवासी-56, बजरंग पारा कोहका वाई 08, सिरसा रोड सुपेला अहिलाई तह. व जिला दुर्गा छ.ग. 490023 का है जो कि शपथपूर्वक निम्नलिखित कथन करता है कि :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. यह कि मेरा नाम व पता उपरोक्तानुसार है। 2. यह कि मेरी पुत्री किरण अग्रवाल के पासपोर्ट एवं मेरे समस्त दस्तावेजों में मेरा नाम रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल दर्ज है तथा मेरी पुत्री के शैक्षणिक दस्तावेजों में मेरा नाम रमेश अग्रवाल दर्ज है। 3. यह कि रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल एवं रमेश अग्रवाल दोनों नाम मेरे ही अर्थात् एक ही व्यक्ति के हैं। 4. यह कि मैं शपथ पत्र सक्षम अधिकारी के समक्ष रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल एवं रमेश अग्रवाल दोनों नाम मेरे ही होने के संबंध में प्रस्तुत करता हूँ। अतः शपथ पत्र प्रस्तुत है। <p>अस्तु सूचना ज्ञाने।</p> <p>शुभो चक्रवर्ती (अधिकारी)</p> <p>वास्ते अतिथि सिंह एण्ड एसिएल्ट 12, नगर निगम परिसर, सुपेला, भिलाई (छ.ग.) मो. नं. 89825-59665</p>	<p>शपथ पत्र</p> <p>मैं रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल आ. स्व. बाबुलाल अग्रवाल उम्र 53 वर्ष निवासी-56, बजरंग पारा कोहका वाई 08, सिरसा रोड सुपेला अहिलाई तह. व जिला दुर्गा छ.ग. 490023 का है जो कि शपथपूर्वक निम्नलिखित कथन करता है कि :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. यह कि मेरा नाम व पता उपरोक्तानुसार है। 2. यह कि मेरी पुत्री किरण अग्रवाल के पासपोर्ट एवं मेरे समस्त दस्तावेजों में मेरा नाम रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल दर्ज है तथा मेरी पुत्री के शैक्षणिक दस्तावेजों में मेरा नाम रमेश अग्रवाल दर्ज है। 3. यह कि रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल एवं रमेश अग्रवाल दोनों नाम मेरे ही अर्थात् एक ही व्यक्ति के हैं। 4. यह कि मैं शपथ पत्र सक्षम अधिकारी के समक्ष रमेश कुमार अग्रवाल एवं रमेश अग्रवाल दोनों नाम मेरे ही होने के संबंध में प्रस्तुत करता हूँ। अतः शपथ पत्र प्रस्तुत है। <p>अस्तु सूचना ज्ञाने।</p> <p>शुभो चक्रवर्ती (अधिकारी)</p> <p>वास्ते अतिथि सिंह एण्ड एसिएल्ट 12, नगर निगम परिसर, सुपेला, भिलाई (छ.ग.) मो. नं. 89825-59665</p>	<p>Name Change</p> <p>I, Nayan Diwale, w/o Harshal Diwale, aged 31 years, Block 3/C, Street 69, Sector 6, Bhilai Nagar, Tehsil and District Durg (CG) vide affidavit dated February 25, 2022 sworn before Notary state that before marriage my name was Nayan Girish Kshire D/o Girish Kshire. After my marriage, my name has been changed as Nayan Diwale w/o Harshal Diwale. So, in future, I should be recognised by my new name i.e. Nayan Diwale w/o Harshal Diwale, in all government and other documents.</p> <p>Nayan Diwale Block-3/c, Street-69, Sector-6, Bhilai, C. G.</p>
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BRIEF

Duping

Ghaziabad: A Nigerian national was arrested from here by the cyber crime cell for allegedly duping Indian women after befriending them on matrimonial websites, police said. The accused has been identified as Mamadukolu Udekwe Cyprian, who claimed to be an IT engineer based in Chicago, they said. Cyprian was duping women with help of his female accomplice Iba Peedion Ghun Nongesai J, a resident of Meghalaya, police said.

Allows

Ranchi: Jharkhand government has allowed religious procession with certain conditions in view of upcoming Sarhul and Ram Navami festivals. State disaster management department issued a notification in this regard. The order, however, said that the number of persons in any religious procession should not exceed 100. Even if multiple processions converge at a place, the total number of persons should not be more than 1,000.

Attacked

Gurugram: A senior official of a real estate company was allegedly attacked by six men on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway when he was going home in his car. According to police, the incident took place but an FIR was registered later at Sector 40 police station after the victim filed a complaint. According to complaint filed by Subhashish, Three people came out of a car and thrashed him with sticks, joined by others.

Heckled

Chandigarh: A Haryana Roadways bus driver was garlanded with shoes while a conductor was also heckled allegedly by some employees at Dabwali in Sirsa district as they refused to participate in the nationwide strike called by central trade unions. Public transport services were affected in Haryana for two days as the Roadways employees came in support of the nationwide strike called by central trade unions on March 28-29

Sentenced

Lucknow: A special court here sentenced two Bangladeshi youths to four years of imprisonment for illegally staying in India using forged documents. The chief judicial magistrate (custom) sentenced Mohd Iqbal to four years of imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 6,500, the Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) said.

Inspection

New Delhi: Delhi Food and Civil Supplies Minister Imran Hussain conducted a surprise inspection of a ration shop in Laxmi Nagar where he found several irregularities, prompting him to order an inquiry. During the inspection, the minister observed that two E-Pos devices were being used by the fair price shop (FPS) dealer instead of the single allocated E-Pos device.

India, France begin mega naval wargame in Arabian Sea



Indo-French naval wargame being conducted at Arabian Sea.

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

India and France began a five-day mega naval wargame in the Arabian Sea in reflection of growing congruence in their maritime security cooperation. The Indian Navy said various platforms including ships, submarines, maritime patrol aircraft, fighter aircraft and helicopters of the two navies are participating in the

Varuna exercise.

"These units will endeavour to enhance and hone their operational skills in maritime theatre, augment inter-operability to undertake maritime security operations and demonstrate their commitment to promote peace, security and stability in the region as an integrated force," it said in a statement. It is the 20th edition of the Varuna series of exercises and it has become

a vital part of strategic ties between the two countries.

"The exercise has been a principal driver for operational-level interactions between the two navies and has underscored the shared commitment of both nations to security, safety and freedom of the global maritime commons," it said.

French Navy Chief Admiral Pierre Vandier visited India this week during which he held talks with his Indian counterpart Admiral R Hari Kumar focusing on mechanisms to ensure peace and stability in the Indian Ocean amid rising Chinese presence in the region.

The visit by the French Navy Chief came over a month after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar travelled to Paris.

Marshals evict CPI (ML) legislators from Bihar assembly

On final day of budget session

Patna, Mar 31 (PTI):

All MLAs of the CPI (ML) in Bihar were physically evicted from the assembly on the last day of the budget session on Thursday when they tried to stall the proceedings on issues of crime, corruption and communalism.

Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha called the marshals within minutes of the commencement of proceedings at 11 am, taking a grim view of the MLAs' refusal to leave the well and take their seats.

"Your conduct betrays a lack of trust in the sanctity of the House. As such, you deserve to be evicted, the speaker said before ordering the drastic action.

A Left party that has little foothold outside Bihar, though its student wing



CPI-ML legislator Mehboob Alam being marshalled out from Assembly, in Patna, Thursday.

AISA has a presence in many centres of higher learning, the CPI (ML) has a dozen members in the current assembly. The party put up its best-ever performance in the assembly elections of 2020 when it fought in alliance with

other Left parties, the RJD and the Congress, burying differences that were age-old in order to take on the BJP-led NDA. Interestingly, the allies of the CPI (ML) had initially joined its members in creating a ruckus in the

Stalin meets PM, seeks nod for providing aid to Lankan Tamils



PM Narendra Modi interacts with TN CM MK Stalin, during a meeting, in New Delhi on Thursday.

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Thursday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and sought the Centre's approval for the state government to provide humanitarian aid to Sri Lankan Tamils in the wake of an

economic crisis in that country. Stalin, also the DMK supremo, gave a detailed memorandum on various issues, including those related to the economic crisis in the island nation, during his meeting with Modi. Referring to adversities being faced by Lankan Tamils, he said

many of them embarked on a "perilous journey" to Tamil Nadu due to unaffordable prices of essential commodities there and they are lodged in a transit camp in the state. The memorandum noted that more people may be arriving in the state due to worsening economic condition in Sri Lanka. In this juncture, it added, the Tamil Nadu government is willing to provide essential commodities and life saving medicines to Sri Lankan Tamils living in northern and eastern part of that country as well as those working in plantation sector, who are reeling under severe food crisis, as a life saving measure and help them, especially vulnerable group of women and children.

Maximum forest cover lost in Arunachal Pradesh in 2021

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Forest cover in the Northeast reduced by 1,020 sq km in 2021 compared to the area in 2019 mainly due to anthropogenic pressure and developmental activities, the government told the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

Responding to a query on loss of forest and tree cover in the area, Minister of State for Environment Ashwini Choubey said that as per the latest India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021, the forest cover of the region stood at 1,69,521 sq km while the tree cover stood at 4,574 sq km.

The minister said the forest cover declined by 1,020 sq km from 2019 to 2021 while the tree cover increased by 365 sq km in 2021 in two years.



Sheep grazing in a forest area without trees in Arunachal Pradesh.

"As per ISFR-2021, the total forest cover in the north eastern region of the country is 1,69,521 sq km showing an overall decrease of 1,020 sq km while the tree cover has increased by 365 sq km as compared to the previous assessment in 2019. "The loss in forest cover in the

Northeastern states may be attributed mainly to natural calamities, anthropogenic pressure, developmental activities and shifting cultivation practices," Choubey said in a written reply to the question.

The maximum forest cover was lost in Arunachal Pradesh (257 sq



A new fleet of electric autorickshaws being flagged-off, during a ceremony, at IP depot, in New Delhi, Thursday.

ELECTRIC FLEET

Gujarat Assembly briefly adjourned over remarks

Ex-DyCM Nitin Patel made remarks on Nehru

Gandhinagar, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Gujarat Legislative Assembly was adjourned for 15 minutes on Thursday following chaos in the House as opposition Congress strongly objected to BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Nitin Patel's remark on India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Irked over Patel's remarks that Nehru cannot be given credit for the Sardar Sarovar Dam built on the Narmada river, Congress MLAs started shouting slogans against Patel and gathering near



Nitin Patel

the well of the House during the Question Hour.

Some time after the question hour began, the House witnessed a heated debate over a query raised by Congress MLA Kalabhai Dabhi about the status of the ambitious Kalpsar project.

The Kalpsar Project or the Gulf of Khambhat

Development Project envisages building a 30-km dam across the Gulf of Khambhat in India for setting up a huge freshwater coastal reservoir for irrigation, drinking and industrial purposes.

When Water Resources Minister Rushikesh Patel accused the Congress of delaying the Sardar Sarovar Dam project, Congress MLA CJ Chavda said it was the Congress government, which had built the dam up to the height of 85 meters despite facing several issues back then. Countering him, Nitin Patel said, "The Sardar Sarovar Dam was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's dream, Jawaharlal Nehru only did the ground breaking.

Odisha to launch natural farming in tribal districts

Bhubaneswar, Mar 31

(PTD):

The Odisha government is set to roll out a "climate-resilient" natural farming programme in tribal-dominated areas of five districts in a step towards sustainable agriculture, officials said.

The project will be executed in collaboration with the Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS), set up by the Andhra Pradesh government to implement natural farming, they said. "Natural farming will get popular acceptance among the people, more particularly in tribal-dominated districts of Odisha, as the method is quite compatible with the traditional patterns," Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra said.



A farm in Bolangir, Odisha.

He said the process would reduce the cost of production, and lead to creation of safe and nutritious food items. Natural farming is a diversified farming method without the use of synthetic chemicals like pesticides or synthetic fertilisers. It integrates

crops, trees and livestock in the system, experts said. The project, covering 3.15 lakh hectares of farmland, will be rolled out from the 2022-23 fiscal with an investment of around Rs 312 crore over five years. Cluster approach will be adopted for

the scheme, to be undertaken through women self-help groups (WSHGs) in Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Rayagada and Koraput districts, the release said.

The WSHGs will be trained for crop diversification, initial preparation of bio-inputs and pre-monsoon sowing. They will be assisted in the establishment of common facility centres for cleaning, grading, segregation and storage, it added.

Development Commissioner Pradeep Jena said natural farming would result in a "transformational change" towards sustainability.

"As the popularity of non-toxic food items is in high demand, natural farming will fetch more income for WSHGs," Jena said.

Phangnon Konyak is Nagaland's first woman RS MP

Kohima, Mar 31 (PTI):

S Phangnon Konyak was on Thursday elected unopposed as the Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland. With the tenure of incumbent Rajya Sabha MP from Nagaland KG Kenye ending on April 2, the election was scheduled to be held on Thursday. Returning Officer, Biennial Election to the Council of States, Khruhitunuo Rio informed that as there was only one candidate till the last date for filing nominations, no poll was conducted. Therefore, Konyak has been declared duly elected unopposed to fill up the vacancy in the Rajya Sabha for the State of Nagaland, she said. She is the first woman from the state to get a berth in Parliament's Upper House. Konyak, the president of BJP Nagaland Mahila Morcha, who



Phangnon Konyak being felicitated as first woman Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland.

stood as the consensus candidate of the ruling United Democratic Alliance (UDA), is also the first Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) member from Nagaland to be sent to Parliament. S Phangnon Konyak sponsored by the BJP

has been declared duly elected uncontested to fill the seat in the Council of States [Rajya Sabha] from Nagaland State, the term of which is due to expire on 2nd April 2022, chief electoral officer V Shashank Shekhar said in a press release.

Satellite modems nexus of worst cyberattack of Ukraine war



Carlsbad, Mar 31 (AP):

A malicious software command that immediately crippled tens of thousands of modems across Europe anchored the cyberattack on a satellite network used by Ukraine's government and military just as Russia invaded, the satellite owner disclosed.

The owner, US-based Viasat, issued a statement providing details for the first time of how the most serious known cyberattack of the Russia-Ukraine war unfolded. The wide-ranging attack affected users from Poland to France, getting quick notice by knocking off remote access to thousands of wind turbines in central Europe.

Viasat would not say who it believed was responsible for the attack when asked separately by The Associated Press. Ukrainian officials blame Russian hackers.

The Viasat attack, coming just as Russia was launching its invasion, was considered at the time by many a harbinger of serious cyberattacks that could extend beyond Ukraine. Such attacks haven't yet materialized, though security researchers say the most impactful war-related cyber operations are likely occurring in the shadows, focused on intelligence-gathering. A free-for-all of lesser attacks, many apparently carried out by volunteers, have been launched against both Russia and Ukraine.

Islamabad, Mar 31 (PTI):

The US has asserted that it did not send any letter to Pakistan on the current political situation in the country as it sought to refute allegations of America's involvement in the no-confidence motion against the Imran Khan-led government, according to a media report on Thursday.

Pakistan's embattled Prime Minister Imran Khan effectively lost majority in Parliament after the Mutahida Quami Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P), a key partner of the ruling coalition, joined the ranks of the Opposition, which had tabled a no-confidence motion against his government in the National Assembly.

Khan has been claiming that the Opposition's no-confidence motion against him was the result of a foreign conspiracy because of his external policy and funds were being channelled from abroad to oust

US says no letter sent to Pakistan

him from power. The PTI-led government confirmed that its allegation about a foreign conspiracy against the

prime minister was based on a diplomatic cable received from one of the country's missions abroad. The

government initially offered to share the letter with the chief justice of Pakistan, but later the prime minister

also briefed his cabinet members about the contents of the letter, the Dawn newspaper reported.

Peru won't free Fujimori at request of regional rights court

Lima, Mar 31 (AP):

Peruvian authorities said they will comply with a request from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to not release former President Alberto Fujimori from prison until it can examine the case.

The move came almost two weeks after Peru's Constitutional Court issued a controversial order that Fujimori be freed from the prison where he is serving a 25-year sentence for murder and corruption charges.

Special prosecutor Carlos Reaño confirmed to The Associated Press that officials would keep Fujimori in detention because of the regional court's request. Supporters of Fujimori have gathered outside

prison hoping to see his release, while those opposed to letting him out have protested in downtown Lima.

The Constitutional Court's decision restored a humanitarian pardon granted to the 83-year-old Fujimori on Christmas Eve in 2017 by then President Pablo Kuczynski. The country's Supreme Court overturned the medical pardon in 2018 and ordered the former strongman returned to prison to serve out his sentence for human rights abuses. Spokesmen for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights did not respond to questions from AP. A spokesman for the Constitutional Court declined to comment. Fujimori is being held in an exclusive prison where he is the only prisoner.

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION NO. 1, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(FIRST CALL)
System Tender No. : 95821/NIT No. : 11/SAC/2021-22, Raipur, Dated : 25.03.2022
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 18.04.2022 at 17:30 Hour
Name of Work : Cement Concrete Approach road from Main Road to Datrenga Stop Dam.
Probable Amount of Contract : Rs. 75.57 Lakhs

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 01.04.2022, at 17:31 Hours (IST) onwards.

NOTE :- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-Procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Executive Engineer
Water Management Division No.1
Raipur

G-69060/6

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI GODAWARI BASIN WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH

E-Procurement tender notice 2022
IFB No.- CG/NHP/DWLR Tele./GW/2021-22/02
E-Procurement portal: <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>

Tender ID No. : 2022_WRCWB_680684_1 CG/NHP/DWLR Tele./GW/2021-22/02
Raipur, Dated: 25/03/2022

Online Tender are invited for the Following Works up to 04.05.2022 at 14:00 Hour (IST):-

Name of Work : The Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of Digital Water Level Recorder (DWLRs) (Non-Vented, Hydrostatic Pressure Type) with Telemetry System in Existing HP-I, HP-II Piezometer including improvement / maintenance of existing Piezometers (Through cleaning, flushing by compressor development) in Chhattisgarh state.

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>) from Date 03.04.2022

NOTE :- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>) in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Superintending Engineer
Water Resources and Ground Water Survey Circle
Raipur, Chhattisgarh
For, Chief Engineer, Mahanadi Godavari Basin
Water Resources Department, Raipur (C.G.)

G-69044/7

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.W.D. KANKER CIRCLE KANKER (C.G.)

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited for Construction Of Road work, up to Date 05/04/2022

Sr No	NIT No.	System Tender No.	Name of work	Probable Amount of Contract.	Tender Downloaded upto
01	24	95668	Special Repair of Various Road, Culverts & Bridges Under Bhanuprapur Division.	199.94 Lakh	05.04.2022

All Documents related to Tender are to be submitted by Tenderers online only, failing which the tenderer can not participate in the bidding, for tender details please visit <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

CONTRACTOR SUBMIT THE CERTIFICATE REGARDING MACHINERIES & PLANTS AS PER ANNEXURE-G - 7(d), 19-A & 19-B

Note-(1) 2nd Call

Superintending Engineer
P.W.D. Kanker Circle
Kanker

G-69072/1

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER SHYAM BARNAI PROJECT CIRCLE, AMBIKAPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(First Call)
System Tender No. 95742/NIT No.: 04/SAC/21-22 Surajpur, Dated : 29.03.2022
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 19.04.2022 at 17:30 Hour
Name of work : CONSTRUCTION OF LOLAKI TANK BUND, SLUICE, WESTE WEIR, CHUTE FALL, CANAL, 03 NOS VRB, 02 NO. C.D. AND 08 NOS. OUTLETS (INCLUDING 10 YEARS MAINTENANCE OF SCHEME.)
Probable Amount of Contract: - Rs. 131.86 Lakhs

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from Date 05.04.2022, at 17:31 Hours (IST) onwards.

NOTE :- All eligible/interested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Executive Engineer
Water Resources Division, Surajpur (C.G.)
For, Superintending Engineer
Shyam Barnai Project Circle Ambikapur (C.G.)

G-69089/1

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खाण्ड, गरियाबंद छत्तीसगढ़ eegar-phe-cg@nic.in

// ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा सूचना //

एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत पंजीकृत सक्षम ठेकेदारों से निम्नांकित कार्य हेतु प्रपत्र 'ए' में निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

कार्य का नाम :- जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत विभिन्न ग्रामों में एकल ग्राम/रेड्रोफिटिंग नल जलप्रदाय योजनाओं का कार्य।

नि.सू.क्र./दिनांक	सिस्टम क्र.	ग्राम/वि.ख.	अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)
304/29.03.2022	96168	कुरुसकरा एवं मुडतराई/फिगेश्वर	167.58
305/29.03.2022	96169	जमाही एवं खपरी/फिगेश्वर	152.74
306/29.03.2022	96171	रवेली एवं सोनासिल्ली/फिगेश्वर	175.45
307/29.03.2022	96172	बेलठुकरा एवं जंजरा रेद्रो/फिगेश्वर	175.67
308/29.03.2022	96175	द्वारतरा, कुरेकरा/छुरा	120.21
309/29.03.2022	96189	कुकदा/छुरा	113.62
310/29.03.2022	96191	ओनवा, आसरा एवं तवरगा/छुरा	184.57
311/29.03.2022	96192	नागझर एवं खट्टी/छुरा	98.31
312/29.03.2022	96193	जुनवाणी एवं कुडसर/छुरा	135.74

नोट :- उपरोक्त कार्यों की निविदा हेतु बिड सबमिशन दिनांक 04.04.2022 तथा बिड सबमिशन की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 18.04.2022 है।

कार्यपालन अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खाण्ड,
गरियाबंद (छ.ग.)

G-69093/1

GURU GHASIDAS VISHWAVIDYALAYA
(A Central University established by the Central Universities Act, 2009, No.25 of 2009)
KONI, BILASPUR-495 009 (C.G.) INDIA
Tel. - +91-7752- 260342, Fax - +91-7752- 260154, 260148, website - www.ggu.ac.in

Ref. No. 631 /Admission /Academic/22 **ADMISSION NOTICE (2022-23)** Bilaspur, Date- 31.03.2022
Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur invites online applications for admission to the various programmes for the academic session 2022-23 through **Common University Entrance Test CUET (UG) 2022 to be conducted by NTA.**

(a) Programmes available for admission:
-Honours Programmes : B. Com (Honours), BSW, BA (Honours)-Anthropology, English, Hindi, Journalism & Mass Communication, Economics, History, Political Science,
-B. Sc. (Honours)- Anthropology, Biotechnology, Botany, Forensic Science, Chemistry, Computer Science, Zoology, Mathematics, Physics, Electronics, Rural Technology, B. Pharm, B.Sc. in Forestry,
-5 years Integrated BA - LLB, B. Com-LLB
- Programmes under self-financing scheme- Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA), Bachelor of Hotel Management (BHM), B. Sc. - Organic Farming, B. Sc.- Dairy Technology, Bachelor of Performing Arts (BPA)
-Diploma programme: Diploma in Pharmacy,
(b) For admission procedure, eligibility, number of seats, reservation policy, Entrance Test provisions, fees and mapping of programme-subject for test, please refer to "Admission Notice 2022-23" available on university website www.ggu.ac.in and <https://cuetsamarth.ac.in>.
(c) As the entrance test will be conducted by NTA, therefore, the University will follow the admission procedure and syllabus for entrance test as notified by the NTA for CUET. Interested candidates have to visit the links provided above for all updates regularly.
(d) Important dates:
Start of Online Application Process : 02.04.2022
Closing date of Online submission of Application forms : 30.04.2022
(e) Admission notice for Post Graduate programmes will be notified separately. Admission in B. Tech. programmes will be done through JEE Mains, candidates interested in B. Tech. programmes need not apply against this advertisement.

Registrar (Acting)

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खाण्ड मुंगेली जिला-मुंगेली (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ऑनलाईन निविदाएँ प्रपत्र- 'ए' में प्रतिशत दर पर अनुबंध हेतु नीचे उल्लिखित कार्यों के लिए जिला जल एवं स्वच्छता मिशन द्वारा एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था में सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से आमंत्रित की जाती है।

कार्य का विवरण:- जिला मुंगेली के विकासखण्ड-पथरिया के विभिन्न ग्रामों में जल जीवन मिशन के अंतर्गत एकल ग्राम जल प्रदाय योजना कार्य।

क्र.	निविदा सूचना क्र./दिनांक	सिस्टम क्रमांक	ग्राम का नाम	विकासखण्ड	अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)
1	226/25.03.2022	96082	पेन्डी	पथरिया	115.37
2	227/25.03.2022	96083	दरुवकापा	पथरिया	56.95
3	228/25.03.2022	96084	भखरीडीह	पथरिया	43.85
4	229/25.03.2022	96085	अमलडीहा	पथरिया	105.90
5	230/25.03.2022	96086	चुटेली	पथरिया	123.53
6	231/25.03.2022	96087	धोधापुर	पथरिया	54.76
7	232/25.03.2022	96088	खुटारा	पथरिया	100.12
8	233/25.03.2022	96089	बरदुली	पथरिया	64.69
9	234/25.03.2022	96090	बछेरा	पथरिया	121.57
10	235/25.03.2022	96091	तोरला	पथरिया	78.55
11	236/25.03.2022	96092	मोतिमपुर	पथरिया	60.58
12	237/25.03.2022	96093	भरेवा	पथरिया	78.85
13	238/25.03.2022	96094	त्रिभुवनपुर	पथरिया	63.97
14	239/25.03.2022	96095	डिबारा	पथरिया	59.60
15	240/25.03.2022	96096	जुनवाणी	पथरिया	95.24
16	241/25.03.2022	96097	सेन्दी	पथरिया	62.68
17	242/25.03.2022	96098	कलारजेवरा	पथरिया	84.66

बिड सबमिशन की अंतिम तिथि - 17.04.2022

उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्यों की निविदा को सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट वेब पोर्टल <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in> में दिनांक 27.03.2022 से देखे जा सकते हैं।

कार्यपालन अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खाण्ड मुंगेली जिला-मुंगेली (छ.ग.)

G-69061/1

Public Works Department OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD, DURG CIRCLE DURG . (C.G.)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
(1st Call)
No. 004/SE/Durg/Manual-RFP /2021 Durg, Dated 24-03-2022

Public Works Department (PWD) invites proposal for Planning, Development Estimation and Structural designs, and Architect for the work "Construction of English Medium Schools of various Places in Balod District" from the consultants empanelled in Public Works Department of Chhattisgarh.

Probable cost of project Rs. 7.32 Crores

Minimum eligibility for participants shall be as below:-

S.N.	Building project cost	The firms, firms forming Joint venture/ consortium shall be at least	The applicants core team of experts shall have experience of at least	In last five years & or current year must have /Planned, designed, developed at least one building project worth minimum	Earnest money (In shape as per annexure I) Favor of Executive Engineer, PWD Balod Div. Balod.
B	For Project cost Between 5 to 10 crore	3 years old	3 Years in the respective field	Rs. 5.00 crore	Rs. 5,000=00

General condition :- All the documents & Information as per Para 7.4, shall be submitted through speed post/Registered post, so as to reach the office of under signed on or before dated 13-04-2022, by 17:30 hour. Any documents received after the last date and time will not be entertained.

The detailed RFP is available on the website www.cgstate.gov.in/www.cg.nic.in from where it can be downloaded for submission. CG.PWD reserves the right to reject all or any of the application without assigning any reason. Right to modify the process of Pre-qualification is reserved with CG.PWD.

Superintending Engineer
Public Works Department
Durg Circle Durg

G-69047/1

Ministry of Culture CENTRE FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRAINING (Under the aegis of Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)

Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme - 2021-22 & 2022-23

The CCRT is implementing Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme to provide facilities to outstanding talented children selected in the age group of 10 to 14 years (as per the cut off eligibility dates), studying either in recognized schools or belonging to families practicing traditional performing arts for getting specialized training in various cultural fields such as traditional forms of music, dance, drama, painting, sculpture, crafts and literary arts, laying special emphasis on rare art forms, which are in the process of becoming extinct. The scholarship awarded under the scheme is for two years at a time which is renewable after every two years till the completion of the first university degree stage of education or up to the age of 20 years, whichever is earlier, subject to awardees maintaining satisfactory progress. 650 scholarships will be awarded for every year, as per details given below:

375 scholarships for General categories & Others	125 scholarships for Traditional Artist Families
100 scholarships for Tribal Culture /ST	20 scholarships for Differently Aabled (Divyang)
30 scholarships for Creative Writing/Literary Arts	

The value of scholarship is Rs.3600/- (Rupees Three Thousand Six Hundred) per year and actual tuition fee paid for the specialized training is also reimbursed up to Rs.9000/- (Rupees Nine Thousand) per year. Children whose date of birth is in between 01.07.2007 and 30.06.2011 (both days inclusive) are eligible to apply for the year 2021-22 and children whose date of birth is in between 01-07-2008 and 30-06-2012 (both days inclusive) are eligible to apply for the award of scholarships for the year 2022-23. The application and other details may be downloaded from the CCRT website - www.ccrtdindia.gov.in or collected free of cost personally/by post from any one of the following addresses:

Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, 15 A, Sector - 7, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075, Phone No : 011 - 25309300 e-mail : ddsch.ccrtd@nic.in website : www.ccrtdindia.gov.in	CCRT Regional Centre, Opp. CII, New Google Office, Madhapur to Kondapur Main Road, Madhapur, Hyderabad - 500084, Telangana Phone No. 040-23117050, Telefax : 040 - 23111918, e-mail: rchvd.ccrtd@nic.in
CCRT Regional Centre, 3 B, Ambagarth, Near Swarup Sagar, Udaipur - 313001, Rajasthan Phone No. : 0294 - 3291577; 2430764, Telefax : 0294 - 2430771 email: rcud.ccrtd@nic.in	CCRT Regional Centre, 58, Juri Par, Panjabari Road, Guwahati - 781037, Assam Phone No. 0361-2330152, Telefax : 0361-2335316 e-mail: rcgwt.ccrtd@nic.in
CCRT Regional Centre Old Collectorate Building, Damoh, Madhya Pradesh-470661 Phone No. 07812-299187 email: rcdamoh-ccrtd@gov.in	

Duly filled application form along-with relevant documents should reach CCRT, New Delhi-110075 on or before Saturday, 30th April, 2022. CCRT will not be responsible for any postal delay and Applications received after the last date will not be considered.

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CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 47 No. 176

Forest fire awareness

The fire raging inside Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan was brought mostly under control. While the cause is still unknown, what remains a worry is the way the fire spread and destroyed around 10 sq km of forests despite timely satellite warnings and the availability of a real-time mobile application-based fire response system. Two IAF MI-17 V5 helicopters resumed the 'Bambi Bucket' operation to control the forest fire. The forest department in Odisha is using drones to keep track of forest fire in the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR). More than 1,000 forest fires were detected across Odisha. Five people were arrested as the man-made fire in the Similipal forests. The fire is manmade. It is lit by tribals with dry leaves to collect forest produce like sal seeds, mohua flowers and firewood, besides poaching. The central and state governments need to launch massive awareness programme regarding forest fire. While small fires are often caused naturally due to lack of humid conditions, the major fires occur due to human activities. India reported 345,989 forest fires from November 2020 to June 2021, according to the State of Forests Report, 2021 (SoFR, 2021), released in January this year. This is the highest recorded in the country for this period so far. At least 258,480 forest fires were reported during the same time in 2018-19, and were the second-highest so far. Odisha reported the maximum fires among all states (51,968), followed by Madhya Pradesh (47,795) and Chhattisgarh (38,106). Uttarakhand recorded the sixth-highest fire counts in the country; incidences were up 28.3 times this forest fire season compared to last. Scientists say the forest fires in some parts of northern India and neighbouring Nepal have been the strongest in the past 15 years. The European Union's Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring Service (CAMS) said that Uttarakhand's forest fires emitted nearly 0.2 mega tonnes of carbon in the past one month, a record since 2003.

Based on the analysis of satellite pictures, it estimated Nepal emitted nearly 18 mega tonnes of carbon in the same period, the highest since 2016 when it emitted 27 mega tonnes of carbon. This shows the intensity with which the fires are burning in the region and it is quite worrying. Many parts of north India and Nepal have seen a prolonged dry spell in winter and spring season, leaving forests tinder dry. Scientists say although climate change can't be directly blamed for forest fires, it has intensified the dryness in the region. With limited resources, the fires are on difficult geography like slopes and the dry weather and people deliberately causing fires have not helped. Forest fires can be caused by a number of natural causes, but officials say many major fires in India are triggered mainly by human activities. Emerging studies link climate change to rising instances of fires globally, especially the massive fires of the Amazon forests in Brazil and in Australia in the last two years. Fires of longer duration, increasing intensity, higher frequency and highly inflammable nature are all being linked to climate change. Forest fires are most commonly reported during March and April, when the ground has large quantities of dry wood, logs, dead leaves, stumps, dry grass and weeds that can make forests easily go up in flames if there is a trigger. Under natural circumstances, extreme heat and dryness, friction created by rubbing of branches with each other also have been known to initiate fire. But humans make the situation worse by deliberately setting fires for many purposes. The locality of the forest and access to it pose hurdles in initiating firefighting efforts. During peak season, shortage of staff is another challenge in dispatching firefighting teams. Timely mobilisation of forest staff, fuel and equipment, depending on the type of fire, through the thick forests remain challenges. Only awareness among locals can make large fires preventable.

Government market dichotomy

Eminent economist and former RBI Governor has said that India needs to recalibrate its response to the price situation following disruptions in global supply chains on account of Russia-Ukraine war, as losing the battle against inflation neither serves the government nor the central bank. Raghuram Rajan is seen as advocating government intervention over market measures to deal with economic consequences. 'The return of the state' is a phrase seemingly on almost everyone's lips nowadays. Given the global challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, the argument goes, it is governments, not markets, that should be responsible for allocating resources. But this opposition of state and market is misleading, and it poses a major obstacle to understanding and addressing today's policy challenges. The dichotomy emerged in the nineteenth century, when arcane government rules, rooted in a feudal past, were the main obstacle to the creation of competitive markets. The battle cry of this quite legitimate struggle was later raised to the principle of laissez-faire, ignoring the fact that markets are themselves institutions whose efficient functioning depends on rules.

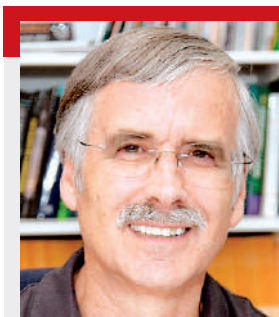
The question is not whether there should be rules, but rather who should set them, and in whose interest. In the twenty-first century, this state-market contrast is obsolete. State intervention can promote markets. But while some rules foster competitive markets, many others interfere with them. The main divide, therefore, is not between the state and markets, but between procompetitive and anti-competitive rules. In the nineteenth century, the laissez-faire principle was also abused in order to block welfare programs, in the name of a misguided social Darwinism. But social welfare schemes are not inimical to the functioning of markets. Such schemes might help markets become more resilient. So, the choice is not between state and market, but between welfare programs that promote markets and programmes that distort them. The battle nowadays is not over more state or more market. It is instead partly a struggle to ensure that market power does not interfere with the state's ability to carry out the functions it performs best. The central and state governments in India have to overcome dichotomy of government and markets being opposites.

UNDERNEATH BLOSSOM



A woman in traditional outfit poses for pictures underneath blooming cherry blossoms at Inokashira Park in Tokyo, Japan.

Ocean heat is at record levels, with major consequences



KEVIN TRENBERTH



The world witnessed record-breaking climate and weather disasters in 2021, from destructive flash floods that swept through mountain towns in Europe and inundated subway systems in China and the US, to heat waves and wildfires. Typhoon Rai killed over 400 people in the Philippines; Hurricane Ida caused an estimated USD 74 billion in damage in the US. A new analysis of monthly surface temperatures across the globe reveals that more patches of ocean have been seeing heat extremes every year. Beginning in 2014, more than half of the ocean began to reach extremes hotter than even the most extreme events from 1870 to 1919. Globally, it was the sixth hottest year on record for surface temperatures, according to data released by NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in their annual global climate report in 2022. But under the surface, ocean temperatures set new heat records in 2021.

While the temperature at Earth's surface is what people experience day to day, the temperature in the upper part of the ocean is a better indicator of how excess heat is accumulating on the planet. The world's oceans are hotter than ever recorded, and their heat has increased each decade since the 1960s. This relentless increase is a primary indicator of human-induced climate change. As oceans warm, their heat supercharges weather systems, creating

more powerful storms and hurricanes, and more intense rainfall. That threatens human lives and livelihoods as well as marine life. The oceans take up about 93 percent of the extra energy trapped by the increasing greenhouse gases from human activities, particularly burning fossil fuels. Because water holds more heat than land does and the volumes involved are immense, the upper oceans are a primary memory of global warming. Heat waves harm ocean ecosystems. They can lead seabirds to starve. Corals can die. Kelp forests can die. And animals from fish and whales to turtles may have to swim long distances in search of comfortable temps. Our study provided the first analysis of 2021's ocean warming, and we were able to attribute the warming to human activities. Global warming is alive and well, unfortunately. The point of no return was more of a statistical description of the time series. It's not a permanent state that cannot be reversed. The global mean surface temperature was the fifth or sixth warmest on record in 2021 (the record depends on the dataset used), in part, because of the year-long La Nina conditions, in which cool conditions in the tropical Pacific influence weather patterns around the world.

There is a lot more natural variability in surface air temperatures than in ocean temperatures because of El Nino or Nina and weather events. That natural variability on top of a

warming ocean creates hot spots, sometimes called 'marine heat waves,' that vary from year to year. Those hot spots have profound influences on marine life, from tiny plankton to fish, marine mammals and birds. Other hot spots are responsible for more activity in the atmosphere, such as hurricanes. While surface temperatures are both a consequence and a cause, the main source of the phenomena causing extremes relates to ocean heat that energizes weather systems. Much discussion on climate change has been about future events, and whether or not they might happen. But what the emerging data make clear is that extreme heat became common in our ocean in 2014. It's a documented historical fact not a future possibility. For marine temperatures to be considered normal, they have to regularly occur across the majority of the ocean's surface. This threshold is defined as the point of no return. Although the global ocean officially hit this point back in 2014, some ocean basins had actually crossed this threshold more than a decade earlier. The South Atlantic, for example, reached this point as far back as 1998.

We found that all oceans are warming, with the largest amounts of warming in the Atlantic Ocean and in the Southern Ocean surrounding Antarctica. That's a concern for Antarctica's ice, heat in the Southern Ocean can creep under Antarctica's ice shelves, thinning them and resulting in calving off of huge icebergs. Warming oceans are also a concern for sea level rise. The global heating increases evaporation and drying on land, as well as raising temperatures, increasing risk of heat waves and wildfires. We've seen the impact in 2021, especially in western North America, but also amid heat waves in Russia, Greece, Italy and Turkey. The warmer oceans also supply atmospheric rivers of moisture to land areas, increasing the risk of flooding, like the US West Coast has been ex-

periencing. Warmer oceans provide extra moisture to the atmosphere. That extra moisture fuels storms, especially hurricanes. The result can be prodigious rainfall, as the US saw from Ida, and widespread flooding as occurred in many places over the past year. The storms may also become more intense, bigger and last longer. Several major flooding events have occurred in Australia this past year, and also in New Zealand. Bigger snowfalls can also occur in winter provided temperatures remain below about freezing because warmer air holds more moisture.

In the oceans, warm water sits on top of cooler denser waters. However, the oceans warm from the top down, and consequently the ocean is becoming more stratified. This inhibits mixing between layers that otherwise allows the ocean to warm to deeper levels and to take up carbon dioxide and oxygen. Hence it impacts all marine life. We found that the top 500 meters of the ocean has clearly been warming since 1980; the 500-1,000 meter depths have been warming since about 1990; the 1,000-1,500 meter depths since 1998; and below 1,500 meters since about 2005. The slow penetration of heat downward means that oceans will continue to warm, and sea level will continue to rise even after greenhouse gases are stabilized. The final area to pay attention to is the need to expand scientists' ability to monitor changes in the oceans. One way we do this is through the Argo array, currently about 3,900 profiling floats that send back data on temperature and salinity from the surface to about 2,000 meters in depth, measured as they rise up and then sink back down, in ocean basins around the world. These robotic, diving and drifting instruments require constant replenishment and their observations are invaluable.

(Kevin Trenberth is Distinguished Scholar, NCAR, Affiliated Faculty, University of Auckland in New Zealand.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coach

The "upright" coach of the Indian cricket team is indeed a "very honest" personality. Also he holds "immense respect" for those who have contributed much to the team. And exactly this is the reason why he himself has admitted ("very very honestly") that just because of his "immense respect" towards the contribution of Wriddhiman Saha, the former indeed clearly asked the latter to move on ie "your service is not required in the national team any more". That means those who hardly contribute, fail regularly and demand "less respect" can be asked to "continue in the team". No wonder why the greatest wicket keeper of the world in current times gets thrown out from the team in the most barbaric brutal fashion with utmost failures getting promoted, retained and pampered shamelessly. The Indian cricket team and its management have not fallen from the sky after all. They are part and parcel of this ungrateful biased prejudiced society only. So not only in the cricketing sector, rather in every sector of this Indian society (Right from political arena to office), silent efficient workers or contributors have absolutely no value. Rather it is the age and society of "Empty Vessels Sounding Much" who get literally worshipped by all and sundry. So get lost "Maun" mohans Wriddhimans and those unknown tireless honest persons slogging silently in their professional spaces. And reward the utmost failures everywhere for their shrill vocal rhetoric and relentless chest thumping. What a moral fall, what a sense of "justice".

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata
Mishaps

Road accident is a most unwanted thing to happen, yet it happens almost every day on Indian roads. As our cities grow in size and complexity, road accidents are also growing in number. A heterogeneous traffic mix that includes high speed vehicles, vulnerable road users, unsafe road infrastructure and inadequately trained drivers - all contribute to the high fatality rates seen on India's roads. Education and enforcement can together bring about a shift in the mindset of drivers. Better road sense, the ability of a driver to comprehend road signs and paying heed to speed restrictions are some of the driving etiquettes that will ease the pressure on traffic police. First Aid and Trauma Care are other aspects that could help save precious human lives by timely assistance during the golden hour. Frequent camps on road safety with catchy slogans like, "alert today, alive tomorrow", "A text or call can wreck it all," and "fast drive could be the last drive" will go a long way in preventing accidents. There is an urgent need to stress more on road safety awareness.

R Sivakumar, via email



WHAT THEY TWEET!

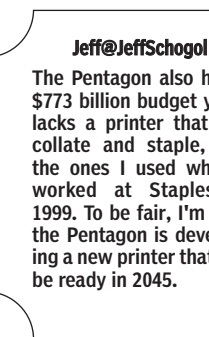


Priyanka@priyankac19
I was asked if I own any crypto asset: Answer: 0, my record is up for public scrutiny, but I speak with 100% conviction for those invested in creating a Web 3.0 world. I thank everyone for the overwhelming response to my speech in parliament. Hope the Gol bites the bullet.

Devina@devinamehra
Switzerland breaks its '200 year old neutrality doctrine' to freeze 6 billion dollars of Russian assets. It also has billions in assets of Jews that it got during the Holocaust because it was 'neutral' during the World Wars. Appears suspiciously abt money rather than principles.



Harsh@hvgonka
Some truths to accept: There is always someone better than you. So there is no point in comparing. Nothing lasts forever. Things change. People change. And you can change any time too. Hard work doesn't guarantee success. But it gives you a better chance to succeed.



Jeff@JeffSchogol
The Pentagon also has a \$773 billion budget yet it lacks a printer that can collate and staple, like the ones I used when I worked at Staples in 1999. To be fair, I'm sure the Pentagon is developing a new printer that will be ready in 2045.

Anshuman@AnshumanSail
This is the model hospital built in Kota, Rajasthan for new born kids.



DrAditi@aditimukherji
That's so interesting. Growing up in Kolkata, studying at Presidency College followed by a Masters at JNU is what most students and parents aspired to. Basically, JNU was the place to be for us, and I am so glad I made it to JNU. My life changed for the better.

Sandeep@sandythapar
A request to all pol parties including the ruling party and @PMOIndia please do not freeze oil rates in election season. Let the slow rise continue. Bcoz after elections you'll in any case recover the backlog. And then hikes are steep and continuous. So why fool us for a short time?

BRIEF

Grow



New Delhi: AgroStar on Thursday acquired INI Farms Pvt Ltd to expand business and is targeting to grow its revenue to more than Rs 1,000 crore. AgroStar CEO Shardul Sheth said that we have acquired INI Farms through combination of cash and stock with value.

Stake

New Delhi: Private equity firm Bain Capital on Thursday said it will acquire a 24.98 per cent stake in IIFL Wealth Management Limited for Rs 3,679 crore. BC Asia Investments X Limited, a subsidiary of Bain Capital, has proposed to pick up a 2.2 crore stake held by General Atlantic Singapore Fund Pte Ltd and FIH Mauritius Investments Ltd, wholly owned subsidiary of Fairfax India Holdings Corporation in IIFL Wealth Management Limited.

Raises



New Delhi: Wiz Freight on Thursday said it has raised Rs 275 crore funding through a mix of equity and debt led by Tiger Global. CEO Ramkumar Govindarajan said the company is helping customers take control of their supply chains by offering shipment visibility.

Acquires

New Delhi: Electric two-wheeler maker Ultraviolet on Thursday said it has acquired Triloki Smart Systems, a connected vehicle technology start-up. The acquisition of Triloki Smart Systems, a Bangalore based technology start-up, is part of the strategy to push towards scaling up the company's automotive intelligence platform (AIP) across multiple products and geographies.

Neutral



New Delhi: Procter & Gamble India on Thursday said it has become a 'plastic waste neutral' company in FY 2021-22, after having recycled 100 per cent of post-consumer plastic packaging waste.

Production

Chennai: Danfoss Group company, Eaton Fluid Power inaugurated a new hydrostatic production line at its facility in Pune aimed at increasing the localisation levels and cater to the demand in the local market. The at its Pune Pimpri campus would help the customers to improve the response time besides creating new job opportunities.

India has safeguards in place to mitigate risks from capital flows

IMF report warns of risks to financial stability from liabilities

Washington, Mar 31 (PTI):

India, which has received a record number of foreign direct investment during the last few years despite COVID-19 crisis, has quite a few safeguards in place to mitigate the risks from capital flows, the International Monetary Fund said.

Capital flows have several benefits. They finance needed investments. They help insure against some kinds of risks. There are many benefits to countries from having capital flows in India and also benefits from receiving those capital flows, IMF's First Deputy Managing Director, Gita Gopinath,



Gita Gopinath

told reporters here.

The IMF released a paper on the Review of the Institutional View (IV) on the Liberalization and Management of Capital Flows. The IV was adopted in 2012 and provides the basis for consistent Fund advice on policies related to capital flows.

The IV aims to help countries reap the benefits of capital flows while managing the associated risks in a way that preserves macroeconomic and financial stability and does not generate signifi-

cant negative outward spillovers. The review introduces important changes that expand the toolkit for policymakers, such as allowing the preemptive use of capital flow measures on inflows if financial vulnerabilities exist.

In response to a question, Gopinath noted that there are other kinds of financial risks associated with having large amounts of capital inflows.

In the case of India, there are a large number of capital restrictions already in place. The Indian government uses these restrictions quite proactively in dealing with the external environment changes. So, by putting restrictions on the amount of external borrowing the corporates can do, that is an instrument that they use.

JK Tyre sets another industry benchmark

New Delhi, Mar 31:

Revolutionizing India's tyre market, the pioneer of Radial technology and leading tyre manufacturer, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd., has launched India's first Puncture Guard Tyres for four-wheelers.

Driven by the technological expertise of producing high performance tyres suited for Indian conditions, JK Tyre, aims to revolutionize the industry with Puncture Guard Tyres for new generation cars available in market.

The Puncture Guard tyre technology, with specially engineered self-healing elastomer inner coat, applied inside the tyres through an automated process, heals the punctures. Tyres with this

technology can self-repair the multiple punctures in the tread area, due to nails or other sharp objects up to 6.0 mm diameter instantly. Puncture Guard tyre offers hassle free ride throughout the life of the tyre without air loss.

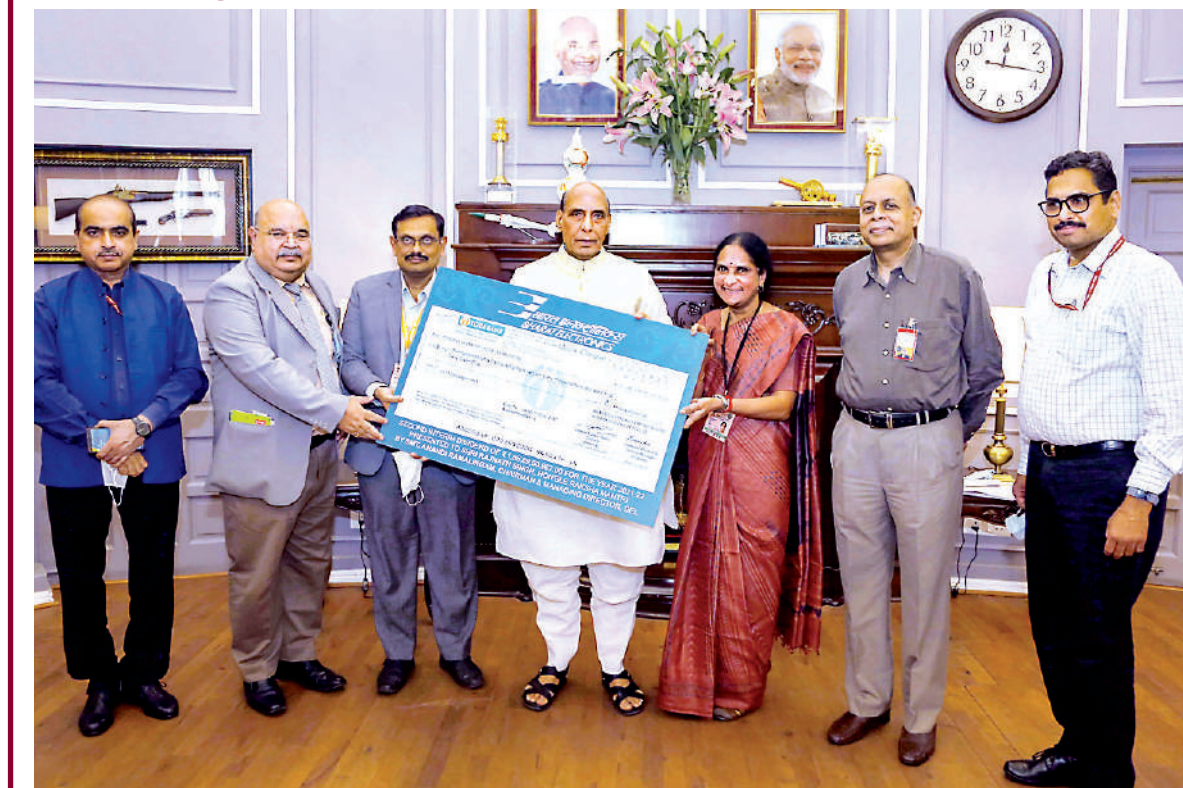
Commenting on the occasion, Dr. Raghupati Singhania, Chairman & Managing Director said, "JK Tyre has always been a front-runner when it comes to innovation-led technological development. With the introduction of Smart tyre technology in 2020 and now the Puncture Guard Tyre technology, we have yet again delivered on our commitment to provide advanced mobility solutions to our customers."

Sensex declines 115.48 pts due to profit taking

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTI):

Benchmark BSE Sensex gave up its early gains to settle lower by 115 points on the last day of 2021-22 fiscal on Thursday, dragged down by profit-taking in Reliance Industries, Infosys and HDFC Bank after a three-day rally. The 30-share barometer declined by 115.48 points or 0.20 per cent to settle at 58,568.51 in choppy trade due to the expiry of monthly derivatives contracts. During the day, it touched a high of 58,890.92 and a low of 58,485.79. The broader NSE Nifty declined by 33.50 points or 0.19 per cent to settle at 17,464.75. For the fiscal 2021-22, the BSE Sensex jumped 9,059.36

DIVIDEND RECEIVED



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh receives second interim dividend cheque of Rs 186.89 crore for the Financial Year 2021-22 from CMD of Bharat Electronics Limited Anandi Ramalingam, in New Delhi, Thursday.

Rupee surges 14 paise at 75.76 against USD, gold rises

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTI):

The rupee advanced by 14 paise to close at 75.76 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, tracking strong Asian peers and a fall in global crude oil prices.

However, during the financial year 2021-22, the domestic unit depreciated by 264 paise or 3.61 per cent against the American currency.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 75.67 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 75.66 and a low of 75.83.

The rupee finally settled at 75.76, registering a rise of 14 paise over its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee dropped 17 paise to close at 75.90 against the

US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.40 per cent to 98.18. Bullion prices showed mixed movement.

Gold prices on Thursday rose by Rs 195 to Rs 51,148 per 10 grams in futures trade as speculators created fresh positions on a firm spot demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for April delivery traded higher by Rs 195 or 0.38 per cent to Rs 51,148 per 10 grams in a business turnover of 213 lots.

Fresh positions built up by participants led to the rise in gold prices, analysts said.

Toyota Kirloskar drives in Hilux at Rs 33.99 lakh



New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) on Thursday said its iconic SUV model Hilux is priced between Rs 33.99 lakh and Rs 36.8 lakh (ex-showroom) across the country.

Launched earlier this year, the Hilux is aimed to fulfil the needs of the cus-

tomers seeking a lifestyle utility vehicle that is best suited for off-roading adventure drives on tough terrains, and everyday city use.

"Ever since its launch, the sophisticated Hilux has managed to win the admiration and hearts of the customers with good response. With our 'cus-

tomers first' approach, drawing inspiration from the lifestyles of the people, our offering in the whole new lifestyle segment with Hilux is a step ahead to deliver 'mass happiness to all.'" TKM Executive Vice President Tadashi Asazuma said in a statement. The Toyota Hilux is the epitome of

engineering, safety, and comfort, all perfectly channelled to create the incredible lifestyle utility vehicle for those who enjoy adventure, thrill, and creating enduring memories with friends and family, he added.

Globally, the Hilux sales have surpassed 20 million units in around 180 countries. Through more than five decades and eight generations, the Toyota Hilux created extraordinary experiences and an unbreakable bond with those who desire awesomeness during their everyday drives, whether they are on business or with their families, the automaker stated. Hilux's global reputation as a powerful performer is attributed to its rigid Innovative Multi-purpose Vehicle (IMV) platform.

Tight coal supply to put upward pressure on power tariff

Rise in import dependency also factor

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Tight supply of coal to power plants and expected rise in import of the dry fuel amid high international prices will put upward pressure on electricity tariff, according to an Icrta report. "Given the continued tight domestic coal supply position over the last six-month period, coal import dependency for the power sector is expected to increase moderately in the near-term."

"It therefore poses a cost headwind for IPPs (merchant & competitively bid based projects with no or limited fuel cost pass-through) and for the distribution utilities ('discoms'), in an elevated internation-



al coal price level environment," Girishkumar Kadam, Senior Vice President & Co-Group Head - Corporate ratings, Icrta, said. The outlook for thermal generation and distribution segments within the power sector continues to remain negative, he stated. According to the report, Ministry of Power issued an advisory

on March 26, 2022 highlighting domestic coal supply availability to power sector to be done in proportionate basis of coal received from Coal India Ltd / Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL). In the advisory, the ministry also directed to maximize captive coal production within the permitted levels and to take initiatives to promote the use of renewable energy so as to bring down coal dependency. In December 2021, the ministry also advised state power generation companies (GENCOs) and independent power producers (IPPs) to meet their coal requirements through blending of imported coal to the extent of 4 per cent.

OMCs' policies hampering ethanol output: ISMA tells MPs

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

The country has enough raw material to produce 1,016 crore litres of ethanol by 2025 for blending with petrol, but policies of oil marketing companies and other factors are restricting the output of the fuel additive, industry body ISMA said on Thursday.

In a presentation before Members of Parliament (MPs), Indian Sugar Mills Association Director General Abinash Verma said that about 10 per cent ethanol blending with petrol is expected in the current (2022) year. A target has been set for 20 per cent ethanol blending by 2025.

To achieve the 20 per cent blending target, the ISMA DG said about 1,016



crore litres of ethanol is required, and for which the raw material is available. But there is a need to augment production capacity with mills as well as necessary infrastructure and storage with OMCs (Oil Marketing Companies).

The government has put in place encouraging policies for capacity creation, but delay in bank loans is creating hurdles. That apart, OMCs' policies remain 'restrictive', it said.

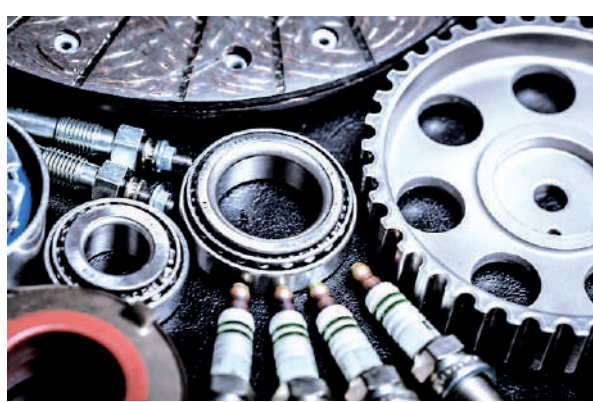
Auto component industry likely to clock 8-10% growth

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

The Indian auto component industry is expected to clock 8-10 per cent growth in FY23, supported by the easing of supply-chain issues and commodity inflation in the second half of the year, according to rating agency Icrta.

For 2021-22, the revenue growth of the industry is pegged at 13-15 per cent, driven by domestic OEM, replacement, export volumes and pass-through of commodity prices. The healthy volume growth will, however, come on a low base of FY2021, the agency said in a statement.

"Demand for auto components stems from domestic OEMs, replacement and exports. Domestic OEM demand has remained a mixed bag across segments in



FY2022, with a slowdown in two-wheelers (2Ws) and semiconductor shortage dragging down overall production volumes," Icrta Ltd Assistant Vice President & Sector Head Corporate Ratings - Vinutaa S said.

Exports have remained a bright spot in the Indian auto component story, partly aided by the "China+1 strategy". This

is despite supply chain issues, she added. "ICRA believes that the growth in FY2022 exports would have been even better if not for the semiconductor shortage. While auto ancillaries have a healthy export order book for the next few months, the impact of geopolitical and supply-chain issues on actual offtake remains monitorable," Vinutaa said.

Ukraine war may result in 25% supply shortage of sunflower oil

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTI):

The ongoing war in Ukraine, which is the world's largest sunflower grower, is likely to result in at least 25 per cent or 4-6 lakh tonnes shortage of crude sunflower oil supplies in India next fiscal, according to a report.

Around 70 per cent of crude sunflower oil comes to India from Ukraine and about 20 per cent from Russia.

Balance sheets of domestic edible oil processors are healthy enough to withstand supply disruptions caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine but will have a bearing on the production planning of domestic edible oil processors, rating agency Crisil said



on Thursday. Refined sunflower oil constitutes 10 per cent of the country's consumption of 230-240 lakh tonnes of edible oils annually and almost 60 per cent of the demand is met through imports.

As much as 90 per cent of the country's annual crude sunflower oil requirement of 22-23 lakh tonnes come from Ukraine (70 per cent), Russia (20 per cent) and the rest from Argentina and other countries.



Shubhaavi Choksey: Strong women don't put down each other

Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2' actress Shubhaavi Choksey talks about women empowerment and how strong women don't put down each other.

She says: "The most inspirational women are those who give strength to others apart from themselves. They are those who don't put others down when they rise."

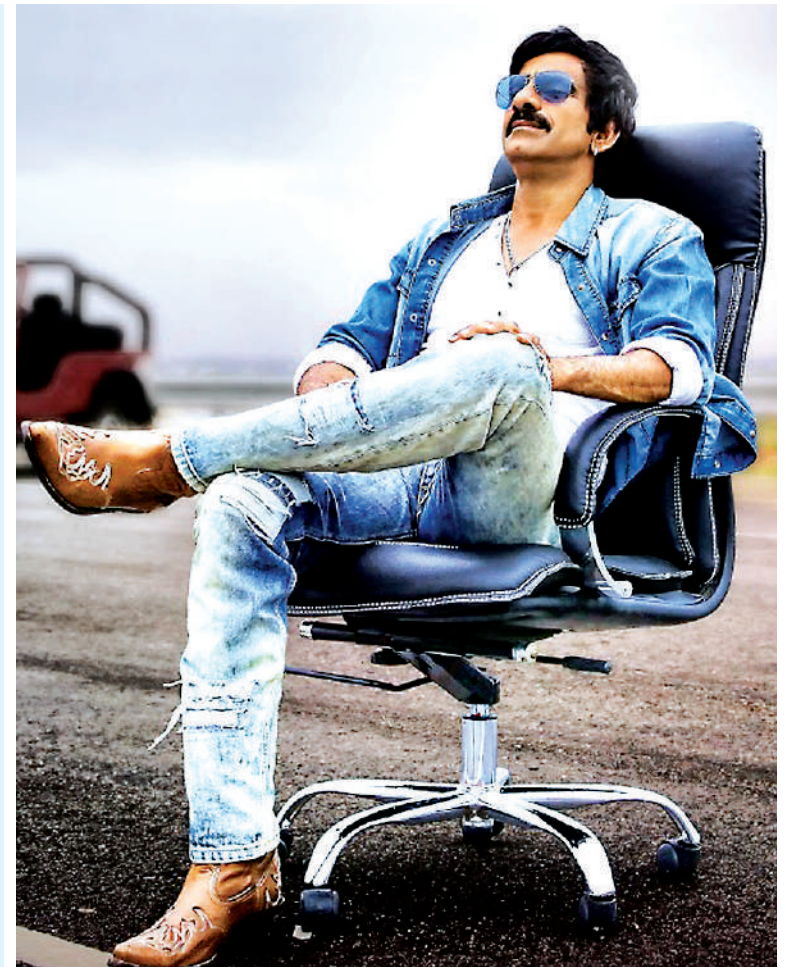
"They are those who are fearless to take up a challenge and even more courageous to admit that they need help if at all required."

She concludes by naming the two most influential women in her life.

The actress adds: "My grandmother and mother are the women who symbolise strength, truth, discipline, valiance and above all compassion. I hope I have imbibed these in my life."

Ravi Teja's upcoming movie Tiger Nageswara Rao' pre-look on April 2

Ravi Teja's upcoming movie 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' is a pan-India movie helmed by Vamsee. The makers have announced to launch this movie on April 2 while they plan to release the pre-look simultaneously. 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' will have its grand launching event on Ugadi day (April 2) in Novatel at HICC, Madhapur, Hyderabad, as reported. The event will have the film's core team and a few other guests in the auditorium. The film's pre-look will be launched at 12:06 p.m. on April 2. Touted to be a real story from the 1970s related to a notorious region called 'Stuartpuram' in Andhra Pradesh, this movie is said to have multiple layers with an interesting narrative. Ravi Teja, who is to be projected as 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' has undergone a drastic transformation. Prestigiously produced by Abhishek Agarwal ('The Kashmir Files' Producer) under Abhishek Agarwal Arts banner, 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' is presented by Tej Narayan Agarwal.



Anushka Sharma pulls Virat Kohli's leg in the comments section after he posts their fun selfie

Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli are one of the cutest couples on the block. Be it their pictures, their gestures for each other, or them pulling each other's leg on social media, it is all loved by fans and they often succeed in setting couple goals. Well, today, Virat took to his social media and shared a picture of him posing with his wife in front of what appeared to be their daughter Vamika's play area. Virat in the picture looked happy as he had a big grin on his face. But what is making this picture even more special is the actress' comment on it.

The moment Virat Kohli shared this cute picture, Anushka Sharma took to the comments section a while back and teased her hubby. She wrote, "Happy to make my fans happy. Anything for my fans." Isn't this cute? This particular comment of the actress itself has received more than 16k likes and fans have replied to this comment with laughter emojis. From calling them cute to posting several heart emojis, fans showered love on this post.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Anushka Sharma is gearing up for her comeback film. She will be soon seen in Chakda Xpress, playing the role of Indian cricketer Jhulan Goswami on the silver screen. She is often snapped practising to ace her gaming skills. In fact, she also keeps sharing pictures and videos of her training hard for the film.

Manik Bedi talks about his portrayal as Harshvardhan



Sony Entertainment Television's Mose Chhal Kiye Jaaye, has struck the right chord with its audience. Although it appears to first-hand be a show that dwells upon the fight between the mind and the heart, there are several other grey aspects to it which keep the viewers engaged and enthralled throughout. The show also boasts of several interesting characters in addition to the protagonists, who have their own intricacies for the audience to explore. One such role is that of Harshvardhan Oberoi, father of Armaan, played by Manik Bedi.

As an actor who has mostly taken up positive roles in the past, Harshvardhan Oberoi's character was quite a challenge for Manik Bedi. The character comes with

an extremely negative shade, who believes that women should be domesticated, take care of the house and the family and that the man is responsible for taking care of his woman.

Elaborating on this, he mentions, "Harshvardhan Oberoi's character is a very strong entity who possibly turned out this way due to his mother or father's presence or ideologies, or manner of raising him as a child. Harshvardhan is extremely harsh in his reactions and ways of thinking, and it often gets tough to essay the role on screen due to his extreme mannerisms or the way in which he treats other characters on the show."

Tune into Mose Chhal Kiye Jaaye, every Monday to Friday at 9:00 P.M., only on Sony Entertainment Television.

Karan Kundrra flags off the exciting Arena Task

ALTBalaji & MX Player's Lock Up unfolds a new chapter every day, and the ride continues as contestants do their best to survive in India's biggest digital reality show! Ever since, Azma Fallah has walked into the Lock Up jail, it was high time someone paid her back. So, Mandana decided to teach Azma a lesson and hid her garments near the storage unit as a form of revenge. Shivam informed Azma that he had seen her clothes near the storage unit, and Azma assumed it was Zeeshan who did it since they had a tiff for a few days. So, as payback, Azma sprinkled detergent powder on Zeeshan's clothes! When Zeeshan went to get his clothes, he noticed the powder and assumed he had not washed them adequately.

Celebrity jailor Karan Kundrra takes all the Kaidis to flag off the only Arena task. The task was an obstacle course, where the kaidis had to complete the task while carrying sandbags on their backs. The task was structured as a relay race with one Kaidi tagging another to start another obstacle course. Both blocks received a total of ten sandbags, each weighing ten kilos. The catch was that both sandbags had a funnel through which the sand may fall, so the Kaidi had to be extremely cautious. There were four obstacles: Balancing beams, Hopping steps, Electric circuit and Lock



Up runway. In this task, 3 kaidis can perform simultaneously from each block. The rule was simple: if a Kaidi placed their foot down during the task, they had to restart it, and the block with the most sand at the end of the task would win. Munawar, Anjali, and Ali played from the left block. First, Shivam, Zeeshan and Mandana chose to play from the right block. Shivam and Ali performed admirably during

the task, whereas Anjali struggled to complete the obstacle course. Zeeshan, however, took a long time to get the hang of the course. The team that wins the task will gain access to the luxury washrooms.

Who is the daredevil team that finally won the task? To know more, Watch Lock Up for more fun tasks and entertainment only on ALTBalaji and MX Player at 10:30pm.

HOROSCOPE FRIDAY APRIL 01

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18

Set any target, take up any activity or accept any challenge; you will succeed in any of them with flying colours, foresees Ganesha. Your well-wishers will shower praises upon you for those hard earned achievements. Friends are like family to you, take them out and have a gala time before another busy day begins.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

You will be busy with romance throughout the day. While singles are likely to find the person of their dreams, those who are married will establish a new closeness in their relationship. Your attitude towards work will begin to change. You will become more serious about your career, and the fruits of this transformation will be reaped by you shortly in the near future, says Ganesha.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21

You need to pay more attention to yourself today. Your kind and generous nature means you often think about others rather than about yourself. Now is the time to pay attention to your own needs. You need to spend more time with your family and friends as well, says Ganesha.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22

You will secure your place with hard work in your job or business. Ties with partners will improve. Closeness with spouse is indicated. Melody and joy will mark domestic bliss. You will spend the evening with your beloved. Ganesha's blessings are with you.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23

Ganesha says people will try to take advantage of your amiable nature and disposition. Small issues will crop up today making your nature a little tensed and enhance your anger too. You will be inspired to take chances in monetary matters. Ganesha says you need to keep your mind steady and regain your lost charm soon.

Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22

Your imagination runs wild today. Though you do not travel geographically, your mind travels beyond boundaries. Think and act according to your will, advises Ganesha. However, practice caution before taking any major step.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20

Freedom is a key aspect of life today, Aries. You might find that your brain wants to break free and pursue more independent ways of thinking. Don't worry if such ways of thinking lead you into unknown territory. This is a sign that this is probably where you need to be.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23

The pressure at work will be high. Some person may try to tempt you with lucrative offers to go against your principles. However, you will be able to resist the lure of easy money. Your health may suffer today, so be on guard, says Ganesha.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20

Don't let your emotions play a spoilsport while deciding about the future. Think practically, otherwise, your expectations and reality will not be on the same boat, guides Ganesha. Friendly and supportive, today you will spread happiness and win the love of one and all.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 31

You will be loaded with responsibilities at work today, fore sees Ganesha. But, you are pro challenges and will take it up sportingly. On personal front, the list of your friends is likely to get longer. All in all, Ganesha sees you in an active avatar today.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21

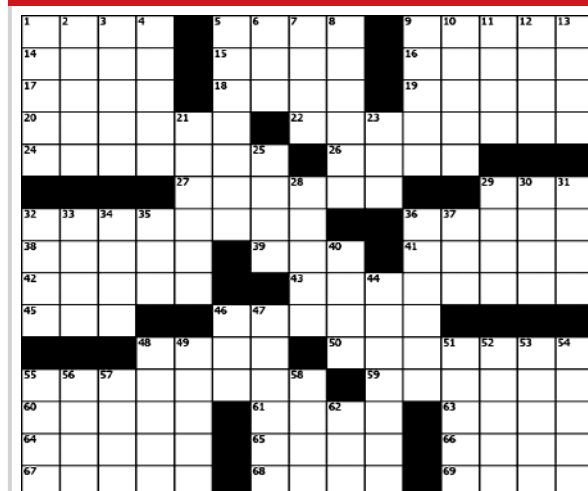
Today, you may experience the juxtaposition of pleasure and pain. Household tasks may weigh you down around afternoon. Later in the day, you will be able to achieve whatever you desire solely on account of your determination and mental strength. Pleasure awaits in the warmth and company of your soul mate, says Ganesha.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22

You will stay calm and steady today, and there is hardly anything that can disturb your peace of mind. Your family and friends will back you fully and motivate you to overcome hurdles. You will work with devotion, says Ganesha. You may ask for work that others may find very difficult to do.

CROSSWORD

256



ACROSS

- Plant fluids
- Unoccupied
- Lucifer
- Rigid support
- Midday
- Hoisting machine
- Film holder
- Warmth
- Path
- Complete
- Calamity
- Oriental
- Arrive
- Female relatives
- Sis's sibling
- Rabble-rouser
- Hawk's weapon
- Sheik's wives
- Opposite of pos.
- Wipe clean
- Dodge
- Hearing organ pains

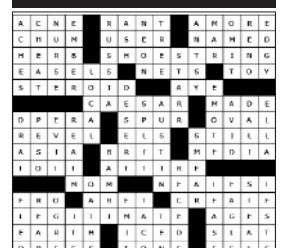
- Males
- Italian seaport
- Small earring
- Lift up
- Fatherly
- Reporter's boss
- Unattended
- Gather leaves
- Della ___ of "Touched by an Angel"
- Small pie
- Actor ___ Guinness
- Road bends
- Mineral springs
- Pre-Easter season

DOWN

- Shopping binge
- Stadium
- Verse makers
- Bowling woe
- Benefit from a will
- Buck's mate
- Heavy burden
- Tempt
- Beat it!
- Got up
- Tightly stretched
- Opening wager
- Poetic contraction
- Retitle
- Mayday!
- Inert gas
- Crawl
- Uninspired

- Thorny bloom
- Wallet stuffers
- Throat-clearing sound
- Bestowed
- Persia, today
- Baseball's ___ Williams
- Poked fun at
- Curve
- Strong wind
- Eases up
- Cloistered one
- Conforms
- Taste or smell
- Orchard members
- Kind of infection
- ___ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
- Keepsake
- Put up
- Whittle down
- Pub beverages
- Little piggies
- Jump
- Gun rights group (abbr.)

SOLUTION 255



Another quick day for Pegula, who makes Miami Open semis



Miami Gardens: Forget three-setters. These days, Jessica Pegula doesn't even need second sets. The No. 16 seed has made the semifinals at the Miami Open, benefiting from a second consecutive abrupt ending. She won her quarterfinal against fifth-seeded Paula Badosa on Wednesday, after the Spaniard retired five games into the first set. Pegula has played four matches so far in this tournament, needing only 5 1/2 sets to record those victories. She had a first-round bye, won her next two matches in straight sets and her fourth-round match ended when unseeded Anhelina Kalinina retired after Pegula won the first set 6-0. Then came Wednesday, when Badosa bowed out down 4-1. "Of course, it's not nice to win that way," Pegula said. "It's the first time I've ever even hit with her at all and I was really looking forward to playing because she's been having an amazing year."

Dinesh Karthik is as cool as MS Dhoni: RCB skipper Faf du Plessis



Navi Mumbai: Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper Faf du Plessis has lavished praise on teammate Dinesh Karthik, saying his calm demeanour is close to what Mahendra Singh Dhoni displays in the final overs of the game. Karthik clobbered a six and a four in the first two

deliveries of the last over to take RCB home after they were in a spot of bother chasing a tricky target of 129 against Kolkata Knight Riders on Wednesday night. "DK's experience helped in the end, cool-calm, runs weren't never really too far away. He's probably as cool as MS Dhoni can get in the last five overs," said RCB captain Faf du Plessis, who has played with Dhoni at CSK, in the post-match presentation.

Sam Curran feels IPL came 'bit too soon'



New Delhi: Recovering from a back injury, England allrounder Sam Curran says he is gutted to miss the IPL this season but feels his decision to opt out of the auction was the right one. Curran said it would have been too soon to return to action as he nurses the most serious injury of his young career. "I'm gutted not to be there. It's a frustration watching from home," Curran, who played for Chennai Super Kings, told ESPNcricinfo. "I wanted to go (into the auction) but I didn't at the end which was probably the best decision. Looking back, IPL probably came a little bit too soon." The 23-year-old, who bowls left-arm medium pace, had sustained a stress fracture on his lower back during the second leg of IPL in October last year.

Fit-again Surya joins MI ahead of IPL fixture against Rajasthan



Mumbai: Having recovered from his finger injury, star India batter Suryakumar Yadav has joined the Mumbai Indians ahead of their second IPL game against Rajasthan Royals, the five-time champions said on Thursday. Surya, who was undergoing rehabilitation at the National Cricket

Academy after suffering a finger injury during the home series against West Indies last month, missed MI's IPL opener against Delhi Capitals on March 27. "Suryakumar Yadav exited his mandatory quarantine and joined the team (on Wednesday) for the gym session in the company of his mates Kieron Pollard, Ishan Kishan and Jasprit Bumrah... The mood in the camp is upbeat," MI said in a statement.

US returns to World Cup despite 2-0 loss at Costa Rica

San Jose: The United States men are returning to the World Cup after the trauma of missing the 2018 tournament, clinching a berth for this year's championship in Qatar despite a 2-0 loss to Costa Rica on the final night of qualifying. Juan Pablo Vargas got behind Walker Zimmerman and headed Brandon Aguilera's corner kick past goalkeeper Zack Steffen in the 51st minute, and Anthony Contreras knocked in a cross off a scramble in the 59th after Steffen couldn't hold onto a free kick. A sellout crowd of about 35,000 in National Stadium came to life, but the Americans' 5-1 rout of Panama at home last weekend gave them a huge goal-difference margin over Costa Rica. That meant the U.S. merely had to avoid losing by six goals or more in order to claim an automatic berth by finishing among the top three nations in North and Central America and Caribbean.

Wyatt, Ecclestone fire England to another World Cup final

Christchurch, Mar 31 (PTD):

Danielle Wyatt made the most of the luck that came her way enroute to a memorable hundred as defending champions England showed their big-match temperament with a 137-run win over South Africa to enter the Women's World Cup final here on Thursday.

Wyatt (129 off 125), who was dropped five times, struck a maiden World Cup hundred before Sophia Dunkley produced a fine 60 off 72 balls to take England to an imposing 293 for eight after South Africa chose to bowl.

South Africa, who had reached the last-four stage as the second best team from the league stage and also eliminated India from the competition, crumbled under the pressure of a knock-out game.

They could never recover from the body blow received in the second over of the chase when pacer Anya Shrubsole (2/27) had tournament's leading run-getter Laura Wolvaardt caught and bowled.

Their innings ended at 156 in 38 overs.

Left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone completed the job for England by cleaning up the lower-order, ending with six wickets for 36 runs in eight overs. She had also hit an unbeaten 24 off 11 balls to take England close to the 300-run mark.

With five wins on the trot after three losses that



had them staring at an early exit, England's juggernaut is well and truly rolling as they stand on the cusp of a fifth title.

Their final and familiar opponents Australia, on the other hand, are eyeing a record-extending seventh crown. "That was a complete performance from us,

something we were searching for a little bit. Really chuffed that the girls have brought their best cricket when everything's on the line," said England skipper Heather Knight referring to their comeback after a disastrous start to their tournament campaign. "I think the knockout

cricket that we have been playing for the last four games has helped us."

On meeting the undefeated Australia in the final on Sunday, she added: "We will go in as underdogs. We have put a lot of energy in the last few weeks and need a one last push and hopefully we can do that on Sunday."

It was a brilliant display of swing bowling from Shrubsole that broke the backbone of South Africa batting in the run chase.

Wolvaardt's opening partner Lizelle Lee was Shrubsole's second wicket as the out-of-form batter flicked it straight into the hands of the mid-wicket fielder, ending her forgettable campaign in the ICC event. After Kate Cross removed Sune Luus with a beauty that seemed to nip back in sharply, the writing was on the wall for South Africa, who paid the price for their sloppy fielding early on in the game.

Their decision to chase in a high-pressure game was also debatable. However, it was still a good run for South Africa in the competition.

"We needed to bring our best performance today and we didn't and we are feeling it. We needed to be clinical today and we weren't, it is time to keep on working," said South Africa skipper Sune Luus.

I still think we had a great campaign and we are not taking anything away from that." PTI BS ATK

With WIPL, India is going to be unbeatable in 10 years: Alyssa Healy



Wellington, Mar 30 (PTD):

Star Australia wicket-keeper-batter Alyssa Healy has backed the BCCI's plan of launching a Women's IPL next year and said India can become unbeatable in 10 years owing to the franchise-based T20 league.

Last week, the BCCI announced that it is planning to start the Women's IPL by 2023, though the decision will need approval at its Annual General Meeting. The BCCI has proposed a six-team WIPL next year.

"The announcement is pretty great. It's exactly where we thought the women's game needed to go. That was like the next step," Healy was quoted as saying by ESPNcricinfo.

"We've had a really successful WBBL, and the Kia Super League went really well, now into the Hundred there's sort of some thriving domestic competitions, so to see the announcement of the IPL, in particular, to be able to grow the game in India is unbelievable."

The 32-year-old Healy, who hit a belligerent century against West Indies on Wednesday to take Australia into the ODI World Cup final, has long been an advocate of a WIPL.

She featured in the inaugural one-off exhibition game which was the precursor of the current four-match Women's T20 Challenge, a competition which will also be held this year. "It (India) is such an untapped market. I feel, in the women's game. "With that many people, surely, they're going to be unbeatable in sort of a 10-year time. They just really needed a sort of a leg-up in that domestic set-up to showcase what these amazing women can do, so it's really exciting," Healy, and other Australians, have not participated in the T20 Challenge since its first edition in 2018. A last-minute stalemate between the BCCI and Cricket Australia led to the Australians missing out on the Indian tournament in 2019.

Powar's term ends, Laxman may play bigger role



New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Indian women's team head coach Ramesh Powar's contract has expired at the conclusion of the side's campaign in the ICC World Cup and he might have to reapply for the post as per BCCI rules.

The disastrous World Cup campaign could also lead to a radical shift in women's cricket, with National Cricket Academy (NCA) head VVS Laxman taking an active part in mentoring the next batch of the country's cricketers. The team failed to make the semifinals of the ongoing tournament. Powar had replaced WV Raman, who had guided the team into the T20 World

Cup final in 2020. "Powar's contract was till World Cup. There is no provision for extension. So the entire process starts with applications and interviews. Powar can certainly reapply and CAC (Cricket Advisory Committee), as per the constitution, will take a call," a senior BCCI source told PTI on the condition of anonymity.

Eyebrows were raised after Raman wasn't given a second term after a good show with the team and Powar, who had a chequered history with skipper Mithali Raj, was brought back.

"The CAC takes the call and if they felt Ramesh would do better than Raman, it was their call. The board can't interfere," the source said.

As PTI reported at the end of India's campaign in New Zealand, there were serious differences of opinions between two senior players, who have been at loggerheads for years now.

KKR promise bold play against power-packed Punjab Kings

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTD):

Kolkata Knight Riders are expected to continue with their risk-taking approach despite mixed returns when they on Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.

KKR head into Friday's game at the back of a three-wicket loss against RCB though managed to make the game close after a below-par total.

Punjab began their campaign with a win but they would expecting a better bowling effort after conceding more than 200 runs in their first game. South Africa speedster Kagiso Rabada is expected to play after completing his three-day quarantine and that will give a big boost to the Punjab attack.

Batting at the Wankhede, where the track is relative-



ly fresh, has not been easy as seen in the two games played at the venue so far.

It may be early days in the two-month long IPL but the toss is already playing a significant role in the game's outcome with dew coming into picture in the

second half of the game.

Kolkata's openers, Ajinkya Rahane and the attacking Venkatesh Iyer perished cheaply against RCB and the duo would be looking to provide a strong start to the team.

While skipper Shreyas

Iyer, who has been in good form despite the failure against RCB, would be an important cog in the wheel, but would need support from the likes of Nitish Rana. For left-handed Rana, consistency would be the key. Apart from the duo, the responsibility in the middle order needs to be shouldered by Sam Billings, Sheldon Jackson and the big-hitting Andre Russell.

The KKR line-up has batters who can tear into any attack and the management would hope that they all fire in unison against Punjab.

On the bowling front, pacer Umesh Yadav was splendid in both the games with the new ball. Experienced Kiwi bowler Tim Southee, who replaced Shivam Mavi and picked up three wickets, too has a key role to play upfront.

Mexico heads to its eighth straight World Cup with win

Mexico City, Mar 31 (AP):

It was never really in doubt that Mexico would make its eighth straight World Cup.

Mexico had all but booked its spot in Qatar heading into its final qualifying match against El Salvador on Wednesday night. The mood from the home crowd at Azteca Stadium was light from the moment a remote-controlled toy truck delivered the game ball to midfield for kickoff.

Uriel Antuna scored in the 16th minute for the early lead and Raul Jimenez converted on a penalty kick before the end of the first half, and El Tri downed El Salvador 2-0 to make the World Cup spot official. The final qualification matches in the North and Central America and Caribbean regions were all played simultaneously on Wednesday night. CONCACAF's three automatic bids went to Canada,



Mexico's Raul Jimenez (L) celebrates his goal against El Salvador during their FIFA World Cup Concacaf qualifier match at the Azteca stadium in Mexico City.

Mexico and the United States. Canada had already secured its first World Cup berth in 36 years with a 4-0 victory over Jamaica in Toronto on

Sunday. The Canadians fell to Panama 1-0 in their final match but finished atop the eight-team table with 28 points.

With 3 Olympians in side, confident India eye best-ever finish at Jr.WC

Potchefstroom, Mar 31 (PTD):

The presence of three Olympians, including skipper Salima Tete, will certainly be an advantage for the Indian hockey team when it competes at the FIH Women's Junior World Cup, beginning here on Friday.

Apart from Tete, midfielder Sharmila Devi and striker Lalresiami were part of the senior team which finished fourth at the Tokyo Olympics.

The Indian team will begin its campaign in Pool D against Wales on Saturday before taking on formidable Germany on Sunday.

The Indians will then take on Malaysia in the final pool match before the quarterfinal round which starts on April 8.

The 20-year-old Salima is a vital cog in the Indian midfield. She has already proved her capabilities in the successful Olympics campaign. Her swiftness is a treat to



watch. She mesmerised with her brilliant runs in the bronze medal match against Great Britain, earning three penalty corners, albeit in a losing cause. Lalresiami, the first woman Olympian from Mizoram, is a nimble-footed striker, known for quick and poach-

ing movements inside the opposition circle. The 20-year-old Sharmila, also an energetic forward, has impressed all with her brilliant runs from both the flanks during the Olympics. She also scored a goal in India's pool stage match against Great Britain.

PROTECTION FROM HEAT



Tourists use umbrellas to shield themselves from the hot summer sun, during their visit to the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Thursday.

Speculation over Akhilesh-Shivpal rift

Rajbhar says efforts on to sort out issues

Lucknow, Mar 31 (PTD):

Sulking socialist leader Shivpal Singh Yadav's recent meeting with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has triggered speculation that he may quit the SP-led alliance to join the BJP. The speculation gained strength amid reports indicating the Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) chief's strained relationship with Samajwadi Party (SP) president and his nephew Akhilesh Yadav.

Shivpal Yadav had met Adityanath on Wednesday.

However, Om Prakash Rajbhar, a key leader of the Opposition alliance, sought to downplay the issue. There are "some issues" within their family and he is making all efforts to ensure that they remain together, Rajbhar

said. Meanwhile, Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) spokesperson Deepak Mishra told PTI that party workers on Thursday discussed the changing political scene with their leader and told Shivpal Yadav that they will back whatever decision he takes.

"Shivpal Yadav assured partymen that they will be taken into confidence before taking any decision, which will keep the legacy of (Ram Manohar) Lohia and Jai Prakash Narain alive and work on resolving problems of people," Mishra said.

"In politics, all doors and alternatives are kept open," Mishra said. When questioned about his options, Mishra said, "Shivpalji had got a proposal from the BJP earlier too. Every political party or leader would like to

have popular leader like Shivpal Yadav with them. But he did not go since he has worked with Samajwadi Party workers and led them in all their struggles."

Shivpal Yadav has told workers to remain prepared for struggle and increase their public participation, and a big decision will be taken soon, Mishra said. Reports suggested that the distance between Shivpal Yadav and Akhilesh Yadav has been widening ever since the veteran leader was not invited to a meeting of newly elected SP MLAs on March 26. Shivpal Yadav had contested the recent Assembly polls on the SP symbol.

He skipped the Opposition alliance's Monday meeting and also "delayed" oath as a member of the Assembly, indi-

cating that all is not well between both leaders. Shivpal Yadav took oath on Wednesday and later went to the CM's residence here, fuelling speculation of his changing sides.

Besides Shivpal Yadav, the alliance's other key leader, Pallavi Patel of the Apna Dal (Kamerwadi), who had humbled Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya from Sirathu, had also not attended the meeting of the SP coalition partners on March 28.

Talks are doing rounds that as part of the plan, the BJP may send Shivpal Yadav to the Rajya Sabha and give his Jaswantnagar seat to his son Aditya Yadav. Akhilesh Yadav had denied ticket to Aditya Yadav in the Assembly polls. Eleven Rajya Sabha seats will fall vacant between April and July.

'G23 never wanted non-Gandhi as Cong chief'

Bhopal, Mar 31 (PTD):

Senior Congress leader Kamal Nath on Thursday claimed that the 'G-23' group of Congress dissidents never demanded that a leader from outside the Gandhi family head the party. Their demand of organisational polls has been met as elections will be held within three months, he said, speaking to reporters at his residence here.

Asked about the demand that somebody from outside the Gandhi family should become the president of Congress, Nath said, "The party elections are going to be held. This G-23 group is very close to me. They have been my colleagues for years. They have never made any such demand. In fact, all their



Kamal Nath

demands have already been met. "They have asked for party elections and they are going to be held. Polls can't be held without membership, so that process is also going on and elections will be held in three months' time," the former Madhya Pradesh chief minister said. Those sitting in cities like Delhi, Bhopal, Mumbai and Bangalore

and talking about the country do not understand "towns and villages," he further said.

The G-23 leaders, who are seeking organisational reforms, had held meetings earlier this month following Congress's dismal performance in the Assembly elections in five states. Meanwhile, Nath targeted the BJP governments at the Centre and in Madhya Pradesh over inflation.

While the price of every other commodity is rising, that of liquor has fallen, he said. Milk is getting costlier while liquor is becoming cheaper, the Congress leader quipped. Rising petrol and diesel prices have a spiralling effect on the prices of edible items including milk, vegetables, medicines and other items

of daily need, he said.

Modi ji (prime minister Narendra Modi) used to say big things about inflation in 2013-14 and Shivraj (Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan) used to ride bicycle in protest (against fuel price rise), they are quiet on the issue now," Nath said. Chouhan has now started a "factory of announcements and assurances, he quipped.

The cost of fertilizer and seeds has increased compared to four years ago, Nath said, adding that farmers, the youth and small traders are all in trouble and hence Congress is staging protests "to open the government's eyes and ears as the government's mouth is open but eyes and ears are shut."

High schools in Ganjam to be illuminated with renewable energy

Berhampur, Mar 31 (PTI):

All government-run high schools in Odisha's Ganjam district will soon be illuminated with electricity generated from renewable energy. The district administration has taken an initiative to make the high schools energy-independent by installing solar panels, Ganjam Collector Vijay Kulange said. The installation is set to be done from Friday by a Noida-based firm and likely to be completed in the next six months. There are 535 government high schools in the district, officials said. Around Rs 9 crore will be spent under the project and expenditure will be met through the corporate social responsibility funds of different firms and contribution of the 'Mo School' (my school), an initiative to revamp the government and state-aided schools in Odisha.

Animals get air coolers, special diet to beat summer heat

● In Jharkhand's Birsa zoo

Ranchi, Mar 31 (PTD):

With Jharkhand experiencing sweltering heat, zoo authorities are making arrangements like providing air-coolers and special diet to ensure that inmates stay healthy at Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, popularly known as Birsa zoo here.

Jharkhand witnessed a temperature of around 40 degree Celsius and Ranchi recorded its maximum at 38 degree Celsius in the past 24 hours.

The authorities have provided air-coolers in enclosures for tigers and

lions, while fruits like water melon and cucumber are being served to herbivores.

Besides, they are also being given glucose, drinking water mixed with Electral powder and multivitamins to protect them from the impact of heat, zoo officials said.

Spread over 104 hectares of area in Ranchi's Ormanjhi area, the zoo houses about 1,450 wild animals comprising 83 species of mammals, reptiles and birds.

Zoo director Jabbar Singh told PTI, Animals, mainly carnivores, suffer the most from rising mercury. So, we have ensured proper summer diet, adequate water and shade for

such animals.

We have installed coolers for nine tigers and four lions in the zoo, besides putting jute sacks around the cages to provide protection from heat. Herbivores are being served fruits having water content to keep them hydrated.

Veterinary doctor of the zoo Dr O P Sahu told PTI that rising temperature increases the respiration rate of animals, especially those of carnivores.

So, diets of tigers and lions have been restricted. Their daily meat intake has been reduced by 2 kg. The health of animals is being monitored at regular intervals by the keepers, he said.

NHAI plans cashless treatment facility on Golden Quadrilateral

For road accident victims

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI): State-owned National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is planning a cashless treatment facility for road accident victims on all four arms of the Golden Quadrilateral stretch, Parliament was informed on Thursday. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said that the success of the scheme may be assessed only after it is implemented on the ground after the conclusion of the bidding process and on-boarding of the selected insurance company. "NHAI is planning a cashless treatment facility for the road accident victims, including drivers, passengers, pedestrians/cyclists on identified National Highway stretches between Delhi-Mumbai/ Mumbai-Chennai/ Chennai-Kolkata/ Kolkata-Agra & Agra-Delhi Corridors of the Golden Quadrilateral (NH) for treatment of the bodily injury caused by and arising out of road accident," Gadkari said.

Congress questions govt over emissions due to infra projects

● Under PM Gati Shakti scheme

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi on Thursday questioned the government on the effects of the PM Gati Shakti scheme, the Centre's big-ticket infrastructure project, on India's commitment to cut emissions to net-zero by 2070.

Taking part in a discussion on climate change in the Lok Sabha, Gogoi said while he supported the development, the scheme, which is a national master plan for multi-modal connectivity entailing large-scale construction, will raise emissions.

"Lakhs of rupees have been allocated to PM Gati Shakti for infrastructure for railways, airports and



Gaurav Gogoi

highways. This scheme is the greatest challenge for India.

"We would need coal, high-emission producing technology will be required. It will raise emissions. What is the model that will keep emissions low? Will the government make a rule that only lower-emission technology will be used?" he asked.

Gogoi also said while the environment minister had stated in Glasgow dur-

ing COP26 that India will reduce the use of coal, the transition to alternative fuel has to be planned just to ensure that people connected to the sector do not suffer. BJP MP Jayant Sinha said the net-zero commitment by 2070 is "massively net positive for India". He further pushed for a global carbon market and for India to be connected to a worldwide carbon network.

Both Sinha and Gogoi urged for an institutional arrangement to secure India's climate future, with the Congress MP even proposing that the government consider bringing legislation on the same. The BSP's Malook Nagar said the government should encourage electronic vehicles and proposed that neem trees be grown in abundance to curb pollution.

VACCINATION DRIVE



Healthcare workers administer a dose of the Covid-19 preventive vaccine to students in the age group of 12 to 14 years, at a school, in Karad, Thursday.

RS bids farewell to 72 retiring MPs

PM urges them to inspire coming generations

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Rajya Sabha on Thursday bid farewell to its 72 retiring members with Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging them to take the experience gained in the House to across India in the best interests of the people and help inspire the coming generations.

Members cutting across party lines shared fond memories of their retiring colleagues and hoped they return to the House. While most MPs were emotional, there were some lighter moments as well.

A total of 72 Rajya Sabha MPs, including



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu, Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, during a photo session with retiring members of Rajya Sabha, in the second part of the Budget Session, at Parliament, in New Delhi, Thursday.

seven nominated members, are retiring between March and July this year,

which is one-third of the strength of the House. Among them, some may

return to the Rajya Sabha. The retiring members represent 19 states and some of them have experience of five terms.

Those retiring from the Rajya Sabha include A K Antony, Ambika Soni, P Chidambaram, Anand Sharma, Jairam Ramesh, Suresh Prabhu, Praful Patel, Subramanian Swamy, Prasanna Acharya, Sanjay Raut, Naresh Gujral, Satish Chandra Mishra, M C Mary Kom, Swapna Dasgupta and Narendra Jadhav.

In his remarks, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu asked lawmakers to be propelled by "passion, performance and

procedural integrity" and desist from disrupting law-making bodies while upholding the honour and privilege bestowed on them by the people.

He called upon them to ensure the expectations and aspirations of people are incorporated in the designing laws and policies.

The Rajya Sabha chairman also voiced concern over the House having lost over 35 per cent of the functional time due to disruptions since 2017. In his speech, the prime minister emphasised that experience has more power than knowledge and the MPs should take it forward in the service of the nation.

'Have required numbers despite withdrawal of support by BJP'

Kargil, Mar 31 (PTD):

National Conference leader and chairman of Kargil unit of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Feroz Ahmad Khan on Thursday denied any threat to his chair following the withdrawal of support by BJP councillors, saying he has the backing of the required number of members.

His remarks came after the BJP withdrew its support to the National Conference in the LAHDC, Kargil, on Wednesday and recommended dissolution of the council. "It was a surpris-

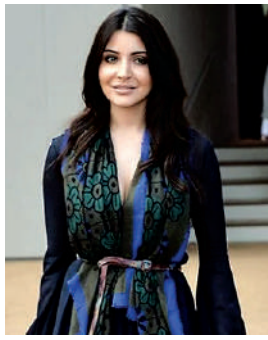


Feroz Ahmad Khan

ing development as the democratically elected LAHDC-Kargil was running smoothly with developmental activities in the district witnessing a massive jump. May be the BJP's Ladakh unit was not happy with it," Khan told PTI.

Khan also lashed out at the BJP's Ladakh unit and termed as "totally misleading and false" its allegations that the council had a lackadaisical approach and there was lack of transparency in utilization of funds for public welfare.

However, Khan, who is also the chief executive councillor, praised the Narendra Modi-led central government and Lt Governor R K Mathur-led administration for ensuring "free flow of funds" for development of the border district. He said there was no alliance between NC and the BJP in the LAHDC-Kargil.



BRIEF



An artist gives final touches to a goddess Durga idol ahead of the Gudi Padwa Festival, in Mumbai, Thursday.

Offline

Kolkata: An estimated 7.45 lakh candidates will appear for the class 12 examinations conducted by the West Bengal board, which will begin on April 2, an official said on Thursday. In a departure from tradition, the students will write the exams in their respective schools and not in other institutes affiliated to the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education (WBCHSE).

Resign

Bengaluru: Senior politician C M Ibrahim, who had recently announced quitting Congress, on Thursday said his resignation as the Member of Karnataka Legislative Council (MLC) has been accepted by its Chairman. Indicating about joining JD(S) soon and calling it a "true secular party", he predicted that the Congress will come third in the 2023 Assembly polls, after the JD(S) and BJP respectively.

Fire

New Delhi: A fire broke out inside a room at the Kasturba Gandhi hospital in central Delhi on Thursday, officials said. The fire department received information about the blaze around 3.50 pm, they said. Four fire tenders were rushed to the spot and the blaze was doused by 4.20 pm, they said.

Suspended

Bengaluru: Seven teachers who had allegedly allowed hijab-clad girls to write the 10th board examination have been suspended in Gadag district, sources in the Education Department said. The teachers were the exam invigilators at CS Patil School. Two other teachers who were the centre superintendents were also placed under suspension, they added.

Damaged

Srinagar: Over 20 houses suffered extensive damage and property worth crores of rupees was destroyed in two fire incidents in Jammu and Kashmir's summer capital, officials said here on Thursday. A fire broke out in one of the houses in a congested locality in the Noor Bagh area of the city in the early hours of Thursday, officials said.

Weather

High 41 Low 24

MARKET

NIFTY 17,464.75

SENSEX 58,568.51

BULLION

GOLD 51,450

SILVER 67,548

DIP IN COVID CASES

Maha to lift all Covid curbs, masks not must

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTD):

After more than two years, all pandemic-related restrictions including the mandatory wearing of masks will be lifted in Maharashtra from April 2, the Maharashtra government announced on Thursday.

'Gudhi Padwa', the Marathi New Year, falls on April 2 this year.

The decision to lift all the restrictions was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, Health Minister Rajesh Tope told reporters here.

From Gudhi Padwa, all COVID-19 related restrictions under the Epidemic Diseases Act and Disaster Management Act will be withdrawn, Tope said, adding that wearing masks would be voluntary.

In a separate statement, chief minister Thackeray

Bengal lifts all COVID-related curbs

Kolkata: With the COVID-19 situation having considerably improved in West Bengal, the state government on Thursday announced that all curbs related to the contagion would stand withdrawn from midnight. The withdrawal of the restrictions came almost two years after the pandemic struck in March 2020. In a notification, the government, however, stressed on the use of masks and hygiene maintenance. "Accordingly, it is hereby notified that restrictions as currently in force by aforesaid orders are hereby withdrawn. However, advisory in respect of health and hygiene protocols including wearing of masks at all times, hand hygiene and sanitisation of public places shall continue to be strictly observed until further order," it stated. Wearing of face mask will be voluntary from April 2, he said.

No fine in Delhi for not wearing masks

New Delhi: The Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) decided on Thursday that there will be no fine for not wearing face masks at public places in the national capital, official sources said. They added that the DDMA, however, is likely to issue an advisory for people, asking them to wear masks at crowded places. Currently, there is a fine of ₹ 500 for not wearing masks at public places in Delhi. The decision was taken at a meeting of the DDMA chaired by Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal. It comes after the city recorded a significant decline in the number of fresh COVID-19 cases over the last few days.

cautioned that though the restrictions are going to be lifted, it is advisable to maintain social distancing, wear mask and take anti-coronavirus vaccines.

Tope told reporters that the US, UK and many

countries in Europe have lifted restrictions related to mandatory masks. In Maharashtra, it has been made voluntary, he said.

To a question whether the state government was taking a risk by lifting the

mask mandate, the health minister said, The chief minister and others (cabinet colleagues) have consulted the State Task Force on COVID-19 and the health department before taking this decision.

'Modi's friendly advice turned Prakisha Pe Charcha massive'

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for turning Pariksha Pe Charcha 'a massive people's movement'. Posting a series of tweets a day before the event is scheduled, Pradhan said that Modi's friendly advice and guidance like a family's elderly person turned the event into a mass movement. He said the event was a special and a most sought after day for the student community, and that enthusiasm for it was unmatched. The minister exhorted people to join the session which will begin at 11 am at Talkatora Stadium here. The event, where the prime minister interacts with students, is being organised for the last four years by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. The first three editions of it were held in New Delhi in an interactive town-hall format.

'Unmarried daughter can claim marriage expenses from parents'

Raipur, Mar 31:



The Chhattisgarh High Court has ruled that an unmarried daughter can claim the expenses of marriage from her parents under the provisions of the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956.

A division bench of the high court in Bilaspur was hearing a petition filed by a 35-year-old woman, Rajeshwari, a native of Chhattisgarh's Durg district.

The bench of Justices Goutam Bhaduri and Sanjay S Agrawal on March 21 allowed her plea for hearing by admitting that an unmarried daughter can claim the amount of her marriage from her parents under the provisions of the Hindu

Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, said the petitioner's advocate A K Tiwari.

The bench set aside the order dated 22 April 2016 passed by the Principal Judge of family court Durg and remanded the matter to the family court for adjudication of the same on merits in the spirit of Section 3(b) (ii) of the Act of 1956. The court has directed the parties to appear before the family court.

The petitioner, daughter of an employee of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) Bhanu

About the case

The petitioner, daughter of an employee of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) Bhanu Ram, filed a petition in Durg family court under Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, and made a claim that maintenance to the tune of around Rs 20 lakh be given to her in the mode of marriage expense. The family court had on 7 January 2016 dismissed the application by stating that there is no provision in the Act that a daughter can claim the amount of her marriage.

HC order

Challenging the order of the family court, Rajeshwari had moved the high court stating that as per the law, an unmarried daughter can demand the expenses of marriage from her father, claiming that the expense comes under the purview of maintenance, Tiwari said. The bench considered the decision as significant and it has been approved for reporting (AFR), he said, explaining that the case would now be given place in all the law books.

Ram, filed a petition in Durg family court under Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, and made a claim that maintenance to the tune of around Rs 20 lakh be given to her in the mode of

marriage expense. The family court had on 7 January 2016 dismissed the application by stating that there is no provision in the Act that a daughter can claim the amount of her marriage.

ED raids lawyer who filed petitions against Fadnavis

Nagpur, Mar 31 (PTD):



The ED on Thursday carried out a search operation at the house of a Nagpur-based lawyer, who has filed a few petitions against senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis in the last few years, a police official said.

The lawyer, Satish Uke, whose house located in Parvati Nagar area of Nagpur was searched, was later taken to the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) office in the city along with his brother for interrogation by the central agency officials, Uke's close aide said.

The ED began searching Uke's house around 6 am amid tight security by the

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). The Mumbai unit of the central agency searched the premises in connection with some land transactions, the police official said. The lawyer's close aide later said that Uke and his brother were taken to the ED office located in Seminary Hills area for interrogation around 11 am. "The officials also brought with them Uke's laptop, some documents and four cellphones belonging to his

Lawyer arrested in money laundering case

The ED on Thursday arrested Nagpur-based lawyer Satish Uke and his brother Pradeep in connection with a money laundering investigation, officials said. They said the two were taken into custody under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and are expected to be produced before a court on Friday. The lawyer, who has filed petitions against senior BJP leader and former Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis in the last few years, was raided by the central probe agency since early morning. Officials claimed the money laundering case against the brothers is related to the purchase of an about 1.5 acre land in Nagpur sometime back and the documents used for the land purchase were allegedly forged.

family members to the ED office for examination," he said. Uke has filed several petitions in courts against BJP leaders, especially former Maharashtra chief minister Fadnavis. In one of his applications, he had sought criminal proceedings against Fadnavis for

the "non-disclosure" of criminal cases in his election affidavit.

Uke has alleged that the BJP leader filed a false affidavit in 2014 by hiding two criminal cases - of cheating and forgery - registered against him in 1996 and 1998.

Extra attempt in UPSC exam

SC asks Govt to consider representation in light of committee report

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Supreme Court Thursday asked the Centre to consider the representation of some aspirants, who could not appear in the UPSC civil services main examination after being infected with COVID-19 and are now seeking an additional attempt, in light of the recommendation made in a recent parliamentary committee report.

In the March 24 report, the committee has said that keeping in view the hardships faced by the student community during the first and second waves of COVID-19, it recommends the government to change its mind and sympa-

thetically consider the demand of civil services examination (CSE) aspirants and grant an extra attempt with corresponding age relaxation to all candidates.

The Centre had last week told the apex court that additional attempt in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) civil services examination is not possible. A bench headed by Justice A M Khanwilkar was hearing a plea filed by three aspirants who had cleared the UPSC 2021 prelims exam but could not appear in all papers of the main exam after testing positive for COVID-19 and are now seeking an extra attempt to appear in the exams.

Islamabad, Mar 31 (PTD):

Pakistan's National Assembly session was on Thursday adjourned abruptly till Sunday after opposition lawmakers demanded an immediate vote on a no-confidence motion against embattled Prime Minister Imran Khan who has effectively lost majority in the lower house.

As soon as the National Assembly session began at the Parliament House, Deputy Speaker Qasim Suri opened the floor for questions. However, opposition lawmakers demanded an immediate vote on



the no-confidence motion amid chants of "go Imran go".

Suri termed the opposition's attitude "non-serious" and adjourned the session till 11:30 am Sunday when the vote on the no-confidence motion is expected to take place. The deputy speaker also

announced that the meeting of the parliamentary committee would be held in Committee Room No 2.

Earlier, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Babar Awan moved a motion to adjourn the session so the assembly hall could be used for the Parliamentary Committee on National Security's meeting. The motion was rejected after voting. The resolution against the embattled premier was tabled by the Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Shehbaz Sharif on March 28 and it was approved for debate the very same day.

NEET-PG

SC cancels AIQ mop-up round counselling

Over anomalies in 146 fresh seats

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

The Supreme Court on Thursday cancelled the All India Quota mop-up round counselling for NEET-PG 2021-22 admissions to resolve the anomalies over 146 fresh seats, which were not available for candidates who participated in round one and two of the process.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud, Surya Kant and Bela M Trivedi directed holding of a special round of counselling for 146 fresh seats and allowed the students, who

have joined the All India Quota (AIQ) or state quota in round two to participate in it. The bench directed the Director General of Health Services (DGHS) to invite options from students within 24 hours and complete the process within 72 hours after the cut-off time for the options. The bench clarified that all the directions have been issued in exercise of its jurisdiction under Article 142 of the Constitution. At the outset, additional solicitor general Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, said that DGHS has decided to drop the 146 fresh seats, which were added for the first time in the mop-up round.

An artist must have self-trust and courage to try something unique, says Madan Lal

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: The career in arts is full of challenges. An artist has to face a number of practical problems in day to day life. A large number of youth get attracted towards fine arts and other art forms and try to make their career. But there are only a few who continue practicing arts throughout their life. The challenges will continue to test your commitment and perseverance all over, said renowned sculptor Madan Lal Gupta during a conversation with Central Chronicle.

An internationally acclaimed sculptor, Madan Lal is a professor of fine arts in Banaras Hindu University. He was in Bhilai for the past one week to conduct the national sculpture workshop organised here under the joint aegis of Lalit Kala



Academy, New Delhi and Bhilai Steel Plant. During the workshop, he gave valuable guidance to the young talents. He further said that as the workshop was of very short period, most of the artists decided to go with the popular designs and did not try something unique. All the participat-

ing artists are very hard-working and dedicated and are doing their job sincerely and seriously. He emphasised that the artists must develop the capacity and courage to bring uniqueness in his art work. "Let the art take over your soul and take your imagination to new level", he said.

Another significant aspect is the strong self-trust. The artist must have confidence over his piece of art. "The people / audiences will try to pull your legs and demoralise you but if you have an unbreakable self-trust, no one will be able to stop you", the veteran Sculptor stated on the basis of his 45-years-long experience. It needs to be mentioned here that Madan Lal is presently applying geometrical designs in his sculptures. He is also renowned for his innovations in Bricks. He was born in the year 1954 in Lalganj Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh. His acquaintance with the aroma and beauty of trees and other plants; regular roaming around the village fields, ponds and lakes; these experiences and reminiscences and other festivities imprinted vividly in his sub-conscious. In class Xth,

Wordsworth's poem 'Daffodils', opened a new world before the sculptor's eye. The wondering eyes of young artist found a new world of literature and fine arts. In his early life his teachers noticed the young child's creative restlessness and advised him to study Visual-Arts at Banaras Hindu University.

His primary mentor, sculptor Ram Chhatpar motivated and guided him to expand his creative interest beyond sculpture to other artistic disciplines, such as painting, music and literature. In 1976, he met eminent sculptor Sankho Chaudhuri and was immediately captivated by his oeuvre and aura. Madan Lal profoundly influenced by mentors in his professional and academic career of sculpture; founded Ram Chhatpar Shilp Nyas India.

Man arrested for wife's murder

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Police have arrested a person on charges of killing his wife. After committing the crime, the accused had injured himself with a knife. He was admitted to the hospital for about one month. Police were constantly watching him and arrested him immediately after his discharge from the hospital.

The accused is identified as Poshan Lal Sahu (42) son of Motiram Sahu a resident of village Kirki (Bemetara). He was presently residing in Arya Nagar, Kohka. On March 07, police had received information that a lady Sadhna Sahu has been murdered by her husband Poshanlal Sahu at village Kolihapuri.

Police team immediately reached the spot and



found the lady lying dead in a pool of blood. The suspect Poshan Lal was also lying injured at the same spot. He was immediately admitted to the hospital.

During investigation, police discovered that Poshan Lal often quarrelled with his wife and suspected her fidelity. The lady had left home with her children and was residing at Kolihapuri.

A dispute between them was under trial at Family Court also. On March 31, Poshan Lal was discharged from the hospital after which police arrested him immediately. He confessed to have murdered his wife with an axe. Later, he injured himself with a knife. Police have booked him under the provisions mentioned in section 302 of IPC.

BSP to bear college education expenses of tribal girls of Abujhmad

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Ranjeeta Uike who hails from Akabeda, a village deep inside forest area of Abujhmad in Bastar is one of the many beneficiaries of SAIL- Bhilai Steel Plant's CSR activities in Rowghat region. Her entire college education expenses are being borne by SAIL-BSP.

SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant has undertaken many activities for upliftment of life of tribal population living in the buffer zone area around its Rowghat Iron Ore Project in Bastar. The area is having inadequate health infrastructure such as hospitals, doctors and other paramedical support.

Other than the Vivekanand Vidyapeeth run by Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Narayanpur, there are hardly any good schools in the region. Providing med-



ical & health services and good schooling facilities for children from the tribal region have therefore been two key areas in which SAIL-BSP is carrying out its CSR activities.

Member of a tribal family residing in Akabeda in Abujhmad, Ranjeeta Uike did her schooling from Vivekanand Vidyapeeth. A meritorious student, she had cleared the tough JEE entrance exams and got admission in IIT, Dhanbad, where she is presently studying with Integrated Science and Mathematics as her subjects.

SAIL-BSP has offered to bear the entire expenditure for Ranjeeta's five-year

course at IIT, Dhanbad. A cheque for Rs 2 lakhs was handed over to Ranjeeta by Manas Biswas, ED (Mines & Rowghat), Bhilai Steel Plant on March 30, 2022, in presence of Swami Vyaptanand, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Ashram, Narayanpur, senior officers of Mines Dept and other monks of the Ashram.

The amount is the first instalment to cover her first year college fees etc. It is worth mentioning that besides providing mobile medical services to the population in 22 buffer zone villages surrounding in collaboration with Ramakrishna Mission

Ashram, Narayanpur, SAIL-BSP has set up the region's first English Medium School at Antagarh.

The DAV Rowghat Ispat Sr Secondary Public School entirely funded by BSP has more than 300 students on roll from Class 1 to 6. BSP also inducts 10 children from Rowghat region for school education. All these and others from Dalli-Rajhara region study from Class 6 to 10 at Rajhara and Class 11-12 in Bhilai Vidyalaya

SAIL-BSP is also providing nursing education to tribal girls from interior areas around Rowghat. More than 180 girls have so far been provided nursing education at two colleges in Bhilai. Tribal youth from affected families of Rajhara to Rowghat railway line project are also being trained in ITI and then given employment in SAIL-BSP.

Swacchata Pakhwada concludes with mass cleanliness drive

Central Chronicle News



Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Cleanliness drive carried out by Bhilai Steel Plant as part of Swacchata Pakhwada concluded on Thursday with about a hundred employees from Town Services Department and Education Department

undertaking a special drive to clean New Civic Centre area. About 25 sacks-full of plastic were collected transforming the area. Executive Director (Personnel & Administration) KK Singh also partook in the swacchata activities. He also interacted with local residents living nearby



and sought their suggestions to keep the area clean. Singh led all participants of the drive to take the Swacchata pledge. Another mass cleanliness drive was undertaken around Jayanti Stadium area on March 30, 2022 under the leadership of U K Jha, CGM Town Services. Public Health

Dept under TSD distributed T-shirts to all participants. The Swacchata Pakhwada activities in the township area have been coordinated by Sunil Chaurasia, AGM, PHD. The cleanliness drive was undertaken under the leadership of Radhika Srinivasan, GM, TSD and G K Dubey, GM, TSD.

Sinter Plants & Blast Furnace 4 record new highs in production

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Bhilai Steel Plant's sinter plants and blast furnaces have concluded the year with some best ever monthly performances.

The Plant's sinter plants 2 and 3 combined to set a new monthly record of 7,33,970 T sinter production one day before the month of March 22 concludes, surpassing the previous

best of 7,33,904 T in March 21.

The Plant's Blast Furnace 4 also set a new record for best month by producing 77,375 T of hot metal one day before the month of March 22 concludes, surpassing previous best of 76,365 T in August 2017.

Blast Furnace 5 set a new day record of 3356 T hot metal on 30th March 22, surpassing previous best day record of 3337 T on 17th May 21.

Police crackdown on online betting racket; three arrested

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: With the arrest of three ruffians, Durg Police claimed to have busted a major racket which was involved in online betting. The accused were creating online IDs on a portal named "Ledger Book".

They were accepting bets on cricket matches, horse racing, greyhound racing, Kabaddi and other games. Police have discovered betting records to the tune of Rs 25 lakhs.

Police have seized Rs 16500 cash, 02 nos laptops, 10 nos mobile phones, 30 passbooks of

15 different banks, 61 nos Debit and credit cards of different banks, 39 nos cheque books from the possession of the accused. Police are collecting information about the debit and credit cards. The bank accounts of the accused have been frozen.

SSP Badri Narayan Meena informed that Durg Police is conducting a continuous campaign against gambling, online betting and other illegal activities. In this sequence, Inspector Jitendra Yadav (SHO, Mohan Nagar) received a tip off regarding online cricket betting.



Acting on this tip off, police conducted a raid at a rented house located in street number 01 of Pushpak Nagar. Three persons were arrested from this house.

The accused Alok Singh

Rajput, Khadag Singh Rajput and Rampravesh Sahu had created online IDs on the Ledger Book and were accepting bets on IPL cricket matches, Horse racing, greyhound racing and kabaddi.

They had provided online IDs to Abhishek, Pintu and others. Police recovered Rs 16500 cash, 02 nos laptops, 10 nos mobile phones, 30 passbooks of 15 different banks, 61 nos Debit and credit cards of different banks, 39 nos cheque books from the possession of the accused.

Police found online transactions to the tune of Rs 25 lakhs made through the laptops. The accused have been booked under the provisions mentioned in Section 4A of the Gambling Act.

Inspector Jitendra Verma (SHO, Mohan Nagar), Inspector Virendra Srivastava

(SHO, Vaishali nagar), ASI Pramod Singh, Constable Manip Agnihotri, Prashant Patankar, Naveen Yadav, Amar Singh, Debravat Singh and Cyber Cell played a vital role in arresting the accused.

The accused are identified as Alok Singh Rajput (32) son of Sudarshan Singh Rajput a resident of Pushpak Nagar; Khadag Singh Rajput (29) son of Kamlesh Singh Rajput a resident of Surya Nagar Tata Line Camp 02; and Rampravesh Sahu (22) son of Devanand Sahu a resident of Contractor Colony Government Hospital Supela.

Satyawan Nayak lifts Champions Trophy of Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition

Central Chronicle News

Bhilai, Mar 31: Senior Manager in SAIL-BSP's Public Relations Department, Satyawan Nayak lifted the prestigious Champions Trophy of Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 organized by Rajbhasha Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant.

The last phase of Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 was organized in the Ispat Bhawan auditorium. Chief General Manager (C&IT) Prem Kumar Jha was present in this competition as the chief guest. The top five teams of the

plant gave their presentations. Senior Manager, Public Relations Department Satyawan Nayak was successful in winning the title of winner through his article and presentation in the Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 organized in two phases.

According to the rules of this competition, the Rajbhasha Coordinating Officer of the department who wins the title is also honored. Under this rule, Senior Manager Satyawan Nayak, being the Rajbhasha Coordinating Officer of the Public Relations Department,



was also honored with a plaque at the function. Thus, Nayak was able to achieve double success.

General Manager In-charge (MS), Subrata

Praharaj, General Manager (C&IT) Sameer Gupta, General Manager (PPC) Sanjay Kumar, General Manager (SMS-2) Dinamani Nayak, General

Manager (URM) Shishir Shukla and Deputy General Manager (Personnel-Iron & Steel) Ajay Kumar were present as Judges of the competi-

tion. Congratulating the winners Chief General Manager (C&IT) as the chief guest, Prem Kumar Jha in his succinct re-

marks said that it is a matter of pride for us that the use of Hindi has started increasing in the technical field as well. With the use of Hindi, we will be able to take our team forward. They also praised the efforts of the Rajbhasha Department of BSP.

It may be noted that the Rajbhasha Technical Presentation Competition-2022 was organized by the Rajbhasha Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant.

The theme was "Best performance by solving workplace problems". The competition on this topic was organized in two phases. In which the participating teams of various depart-

ments presented their entries. The top five best teams were invited for presentation in the last phase after evaluating the summary and power point presentation related to the topic by the judges in the first phase. The five teams that reached the final stage included C&IT, RCL, Rajhara Mines, Power & Blowing Station and Public Relations Department.

The program was conducted and coordinated by Assistant Manager (L&A and Rajbhasha) Jitendra Das Manikpuri. Manoj Soni of the Rajbhasha Department proposed the vote of thanks.

CM transfers a total amount of Rs 1124.92 cr

Into the bank accounts of farmers, livestock farmers, landless agri labourers, WSHGs and tendu patta collecting families

Fourth installment of Rs 1029.31 cr

Central Chronicle News



cessing of minor forest produce have positively transformed the rural economy and villages in the state. Today, Godhan Nyay Yojana is being appreciated across the country and many states of the country are looking forward to adopt this scheme of Chhattisgarh Government.

At the programme, Chief Minister transferred a total amount of Rs.1124 crore 92 lakh to the bank accounts of farmers, rural landless agricultural labourers, tendu patta collecting families, cattle rearing villagers, women's groups directly. On this occasion, he inaugurated 4 new sub-divisions and 23 new tehsils in the state. He also launched a web portal to review the redressal of revenue related complaints. For the expansion of Chief Minister's Urban Slum Health Scheme in the municipal councils and nagar panchayats of the state, Mr. Baghel dedicated 60 new medical mobile units.

During the program, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel announced that the honorarium and fi-

- Rural landless labor families provided Rs 71.8 cr as second installment
- Payment of Rs 13.62 cr to cow dung sellers, cattle farmers, Gauthan committees and women's groups
- Insurance claim amount of Rs 10.91 cr to 728 tendu patta collecting families
- Honorarium of Mayor, Chairman, President and

- V-P of Municipal Corporation, Nagar Panchayat and also the honorarium of all the councilors to be doubled, announced Chief Minister
- Funds of Mayors, Presidents and Councilors increased by one and a half times
- Financial power of the officials of urban bodies to be doubled

nancial powers of all the municipal corporations, chairman, speakers and vice-chairman of the municipality as well as of the councilors will be doubled. Likewise the amount for funds of the mayor, chairman and councilor will also be increased by one and a half times. Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel further announced the sanction of Rs 579 crore to all the urban bodies of the state for infrastructure development and public utility works. This includes sanction of Rs 10 crore each to municipal corporations, Rs 5 crores each to municipalities and Rs 3

crores each to nagar panchayats for development works. At the program, Chief Minister transferred an amount of Rs 1029.31 cr to the accounts of 20 lakh 58 thousand farmers of the state as the fourth installment under Rajiv Gandhi Kisan Nyay Yojana. In order to provide financial support and justice to rural landless families, Chief Minister deposited an amount of Rs 71 crore 8 lakh in the bank accounts of 3 lakh 55 thousand landless families under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Bhumless Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana (RGGKMN).

During the program, Chief Minister the payment of Rs 13.62 crore to the cow dung vendors, Gauthan committees and women's groups under Godhan Nyay Yojana. Under this scheme, Rs 226.18 crore has been paid by the state government to the cattle rearers, self-help groups and Gauthan committees. Under Shaheed Mahendra Karma Tendupatta Collectors Social Security Scheme, an insurance amount of Rs 10 crore 91 lakh was paid to 728 Tendupatta collector families.

Speaker of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Dr. Charan Das Mahant presided over the programme. Former Member of Parliament Mr. P.L. Punia, Agriculture and Water Resources Minister Mr. Ravindra Choubey, Forest Minister Mr. Mohammad Akbar, Urban Administration and Development Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahriya, Revenue Minister Mr. Jai Singh Agrawal also addressed the programme saying that Chhattisgarh the state is writing a new story of development under the leadership of Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel. Today Chhattisgarh model is being discussed all over the country. Chhattisgarh has shown the nation and the world how local resources can be used for development and bring about a positive change in the lives of people.



'JYOT FOR NAVRATRI'
In-charges of different temples are keeping the pots ready for the 'jyots' to be lighted on occasion of 'Chaitra Navratri' starting from April 2.

Bhupesh govt should immediately hike DA of govt employees: Sai

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday said that the state government should increase the Dearness Allowance of the State Government employees online with the benefits passed by Centre to central government employees. In a statement issued here, the State BJP President Vishnu Deo Sai said that instead of criticizing Centre on every issues, the Chief Minister



Bhupesh Baghel should immediately increase the DA of the employees as well as Pensioners. He also had a dig on Chief

Minister over his comment on increase of Rs 11 per day of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and added that daily wage of Rs 204 is appropriate. He also alleged that the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel is patronizing the corruption being practiced by Congress leaders across Chhattisgarh. Sai also reminded him about the reported irregularities in distribution of ration for weaker section of society.

Assembly Secretariat bid farewell to PS Gangrade

Dinesh Sharma to assume office as new Administrative Head on Friday

Central Chronicle News



from time to time to ensure a strong Parliamentary arrangement during the proceedings of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly. He added that the contribution of Gangrade with his Parliamentary experience and knowledge would always be remembered in Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly.

Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Leader of Opposition Dharmial

Kaushik, Deputy Speaker Manoj Singh Mandavi and Assembly Secretary Dinesh Sharma shared their experience in their association with outgoing Principal Secretary Gangrade. It is notable that after retirement, the Principal Secretary Gangrade was twice given extension for a period of 6 months each and another term of 3 months before formally retiring here on Thursday.

Congress launches 'Mehangai mukth Bharat Abhiyan'

Raipur, Mar 31: All the district organisations of Congress staged massive protest against increasing price hike in petrol, diesel, LPG and other important commodities by the Modi government at the Centre and registered protest using empty a garlanded LPG cylinder and a two-wheeler as symbol of protest and playing a 'bell' launched its 'Mehangai Mukth Bharat Abhiyan' at Rajiv Gandhi Chowk, near Netaji Subhash Stadium here on Thursday. In the protest held in capital city, PCC state in-charge PL Punia, PCC Chief Mohan Markam took part in the protest. The Congmen also



launched protest putting cylinders in front of their houses and at many places they beat 'Nagadas' to protest. This particular campaign of PCC would be launched in three different phases.

Congress state in-charge PL Punia said that in the year 2014 the cost of petrol was Rs 64 per litre and diesel at Rs 55 per litre and the same has now crossed Rs 100 each. The price of

LPG earlier was Rs 450 per cylinder and it has now being hiked to Rs 1051 per cylinder. Similarly the central government has increased the Excise duty in last 8 years and recovered total of Rs 26 lakh crore from it. Punia charged that it is only profiteering which the central government is worried about and is least bothered about the common men. PCC Chief Mohan Markam said that

with hike in prices of diesel, the cost of other day-to-day products has increased manifold. BJP had come to power with promise to bring 'good days ahead', but with all this people are now being made to face 'bad-days'. BJP is literally attacking in the pockets of common men and it is Congress which is struggling for them.

This inflation-free Bharat Abhiyan was held in Raipur urban and rural, Balodabazar, Gariyaband,

Mahasamund, Dhamtari, Balod, Durg Urban and Rural area, Bhilai city, Bemetara, Rajnandgaon urban and rural areas; Jagdalpur urban and rural areas, Sukma, Narayanpur, Kondagaon, Bijapur, Kanker, Dantewada, Bilaspur urban and rural areas; Gorela, Pendra, Marwahi, Mungeli, Korba urban and rural areas; Raigarh rural, Jashpur, Surguja, Balrampur, Koriya and all other district headquarters.

Prices increased after elections: CM

Speaking to media persons at the airport CM Bhupesh Baghel said that till the elections in the five states, there was no hike in the prices of fuel, LPG or other commodities and no sooner the elections are over the prices have been hiked. Baghel said that there is shortfall in the prices of crude oil at international level and questioned as to why the prices of fuel have been hiked.

More than 40000 candidates participated in the Mahapariksha campaign



Raipur, Mar 31: Many interesting sights were seen in the student assessment under the read-write campaign. In spite of the scorching heat, the examinees took part enthusiastically in the Mahapariksha campaign. Large number of seniors and youngsters from various parts of the state participated in the examination.

Under the direction of Rajesh Singh Rana, Director and Member Secretary of State Literacy Mission Authority, in many districts, volunteer teachers including the Chairman of District Literacy Mission Authority and Collector, CEO, District Panchayat, District Education Officer, Principal, Diet and teachers participated enthusiastically. Additional Director of State Council of Educational Research and Training Dr. Yogesh Shivhare and Assistant Director and Nodal Officer of State Literacy Mission

Authority Mr. Prashant Kumar Pandey visited Gogaon examination center in Raipur district. Dinesh Kumar Tank, Assistant Director of State Literacy Mission Authority visited Durg District Examination Center. Monitoring was done by Project Advisor, Reading and Writing Campaign Mrs. Nidhi Agarwal and Ms. Neha Shukla. Similarly, at the district level, observations were made by Collector, Ward Corportor, Joint Director, Public Education Office, District Education Officer, Principal, District Education and Training Institute, District Project Officer, District Mission Coordinator, Samagra Shiksha. The State Control Room was established in the State Literacy Mission Authority office and the District Control Room in the Collectorate of District Headquarters or District Panchayat.

Regional Saras Mela: Tremendous enthusiasm among people

For natural products made by the women self-help groups of 'Bihaan'.

Raipur, Mar 31: The 10-day regional Saras Mela was inaugurated by the Chairman of Chhattisgarh Housing Board, Mr. Kuldeep Singh Juneja, at Chhattisgarh Haat complex at Pandri, Raipur. The fair has been organized for the exhibition and sale of products manufactured by women self-help groups formed under Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission (BIHAN). The program started with a state song.

Juneja encouraged the craftsmen by visiting the stalls at the exhibition site. People are easily attracted towards the natural products made by the women self-help groups of 'Bihaan'. In the program, Director Village Industries, Sudhakar Khalkho, State Director of Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission, Mrs Iffat Ara, Joint Mission Director, R.K. Jha was also



present. In the ten-day fair, along with Chhattisgarh, materials made by rural communities of many states have been displayed. Food stalls of Chhattisgarhi cuisine have been set up in the fair. Attractive presentation of cultural programs by folk artists was also staged. The fair will be organized every day from 11 am to 9 pm and people visiting the exhibition will also be able to enjoy the cultural evening. The regional Saras Mela has been organized under the Chhattisgarh State Rural Livelihood Mission - "Bihan" scheme, run by the Panchayat and Rural Development Department of the State Government for the prosperity and employment of the villages. In the fair, arrangements have been made for exhibition-

cum-sale of many unique organic products manufactured by women self-help groups formed in rural areas of the state under 'Bihaan'. The products of village industries like kosa, silk, khadi, handloom, bell metal, terracotta, bamboo, wood crafts etc. are available for exhibition and sale. Chemical free special products like aromatic rice, black rice, spices, oil, rare forest produce based products, honey etc. have also been made available for sale in the fair from different districts of the state. Excellent products made by rural women from many states including Assam, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan are also available for exhibition-cum-sale in the fair.

Govt extends date of Property Tax deposit till April 15

Raipur, Mar 31: Chhattisgarh government on Thursday extended the last date of submission of Property Tax for 15 days following instructions from the Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel here.

Now the Public can deposit the Property Tax in Civic Bodies till April 15 as the March 31 was so far last date of the submission of Property Tax. Similarly, the Urban Administration Department has provided a relaxation of 15 days to Public for the submission of Property Details and subsequent Property Tax. Order issued here stated that the officials have been directed to ensure social distancing in maintained during the payment of Property Tax during the working hours in government offices. Administration has also advocated for door to door visit for collection of the outstanding Property Tax or encourage people to make online payments against Property Tax.

CM launches online monitoring portal

To review the resolution of revenue cases

Continuous monitoring of revenue cases will also be done from the CM's office

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Thursday launched an online monitoring portal to review the disposal of revenue cases within the stipulated time frame, from his residence office here. Through this portal, continuous monitoring of revenue works including name transfer, account division, demarcation, diversion and tree felling can be done. Chief Minister's Office, Revenue Minister's office and senior officials concerned.

Revenue cases should be resolved within the time limit under the Public Service Guarantee

Act. However, the common citizens face a lot of troubles due to delay in disposal of revenue cases. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel gave instructions to the Revenue Department to make arrangements for online monitoring of disposal of revenue cases keeping in view convenience of common citizens and for constant review of revenue cases.

An online monitoring portal has been added in 'Bhuiyan' software for redressal of unresolved cases of name transfer, account division, demarcation, diversion and tree felling, whose deadline has been crossed. In a bid to ensure timely disposal of cases, monitoring will be done directly from Chief Minister's Office, Revenue Minister's Office, Chief Secretary's Office, Revenue Department Secretary, Director Land Records, Divisional Commissioner and District Collector's level through the monitoring portal.

Baghel made several important announcements to strengthen the local self-govt

An amount of Rs 579 cr will be approved for the development of cities

Approval of Rs 5 cr for development works in municipalities, Rs 3 cr for Nagar Panchayats

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has made several important announcements to strengthen local self-government in a programme organized at his residence office here today. Chief



Minister Baghel has announced to sanction Rs 5 crore for infrastructural development in all the municipalities of the state and development works worth Rs 3 crore for Nagar Panchayats. Similarly, an amount of Rs 140 crore has also been announced for development work in 14 municipal corporations of the state. In this way, a total of

Rs 579 crore has been announced by the Chief Minister for strengthening the local self-government.

In a bid to fulfill the concept of empowering local self-government, the Chief Minister has announced to double the existing financial powers of all the office bearers of urban bodies. Mr. Baghel also announced to double

the honorarium of all the mayors, chairman, president of all municipalities and Nagar Panchayats, vice-presidents and all councilors of the state besides announcing to hike mayor, president and councilors fund by one and half times. This has been done to encourage public representatives of urban bodies to do better development work in their areas. Chief Minister said in his address that it is the result of the hard work and dedication of the people's representatives of the urban bodies of the state that Chhattisgarh has achieved the title of cleanest state of the country three times in a row.

More than 10 lakh household tap connections

Raipur, Mar 31: As per the directions of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudrakumar, pure drinking water is being supplied in rural areas of the state. A total of 10 lakh 2 thousand 756 household tap connections have been installed in the state so far under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Work is being done expeditiously to complete the works of Jal Jeevan Mission in the stipulated time frame. Detailed review of the works of solar based, retrofitting, multi village and single village schemes is being done from time to time by Jal Jeevan Mission Director Mr. Topeshwar Verma. He has instructed the officials concerned to make arrangements for running water in schools, sub-health centers and Anganwadi centers, ISA training and complete the work of wall writing and painting to promote the works of Jal Jeevan Mission in a time bound manner.

FIRE IN THANA



Fire broke out in Pandri thana area and in this many seized vehicles parked inside were gutted in fire.

CM to visit Sakti, Patan today

● Baghel to attend the Chetrichand Festival to be held in capital city Raipur

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will be on a visit to Sakti, the development block headquarters of Janjgir-Champa district and Patan development block of Durg district on April 1 and he will attend various programs there. Chief Minister will return to Raipur at 6.30 pm and attend the Chetrichand festival at 8.30 pm at Hotel Sayaji, Raipur.

According to the tour schedule, Chief Minister will leave from Police Ground Raipur at 11.20 am and reach Sakti, the development block headquarters of Janjgir-Champa district at 12 noon. After attending the welcome

program at Sakti's Kachhri Chowk, he will unveil the statue of Late Bisahu Das Mahant at Hatri Chowk. Chief Minister will address the general assembly at 1.15 pm at Budhwari Bazar Ground in Sakti, after inaugurating and laying the foundation for various development works.

After the program, he will leave for Kesra village of Patan development block in Durg district via helicopter and will attend the program of Chhattisgarh Dadsena Kalar Samaj at 3.30 pm. Chief Minister will reach village Borenda by car at 4.10 pm and will attend the convention of Nishad Samaj at Shri Ram Mandir there. After this, he will reach Patan at 5 pm and will inaugurate the Hamar Lab at the Community Health Center there. Mr. Baghel return to Raipur at 6.30 pm.

CM launches 4 new sub-divisions and 23 new Tehsils

In the state for strengthening revenue administration

Ch'garh now has a total of 100 sub-divisions and 202 Tehsils

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Mar 31: Under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, the state government is continuously working to bridge the gap between people and the administration under administrative decentralization in the state. In this line, Chief Minister inaugurated 4 new revenue sub-divisions and 23 new Tehsils in the state in a programme organized at

his residence office today. At present there are 96 sub-divisions and 179 Tehsils in Chhattisgarh. The introduction of new sub-divisions and Tehsil will facilitate in the smooth implementation of government schemes and strengthening administration.

The four new sub-divisions launched by Chief Minister today include Tokapal in Jagdalpur district, Marwahi in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district, Bhaiyathan in Surajpur district and Mainpur in Gariaband district. Similarly, new Tehsils launched today include Sipat and Bodri in Bilaspur district, Sakola (Kotmi) in Gaurela-Pendra-Marwahi district, Adhbar in Janjgir-Champa district, Sariya and Chhal in Raigarh dis-

trict, Barpali, Ajarbahar and Pasan in Korba district, Chando, Raghunathnagar and Dora-Kochli in Balrampur-Ramanujan district, Biharpur in Surajpur district, Suhela and Bhatagaon in Balodabazar-Bhatapara district, Ahiwara in Durg district, Nandghat in Bemetara district, Sarona in North Bastar Kanker district, Barsoor in South Bastar Dantewada district, Kutru and Gangaloor in Bijapur district and Chhote Dongar and Kohkameta in Narayanpur district.

With the addition of 4 new sub-divisions and 23 new Tehsils, now there will be a total of 100 sub-divisions and 202 Tehsils in the state. Speaker of Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly Dr. Charandas

Mahant, former Rajya Sabha MP P.L. Punia, Revenue Minister Mr. Jai Singh Agrawal, Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu, Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey, Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahriya, Excise Minister Kawasi Lakhma, Women and Child Development Minister Anila Bhediya, Food Minister Amarjeet Bhagat, Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar, Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudra Kumar along with other Parliamentary Secretaries and MLAs, Chief Secretary Mr. Amitabh Jain, Additional Chief Secretary Mr. Subrat Sahoo and senior administrative officials were present on the launch occasion.



Students took out rallies, take part in competitions

● Amrit Mahotsav

Central Chronicle News

Konta/Sukma, Mar 31: Under the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence 2022, on Thursday under the guidance of Sukma district administration, a tricolor rally and various competitions were organized in Kumharras. In the program organized in the post and pre matric hostel Sukma, first of all the students took out a rally and remembered the brave martyrs of the country by shouting slogans of Jai Cheer. A meeting was or-

ganized after the rally. Speeches, Desh Bhakti songs were presented by the students. Along with this, students who have done excellent work in education, sports, invention and other fields were also rewarded.

Deputy Collector Shrikant Korram, Ajay Modiyam, Assistant Commissioner Tribal Development Ganesh Sori, who were present as special guests in this dignified program, addressed the students and inspired them to illuminate their names by doing special work in education, sports and other fields.

Healthcare facilities now available at the doorstep of people

In Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats

CM launches the expanded version of CMUSHS by flagging off 60 MMUs

Raipur, Mar 31: With an aim to provide people an easy access to health services in the close vicinity of their homes, Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel flagged off 60 mobile medical units for all the municipalities and nagar panchayats of the state, under the expansion program of Chief Minister Urban Slum Health Scheme.

Chief Minister Urban Slum Health Scheme was launched on 01 November 2020 to provide health services to people in urban areas at their doorstep. In the first phase, doctors have been providing their services

through 60 Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) ambulances in all 14 municipal corporations. At the medical camps held under the scheme, beneficiaries are provided free consultation, treatment, medicines and lab test facilities through the Mobile Medical Units. Under this scheme, Dai Didi clinics have also been started to provide better health services to women near their homes.

As the first phase of the scheme turned out to be a resounding success, State Government has decided to expand the implementation of this scheme in all the municipalities and nagar panchayats of the state. In the next phase, health services will be provided to the people in the municipalities and city panchayats through 60 new mobile medical units. The scheme has been expanded to Panchayats as well. On this occasion,

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Dr. Charandas Mahant, Rajya Sabha MP Mr. P.L. Punia, Home Minister Mr. Tamradhwaj Sahu, Agriculture Minister Ravindra Choubey, Urban Administration Minister Dr. Shiv Kumar Dahria, Excise Minister Kawasi Lakhma, Women and Child Development Minister Anila Bhediya, Revenue Minister Jaisingh Agarwal, Food Minister Amarjeet Bhagat, Forest Minister Mohammad Akbar, Public Health Engineering Minister Guru Rudra Kumar, several Parliamentary Secretaries and MLAs, Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain, Additional Chief Secretary Subrat Sahoo, Agriculture Production Commissioner Dr. Kamalpreet Singh and senior administrative officers of the concerned departments were also present.

Sahu Community take out rally



● On Bhakt Mata Karma jayanti

Raipur, Mar 31: 1006th birth anniversary of Bhakt Mata Karma jayanti was celebrated under the supervision of District Sahu Sangh president Meghraj Sahu and shobha yatra was taken out from G u d h i y r a i, Ramsagarpara, Telghani

Naka Chowk to Karma Dham Krishna nagar Santoshi Nagar. After Shobha Yatra reached Karma Dham Mata Karma Ashram, nuptial knot was tied of 19 couples and they were blessed by State Home Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu.

On this office bearers of Sahu Community and many others were present in large number.

Baghel will bestow Rs 226 cr for the devp works in Sakti on April 1

Raipur, Mar 31: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel will bestow an amount of Rs 226 crore 26 lakh 90 thousand on April 1 for 30 different works in Sakti, the constituency of Janjgir-Champa district. These development works will include the inauguration of 11 different works worth Rs 13 crore 67 lakh 80 thousand and 19 works costing Rs 212 crore 59 lakh including Bhoomipujan.

Among the works that the Chief Minister will inaugurate in Sakti, he will also inaugurate 4 roads constructed at a cost of 10.79 crores. These include the Markamgodhi to Khushudera Amlidih approach road at a cost of Rs 2.53 crore, the road from the village of Baghoda to Sukharikala at a cost of Rs 2.22 crore, village Kadari to Gatwa road at a cost of Rs 2.50 crore and Sanjaygram to

Basti Baradwar road at a cost of Rs 3.54 lakh is included in these development works. Apart from this, construction of a shed for an oxygen plant in the government hospital building of Sakti at a cost of Rs 20 lakh, 2 units work shed strong room at village Gadgodi at a cost of Rs 30 lakh, Darang Anicut at a cost of Rs 2 crore 5 lakh 70 thousand will be inaugurated by the Chief Minister. Apart from this, the construction of an art and culture room at Bamhanidih's Government Higher Secondary School, Baradwar at a cost of Rs 7 lakh, a laboratory room at a cost of Rs 7.6 lakh, construction of a library room at a cost of Rs 9 lakh, 7 lakh for the construction of computer room in the Government Higher Secondary School, BDM Saragaon will be inaugurated.

Among the works for which the Chief Minister will perform Bhoomi Pujan, under the Jal Avardhan Yojana at a cost of Rs 101 crore 52 lakh, Jal Jeevan mission 96 crores 74 lakh and Grameen Jal praday yojna Similarly, 11 crore for the development works in Achnakmar, Maldi Suvadara, the road from village Bukuramunda Basti to Dhanpur Jarve Marg, from Bailachuha to Jagdalli, CC road from village Dhanpur to village Gudhwa, CC road cum drain construction in village Temer, a bhumiujan will be done for these development works. Moreover, Rs.78 lakh has been sanctioned for all these establishments. Along with this, Bhumi Pujan of Chandra (Chandranahu) social building is included in the municipality Sakti at a cost of 20 lakhs.

GPIL-Ecopel emerge winners of the SAMCT season-12



Raipur, Mar 31: The finals of the Suresh Agrawal Memorial corporate cricket tournament (SAMCT) was played today at Hira Sports ground - VIP road, Fundhar. The finale was in between teams from Infiniti Services and GPIL Ecopel. After winning the toss IS captain Mohd. Israar opted bowling first, the batsman's while losing only 2 wickets made the history of this

12 year long tournament recording 213 runs in a single inning. While playing the next innings the batsmen of Infiniti collapsed in their game at not even the one fourth score of the target and could score only 32 runs losing all the wickets and that's what made Ecopel the winners of the final match which was led by Captain Abhishek Agrawal. The outstanding performanc-



es and half centuries of the batsman like Sawant Singh and Yashwant Dhinwar were the key to the success of the winning team, but what meteorically changed the game was an expert bowler named S. Chandrashekhar Rao who snatched 5 wickets and also taking a Hat trick too, he was also awarded with the best bowler of the series reward. A young bats-

men Mr. Hemant Sahu making 87 runs while not out was felicitated with the man of the match tag, while one more experienced player from the Team Infiniti Mr. Irfan Chagal got rewarded with the Man-of-the-Series trophy. A young batsman from Jindal Steel and Power Limited Raigarh Susantakumar Ghedai was awarded as the best batsman of the tournament.

Stronger public health systems for Primary Health Care System in state

Raipur, Mar 31: Chhattisgarh, USAID's flagship health system strengthening project NISHTHA, implemented by Jhpiego, aims to transform, redesign and re-engineer primary healthcare in India for the provision of equitable, comprehensive and client-centered primary healthcare that contributes to improved health outcomes for India's marginalized and vulnerable populations, including women and girls. NISHTHA's goal is to create a strong, responsive, accessible, sustainable and affordable primary healthcare system that ensures effective delivery of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services and integrating the provision of quality services for control of tuberculosis. NISHTHA is supporting Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in strengthening the delivery of



comprehensive primary healthcare through the Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers program across 12 intervention states including Chhattisgarh. In March 2020, when the entire world was hit by the pandemic, NISHTHA acted swiftly by being the first movers in providing technical support at the national level and state level for a robust and comprehensive COVID-19 response and strengthening the health system's capaci-

ty to make it more resilient for public health threats. This included empowering more than 32,000 frontline workers with the right skills and expertise to prevent and slow the spread, providing technical and policy level support to national and state governments for COVID-19 response; developing risk communication materials to create awareness on COVID-19 prevention and address vaccine hesitancy, supporting local communities, especially vul-

nerable populations, with the tools needed to fight COVID-19 and ensuring continuation of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, as well as other essential services for all sub-sections of the population including marginalized communities. The COVID-19 pandemic also highlighted the importance of strengthening WASH services for improving health outcomes. In view of this, NISHTHA in partnership with Unilever is working towards expanding the reach and impact of healthy hygiene behaviors among targeted communities for improved health and well being. NISHTHA is working closely with Chhattisgarh state government for strengthening comprehensive primary healthcare, strengthening COVID-19 response and improving healthy hygiene behaviours in the community.

Promptly resolve the compensation payment amount under RBC 6-4: Collector

Mahasamund, Mar 31:

District Collector Nilesh Kumar Kshirsagar said that good work is being done by various departments in the flagship schemes of the state government, and its photographs should be kept compulsorily. For better implementation of government schemes, the officers of the concerned department should continuously take feedback from their field level employees and the officers themselves should visit the workplace and observe the work being done by their department, the Collector instructed. The Collector

also instructed officials to resolve pending cases. Chief Minister Jan Choupal, Public Service Guarantee, Public Grievance, PM Portal, following the directions of the Hon'ble High Court. He said Rajiv Gandhi Rural Landless Agricultural Mazdoor Nyay Yojana, Survey of Other Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections and allotment and regularization of 7500 square feet of land in urban areas and payment of pending compensation amount under RBC 6-4 should be done according to the target. The Collector also has directed to inspect all the dilapidated

hostels, ashrams and school buildings in the district and submit the security related investigation report. While reviewing the important scheme of the state government, Rajiv Yuva Mitran Club Scheme, he said that under this scheme a club is to be formed in the district. In this regard, Chief Executive Officer of all Janpad Panchayat, Urban Bodies and Chief Municipal Officer of Nagar Panchayat have been directed to examine the applications and take action as well as release the amount to all the sub-divisional officers' revenue clubs constituted.

Diagnostic Multi-lab not established after announcement by CM

Dhantari, Mar 31:

Diagnostic lab has not been established in the region, after eight months of announcement by Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. Patients and their relatives are here forced to opt the services of private costly labs for diagnostic test ranging from sugar, blood pressure index, thyroid and other such test which accounts for more than 251.

As per reports the CM had announced the establishment of multi labs in the district, but the openings are yet to be practically duplicated on grounds. Itwari Bazar region of the district was chosen for the

laboratory setting and a tender was also passed but owing to the complexities and norms in management and disposal of waste from the laboratory, no operator has shown interest in the proceedings. But according to officials, the operator is solely responsible for the running of the lab, but the management will be undertaken by the Municipality.

What officer says:

"Tender proceedings were announced three times, but no operator came forward to start the setting. A tender will be announced shortly."

R K Padamwar,
Executive Engineer

Weekly deadline meeting concludes



Koriya, Mar 31:

Under the chairmanship of Collector Kuldeep Sharma, the weekly deadline meeting was held here in which the Collector directed the Women and Child Development Department to identify the children suffering from the problem of cleft lip, palate, clubfoot in the district, in coordination with the Health Department. The children with deformities

will be treated under the National Child Health Program. He also directed the Health and Women and Child Development Department to make a diet plan for improving the nutrition and hemoglobin of women with mutual coordination and said that the implementation of the action plan would be started through Anganwadis.

Along with this, the Collector also took information about institutional delivery, antenatal care,

Janani Shishu Suraksha Yojana, and Maternity Vandana Yojana and ensured the benefits to the beneficiaries. Here it takes a mention that for making a positive effort towards better health of women in the district, hemoglobin test is being done and free doses of iron sucrose and iron folic acid tablets are being distributed to anemic women at nearby health centers.

On the special initiative of the Collector, Samadhan Tuhar Duar Camp is being organized at the Panchayat level in the district, where possible, cases are also being resolved on the spot. While reviewing the camp in the meeting, the Collector said the resolution of applications like pension received in the camp, new ration card and adding name in ration card would be reviewed daily.

Sukma SP to be honored with DG disc and citation

Konta, Mar 31:

According to the information received, once again SP Sunil Sharma will be honored for efficient leadership of Sukma district's police chief with his hard work and dedication. In the encounter that took place in Murkam Nala Chintalnagar police station area on 26 November 2021, the joint action of CRPF and District Force achieved success due to great co-ordination and efficient leadership, in which the dreaded Naxalite Madvi Bhima (Basta Bhima) was killed. A huge quantity of ammunition was also confiscated. Along



with Sukma SP Sunil Sharma, two DRG jawans Vinay Kumar Dudhi (Head Constable), Soyam Ekka (Head Constable) will also be honored for their good performance.

Daughter-in-law files complaint against father-in-law

Father-in-law also files similar complaint

Of beating and scolding her

Dongargarh, Mar 31:

Shyam Chand Shukla of Gram Panchayat Nagtarai and his daughter-in-law Yogita Shukla has filed complaint of beating against each other and filed complaint in Dongargarh thana. The complainant Yogita Shukla, R/o Khursipar, Durg, W/o Late Manish Shukla (25), informed the Police that she got married on 4 Feb 2015 as per Hindu norms to Manish Shukla of Nagtarai. She informed that her husband used to drink liquor and was often falling ill and he died on 29 Oct 2019. Yogita is having a four year old girl from Manish and she continued living with her in-laws in Bhilai and used to

visit her parent's house in-between. Yogita informed that she is not having good relations with her in-laws and the case is presently going on in Durg court.

It was on March 26 at around 12:30 she had been to Nagatarai Society and reached her in-law's house at 2:00 pm and at that time her mother-in-law, father-in-law and 'devrani' were present. Here Yogita's informed that her father-in-law questioned about her presence and on this she informed that she had come to take ration along with her brother.

By this time her father-in-law Shyamchand Shukla of around 60 yr age took her out from the house holding her with the hairs and started scolding her and threatened her to kill and started beating her with

hands, fists and wooden stick. Due to this she suffered injuries on her palms, back side below abdomen and on her head. In-between her brother Aakash Tiwari tried to save her and he also fell prey to beating by her father-in-law.

This was seen by her mother-in-law and 'devrani' and nearby people and hearing so much of abuse and disrespect she became fearful and based upon which a complaint was lodged.

On the other hand, complainant Shyamchand Shukla S/o Lt. Ramnihar Shukla, (54) informed the Police that Yogita Shukla is her daughter-in-law and after marriage both my son and daughter-in-law were living in rented house refusing to take care of their mother/ mother-in-law.

It was in 2019, my son died and after this my daughter-in-law went to live along with her son with her father Dinesh Tiwari. It was on March 26, Shyamchand informed that when he woke up, he found that both my daughter-in-law and her brother are beating him using a plastic chair and when he ran for rescue and came out of the house, he found that both are scolding him and beating me with hands and legs and threatened me with killing. I received injuries on my head, hands, and other places and this was witnessed by my younger daughter-in-law Jaya Shukla, neighbour Siyaram Verma and tried to save me, Shyamchand added. On this report was filed against Yogita and her son and the matter was taken into investigation.

Villagers return defying Chakka-jam obliging to faith in Collector



Mainpur, Mar 31: As many as hundreds of villagers from around eight gram panchayats in the district, cancelled their protest on National Highway 130, obliging to assurance by District Collector Namrata Gandhi. Demanding electricity, roads, health centers and other facilities hundreds of villagers had warned an indefinite ChakkaJam on the Highway, and were planning a protest for a long time stretch. For the reversed the villagers of these remote villages have chosen the road to protest registering complaints over slow development in their respective villages, after which the administration on the instructions of

Collector Namrata Gandhi has started many developmental projects in the region, and on the assurances of the officials the villagers decided to put a stay on their protest. The protesting villagers were from Gram Panchayats Aadgadi, Gauna, Bhoobheda, Shoba, Pajapada, Koldi, Garhadeeh and Goregaon. The villagers have submitted a memorandum to SDM Suraj Sahu, SP CK Thakur, SDO Anuj Gupta and VK Jain and other officials. The administration and police forces were deployed to avert any situation, but after assurance from the Collector and officials the villagers have pulled back the protest.

Narendra Jain appointed President SJS

Khairagarh, Mar 31:

A well-known social service person and established young entrepreneur Narendra Jain has been appointed as President of 'Sakal Jain Srisangh' (SJS). In general meeting of Sangh, Narendra Jain was nominated as the President with full majority. It is notable here that Sakal Jain Srisangh is a well-known institution for social service in Khairagarh region and of which Narendra Jain was serving as Vice-President for last four years. Presently he is also trustee of Shri Jain Pasharnath Jain Shewtamber Mandir Trust and has also served as President of Vyapari Sangh and as President of Government College as well. It is notable here that during Corona pandemic amidst adverse conditions, Narendra Jain with help of different 'Sanghs' passed on benefits to the needy and distributed food and other ration materials to needy persons. The newly elected President of Sakal Jain Shrisangh Khairagarh Narendra Jain was extended greetings by outgoing President Kamlesh Gidiya, corporator Ajay Jain, Vardhman Sthanakwasi



Sangh President Amrutlal Sankhala, Pasharnath Jaini Shewtamber Mandir Trust head trustee Narendar Dakliya, President Digamber Jain Samaj Dulichand Gidiya, President Gyangachch Bhanwar Lal Chopda, Nemichand Chopda, Ghevachand Kothari, Uttamchand Chajed, Subhash Kochar, Deepak Vaidh, Abhay Jain, Pramod Salecha, Gaimdhal Chopda, Sanjay Parekh, Khemraj Parekh, Pradeep Dakliya, Manoj Gidiya, Kapil Baidh, Rakesh Chopda and other members of Sakal Jain Samaj.

DPS students to be part of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' today

DC appeals students to take maximum advantage

Rajnandgaon, Mar 31:

5TH edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha (PPC) is all set to happen tomorrow, April 1 at 11 am. The fifth edition of PPC will be observed as an event where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be interacting with not only students but also parents and teachers from all over the nation.

The interaction would be based on overcoming the examination stress and to enjoy the 'Festival of Examination', informs Delhi Public School Rajnandgaon Principal and District Coordinator (DC) Mrs Urmila Dixit. PPC 2022 will be held at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi. Highlighting the mission of Pariksha Pe Charcha,



Mrs Urmila Dixit

the slogan of the 5th PPC is 'Pariksha Ki Baat, PM Ke Saath'. According to the Ministry of Education, Pariksha Pe Charcha is an initiative of the larger movement - Exam Warriors.

It is a step taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to ensure the stress-free atmosphere for youngsters during the seasons of examination. Terming Pariksha pe Charcha, a public movement, DPS Rajnandgaon Principal Mrs Urmila Dixit outlined

the importance of this year's PPC in wake of the country coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and exams shifting back to offline mode. Underlining the importance of initiatives like PPC in building the knowledge-based economy of 21st century, she said that PPC is becoming a formal institution through which Prime Minister interacts directly with the students.

Mrs Dixit informed that students can witness the live telecast of PPC and same will also be shown in the school through internet and projector.

She has appealed to all the parents and students to be part of this programme and help themselves beat the exam stress. She added, students can also learn about the new system of examination and better equip themselves to face the examination.

Maniram elected block president



Masturi, Mar 31:

Salesman Maniram Kurre was unanimously elected as the vendor union president of Masturi block. All the vendors of the block present in the meeting apprised them of the difficulties faced during the distribution of ration and emphasis was laid on forming an organization by meeting each other's problems. On which state president B.P Shukla giving his consent, allowed the formation of the executive committee by mutual agreement. Vendors strengthened the organization by making mutual co-

ordination and formed a new executive committee, in which the salesman Maniram kurre of Masturi was elected as the chairman. Along with this, Arvind Singh Dahria, Ravi Shankar Dhiwar, Secretary Devendra Kant, Secretary, Virendra Anuragi, Treasurer Shyam Khandekar, General Secretary Hemant Madhukar, Arun Jagande, Spokesperson Umashankar Madhukar and senior seller Parmeshwar Tiwari, Rakesh Gupta, Ramlal Kenwat have been included on the post of Vice President. During this,

vendors including Sheikh Afzal, Ram Narayan Bhardwaj, Dhanraj Nayak, Mukesh Patle were present.

Change of Date of Birth

I am Jaiprakash Udde S/o Shiv Singh Udde. I passed my class 10th in year 2020-21 from Rajkumar college Raipur (C.G.). Date of birth is printed wrong in class 10th marksheet as 27.02.2005. My actual date of birth is 02.02.2006 and is registered on all other document and marksheet of other class. Now on words my date of birth should be written as 02.02.2006.

Jaiprakash Udde
S/o Shiv Singh Udde

Dance prog by Youth Welfare Society concludes



Mungeli, Mar 30:

Mungeli Youth Welfare Society sponsored state level dance competition concluded here with several dancers and troupes taking part in the event. Dancers from various parts of the state took part

in the event and performed.

The finals took part in the Agar sports Complex in which Shiva Ahirwar and Avi Tiwari of Bilaspur, Manish Rao from Bhilai, Abhishek Soni from Rajnandgaon bagged prizes and capti-

vated the audience with their scintillating performances. All the winners were given mementoes and cash prizes which ran from 2100, 15000 and 11000 respectively.

In the grand finale, singer Swarna Diwakar gave a melodious perform-

ance and the program was judged by national dancer Anjali Saini. The program was anchored by Nupur Verma of Bhilai. The event was sponsored by Hemendra Goswami of Dev property dealing and Abhishek Soni of Suresh Jewelers.

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda

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Tel: 07752-441663
email:rosarb.bilaspur@bankofbaroda.com

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
"APPENDIX - IV-A [SEE PROVISIO TO RULE 6 (2) & 8 (6)]"

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISIO TO RULE 6 (2) & 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL AND IN PARTICULAR TO THE BORROWER (S) AND GUARANTOR (S) THAT THE BELOW DESCRIBED IMMOVABLE PROPERTY MORTGAGED/CHARGED TO THE SECURED CREDITOR, POSSESSION OF WHICH HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE AUTHORISED OFFICER OF BANK OF BARODA, SECURED CREDITOR, WILL BE SOLD ON "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS", AND "WHATEVER THERE IS" BASIS FOR RECOVERY OF BELOW MENTIONED ACCOUNT(S). THE DETAILS OF BORROWER(S)/GUARANTOR(S)/MORTGAGOR(S)/SECURED ASSET(S)/DUES/RESERVE PRICE/E-AUCTION DATE & TIME, EMD AND BID INCREASE AMOUNT ARE MENTIONED BELOW.

Sr. No.	NAME OF BORROWER(S)/ GUARANTOR(S)/ MORTGAGOR(S)/ BRANCH	SHORT DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY WITH ANY ENCUMBRANCE	TOTAL DUES	DATE AND TIME OF AUCTION	RESERVE PRICE, EMD AND BID INCREASE AMOUNT	STATUS OF POSSESSION	PROPERTY INSPECTION DATE AND TIME
01.	Shaili Devi Agrawal, Shreya Agrawal And Abhinav Agrawal Kharsia (C.G.)	Equitable Mortgage Of Commercial And Residential Land And Building Bearing Survey No. 192/405, P.C No. 20 Located At Village Ratanmahka, Block Kharsia, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh Belonging To Smt. Shaili Devi Agrawal. Any Encumbrances : Not Known To Bank.	20,98,893.25 + Interest + Other Charges	19.04.2022 2.00 PM TO 6.00 PM	21.23 Lakhs 2.15 Lakhs Ten Thousand	Physical	15.04.2022 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided in <https://www.bankofbaroda.in/e-auction.htm> and <https://fbapi.in>. Also, prospective bidders may contact the authorized officer on Ph. No. 07752-441663

Date: 31.03.2022, Place: Bilaspur

Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

BRIEF

Duping

Ghaziabad: A Nigerian national was arrested from here by the cyber crime cell for allegedly duping Indian women after befriending them on matrimonial websites, police said. The accused has been identified as Mamadukolu Udekwe Cyprian, who claimed to be an IT engineer based in Chicago, they said. Cyprian was duping women with help of his female accomplice Iba Peedion Ghun Nongesai J, a resident of Meghalaya, police said.

Allows

Ranchi: Jharkhand government has allowed religious procession with certain conditions in view of upcoming Sarhul and Ram Navami festivals. State disaster management department issued a notification in this regard. The order, however, said that the number of persons in any religious procession should not exceed 100. Even if multiple processions converge at a place, the total number of persons should not be more than 1,000.

Attacked

Gurugram: A senior official of a real estate company was allegedly attacked by six men on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway when he was going home in his car. According to police, the incident took place but an FIR was registered later at Sector 40 police station after the victim filed a complaint. According to complaint filed by Subhashish, Three people came out of a car and thrashed him with sticks, joined by others.

Heckled

Chandigarh: A Haryana Roadways bus driver was garlanded with shoes while a conductor was also heckled allegedly by some employees at Dabwali in Sirsa district as they refused to participate in the nationwide strike called by central trade unions. Public transport services were affected in Haryana for two days as the Roadways employees came in support of the nationwide strike called by central trade unions on March 28-29

Sentenced

Lucknow: A special court here sentenced two Bangladeshi youths to four years of imprisonment for illegally staying in India using forged documents. The chief judicial magistrate (custom) sentenced Mohd Iqbal to four years of imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 6,500, the Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) said.

Inspection

New Delhi: Delhi Food and Civil Supplies Minister Imran Hussain conducted a surprise inspection of a ration shop in Laxmi Nagar where he found several irregularities, prompting him to order an inquiry. During the inspection, the minister observed that two E-Pos devices were being used by the fair price shop (FPS) dealer instead of the single allocated E-Pos device.

India, France begin mega naval wargame in Arabian Sea



Indo-French naval wargame being conducted at Arabian Sea.

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

India and France began a five-day mega naval wargame in the Arabian Sea in reflection of growing congruence in their maritime security cooperation. The Indian Navy said various platforms including ships, submarines, maritime patrol aircraft, fighter aircraft and helicopters of the two navies are participating in the

Varuna exercise.

"These units will endeavour to enhance and hone their operational skills in maritime theatre, augment inter-operability to undertake maritime security operations and demonstrate their commitment to promote peace, security and stability in the region as an integrated force," it said in a statement. It is the 20th edition of the Varuna series of exercises and it has become

a vital part of strategic ties between the two countries.

"The exercise has been a principal driver for operational-level interactions between the two navies and has underscored the shared commitment of both nations to security, safety and freedom of the global maritime commons," it said.

French Navy Chief Admiral Pierre Vandier visited India this week during which he held talks with his Indian counterpart Admiral R Hari Kumar focusing on mechanisms to ensure peace and stability in the Indian Ocean amid rising Chinese presence in the region.

The visit by the French Navy Chief came over a month after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar travelled to Paris.

Marshals evict CPI (ML) legislators from Bihar assembly

On final day of budget session

Patna, Mar 31 (PTI):

All MLAs of the CPI (ML) in Bihar were physically evicted from the assembly on the last day of the budget session on Thursday when they tried to stall the proceedings on issues of crime, corruption and communalism.

Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha called the marshals within minutes of the commencement of proceedings at 11 am, taking a grim view of the MLAs' refusal to leave the well and take their seats.

"Your conduct betrays a lack of trust in the sanctity of the House. As such, you deserve to be evicted, the speaker said before ordering the drastic action.

A Left party that has little foothold outside Bihar, though its student wing



CPI-ML legislator Mehboob Alam being marshalled out from Assembly, in Patna, Thursday.

AISA has a presence in many centres of higher learning, the CPI (ML) has a dozen members in the current assembly. The party put up its best-ever performance in the assembly elections of 2020 when it fought in alliance with

other Left parties, the RJD and the Congress, burying differences that were age-old in order to take on the BJP-led NDA. Interestingly, the allies of the CPI (ML) had initially joined its members in creating a ruckus in the

Stalin meets PM, seeks nod for providing aid to Lankan Tamils



PM Narendra Modi interacts with TN CM MK Stalin, during a meeting, in New Delhi on Thursday.

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Thursday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and sought the Centre's approval for the state government to provide humanitarian aid to Sri Lankan Tamils in the wake of an

economic crisis in that country. Stalin, also the DMK supremo, gave a detailed memorandum on various issues, including those related to the economic crisis in the island nation, during his meeting with Modi. Referring to adversities being faced by Lankan Tamils, he said

many of them embarked on a "perilous journey" to Tamil Nadu due to unaffordable prices of essential commodities there and they are lodged in a transit camp in the state. The memorandum noted that more people may be arriving in the state due to worsening economic condition in Sri Lanka. In this juncture, it added, the Tamil Nadu government is willing to provide essential commodities and life saving medicines to Sri Lankan Tamils living in northern and eastern part of that country as well as those working in plantation sector, who are reeling under severe food crisis, as a life saving measure and help them, especially vulnerable group of women and children.

Maximum forest cover lost in Arunachal Pradesh in 2021

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Forest cover in the Northeast reduced by 1,020 sq km in 2021 compared to the area in 2019 mainly due to anthropogenic pressure and developmental activities, the government told the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

Responding to a query on loss of forest and tree cover in the area, Minister of State for Environment Ashwini Choubey said that as per the latest India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021, the forest cover of the region stood at 1,69,521 sq km while the tree cover stood at 4,574 sq km.

The minister said the forest cover declined by 1,020 sq km from 2019 to 2021 while the tree cover increased by 365 sq km in 2021 in two years.



Sheep grazing in a forest area without trees in Arunachal Pradesh.

"As per ISFR-2021, the total forest cover in the north eastern region of the country is 1,69,521 sq km showing an overall decrease of 1,020 sq km while the tree cover has increased by 365 sq km as compared to the previous assessment in 2019. "The loss in forest cover in the

Northeastern states may be attributed mainly to natural calamities, anthropogenic pressure, developmental activities and shifting cultivation practices," Choubey said in a written reply to the question.

The maximum forest cover was lost in Arunachal Pradesh (257 sq

ELECTRIC FLEET



A new fleet of electric autorickshaws being flagged-off, during a ceremony, at IP depot, in New Delhi, Thursday.

Gujarat Assembly briefly adjourned over remarks

Ex-DyCM Nitin Patel made remarks on Nehru

Gandhinagar, Mar 31 (PTI):

The Gujarat Legislative Assembly was adjourned for 15 minutes on Thursday following chaos in the House as opposition Congress strongly objected to BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Nitin Patel's remark on India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Irked over Patel's remarks that Nehru cannot be given credit for the Sardar Sarovar Dam built on the Narmada river, Congress MLAs started shouting slogans against Patel and gathering near



Nitin Patel

the well of the House during the Question Hour.

Some time after the question hour began, the House witnessed a heated debate over a query raised by Congress MLA Kalabhai Dabhi about the status of the ambitious Kalpsar project.

The Kalpsar Project or the Gulf of Khambhat

Development Project envisages building a 30-km dam across the Gulf of Khambhat in India for setting up a huge freshwater coastal reservoir for irrigation, drinking and industrial purposes.

When Water Resources Minister Rushikesh Patel accused the Congress of delaying the Sardar Sarovar Dam project, Congress MLA CJ Chavda said it was the Congress government, which had built the dam up to the height of 85 meters despite facing several issues back then. Countering him, Nitin Patel said, "The Sardar Sarovar Dam was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's dream, Jawaharlal Nehru only did the ground breaking.

Odisha to launch natural farming in tribal districts

Bhubaneswar, Mar 31

(PTI):

The Odisha government is set to roll out a "climate-resilient" natural farming programme in tribal-dominated areas of five districts in a step towards sustainable agriculture, officials said.

The project will be executed in collaboration with the Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS), set up by the Andhra Pradesh government to implement natural farming, they said. "Natural farming will get popular acceptance among the people, more particularly in tribal-dominated districts of Odisha, as the method is quite compatible with the traditional patterns," Chief Secretary Suresh Chandra Mohapatra said.



A farm in Bolangir, Odisha.

He said the process would reduce the cost of production, and lead to creation of safe and nutritious food items. Natural farming is a diversified farming method without the use of synthetic chemicals like pesticides or synthetic fertilisers. It integrates

crops, trees and livestock in the system, experts said. The project, covering 3.15 lakh hectares of farmland, will be rolled out from the 2022-23 fiscal with an investment of around Rs 312 crore over five years. Cluster approach will be adopted for

the scheme, to be undertaken through women self-help groups (WSHGs) in Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, Rayagada and Koraput districts, the release said.

The WSHGs will be trained for crop diversification, initial preparation of bio-inputs and pre-monsoon sowing. They will be assisted in the establishment of common facility centres for cleaning, grading, segregation and storage, it added.

Development Commissioner Pradeep Jena said natural farming would result in a "transformational change" towards sustainability.

"As the popularity of non-toxic food items is in high demand, natural farming will fetch more income for WSHGs," Jena said.

Phangnon Konyak is Nagaland's first woman RS MP

Kohima, Mar 31 (PTI):

S Phangnon Konyak was on Thursday elected unopposed as the Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland. With the tenure of incumbent Rajya Sabha MP from Nagaland KG Kenye ending on April 2, the election was scheduled to be held on Thursday. Returning Officer, Biennial Election to the Council of States, Khruhitunuo Rio informed that as there was only one candidate till the last date for filing nominations, no poll was conducted. Therefore, Konyak has been declared duly elected unopposed to fill up the vacancy in the Rajya Sabha for the State of Nagaland, she said. She is the first woman from the state to get a berth in Parliament's Upper House. Konyak, the president of BJP Nagaland Mahila Morcha, who



Phangnon Konyak being felicitated as first woman Rajya Sabha member from Nagaland.

stood as the consensus candidate of the ruling United Democratic Alliance (UDA), is also the first Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) member from Nagaland to be sent to Parliament. S Phangnon Konyak sponsored by the BJP

has been declared duly elected uncontested to fill the seat in the Council of States [Rajya Sabha] from Nagaland State, the term of which is due to expire on 2nd April 2022, chief electoral officer V Shashank Shekhar said in a press release.

Satellite modems nexus of worst cyberattack of Ukraine war



Carlsbad, Mar 31 (AP):

A malicious software command that immediately crippled tens of thousands of modems across Europe anchored the cyberattack on a satellite network used by Ukraine's government and military just as Russia invaded, the satellite owner disclosed.

The owner, US-based Viasat, issued a statement providing details for the first time of how the most serious known cyberattack of the Russia-Ukraine war unfolded. The wide-ranging attack affected users from Poland to France, getting quick notice by knocking off remote access to thousands of wind turbines in central Europe.

Peru won't free Fujimori at request of regional rights court

Lima, Mar 31 (AP):

Peruvian authorities said they will comply with a request from the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to not release former President Alberto Fujimori from prison until it can examine the case.

The owner, US-based Viasat, issued a statement providing details for the first time of how the most serious known cyberattack of the Russia-Ukraine war unfolded.

The Constitutional Court's decision restored a humanitarian pardon granted to the 83-year-old Fujimori on Christmas Eve in 2017 by then President Pablo Kuczynski. The country's Supreme Court overturned the medical pardon in 2018 and ordered the former strongman returned to prison to serve out his sentence for human rights abuses.

The move came almost two weeks after Peru's Constitutional Court issued a controversial order that Fujimori be freed from the prison where he is serving a 25-year sentence for murder and corruption charges.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.W.D. KANKER CIRCLE KANKER (C.G.)

e-Procurement Tender Notice
Online tenders are invited for Construction Of Road work, up to Date 05/04/2022
Name of work: Special Repair of Various Road, Culverts & Bridges Under Bhanuprapur Division.

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER SHYAM BARNAI PROJECT CIRCLE, AMBIKAPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in (First Call)
System Tender No. 95742/NIT No.: 04/SAC/21-22
Surajpur, Dated : 29.03.2022
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 19.04.2022 at 17:30 Hour

US says no letter sent to Pakistan

Islamabad, Mar 31 (PTI): The US has asserted that it did not send any letter to Pakistan on the current political situation in the country as it sought to refute allegations of America's involvement in the no-confidence motion against the Imran Khan-led government, according to a media report on Thursday.

Pakistan's embattled Prime Minister Imran Khan effectively lost majority in Parliament after the Muttaahida Quami Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P), a key partner of the ruling coalition, joined the ranks of the Opposition, which had tabled a no-confidence motion against his government in the National Assembly.

him from power. The PTI-led government confirmed that its allegation about a foreign conspiracy against the

prime minister was based on a diplomatic cable received from one of the country's missions abroad. The

government initially offered to share the letter with the chief justice of Pakistan, but later the prime minister

also briefed his cabinet members about the contents of the letter, the Dawn newspaper reported.

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Tel. - +91-7752- 260342, Fax - +91-7752- 260154, 260148, website - www.ggu.ac.in
ADMISSION NOTICE (2022-23)
Bilaspur, Date- 31.03.2022

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड मुंगेली जिला-मुंगेली (छ.ग.)

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ऑनलाईन निविदाएँ प्रपत्र 'ए' में प्रतिशत दर पर अनुबंध हेतु नीचे उल्लिखित कार्यों के लिए जिला जल एवं स्वच्छता मिशन द्वारा एकीकृत पंजीयन व्यवस्था में सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से आमंत्रित की जाती है।
कार्य का विवरण:- जिला मुंगेली के विकासखण्ड-पथरिया के विभिन्न ग्रामों में जल जीवन मिशन के अंतर्गत एकल ग्राम जल प्रदाय योजना कार्य।

Public Works Department OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PWD, DURG CIRCLE DURG . (C.G.)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) (1st Call)
No. 004/SE/Durg/Manual-RFP/2021 Durg, Dated 24-03-2022
Public Works Department (PWD) invites proposal for Planning, Development Estimation and Structural designs, and Architect for the work "Construction of English Medium Schools of various Places in Balod District" from the consultants empanelled in Public Works Department of Chhattisgarh.

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WATER MANAGEMENT DIVISION NO. 1, RAIPUR (CHHATTISGARH)

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
eProcurement Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in (FIRST CALL)
System Tender No. : 95821/NIT No. : 11/SAC/2021-22, Raipur, Dated : 25.03.2022
Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 18.04.2022 at 17:30 Hour
Name of Work : Cement Concrete Approach road from Main Road to Datrenga Stop Dam.

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER MAHANADI GODAWARI BASIN WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH

E-Procurement tender notice 2022
IFB No.- CG/NHP/DWLR Tele./GW/2021-22/02
E-Procurement portal: https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
Tender ID No. : 2022_WRCWB_680684_1 CG/NHP/DWLR Tele./GW/2021-22/02
Raipur, Dated: 25 /03/2022

कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड, गरियाबंद छत्तीसगढ़ eegar-phe-cg@nic.in

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट निविदा सूचना
एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अंतर्गत पंजीकृत सक्षम ठेकेदारों से निम्नांकित कार्य हेतु प्रपत्र 'ए' में निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।
कार्य का नाम :- जल जीवन मिशन अंतर्गत विभिन्न ग्रामों में एकल ग्राम/रेट्रोफिटिंग नल जलप्रदाय योजनाओं का कार्य।

Ministry of Culture CENTRE FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRAINING (Under the aegis of Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)

Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme – 2021-22 & 2022-23
The CCRT is implementing Cultural Talent Search Scholarship Scheme to provide facilities to outstanding talented children selected in the age group of 10 to 14 years (as per the cut off eligibility dates), studying either in recognized schools or belonging to families practicing traditional performing arts for getting specialized training in various cultural fields such as traditional forms of music, dance, drama, painting, sculpture, crafts and literary arts, laying special emphasis on rare art forms, which are in the process of becoming extinct.

The value of scholarship is Rs.3600/- (Rupees Three Thousand Six Hundred) per year and actual tuition fee paid for the specialized training is also reimbursed up to Rs.9000/- (Rupees Nine Thousand) per year. Children whose date of birth is in between 01.07.2007 and 30.06.2011 (both days inclusive) are eligible to apply for the year 2021-22 and children whose date of birth is in between 01-07-2008 and 30-06-2012 (both days inclusive) are eligible to apply for the award of scholarships for the year 2022-23.

Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, 15 A, Sector - 7, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110075, Phone No : 011 - 25309300
CCRT Regional Centre, Opp. CII, New Google Office, Madhapur to Kondapur Main Road, Madhapur, Hyderabad - 500084, Telangana Phone No. 040-23117050, Telefax : 040 - 23111918, e-mail: rchvd.ccert@nic.in



CENTRAL Chronicle

Since 1974 Volume 10 No. 01

Forest fire awareness

The fire raging inside Sariska Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan was brought mostly under control. While the cause is still unknown, what remains a worry is the way the fire spread and destroyed around 10 sq km of forests despite timely satellite warnings and the availability of a real-time mobile application-based fire response system. Two IAF MI-17 V5 helicopters resumed the 'Bambi Bucket' operation to control the forest fire. The forest department in Odisha is using drones to keep track of forest fire in the Similipal Tiger Reserve (STR). More than 1,000 forest fires were detected across Odisha. Five people were arrested as the man-made fire in the Similipal forests. The fire is manmade. It is lit by tribals with dry leaves to collect forest produce like sal seeds, mohua flowers and firewood, besides poaching. The central and state governments need to launch massive awareness programme regarding forest fire. While small fires are often caused naturally due to lack of humid conditions, the major fires occur due to human activities. India reported 345,989 forest fires from November 2020 to June 2021, according to the State of Forests Report, 2021 (SoFR, 2021), released in January this year. This is the highest recorded in the country for this period so far. At least 258,480 forest fires were reported during the same time in 2018-19, and were the second-highest so far. Odisha reported the maximum fires among all states (51,968), followed by Madhya Pradesh (47,795) and Chhattisgarh (38,106). Uttarakhand recorded the sixth-highest fire counts in the country; incidences were up 28.3 times this forest fire season compared to last. Scientists say the forest fires in some parts of northern India and neighbouring Nepal have been the strongest in the past 15 years. The European Union's Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring Service (CAMS) said that Uttarakhand's forest fires emitted nearly 0.2 mega tonnes of carbon in the past one month, a record since 2003.

Based on the analysis of satellite pictures, it estimated Nepal emitted nearly 18 mega tonnes of carbon in the same period, the highest since 2016 when it emitted 27 mega tonnes of carbon. This shows the intensity with which the fires are burning in the region and it is quite worrying. Many parts of north India and Nepal have seen a prolonged dry spell in winter and spring season, leaving forests tinder dry. Scientists say although climate change can't be directly blamed for forest fires, it has intensified the dryness in the region. With limited resources, the fires are on difficult geography like slopes and the dry weather and people deliberately causing fires have not helped. Forest fires can be caused by a number of natural causes, but officials say many major fires in India are triggered mainly by human activities. Emerging studies link climate change to rising instances of fires globally, especially the massive fires of the Amazon forests in Brazil and in Australia in the last two years. Fires of longer duration, increasing intensity, higher frequency and highly inflammable nature are all being linked to climate change. Forest fires are most commonly reported during March and April, when the ground has large quantities of dry wood, logs, dead leaves, stumps, dry grass and weeds that can make forests easily go up in flames if there is a trigger. Under natural circumstances, extreme heat and dryness, friction created by rubbing of branches with each other also have been known to initiate fire. But humans make the situation worse by deliberately setting fires for many purposes. The locality of the forest and access to it pose hurdles in initiating firefighting efforts. During peak season, shortage of staff is another challenge in dispatching firefighting teams. Timely mobilisation of forest staff, fuel and equipment, depending on the type of fire, through the thick forests remain challenges. Only awareness among locals can make large fires preventable.

Government market dichotomy

Eminent economist and former RBI Governor has said that India needs to recalibrate its response to the price situation following disruptions in global supply chains on account of Russia-Ukraine war, as losing the battle against inflation neither serves the government nor the central bank. Raghuram Rajan is seen as advocating government intervention over market measures to deal with economic consequences. 'The return of the state' is a phrase seemingly on almost everyone's lips nowadays. Given the global challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, the argument goes, it is governments, not markets, that should be responsible for allocating resources. But this opposition of state and market is misleading, and it poses a major obstacle to understanding and addressing today's policy challenges. The dichotomy emerged in the nineteenth century, when arcane government rules, rooted in a feudal past, were the main obstacle to the creation of competitive markets. The battle cry of this quite legitimate struggle was later raised to the principle of laissez-faire, ignoring the fact that markets are themselves institutions whose efficient functioning depends on rules.

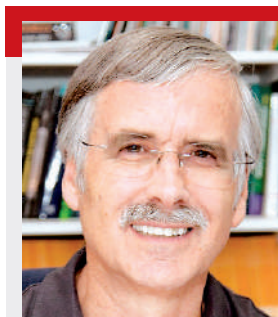
The question is not whether there should be rules, but rather who should set them, and in whose interest. In the twenty-first century, this state-market contrast is obsolete. State intervention can promote markets. But while some rules foster competitive markets, many others interfere with them. The main divide, therefore, is not between the state and markets, but between procompetitive and anti-competitive rules. In the nineteenth century, the laissez-faire principle was also abused in order to block welfare programs, in the name of a misguided social Darwinism. But social welfare schemes are not inimical to the functioning of markets. Such schemes might help markets become more resilient. So, the choice is not between state and market, but between welfare programs that promote markets and programmes that distort them. The battle nowadays is not over more state or more market. It is instead partly a struggle to ensure that market power does not interfere with the state's ability to carry out the functions it performs best. The central and state governments in India have to overcome dichotomy of government and markets being opposites.

UNDERNEATH BLOSSOM



A woman in traditional outfit poses for pictures underneath blooming cherry blossoms at Inokashira Park in Tokyo, Japan.

Ocean heat is at record levels, with major consequences



KEVIN TRENBERTH



The world witnessed record-breaking climate and weather disasters in 2021, from destructive flash floods that swept through mountain towns in Europe and inundated subway systems in China and the US, to heat waves and wildfires. Typhoon Rai killed over 400 people in the Philippines; Hurricane Ida caused an estimated USD 74 billion in damage in the US. A new analysis of monthly surface temperatures across the globe reveals that more patches of ocean have been seeing heat extremes every year. Beginning in 2014, more than half of the ocean began to reach extremes hotter than even the most extreme events from 1870 to 1919. Globally, it was the sixth hottest year on record for surface temperatures, according to data released by NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in their annual global climate report in 2022. But under the surface, ocean temperatures set new heat records in 2021.

While the temperature at Earth's surface is what people experience day to day, the temperature in the upper part of the ocean is a better indicator of how excess heat is accumulating on the planet. The world's oceans are hotter than ever recorded, and their heat has increased each decade since the 1960s. This relentless increase is a primary indicator of human-induced climate change. As oceans warm, their heat supercharges weather systems, creating

more powerful storms and hurricanes, and more intense rainfall. That threatens human lives and livelihoods as well as marine life. The oceans take up about 93 percent of the extra energy trapped by the increasing greenhouse gases from human activities, particularly burning fossil fuels. Because water holds more heat than land does and the volumes involved are immense, the upper oceans are a primary memory of global warming. Heat waves harm ocean ecosystems. They can lead seabirds to starve. Corals can die. Kelp forests can die. And animals from fish and whales to turtles may have to swim long distances in search of comfortable temps. Our study provided the first analysis of 2021's ocean warming, and we were able to attribute the warming to human activities. Global warming is alive and well, unfortunately. The point of no return was more of a statistical description of the time series. It's not a permanent state that cannot be reversed. The global mean surface temperature was the fifth or sixth warmest on record in 2021 (the record depends on the dataset used), in part, because of the year-long La Nina conditions, in which cool conditions in the tropical Pacific influence weather patterns around the world.

There is a lot more natural variability in surface air temperatures than in ocean temperatures because of El Niño or Nina and weather events. That natural variability on top of a

warming ocean creates hot spots, sometimes called 'marine heat waves,' that vary from year to year. Those hot spots have profound influences on marine life, from tiny plankton to fish, marine mammals and birds. Other hot spots are responsible for more activity in the atmosphere, such as hurricanes. While surface temperatures are both a consequence and a cause, the main source of the phenomena causing extremes relates to ocean heat that energizes weather systems. Much discussion on climate change has been about future events, and whether or not they might happen. But what the emerging data make clear is that extreme heat became common in our ocean in 2014. It's a documented historical fact not a future possibility. For marine temperatures to be considered normal, they have to regularly occur across the majority of the ocean's surface. This threshold is defined as the point of no return. Although the global ocean officially hit this point back in 2014, some ocean basins had actually crossed this threshold more than a decade earlier. The South Atlantic, for example, reached this point as far back as 1998.

We found that all oceans are warming, with the largest amounts of warming in the Atlantic Ocean and in the Southern Ocean surrounding Antarctica. That's a concern for Antarctica's ice, heat in the Southern Ocean can creep under Antarctica's ice shelves, thinning them and resulting in calving off of huge icebergs. Warming oceans are also a concern for sea level rise. The global heating increases evaporation and drying on land, as well as raising temperatures, increasing risk of heat waves and wildfires. We've seen the impact in 2021, especially in western North America, but also amid heat waves in Russia, Greece, Italy and Turkey. The warmer oceans also supply atmospheric rivers of moisture to land areas, increasing the risk of flooding, like the US West Coast has been ex-

periencing. Warmer oceans provide extra moisture to the atmosphere. That extra moisture fuels storms, especially hurricanes. The result can be prodigious rainfall, as the US saw from Ida, and widespread flooding as occurred in many places over the past year. The storms may also become more intense, bigger and last longer. Several major flooding events have occurred in Australia this past year, and also in New Zealand. Bigger snowfalls can also occur in winter provided temperatures remain below about freezing because warmer air holds more moisture.

In the oceans, warm water sits on top of cooler denser waters. However, the oceans warm from the top down, and consequently the ocean is becoming more stratified. This inhibits mixing between layers that otherwise allows the ocean to warm to deeper levels and to take up carbon dioxide and oxygen. Hence it impacts all marine life. We found that the top 500 meters of the ocean has clearly been warming since 1980; the 500-1,000 meter depths have been warming since about 1990; the 1,000-1,500 meter depths since 1998; and below 1,500 meters since about 2005. The slow penetration of heat downward means that oceans will continue to warm, and sea level will continue to rise even after greenhouse gases are stabilized. The final area to pay attention to is the need to expand scientists' ability to monitor changes in the oceans. One way we do this is through the Argo array, currently about 3,900 profiling floats that send back data on temperature and salinity from the surface to about 2,000 meters in depth, measured as they rise up and then sink back down, in ocean basins around the world. These robotic, diving and drifting instruments require constant replenishment and their observations are invaluable.

(Kevin Trenberth is Distinguished Scholar, NCAR, Affiliated Faculty, University of Auckland in New Zealand.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Coach

The "upright" coach of the Indian cricket team is indeed a "very honest" personality. Also he holds "immense respect" for those who have contributed much to the team. And exactly this is the reason why he himself has admitted ("very very honestly") that just because of his "immense respect" towards the contribution of Wriddhiman Saha, the former indeed clearly asked the latter to move on ie "your service is not required in the national team any more". That means those who hardly contribute, fail regularly and demand "less respect" can be asked to "continue in the team". No wonder why the greatest wicket keeper of the world in current times gets thrown out from the team in the most barbaric brutal fashion with utmost failures getting promoted, retained and pampered shamelessly. The Indian cricket team and its management have not fallen from the sky after all. They are part and parcel of this ungrateful biased prejudiced society only. So not only in the cricketing sector, rather in every sector of this Indian society (Right from political arena to office), silent efficient workers or contributors have absolutely no value. Rather it is the age and society of "Empty Vessels Sounding Much" who get literally worshipped by all and sundry. So get lost "Maun" mohans Wriddhimans and those unknown tireless honest persons slogging silently in their professional spaces. And reward the utmost failures everywhere for their shrill vocal rhetoric and relentless chest thumping. What a moral fall, what a sense of "justice".

Kajal Chatterjee, Kolkata
Mishaps

Road accident is a most unwanted thing to happen, yet it happens almost every day on Indian roads. As our cities grow in size and complexity, road accidents are also growing in number. A heterogeneous traffic mix that includes high speed vehicles, vulnerable road users, unsafe road infrastructure and inadequately trained drivers - all contribute to the high fatality rates seen on India's roads. Education and enforcement can together bring about a shift in the mindset of drivers. Better road sense, the ability of a driver to comprehend road signs and paying heed to speed restrictions are some of the driving etiquettes that will ease the pressure on traffic police. First Aid and Trauma Care are other aspects that could help save precious human lives by timely assistance during the golden hour. Frequent camps on road safety with catchy slogans like, "alert today, alive tomorrow", "A text or call can wreck it all," and "fast drive could be the last drive" will go a long way in preventing accidents. There is an urgent need to stress more on road safety awareness.

R Sivakumar, via email



WHAT THEY TWEET!

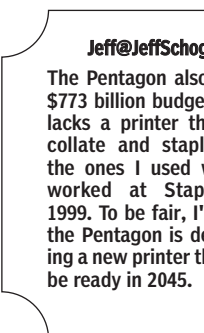


Priyanka@priyankac19
I was asked if I own any crypto asset: Answer: 0, my record is up for public scrutiny, but I speak with 100% conviction for those invested in creating a Web 3.0 world. I thank everyone for the overwhelming response to my speech in parliament. Hope the Gol bites the bullet.

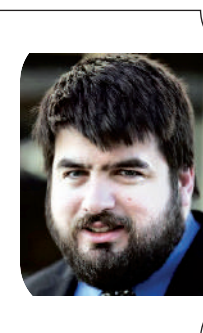
Devina@devinamehra
Switzerland breaks its '200 year old neutrality doctrine' to freeze 6 billion dollars of Russian assets. It also has billions in assets of Jews that it got during the Holocaust because it was 'neutral' during the World Wars. Appears suspiciously abt money rather than principles.



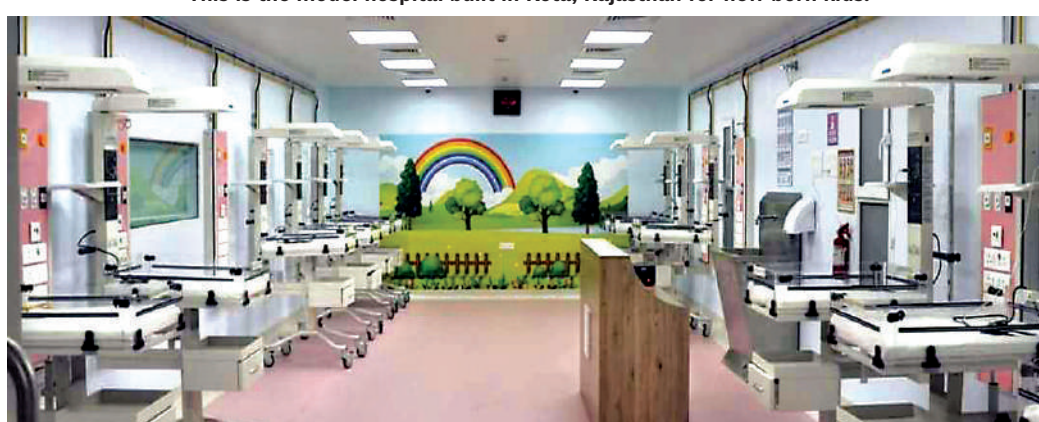
Harsh@hvgonka
Some truths to accept: There is always someone better than you. So there is no point in comparing. Nothing lasts forever. Things change. People change. And you can change any time too. Hard work doesn't guarantee success. But it gives you a better chance to succeed.



Jeff@JeffSchogol
The Pentagon also has a \$773 billion budget yet it lacks a printer that can collate and staple, like the ones I used when I worked at Staples in 1999. To be fair, I'm sure the Pentagon is developing a new printer that will be ready in 2045.



Anshuman@AnshumanSail
This is the model hospital built in Kota, Rajasthan for new born kids.



DrAditi@aditimukherji
That's so interesting. Growing up in Kolkata, studying at Presidency College followed by a Masters at JNU is what most students and parents aspired to. Basically, JNU was the place to be for us, and I am so glad I made it to JNU. My life changed for the better.

Sandeep@sandythapar
A request to all pol parties including the ruling party and @PMOIndia please do not freeze oil rates in election season. Let the slow rise continue. Bcoz after elections you'll in any case recover the backlog. And then hikes are steep and continuous. So why fool us for a short time?

BRIEF

Grow



New Delhi: AgroStar on Thursday acquired INI Farms Pvt Ltd to expand business and is targeting to grow its revenue to more than Rs 1,000 crore. AgroStar CEO Shardul Sheth said that we have acquired INI Farms through combination of cash and stock with value.

Stake

New Delhi: Private equity firm Bain Capital on Thursday said it will acquire a 24.98 per cent stake in IIFL Wealth Management Limited for Rs 3,679 crore. BC Asia Investments X Limited, a subsidiary of Bain Capital, has proposed to pick up a 2.2 crore stake held by General Atlantic Singapore Fund Pte Ltd and FIH Mauritius Investments Ltd, wholly owned subsidiary of Fairfax India Holdings Corporation in IIFL Wealth Management Limited.

Raises



New Delhi: Wiz Freight on Thursday said it has raised Rs 275 crore funding through a mix of equity and debt led by Tiger Global. CEO Ramkumar Govindarajan said the company is helping customers take control of their supply chains by offering shipment visibility.

Acquires

New Delhi: Electric two-wheeler maker Ultraviolet on Thursday said it has acquired Triloki Smart Systems, a connected vehicle technology start-up. The acquisition of Triloki Smart Systems, a Bangalore based technology start-up, is part of the strategy to push towards scaling up the company's automotive intelligence platform (AIP) across multiple products and geographies.

Neutral



New Delhi: Procter & Gamble India on Thursday said it has become a 'plastic waste neutral' company in FY 2021-22, after having recycled 100 per cent of post-consumer plastic packaging waste.

Production

Chennai: Danfoss Group company, Eaton Fluid Power inaugurated a new hydrostatic production line at its facility in Pune aimed at increasing the localisation levels and cater to the demand in the local market. The at its Pune Pimpri campus would help the customers to improve the response time besides creating new job opportunities.

India has safeguards in place to mitigate risks from capital flows

IMF report warns of risks to financial stability from liabilities

Washington, Mar 31 (PTI):

India, which has received a record number of foreign direct investment during the last few years despite COVID-19 crisis, has quite a few safeguards in place to mitigate the risks from capital flows, the International Monetary Fund said.

Capital flows have several benefits. They finance needed investments. They help insure against some kinds of risks. There are many benefits to countries from having capital flows in India and also benefits from receiving those capital flows, IMF's First Deputy Managing Director, Gita Gopinath,



Gita Gopinath

told reporters here.

The IMF released a paper on the Review of the Institutional View (IV) on the Liberalization and Management of Capital Flows. The IV was adopted in 2012 and provides the basis for consistent Fund advice on policies related to capital flows.

The IV aims to help countries reap the benefits of capital flows while managing the associated risks in a way that preserves macroeconomic and financial stability and does not generate signifi-

cant negative outward spillovers. The review introduces important changes that expand the toolkit for policymakers, such as allowing the preemptive use of capital flow measures on inflows if financial vulnerabilities exist.

In response to a question, Gopinath noted that there are other kinds of financial risks associated with having large amounts of capital inflows.

In the case of India, there are a large number of capital restrictions already in place. The Indian government uses these restrictions quite proactively in dealing with the external environment changes. So, by putting restrictions on the amount of external borrowing the corporates can do, that is an instrument that they use.

JK Tyre sets another industry benchmark

New Delhi, Mar 31:

Revolutionizing India's tyre market, the pioneer of Radial technology and leading tyre manufacturer, JK Tyre & Industries Ltd., has launched India's first Puncture Guard Tyres for four-wheelers.

Driven by the technological expertise of producing high performance tyres suited for Indian conditions, JK Tyre, aims to revolutionize the industry with Puncture Guard Tyres for new generation cars available in market.

The Puncture Guard tyre technology, with specially engineered self-healing elastomer inner coat, applied inside the tyres through an automated process, heals the punctures. Tyres with this

technology can self-repair the multiple punctures in the tread area, due to nails or other sharp objects up to 6.0 mm diameter instantly. Puncture Guard tyre offers hassle free ride throughout the life of the tyre without air loss.

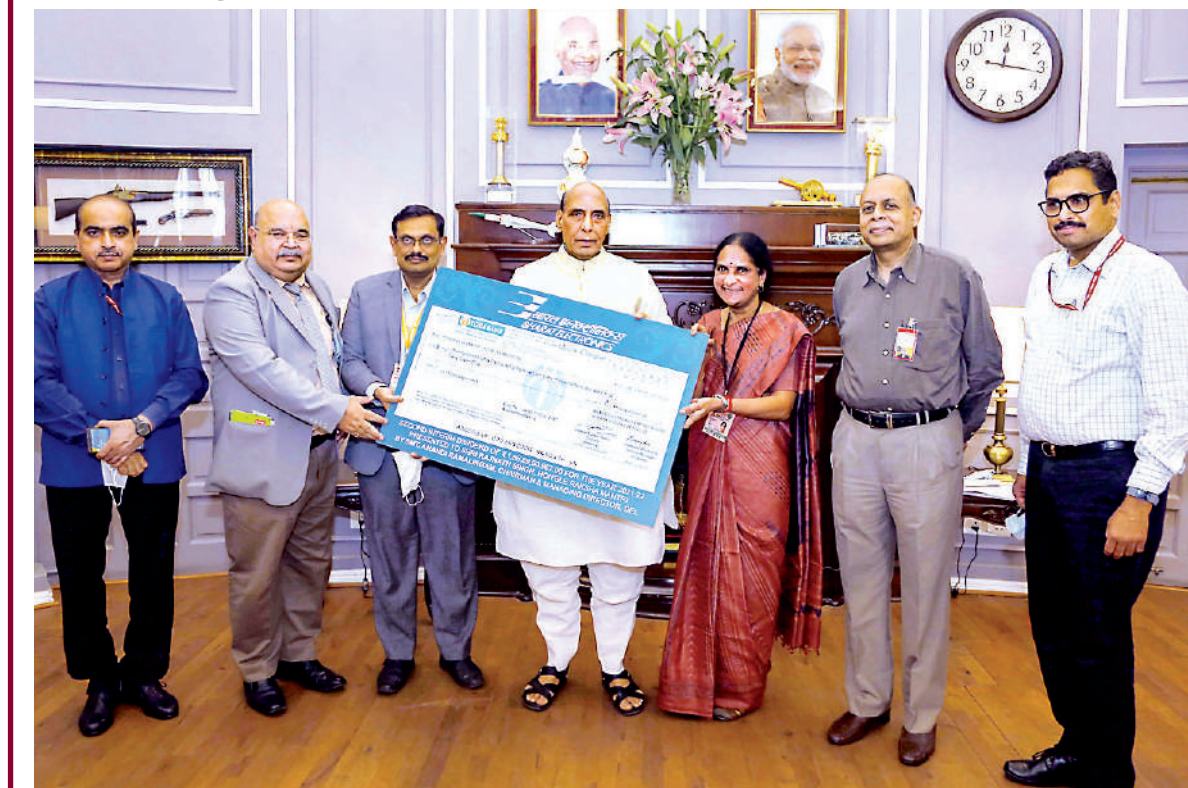
Commenting on the occasion, Dr. Raghupati Singhania, Chairman & Managing Director said, "JK Tyre has always been a front-runner when it comes to innovation-led technological development. With the introduction of Smart tyre technology in 2020 and now the Puncture Guard Tyre technology, we have yet again delivered on our commitment to provide advanced mobility solutions to our customers."

Sensex declines 115.48 pts due to profit taking

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTI):

Benchmark BSE Sensex gave up its early gains to settle lower by 115 points on the last day of 2021-22 fiscal on Thursday, dragged down by profit-taking in Reliance Industries, Infosys and HDFC Bank after a three-day rally. The 30-share barometer declined by 115.48 points or 0.20 per cent to settle at 58,568.51 in choppy trade due to the expiry of monthly derivatives contracts. During the day, it touched a high of 58,890.92 and a low of 58,485.79. The broader NSE Nifty declined by 33.50 points or 0.19 per cent to settle at 17,464.75. For the fiscal 2021-22, the BSE Sensex jumped 9,059.36

DIVIDEND RECEIVED



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh receives second interim dividend cheque of Rs 186.89 crore for the Financial Year 2021-22 from CMD of Bharat Electronics Limited Anandi Ramalingam, in New Delhi, Thursday.

Rupee surges 14 paise at 75.76 against USD, gold rises

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTI):

The rupee advanced by 14 paise to close at 75.76 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, tracking strong Asian peers and a fall in global crude oil prices.

However, during the financial year 2021-22, the domestic unit depreciated by 264 paise or 3.61 per cent against the American currency.

At the interbank forex market, the local unit opened at 75.67 against the greenback and witnessed an intra-day high of 75.66 and a low of 75.83.

The rupee finally settled at 75.76, registering a rise of 14 paise over its previous close. On Wednesday, the rupee dropped 17 paise to close at 75.90 against the

US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose 0.40 per cent to 98.18. Bullion prices showed mixed movement.

Gold prices on Thursday rose by Rs 195 to Rs 51,148 per 10 grams in futures trade as speculators created fresh positions on a firm spot demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, gold contracts for April delivery traded higher by Rs 195 or 0.38 per cent to Rs 51,148 per 10 grams in a business turnover of 213 lots.

Fresh positions built up by participants led to the rise in gold prices, analysts said.

Toyota Kirloskar drives in Hilux at Rs 33.99 lakh



New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) on Thursday said its iconic SUV model Hilux is priced between Rs 33.99 lakh and Rs 36.8 lakh (ex-showroom) across the country.

Launched earlier this year, the Hilux is aimed to fulfil the needs of the cus-

tomers seeking a lifestyle utility vehicle that is best suited for off-roading adventure drives on tough terrains, and everyday city use.

"Ever since its launch, the sophisticated Hilux has managed to win the admiration and hearts of the customers with good response. With our 'cus-

tomers first' approach, drawing inspiration from the lifestyles of the people, our offering in the whole new lifestyle segment with Hilux is a step ahead to deliver 'mass happiness to all,' TKM Executive Vice President Tadashi Asazuma said in a statement. The Toyota Hilux is the epitome of

engineering, safety, and comfort, all perfectly channelled to create the incredible lifestyle utility vehicle for those who enjoy adventure, thrill, and creating enduring memories with friends and family, he added.

Globally, the Hilux sales have surpassed 20 million units in around 180 countries. Through more than five decades and eight generations, the Toyota Hilux created extraordinary experiences and an unbreakable bond with those who desire awesomeness during their everyday drives, whether they are on business or with their families, the automaker stated. Hilux's global reputation as a powerful performer is attributed to its rigid Innovative Multi-purpose Vehicle (IMV) platform.

Tight coal supply to put upward pressure on power tariff

Rise in import dependency also factor

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Tight supply of coal to power plants and expected rise in import of the dry fuel amid high international prices will put upward pressure on electricity tariff, according to an Icrta report. "Given the continued tight domestic coal supply position over the last six-month period, coal import dependency for the power sector is expected to increase moderately in the near-term."

"It therefore poses a cost headwind for IPPs (merchant & competitively bid based projects with no or limited fuel cost pass-through) and for the distribution utilities ('discoms'), in an elevated internation-



al coal price level environment," Girishkumar Kadam, Senior Vice President & Co-Group Head - Corporate ratings, Icrta, said. The outlook for thermal generation and distribution segments within the power sector continues to remain negative, he stated. According to the report, Ministry of Power issued an advisory

on March 26, 2022 highlighting domestic coal supply availability to power sector to be done in proportionate basis of coal received from Coal India Ltd / Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL). In the advisory, the ministry also directed to maximize captive coal production within the permitted levels and to take initiatives to promote the use of renewable energy so as to bring down coal dependency. In December 2021, the ministry also advised state power generation companies (GENCOs) and independent power producers (IPPs) to meet their coal requirements through blending of imported coal to the extent of 4 per cent.

OMCs' policies hampering ethanol output: ISMA tells MPs

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

The country has enough raw material to produce 1,016 crore litres of ethanol by 2025 for blending with petrol, but policies of oil marketing companies and other factors are restricting the output of the fuel additive, industry body ISMA said on Thursday.

In a presentation before Members of Parliament (MPs), Indian Sugar Mills Association Director General Abinash Verma said that about 10 per cent ethanol blending with petrol is expected in the current (2022) year. A target has been set for 20 per cent ethanol blending by 2025.

To achieve the 20 per cent blending target, the ISMA DG said about 1,016



crore litres of ethanol is required, and for which the raw material is available. But there is a need to augment production capacity with mills as well as necessary infrastructure and storage with OMCs (Oil Marketing Companies).

The government has put in place encouraging policies for capacity creation, but delay in bank loans is creating hurdles. That apart, OMCs' policies remain 'restrictive', it said.

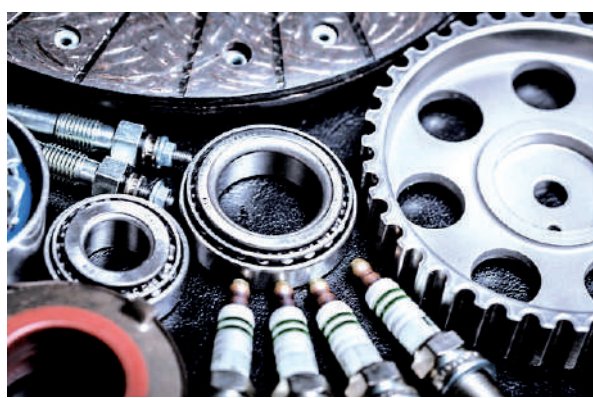
Auto component industry likely to clock 8-10% growth

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

The Indian auto component industry is expected to clock 8-10 per cent growth in FY23, supported by the easing of supply-chain issues and commodity inflation in the second half of the year, according to rating agency Icrta.

For 2021-22, the revenue growth of the industry is pegged at 13-15 per cent, driven by domestic OEM, replacement, export volumes and pass-through of commodity prices. The healthy volume growth will, however, come on a low base of FY2021, the agency said in a statement.

"Demand for auto components stems from domestic OEMs, replacement and exports. Domestic OEM demand has remained a mixed bag across segments in



FY2022, with a slowdown in two-wheelers (2Ws) and semiconductor shortage dragging down overall production volumes," Icrta Ltd Assistant Vice President & Sector Head Corporate Ratings - Vinutaa S said.

Exports have remained a bright spot in the Indian auto component story, partly aided by the "China+1 strategy". This

is despite supply chain issues, she added. "ICRA believes that the growth in FY2022 exports would have been even better if not for the semiconductor shortage. While auto ancillaries have a healthy export order book for the next few months, the impact of geopolitical and supply-chain issues on actual offtake remains monitorable," Vinutaa said.

Ukraine war may result in 25% supply shortage of sunflower oil

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTI):

The ongoing war in Ukraine, which is the world's largest sunflower grower, is likely to result in at least 25 per cent or 4-6 lakh tonnes shortage of crude sunflower oil supplies in India next fiscal, according to a report.

Around 70 per cent of crude sunflower oil comes to India from Ukraine and about 20 per cent from Russia.

Balance sheets of domestic edible oil processors are healthy enough to withstand supply disruptions caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine but will have a bearing on the production planning of domestic edible oil processors, rating agency Crisil said



on Thursday. Refined sunflower oil constitutes 10 per cent of the country's consumption of 230-240 lakh tonnes of edible oils annually and almost 60 per cent of the demand is met through imports.

As much as 90 per cent of the country's annual crude sunflower oil requirement of 22-23 lakh tonnes come from Ukraine (70 per cent), Russia (20 per cent) and the rest from Argentina and other countries.



Shubhaavi Choksey: Strong women don't put down each other

Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2' actress Shubhaavi Choksey talks about women empowerment and how strong women don't put down each other.

She says: "The most inspirational women are those who give strength to others apart from themselves. They are those who don't put others down when they rise."

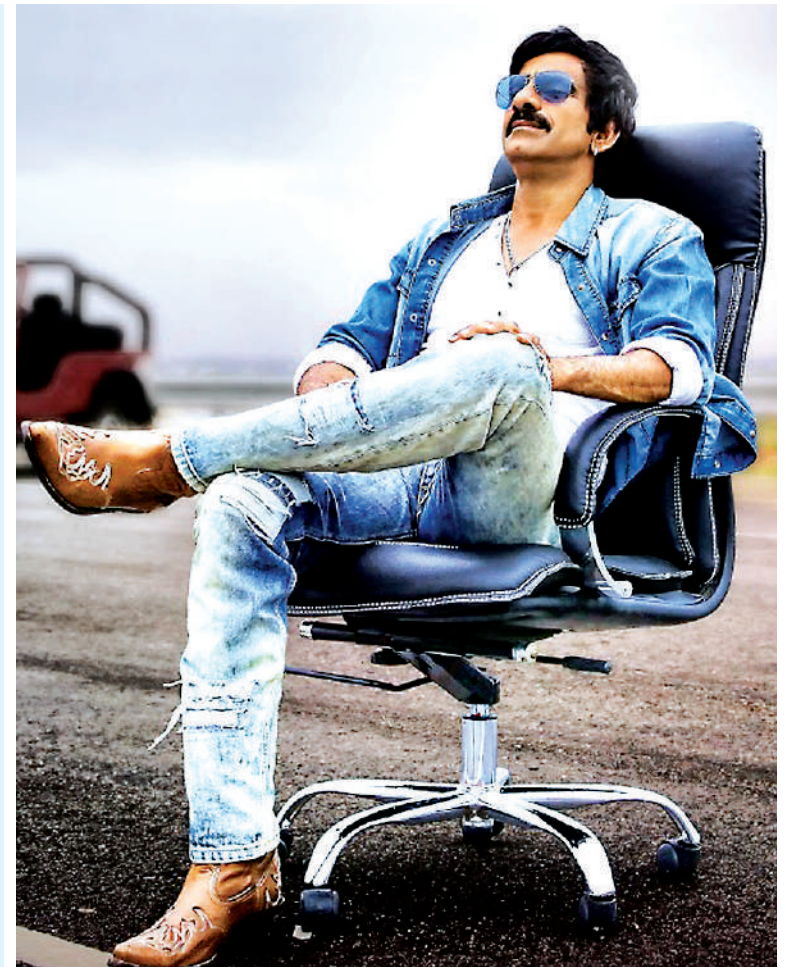
"They are those who are fearless to take up a challenge and even more courageous to admit that they need help if at all required."

She concludes by naming the two most influential women in her life.

The actress adds: "My grandmother and mother are the women who symbolise strength, truth, discipline, valiance and above all compassion. I hope I have imbibed these in my life."

Ravi Teja's upcoming movie Tiger Nageswara Rao' pre-look on April 2

Ravi Teja's upcoming movie 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' is a pan-India movie helmed by Vamsee. The makers have announced to launch this movie on April 2 while they plan to release the pre-look simultaneously. 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' will have its grand launching event on Ugadi day (April 2) in Novatel at HICC, Madhapur, Hyderabad, as reported. The event will have the film's core team and a few other guests in the auditorium. The film's pre-look will be launched at 12:06 p.m. on April 2. Touted to be a real story from the 1970s related to a notorious region called 'Stuartpuram' in Andhra Pradesh, this movie is said to have multiple layers with an interesting narrative. Ravi Teja, who is to be projected as 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' has undergone a drastic transformation. Prestigiously produced by Abhishek Agarwal ('The Kashmir Files' Producer) under Abhishek Agarwal Arts banner, 'Tiger Nageswara Rao' is presented by Tej Narayan Agarwal.



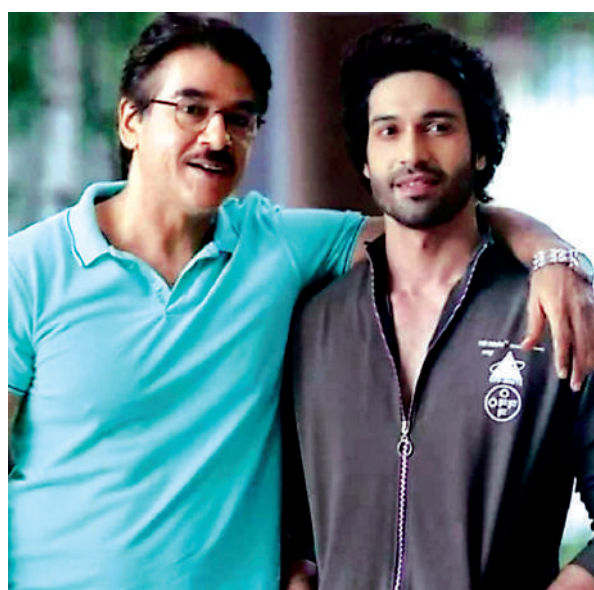
Anushka Sharma pulls Virat Kohli's leg in the comments section after he posts their fun selfie

Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli are one of the cutest couples on the block. Be it their pictures, their gestures for each other, or them pulling each other's leg on social media, it is all loved by fans and they often succeed in setting couple goals. Well, today, Virat took to his social media and shared a picture of him posing with his wife in front of what appeared to be their daughter Vamika's play area. Virat in the picture looked happy as he had a big grin on his face. But what is making this picture even more special is the actress' comment on it.

The moment Virat Kohli shared this cute picture, Anushka Sharma took to the comments section a while back and teased her hubby. She wrote, "Happy to make my fans happy. Anything for my fans." Isn't this cute? This particular comment of the actress itself has received more than 16k likes and fans have replied to this comment with laughter emojis. From calling them cute to posting several heart emojis, fans showered love on this post.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Anushka Sharma is gearing up for her comeback film. She will be soon seen in Chakda Xpress, playing the role of Indian cricketer Jhulan Goswami on the silver screen. She is often snapped practising to ace her gaming skills. In fact, she also keeps sharing pictures and videos of her training hard for the film.

Manik Bedi talks about his portrayal as Harshvardhan



Sony Entertainment Television's Mose Chhal Kiye Jaaye, has struck the right chord with its audience. Although it appears to first-hand be a show that dwells upon the fight between the mind and the heart, there are several other grey aspects to it which keep the viewers engaged and enthralled throughout. The show also boasts of several interesting characters in addition to the protagonists, who have their own intricacies for the audience to explore. One such role is that of Harshvardhan Oberoi, father of Armaan, played by Manik Bedi.

As an actor who has mostly taken up positive roles in the past, Harshvardhan Oberoi's character was quite a challenge for Manik Bedi. The character comes with

an extremely negative shade, who believes that women should be domesticated, take care of the house and the family and that the man is responsible for taking care of his woman.

Elaborating on this, he mentions, "Harshvardhan Oberoi's character is a very strong entity who possibly turned out this way due to his mother or father's presence or ideologies, or manner of raising him as a child. Harshvardhan is extremely harsh in his reactions and ways of thinking, and it often gets tough to essay the role on screen due to his extreme mannerisms or the way in which he treats other characters on the show."

Tune into Mose Chhal Kiye Jaaye, every Monday to Friday at 9:00 P.M., only on Sony Entertainment Television.

Karan Kundrra flags off the exciting Arena Task

ALTBalaji & MX Player's Lock Up unfolds a new chapter every day, and the ride continues as contestants do their best to survive in India's biggest digital reality show! Ever since, Azma Fallah has walked into the Lock Up jail, it was high time someone paid her back. So, Mandana decided to teach Azma a lesson and hid her garments near the storage unit as a form of revenge. Shivam informed Azma that he had seen her clothes near the storage unit, and Azma assumed it was Zeeshan who did it since they had a tiff for a few days. So, as payback, Azma sprinkled detergent powder on Zeeshan's clothes! When Zeeshan went to get his clothes, he noticed the powder and assumed he had not washed them adequately.

Celebrity jailor Karan Kundrra takes all the Kaidis to flag off the only Arena task. The task was an obstacle course, where the kaidis had to complete the task while carrying sandbags on their backs. The task was structured as a relay race with one Kaidi tagging another to start another obstacle course. Both blocks received a total of ten sandbags, each weighing ten kilos. The catch was that both sandbags had a funnel through which the sand may fall, so the Kaidi had to be extremely cautious. There were four obstacles: Balancing beams, Hopping steps, Electric circuit and Lock



Up runway. In this task, 3 kaidis can perform simultaneously from each block. The rule was simple: if a Kaidi placed their foot down during the task, they had to restart it, and the block with the most sand at the end of the task would win. Munawar, Anjali, and Ali played from the left block. First, Shivam, Zeeshan and Mandana chose to play from the right block. Shivam and Ali performed admirably during

the task, whereas Anjali struggled to complete the obstacle course. Zeeshan, however, took a long time to get the hang of the course. The team that wins the task will gain access to the luxury washrooms.

Who is the daredevil team that finally won the task? To know more, Watch Lock Up for more fun tasks and entertainment only on ALTBalaji and MX Player at 10:30pm.

HOROSCOPE FRIDAY APRIL 01

Aquarius: Jan 21 - Feb 18

Set any target, take up any activity or accept any challenge; you will succeed in any of them with flying colours, foresees Ganesha. Your well-wishers will shower praises upon you for those hard earned achievements. Friends are like family to you, take them out and have a gala time before another busy day begins.

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

You will be busy with romance throughout the day. While singles are likely to find the person of their dreams, those who are married will establish a new closeness in their relationship. Your attitude towards work will begin to change. You will become more serious about your career, and the fruits of this transformation will be reaped by you shortly in the near future, says Ganesha.

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 20

Freedom is a key aspect of life today, Aries. You might find that your brain wants to break free and pursue more independent ways of thinking. Don't worry if such ways of thinking lead you into unknown territory. This is a sign that this is probably where you need to be.

Taurus: Apr 21 - May 21

Today, you may experience the juxtaposition of pleasure and pain. Household tasks may weigh you down around afternoon. Later in the day, you will be able to achieve whatever you desire solely on account of your determination and mental strength. Pleasure awaits in the warmth and company of your soul mate, says Ganesha.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21

You need to pay more attention to yourself today. Your kind and generous nature means you often think about others rather than about yourself. Now is the time to pay attention to your own needs. You need to spend more time with your family and friends as well, says Ganesha.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22

You will secure your place with hard work in your job or business. Ties with partners will improve. Closeness with spouse is indicated. Melody and joy will mark domestic bliss. You will spend the evening with your beloved. Ganesha's blessings are with you.

Leo: July 23 - Aug 23

The pressure at work will be high. Some person may try to tempt you with lucrative offers to go against your principles. However, you will be able to resist the lure of easy money. Your health may suffer today, so be on guard, says Ganesha.

Virgo: Aug 24 - Sept 22

You will stay calm and steady today, and there is hardly anything that can disturb your peace of mind. Your family and friends will back you fully and motivate you to overcome hurdles. You will work with devotion, says Ganesha. You may ask for work that others may find very difficult to do.

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 23

Ganesha says people will try to take advantage of your amiable nature and disposition. Small issues will crop up today making your nature a little tensed and enhance your anger too. You will be inspired to take chances in monetary matters. Ganesha says you need to keep your mind steady and regain your lost charm soon.

Scorpio: Oct 24 - Nov 22

Your imagination runs wild today. Though you do not travel geographically, your mind travels beyond boundaries. Think and act according to your will, advises Ganesha. However, practice caution before taking any major step.

Sagittarius: Nov 23 - Dec 21

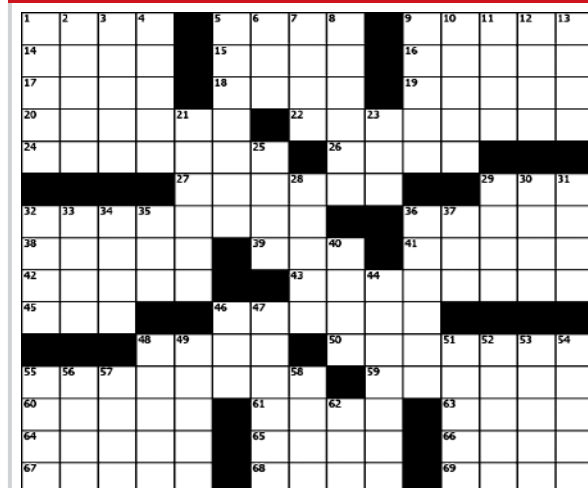
You will be loaded with responsibilities at work today, fore sees Ganesha. But, you are pro challenges and will take it up sportingly. On personal front, the list of your friends is likely to get longer. All in all, Ganesha sees you in an active avatar today.

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 20

Don't let your emotions play a spoilsport while deciding about the future. Think practically, otherwise, your expectations and reality will not be on the same boat, guides Ganesha. Friendly and supportive, today you will spread happiness and win the love of one and all.

CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

- Plant fluids
- Unoccupied
- Lucifer
- Rigid support
- Midday
- Hoisting machine
- Film holder
- Warmth
- Path
- Complete
- Calamity
- Oriental
- Arrive
- Female relatives
- Sis's sibling
- Rabble-rouser
- Hawk's weapon
- Sheik's wives
- Opposite of pos.
- Wipe clean
- Dodge
- Hearing organ pains

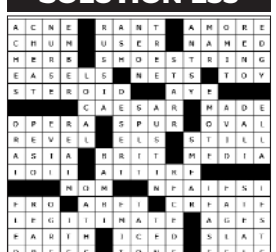
- Males
- Italian seaport
- Small earring
- Lift up
- Fatherly
- Reporter's boss
- Unattended
- Gather leaves
- Della ___ of 'Touched by an Angel'
- Small pie
- Actor ___ Guinness
- Road bends
- Mineral springs
- Pre-Easter season

DOWN

- Shopping binge
- Stadium
- Verse makers
- Bowling woe
- Benefit from a will
- Buck's mate
- Heavy burden
- Tempt
- Beat it!
- Got up
- Tightly stretched
- Opening wager
- Poetic contraction
- Retitle
- Mayday!
- Inert gas
- Crawl
- Uninspired

- Thorny bloom
- Wallet stuffers
- Throat-clearing sound
- Bestowed
- Persia, today
- Baseball's ___ Williams
- Poked fun at
- Curve
- Strong wind
- Eases up
- Cloistered one
- Conforms
- Taste or smell
- Orchard members
- Kind of infection
- ___ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
- Keepsake
- Put up
- Whittle down
- Pub beverages
- Little piggies
- Jump
- Gun rights group (abbr.)

SOLUTION 255



Another quick day for Pegula, who makes Miami Open semis



Miami Gardens: Forget three-setters. These days, Jessica Pegula doesn't even need second sets. The No. 16 seed has made the semifinals at the Miami Open, benefiting from a second consecutive abrupt ending. She won her quarterfinal against fifth-seeded Paula Badosa on Wednesday, after the Spaniard retired five games into the first set. Pegula has played four matches so far in this tournament, needing only 5 1/2 sets to record those victories. She had a first-round bye, won her next two matches in straight sets and her fourth-round match ended when unseeded Anhelina Kalinina retired after Pegula won the first set 6-0. Then came Wednesday, when Badosa bowed out down 4-1. "Of course, it's not nice to win that way," Pegula said. "It's the first time I've ever even hit with her at all and I was really looking forward to playing because she's been having an amazing year."

Dinesh Karthik is as cool as MS Dhoni: RCB skipper Faf du Plessis



Navi Mumbai: Royal Challengers Bangalore skipper Faf du Plessis has lavished praise on teammate Dinesh Karthik, saying his calm demeanour is close to what Mahendra Singh Dhoni displays in the final overs of the game. Karthik clobbered a six and a four in the first two

deliveries of the last over to take RCB home after they were in a spot of bother chasing a tricky target of 129 against Kolkata Knight Riders on Wednesday night. "DK's experience helped in the end, cool-calm, runs weren't never really too far away. He's probably as cool as MS Dhoni can get in the last five overs," said RCB captain Faf du Plessis, who has played with Dhoni at CSK, in the post-match presentation.

Sam Curran feels IPL came 'bit too soon'



New Delhi: Recovering from a back injury, England allrounder Sam Curran says he is gutted to miss the IPL this season but feels his decision to opt out of the auction was the right one. Curran said it would have been too soon to return to action as he nurses the most serious injury of his young career. "I'm gutted not to be there. It's a frustration watching from home," Curran, who played for Chennai Super Kings, told ESPNcricinfo. "I wanted to go (into the auction) but I didn't at the end which was probably the best decision. Looking back, IPL probably came a little bit too soon." The 23-year-old, who bowls left-arm medium pace, had sustained a stress fracture on his lower back during the second leg of IPL in October last year.

Fit-again Surya joins MI ahead of IPL fixture against Rajasthan



Mumbai: Having recovered from his finger injury, star India batter Suryakumar Yadav has joined the Mumbai Indians ahead of their second IPL game against Rajasthan Royals, the five-time champions said on Thursday. Surya, who was undergoing rehabilitation at the National Cricket

Academy after suffering a finger injury during the home series against West Indies last month, missed MI's IPL opener against Delhi Capitals on March 27. "Suryakumar Yadav exited his mandatory quarantine and joined the team (on Wednesday) for the gym session in the company of his mates Kieron Pollard, Ishan Kishan and Jasprit Bumrah... The mood in the camp is upbeat," MI said in a statement.

US returns to World Cup despite 2-0 loss at Costa Rica

San Jose: The United States men are returning to the World Cup after the trauma of missing the 2018 tournament, clinching a berth for this year's championship in Qatar despite a 2-0 loss to Costa Rica on the final night of qualifying. Juan Pablo Vargas got behind Walker Zimmerman and headed Brandon Aguilera's corner kick past goalkeeper Zack Steffen in the 51st minute, and Anthony Contreras knocked in a cross off a scramble in the 59th after Steffen couldn't hold onto a free kick. A sellout crowd of about 35,000 in National Stadium came to life, but the Americans' 5-1 rout of Panama at home last weekend gave them a huge goal-difference margin over Costa Rica. That meant the U.S. merely had to avoid losing by six goals or more in order to claim an automatic berth by finishing among the top three nations in North and Central America and Caribbean.

Wyatt, Ecclestone fire England to another World Cup final

Christchurch, Mar 31 (PTI):

Danielle Wyatt made the most of the luck that came her way enroute to a memorable hundred as defending champions England showed their big-match temperament with a 137-run win over South Africa to enter the Women's World Cup final here on Thursday.

Wyatt (129 off 125), who was dropped five times, struck a maiden World Cup hundred before Sophia Dunkley produced a fine 60 off 72 balls to take England to an imposing 293 for eight after South Africa chose to bowl.

South Africa, who had reached the last-four stage as the second best team from the league stage and also eliminated India from the competition, crumbled under the pressure of a knock-out game.

They could never recover from the body blow received in the second over of the chase when pacer Anya Shrubsole (2/27) had tournament's leading run-getter Laura Wolvaardt caught and bowled.

Their innings ended at 156 in 38 overs.

Left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone completed the job for England by cleaning up the lower-order, ending with six wickets for 36 runs in eight overs. She had also hit an unbeaten 24 off 11 balls to take England close to the 300-run mark.

With five wins on the trot after three losses that



had them staring at an early exit, England's juggernaut is well and truly rolling as they stand on the cusp of a fifth title.

Their final and familiar opponents Australia, on the other hand, are eyeing a record-extending seventh crown. "That was a complete performance from us,

something we were searching for a little bit. Really chuffed that the girls have brought their best cricket when everything's on the line," said England skipper Heather Knight referring to their comeback after a disastrous start to their tournament campaign. "I think the knockout

cricket that we have been playing for the last four games has helped us."

On meeting the undefeated Australia in the final on Sunday, she added: "We will go in as underdogs. We have put a lot of energy in the last few weeks and need a one last push and hopefully we can do that on Sunday."

It was a brilliant display of swing bowling from Shrubsole that broke the backbone of South Africa batting in the run chase.

Wolvaardt's opening partner Lizelle Lee was Shrubsole's second wicket as the out-of-form batter flicked it straight into the hands of the mid-wicket fielder, ending her forgettable campaign in the ICC event. After Kate Cross removed Sune Luus with a beauty that seemed to nip back in sharply, the writing was on the wall for South Africa, who paid the price for their sloppy fielding early on in the game.

Their decision to chase in a high-pressure game was also debatable. However, it was still a good run for South Africa in the competition.

"We needed to bring our best performance today and we didn't and we are feeling it. We needed to be clinical today and we weren't, it is time to keep on working," said South Africa skipper Sune Luus.

I still think we had a great campaign and we are not taking anything away from that." PTI BS ATK

With WIPL, India is going to be unbeatable in 10 years: Alyssa Healy



Wellington, Mar 30 (PTD):

Star Australia wicket-keeper-batter Alyssa Healy has backed the BCCI's plan of launching a Women's IPL next year and said India can become unbeatable in 10 years owing to the franchise-based T20 league.

Last week, the BCCI announced that it is planning to start the Women's IPL by 2023, though the decision will need approval at its Annual General Meeting. The BCCI has proposed a six-team WIPL next year.

"The announcement is pretty great. It's exactly where we thought the women's game needed to go. That was like the next step," Healy was quoted as saying by ESPNcricinfo.

"We've had a really successful WBB, and the Kia Super League went really well, now into the Hundred there's sort of some thriving domestic competitions, so to see the announcement of the IPL, in particular, to be able to grow the game in India is unbelievable."

The 32-year-old Healy, who hit a belligerent century against West Indies on Wednesday to take Australia into the ODI World Cup final, has long been an advocate of a WIPL.

She featured in the inaugural one-off exhibition game which was the precursor of the current four-match Women's T20 Challenge, a competition which will also be held this year. "It (India) is such an untapped market. I feel, in the women's game. "With that many people, surely, they're going to be unbeatable in sort of a 10-year time. They just really needed a sort of a leg-up in that domestic set-up to showcase what these amazing women can do, so it's really exciting," Healy, and other Australians, have not participated in the T20 Challenge since its first edition in 2018. A last-minute stalemate between the BCCI and Cricket Australia led to the Australians missing out on the Indian tournament in 2019.

Powar's term ends, Laxman may play bigger role



New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTD):

Indian women's team head coach Ramesh Powar's contract has expired at the conclusion of the side's campaign in the ICC World Cup and he might have to reapply for the post as per BCCI rules.

The disastrous World Cup campaign could also lead to a radical shift in women's cricket, with National Cricket Academy (NCA) head VVS Laxman taking an active part in mentoring the next batch of the country's cricketers. The team failed to make the semifinals of the ongoing tournament. Powar had replaced WV Raman, who had guided the team into the T20 World

Cup final in 2020. "Powar's contract was till World Cup. There is no provision for extension. So the entire process starts with applications and interviews. Powar can certainly reapply and CAC (Cricket Advisory Committee), as per the constitution, will take a call," a senior BCCI source told PTI on the condition of anonymity.

Eyebrows were raised after Raman wasn't given a second term after a good show with the team and Powar, who had a chequered history with skipper Mithali Raj, was brought back.

"The CAC takes the call and if they felt Ramesh would do better than Raman, it was their call. The board can't interfere," the source said.

As PTI reported at the end of India's campaign in New Zealand, there were serious differences of opinions between two senior players, who have been at loggerheads for years now.

KKR promise bold play against power-packed Punjab Kings

Mumbai, Mar 31 (PTD):

Kolkata Knight Riders are expected to continue with their risk-taking approach despite mixed returns when they on Punjab Kings in the Indian Premier League here on Friday.

KKR head into Friday's game at the back of a three-wicket loss against RCB though managed to make the game close after a below-par total.

Punjab began their campaign with a win but they would expect a better bowling effort after conceding more than 200 runs in their first game. South Africa speedster Kagiso Rabada is expected to play after completing his three-day quarantine and that will give a big boost to the Punjab attack.

Batting at the Wankhede, where the track is relative-



ly fresh, has not been easy as seen in the two games played at the venue so far.

It may be early days in the two-month long IPL but the toss is already playing a significant role in the game's outcome with dew coming into picture in the

second half of the game.

Kolkata's openers, Ajinkya Rahane and the attacking Venkatesh Iyer perished cheaply against RCB and the duo would be looking to provide a strong start to the team.

While skipper Shreyas

Iyer, who has been in good form despite the failure against RCB, would be an important cog in the wheel, but would need support from the likes of Nitish Rana. For left-handed Rana, consistency would be the key. Apart from the duo, the responsibility in the middle order needs to be shouldered by Sam Billings, Sheldon Jackson and the big-hitting Andre Russell.

The KKR line-up has batters who can tear into any attack and the management would hope that they all fire in unison against Punjab.

On the bowling front, pacer Umesh Yadav was splendid in both the games with the new ball. Experienced Kiwi bowler Tim Southee, who replaced Shivam Mavi and picked up three wickets, too has a key role to play upfront.

Mexico heads to its eighth straight World Cup with win

Mexico City, Mar 31 (AP):

It was never really in doubt that Mexico would make its eighth straight World Cup.

Mexico had all but booked its spot in Qatar heading into its final qualifying match against El Salvador on Wednesday night. The mood from the home crowd at Azteca Stadium was light from the moment a remote-controlled toy truck delivered the game ball to midfield for kickoff.

Uriel Antuna scored in the 16th minute for the early lead and Ra I Jimenez converted on a penalty kick before the end of the first half, and El Tri downed El Salvador 2-0 to make the World Cup spot official. The final qualification matches in the North and Central America and Caribbean regions were all played simultaneously on Wednesday night. CONCACAF's three automatic bids went to Canada,



Mexico's Raul Jimenez (L) celebrates his goal against El Salvador during their FIFA World Cup Concacaf qualifier match at the Azteca stadium in Mexico City.

Mexico and the United States. Canada had already secured its first World Cup berth in 36 years with a 4-0 victory over Jamaica in Toronto on

Sunday. The Canadians fell to Panama 1-0 in their final match but finished atop the eight-team table with 28 points.

With 3 Olympians in side, confident India eye best-ever finish at Jr.WC

Potchefstroom, Mar 31 (PTD):

The presence of three Olympians, including skipper Salima Tete, will certainly be an advantage for the Indian hockey team when it competes at the FIH Women's Junior World Cup, beginning here on Friday.

Apart from Tete, midfielder Sharmila Devi and striker Lalresiami were part of the senior team which finished fourth at the Tokyo Olympics.

The Indian team will begin its campaign in Pool D against Wales on Saturday before taking on formidable Germany on Sunday.

The Indians will then take on Malaysia in the final pool match before the quarterfinal round which starts on April 8.

The 20-year-old Salima is a vital cog in the Indian midfield. She has already proved her capabilities in the successful Olympics campaign. Her swiftness is a treat to



watch. She mesmerised with her brilliant runs in the bronze medal match against Great Britain, earning three penalty corners, albeit in a losing cause. Lalresiami, the first woman Olympian from Mizoram, is a nimble-footed striker, known for quick and poach-

ing movements inside the opposition circle. The 20-year-old Sharmila, also an energetic forward, has impressed all with her brilliant runs from both the flanks during the Olympics. She also scored a goal in India's pool stage match against Great Britain.

PROTECTION FROM HEAT



Tourists use umbrellas to shield themselves from the hot summer sun, during their visit to the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Thursday.

Speculation over Akhilesh-Shivpal rift

Rajbhar says efforts on to sort out issues

Lucknow, Mar 31 (PTI):

Sulking socialist leader Shivpal Singh Yadav's recent meeting with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has triggered speculation that he may quit the SP-led alliance to join the BJP. The speculation gained strength amid reports indicating the Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) chief's strained relationship with Samajwadi Party (SP) president and his nephew Akhilesh Yadav.

Shivpal Yadav had met Adityanath on Wednesday.

However, Om Prakash Rajbhar, a key leader of the Opposition alliance, sought to downplay the issue. There are "some issues" within their family and he is making all efforts to ensure that they remain together, Rajbhar

said. Meanwhile, Pragatisheel Samajwadi Party (Lohia) spokesperson Deepak Mishra told PTI that party workers on Thursday discussed the changing political scene with their leader and told Shivpal Yadav that they will back whatever decision he takes.

"Shivpal Yadav assured partymen that they will be taken into confidence before taking any decision, which will keep the legacy of (Ram Manohar) Lohia and Jai Prakash Narain alive and work on resolving problems of people," Mishra said.

"In politics, all doors and alternatives are kept open," Mishra said. When questioned about his options, Mishra said, "Shivpalji had got a proposal from the BJP earlier too. Every political party or leader would like to

have popular leader like Shivpal Yadav with them. But he did not go since he has worked with Samajwadi Party workers and led them in all their struggles."

Shivpal Yadav has told workers to remain prepared for struggle and increase their public participation, and a big decision will be taken soon, Mishra said. Reports suggested that the distance between Shivpal Yadav and Akhilesh Yadav has been widening ever since the veteran leader was not invited to a meeting of newly elected SP MLAs on March 26. Shivpal Yadav had contested the recent Assembly polls on the SP symbol.

He skipped the Opposition alliance's Monday meeting and also "delayed" oath as a member of the Assembly, indi-

cating that all is not well between both leaders. Shivpal Yadav took oath on Wednesday and later went to the CM's residence here, fuelling speculation of his changing sides.

Besides Shivpal Yadav, the alliance's other key leader, Pallavi Patel of the Apna Dal (Kamerwadi), who had humbled Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya from Sirathu, had also not attended the meeting of the SP coalition partners on March 28.

Talks are doing rounds that as part of the plan, the BJP may send Shivpal Yadav to the Rajya Sabha and give his Jaswantnagar seat to his son Aditya Yadav. Akhilesh Yadav had denied ticket to Aditya Yadav in the Assembly polls. Eleven Rajya Sabha seats will fall vacant between April and July.

'G23 never wanted non-Gandhi as Cong chief'

Bhopal, Mar 31 (PTI):

Senior Congress leader Kamal Nath on Thursday claimed that the 'G-23' group of Congress dissidents never demanded that a leader from outside the Gandhi family head the party. Their demand of organisational polls has been met as elections will be held within three months, he said, speaking to reporters at his residence here.

Asked about the demand that somebody from outside the Gandhi family should become the president of Congress, Nath said, "The party elections are going to be held. This G-23 group is very close to me. They have been my colleagues for years. They have never made any such demand. In fact, all their



Kamal Nath

demands have already been met. "They have asked for party elections and they are going to be held. Polls can't be held without membership, so that process is also going on and elections will be held in three months' time," the former Madhya Pradesh chief minister said. Those sitting in cities like Delhi, Bhopal, Mumbai and Bangalore

and talking about the country do not understand "towns and villages," he further said.

The G-23 leaders, who are seeking organisational reforms, had held meetings earlier this month following Congress's dismal performance in the Assembly elections in five states. Meanwhile, Nath targeted the BJP governments at the Centre and in Madhya Pradesh over inflation.

While the price of every other commodity is rising, that of liquor has fallen, he said. Milk is getting costlier while liquor is becoming cheaper, the Congress leader quipped. Rising petrol and diesel prices have a spiralling effect on the prices of edible items including milk, vegetables, medicines and other items

of daily need, he said.

Modi ji (prime minister Narendra Modi) used to say big things about inflation in 2013-14 and Shivraj (Madhya Pradesh chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan) used to ride bicycle in protest (against fuel price rise), they are quiet on the issue now," Nath said. Chouhan has now started a "factory of announcements and assurances, he quipped.

The cost of fertilizer and seeds has increased compared to four years ago, Nath said, adding that farmers, the youth and small traders are all in trouble and hence Congress is staging protests "to open the government's eyes and ears as the government's mouth is open but eyes and ears are shut."

High schools in Ganjam to be illuminated with renewable energy

Berhampur, Mar 31 (PTI):

All government-run high schools in Odisha's Ganjam district will soon be illuminated with electricity generated from renewable energy. The district administration has taken an initiative to make the high schools energy-independent by installing solar panels, Ganjam Collector Vijay Kulange said. The installation is set to be done from Friday by a Noida-based firm and likely to be completed in the next six months. There are 535 government high schools in the district, officials said. Around Rs 9 crore will be spent under the project and expenditure will be met through the corporate social responsibility funds of different firms and contribution of the 'Mo School' (my school), an initiative to revamp the government and state-aided schools in Odisha.

Animals get air coolers, special diet to beat summer heat

● In Jharkhand's Birsa zoo

Ranchi, Mar 31 (PTI):

With Jharkhand experiencing sweltering heat, zoo authorities are making arrangements like providing air-coolers and special diet to ensure that inmates stay healthy at Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, popularly known as Birsa zoo here.

Jharkhand witnessed a temperature of around 40 degree Celsius and Ranchi recorded its maximum at 38 degree Celsius in the past 24 hours.

The authorities have provided air-coolers in enclosures for tigers and

lions, while fruits like water melon and cucumber are being served to herbivores.

Besides, they are also being given glucose, drinking water mixed with Electral powder and multivitamins to protect them from the impact of heat, zoo officials said.

Spread over 104 hectares of area in Ranchi's Ormanjhi area, the zoo houses about 1,450 wild animals comprising 83 species of mammals, reptiles and birds.

Zoo director Jabbar Singh told PTI, Animals, mainly carnivores, suffer the most from rising mercury. So, we have ensured proper summer diet, adequate water and shade for

such animals.

We have installed coolers for nine tigers and four lions in the zoo, besides putting jute sacks around the cages to provide protection from heat. Herbivores are being served fruits having water content to keep them hydrated.

Veterinary doctor of the zoo Dr O P Sahu told PTI that rising temperature increases the respiration rate of animals, especially those of carnivores.

So, diets of tigers and lions have been restricted. Their daily meat intake has been reduced by 2 kg. The health of animals is being monitored at regular intervals by the keepers, he said.

NHAI plans cashless treatment facility on Golden Quadrilateral

For road accident victims

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI): State-owned National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is planning a cashless treatment facility for road accident victims on all four arms of the Golden Quadrilateral stretch, Parliament was informed on Thursday. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said that the success of the scheme may be assessed only after it is implemented on the ground after the conclusion of the bidding process and on-boarding of the selected insurance company. "NHAI is planning a cashless treatment facility for the road accident victims, including drivers, passengers, pedestrians/cyclists on identified National Highway stretches between Delhi-Mumbai/ Mumbai-Chennai/ Chennai-Kolkata/ Kolkata-Agra & Agra-Delhi Corridors of the Golden Quadrilateral (NH) for treatment of the bodily injury caused by and arising out of road accident," Gadkari said.

Congress questions govt over emissions due to infra projects

● Under PM Gati Shakti scheme

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi on Thursday questioned the government on the effects of the PM Gati Shakti scheme, the Centre's big-ticket infrastructure project, on India's commitment to cut emissions to net-zero by 2070.

Taking part in a discussion on climate change in the Lok Sabha, Gogoi said while he supported the development, the scheme, which is a national master plan for multi-modal connectivity entailing large-scale construction, will raise emissions.

"Lakhs of rupees have been allocated to PM Gati Shakti for infrastructure for railways, airports and



Gaurav Gogoi

highways. This scheme is the greatest challenge for India.

"We would need coal, high-emission producing technology will be required. It will raise emissions. What is the model that will keep emissions low? Will the government make a rule that only lower-emission technology will be used?" he asked.

Gogoi also said while the environment minister had stated in Glasgow dur-

ing COP26 that India will reduce the use of coal, the transition to alternative fuel has to be planned just to ensure that people connected to the sector do not suffer. BJP MP Jayant Sinha said the net-zero commitment by 2070 is "massively net positive for India". He further pushed for a global carbon market and for India to be connected to a worldwide carbon network.

Both Sinha and Gogoi urged for an institutional arrangement to secure India's climate future, with the Congress MP even proposing that the government consider bringing legislation on the same. The BSP's Malook Nagar said the government should encourage electronic vehicles and proposed that neem trees be grown in abundance to curb pollution.

VACCINATION DRIVE



Healthcare workers administer a dose of the Covid-19 preventive vaccine to students in the age group of 12 to 14 years, at a school, in Karad, Thursday.

RS bids farewell to 72 retiring MPs

PM urges them to inspire coming generations

New Delhi, Mar 31 (PTI):

The Rajya Sabha on Thursday bid farewell to its 72 retiring members with Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging them to take the experience gained in the House to across India in the best interests of the people and help inspire the coming generations.

Members cutting across party lines shared fond memories of their retiring colleagues and hoped they return to the House. While most MPs were emotional, there were some lighter moments as well.

A total of 72 Rajya Sabha MPs, including



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu, Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, during a photo session with retiring members of Rajya Sabha, in the second part of the Budget Session, at Parliament, in New Delhi, Thursday.

seven nominated members, are retiring between March and July this year,

which is one-third of the strength of the House. Among them, some may

return to the Rajya Sabha. The retiring members represent 19 states and some of them have experience of five terms.

Those retiring from the Rajya Sabha include A K Antony, Ambika Soni, P Chidambaram, Anand Sharma, Jairam Ramesh, Suresh Prabhu, Praful Patel, Subramanian Swamy, Prasanna Acharya, Sanjay Raut, Naresh Gujral, Satish Chandra Mishra, M C Mary Kom, Swapan Dasgupta and Narendra Jadhav.

In his remarks, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu asked lawmakers to be propelled by "passion, performance and

procedural integrity" and desist from disrupting law-making bodies while upholding the honour and privilege bestowed on them by the people.

He called upon them to ensure the expectations and aspirations of people are incorporated in the designing laws and policies.

The Rajya Sabha chairman also voiced concern over the House having lost over 35 per cent of the functional time due to disruptions since 2017. In his speech, the prime minister emphasised that experience has more power than knowledge and the MPs should take it forward in the service of the nation.

'Have required numbers despite withdrawal of support by BJP'

Kargil, Mar 31 (PTI):

National Conference leader and chairman of Kargil unit of the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Feroz Ahmad Khan on Thursday denied any threat to his chair following the withdrawal of support by BJP councillors, saying he has the backing of the required number of members.

His remarks came after the BJP withdrew its support to the National Conference in the LAHDC, Kargil, on Wednesday and recommended dissolution of the council. "It was a surpris-



Feroz Ahmad Khan

ing development as the democratically elected LAHDC-Kargil was running smoothly with developmental activities in the district witnessing a massive jump. May be the BJP's Ladakh unit was not happy with it," Khan told PTI.

Khan also lashed out at the BJP's Ladakh unit and termed as "totally misleading and false" its allegations that the council had a lackadaisical approach and there was lack of transparency in utilization of funds for public welfare.

However, Khan, who is also the chief executive councillor, praised the Narendra Modi-led central government and Lt Governor R K Mathur-led administration for ensuring "free flow of funds" for development of the border district. He said there was no alliance between NC and the BJP in the LAHDC-Kargil.