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CENTRAL Chronicle

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Raipur, Wednesday, January 25, 2023 | Pages 12 | Price ₹ 3.00 | City Edition | Fastest growing English Daily of Chhattisgarh



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BRIEF



Girls with painted face during the National Girl Child Day celebrations, in Moradabad, Tuesday.

Earthquake

Kathmandu: A 5.9-magnitude earthquake jolted Western Nepal on Tuesday, killing one person and damaging a number of houses in the region, officials said. The earthquake, with epicentre in the Mela area of Bajura district in Sudurpaschim province, hit the region at 2:43 PM local time, said Lok Bijaya Adhikari, head of the Earthquake Measurement and Research Centre.

Address

New Delhi: President Droupadi Murmu will address the nation on Wednesday on the eve of the 74th Republic Day, her maiden speech on the occasion. "The address will be broadcast from 1900 hrs on the entire national network of All India Radio (AIR), and telecast over all channels of Doordarshan in Hindi followed by the English version," according to a Rashtrapati Bhavan statement.

Seize

Mumbai: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized 36 kg of smuggled gold worth Rs 21 crore along with Rs 20 lakh unaccounted cash from the Air Cargo Complex suburban Andheri and arrested a person from the premises, an official said on Tuesday. Based on specific information, DRI officers conducted a search at the Air Cargo Complex Mumbai Customs on Monday and recovered smuggled gold in various stages of processing, the official said.

Dies

Nagpur: A 70-year-old inmate of the central jail in Maharashtra's Nagpur died of an ailment at a hospital in the city, an official said. A court in Mumbai had convicted the man in a case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and was sentenced to seven years of rigorous imprisonment, the official said.

Arrested

Gurugram: A man and his wife have been arrested on the charge of peddling drugs and around 70 kilogram of marijuana has been seized from them, police said on Tuesday. Sukhdev Singh alias Sukhu (30) and his wife Priyanka (28) were apprehended by a team of the Manesar crime unit on Monday late evening, an official said.

Recovered

Bulandshahr: A body of a teenage girl, who was kidnapped from the Gulawathi area here, has been recovered from the Raya area in Mathura, police said on Tuesday.

	Weather
High 31	Low 15
Market	
NIFTY 18,118.30	▼
SENSEX 60,978.75	▲
BULLION	
GOLD 56,870	
SILVER 68,023	

'RRR' creates Oscars history

■ **'Naatu Naatu'** nominated for Best Original Song

Los Angeles, Jan 24 (PTI):

Filmmaker SS Rajamouli's period action blockbuster "RRR" on Tuesday created history with the film's hit track "Naatu Naatu" earning an Oscar nomination in the Best Original song category.

In the category, the movie was nominated alongside 'Applause' from "Tell It Like a Woman", "Hold My Hand" from "Top Gun: Maverick", "Lift Me Up" from "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever" and 'This Is a Life' from "Everything Everywhere All at Once".



"WE CREATED HISTORY!! Proud and privileged to share that #NaatuNaatu has been nominated for Best Original song at the 95th Academy Awards," tweeted the official website of the movie.

This is the third major international recognition for 'Naatu Naatu', com-

posed by MM Keeravaani and penned by Kala Bhairava and Rahul Sipligunj after Keeravani won a Golden Globe as well as a Critics Choice award for the track earlier this month. The film won another Critics Choice award -- Best Foreign Language Film.

"RRR" (Rise Roar Revolt), a pre-independence fictional story, follows two real-life Indian revolutionaries Alluri Sitarama Raju (Ram Charan) and Komaram Bheem (Jr NTR) in the 1920s.

"Jai Ho" from the 2008 British film "Slumdog Millionaire", directed by Danny Boyle, was the first Hindi song to win an Academy Award in the Best Original Score and Original Song categories. It was composed by AR Rahman and penned by Gulzar.

The nominations for 23 categories of the 95th Academy Awards were announced by Hollywood actors Riz Ahmed and Allison Williams here. The Oscars will take place on March 12.

RIJU ON SC COLLEGIAL RESOLUTIONS

'Should not have put out IB/RAW reports'

■ **Matter of grave concern**

New Delhi, Jan 24 (PTI):

Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Tuesday said it was a "matter of grave concern" that certain portions of sensitive reports of the Intelligence Bureau and the Research and Analysis Wing were put in public domain by the Supreme Court collegium.

He said intelligence agency officials work in a secret manner for the nation, and they would "think twice" in future if their reports are made public.

"It will have an implication," he said.

The minister was responding to questions on some recent Supreme

Court collegium resolutions, which contained portions of the IB and RAW reports on certain names reiterated by the top court for appointment as high court judges, being made public last week.

This is for the first time the government has reacted to portions of these reports put in public domain by the SC collegium.

The collegium had reiterated the names to the government earlier this month while rejecting the intelligence inputs.

"Putting the sensitive or secret reports of RAW and IB in public domain is a matter of grave concern on which I will react at an appropriate time. Today is not the appropriate time," Rijiju told reporters at a law ministry event here.

Asked whether he would 'sensitise' Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrabudh in this regard, the law minister said he often meets the CJI.

"We are always in touch. He is the head of the judiciary and I am the bridge between the government and the judiciary so we have to work together. You cannot work in isolation," he said.

The SC collegium had referred the names to the government earlier this month while rejecting the intelligence inputs.

"Putting the sensitive or secret reports of RAW and IB in public domain is a matter of grave concern on which I will react at an appropriate time. Today is not the appropriate time," Rijiju told reporters at a law ministry event here.

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FULL DRESS REHEARSAL



Students perform during the full dress rehearsal for Republic Day parade at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, in Gurugram, Tuesday.

6629-page chargesheet tells why Aftab killed Shraddha

New Delhi, Jan 24 (PTI):

Poonawala was outraged at Shraddha going to meet another friend'

The Delhi Police on Tuesday said Shraddha Walkar had gone to meet another friend which Aftab Poonawala didn't like and he became violent. "On the day of the incident, Walkar had gone to meet one of her friends which Poonawala did not like. After which he became violent and the incident happened," Joint Commissioner of Police (south) Meenu Chaudhary said.

Police said that the charge sheet was filed on Tuesday under sections 302 and 201 of the IPC. Over 150 testimonies have been recorded, they said.

Today, he added. The court extended Poonawala's judicial custody by 14 days till February 7.

Poonawala is accused of strangling his live-in partner Shraddha Walkar and chopping her body into pieces before dumping them in different parts of the city across several days. When Metropolitan Magistrate Aviral Shukla asked how many pages were there in the charge sheet, the investigating officer said it has 6,629 pages. "It is voluminous," the judge said. "The charge sheet has finally been placed before the court

'Cong for early restoration of J&K statehood'

■ **J&K going through difficult phase**

Jammu, Jan 24 (PTI):

Alleging that the BJP has created a wedge between the two regions of Jammu and Kashmir, senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday said his party wants early restoration of statehood and assembly polls in the Union territory.

He said the Congress' position on Article 370 is the same as was declared by the Congress working committee after the constitutional provision was revoked by the BJP-led government in August 2019.

Two days after the Centre's move, the Congress working commit-



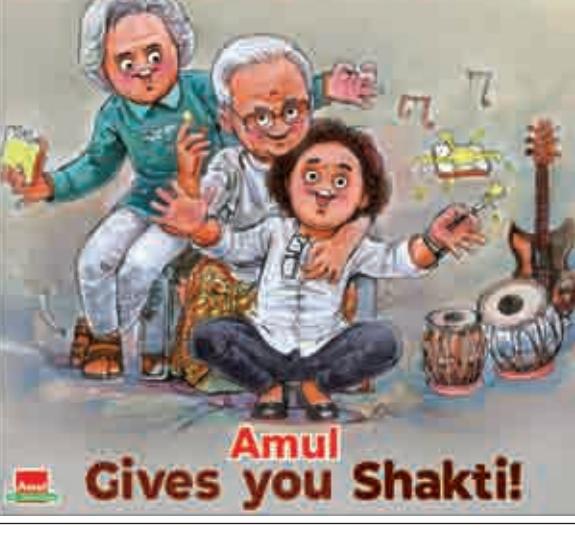
Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses a press conference amid the party's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', at Jhajjar Kotli in Jammu district, Tuesday.

tee had deplored the "unilateral, brazen and totally undemocratic" manner in which provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution were abrogated and the state of Jammu

and Kashmir was bifurcated into two Union territories. The Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra, which started from Kanyakumari on September 7 last year, is currently in Jammu and Kashmir for its final phase.

On not extending an invitation to Democratic Azad Party chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad to join the yatra and former minister Lal Singh not being given a chain on the stage to mark the entry of the march into J&K, Gandhi said, "Singh supported the yatra and we appreciate his sentiment. The people of Ghulam Nabi Azad's party were on our stage. Ninety per cent of them are already in the Congress. I think, there is only Ghulam Nabi Azadji on that side."

Three Masketeers!



Jail inmate sends threat letter to Naveen Jindal

■ Demands Rs 50 cr

Raigarh, Jan 24:

An inmate from a jail in Bilaspur district allegedly sent a threat letter to a Raigarh-based steel plant of industrialist and former Congress MP Naveen Jindal demanding Rs 50 crore from him, police said on Tuesday.

The letter was delivered by post at the Jindal Steel and Power Limited (JSPL) factory in Patrapali village last week, police official said.

It carried a demand of Rs 50 crore from the businessman with a warning of dire consequences if the money was not paid within 48 hours. An investigation revealed the letter was written by an inmate of Bilaspur central jail following which the Kotra Road police on Monday booked him under Indian Penal Code Sections 386 (extortion by putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

About the letter

The letter was delivered by post at the Jindal Steel and Power Limited (JSPL) factory in Patrapali village last week, police official said. It carried a demand of Rs 50 crore from the businessman with a warning of dire consequences if the money was not paid within 48 hours. An investigation revealed the letter was written by an inmate of Bilaspur central jail following which the Kotra Road police on Monday booked him under Indian Penal Code Sections 386 (extortion by putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt) and 506 (criminal intimidation). An investigation revealed the letter was written by an inmate of Bilaspur central jail following which the Kotra Road police on Monday booked him under Indian Penal Code Sections 386 (extortion by putting a person in fear of death or grievous hurt) and 506 (criminal intimidation), the official said. Further investigation was underway, he added.

SC amends passive euthanasia order to ease process

New Delhi, Jan 24 (PTI):

Some guidelines, prompting a reconsideration by the apex court. A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice K M Joseph said the document will now be signed by the executor of the living will in the presence of two attesting witnesses, preferably independent, and attested before a notary or Gazetted Officer.

Living will is an advance medical directive on end-of-life treatment.

The Supreme Court's 2018 order on passive euthanasia wherein it recognised the right to die with dignity as a fundamental right and an aspect of Article 21 (right to life) notwithstanding, people wanting to get a "living will" registered were facing problems due to cumbersome

guidelines, prompting a reconsideration by the apex court. A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice K M Joseph said the document will now be signed by the executor of the living will in the presence of two attesting witnesses, preferably independent, and attested before a notary or Gazetted Officer.

The witnesses and the notary shall record their satisfaction that the document has been executed voluntarily and without any coercion or inducement or compulsion and with full understanding of all the relevant information and consequences," the bench, also comprising Justices Ajay Rastogi, Aniruddha Bose, Hrishikesh Roy and Justice

NY-NEW DELHI FLIGHT PEE CASE

AI ends probe, to aid pilot in appeal

Mumbai, Jan 24 (PTI):

Nearly two months after the urination incident on its New York-New Delhi flight, Air India on Tuesday said it has closed the internal probe into the case and will assist the flight's pilot-in-command with an appeal against the suspension of his license by DGCA as the airline deems the action as "excessive".

Last week, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) suspended the license of the pilot for three months, imposed a penalty of Rs 30 lakh on Air India and 3 lakh on the director of the airline's in-flight services

related to the urination incident that happened on November 26, 2022. Tata group-owned Air India on Tuesday said it has closed the internal investigation into the actions of its crew operating and administrative staff supporting the AI 102 (New York-New Delhi) on November 26, 2022. In a statement, the airline said it accepts that, notwithstanding the mitigating circumstances, based on the letter of the CAR (Civil Aviation Requirement) it did not correctly classify the incident and therefore did not report it as required. "The crew and ground staff have been issued warning letters to henceforth adhere strictly to CAR definition of 'unruly' when reporting incidents onboard so that later investigation can assess the facts. The cabin crew and ground staff have been counselled and have since returned to duty," it said.

Over 21000 people to recite Sunderkand on Jan 28



Bhilai, Jan 28: With the objectives of welfare of all, over 21000 people are going to participate in the mass recital of Sunderkand on January 28. While addressing media persons here at Sector 5 on Tuesday, MP Vijay Baghel informed that preparations are being made on about eight acres of land near Jayant Stadium for his mega religious event. The pro-

gramme is scheduled to begin at 15:00 hrs on January 28. Common people, workers, officers, social activists, women and men and religious leaders of different religions will participate in the event.

He further said that such mass recitation of Sunderkand has been organised for the first time in the region and is likely to create a record. The organ-

isers have made arrangements of asanas (small carpet for sitting), Sunderkand books and dupatta (stoles) for all the participants. For ensuring systematic conduct of the programme, over 1000 volunteers and police personnel will be present during the programme. After the conclusion of Sunderkand, bhog - Prasad will be distributed among the people. Interested people can register free of cost on the link - <https://forms.gle/VHcpjysrSn5j7aW9> and toll free number 8587020020. People from Durg - Bhilai, Patan, Ahiwara, Berla, Bemetara, Saja, Navagarh and Dhamda have registered for participation.

Active Karishma Group to give presentation on Women Empowerment



Bhilai, Jan 24: Various programs will be held in Shaheed Park Sector 5 on January 26 as part of the Republic Day celebrations. Preparations are also being made for a cultural program for this event. Active Karishma Group is preparing a special musical dance on the topic of women empowerment. The group will hit the

stage with patriotic songs and the tricolor. Bhushan Sahu is the choreographer while Simran Kshatriya is the organiser of this presentation which will be of approximately six minutes. Karishma, Sunithi, Sujata, Yashoda, Simran, Keshari, Deepika, Sulochana, Tanu, Preeti and Madhuri are the members of this group.

The month of January is celebrated as Safety month in BSP. On this occasion various safety awareness programs are organised in different departments of the Plant. In this series, a painting exhibition was organised for school children in Steel City recently. Along with this, a poster exhibition on Safety was also organised. Award winning

and selected images of paintings made by children and posters made by participants have been displayed in the exhibition. Various Safety equipment used in the Plant have also been displayed in the exhibition. Various security models have also been displayed in the exhibition. Speaking on the occasion,

Safety exhibition inaugurated at Nehru Art Gallery

Bhilai, Jan 24:

An Exhibition on Safety was inaugurated at Nehru Art Gallery by Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP) on January 23, 2023. The exhibition will be open for public till January 31, 2023. A Safety exhibition has been organised from January 23 to 31, 2023 at Nehru Art Gallery, operated by the Public Relations Department under the aegis of the Safety Engineering Department of Bhilai Steel Plant.

Anjan Kumar, ED (Works), MM Gadre, ED (P & A), AK Chakraborty ED (MM), Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M & HS) and GP Singh, Acting CGM (Safety & FS) along with DSO and other officers of the plant were present on the occasion.

The month of January



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not getting their constitutional rights and entitlements. Mishra added that the company, factory, contractor and agencies have no fear and are openly flouting the law and rules. The elected representatives and officers should take responsibility for 100% enforcement of the laws in the interests of the labourers. The politicians should not forget that it is the laborers and farmers who stand in queues to cast their votes. He said the minimum wage is Unskilled (USW) is Rs 399; Semi Skilled (SSW) is Rs 418 and Skilled Workers (SW) is Rs 448 and High Skilled Workers (HSW) is Rs 478 for 8 hours per day. Overtime must be paid at

double the rate for working more than 8 hours.

Bonus is to be given annually at the rate of 8.33% or

equal to one payment and there is a provision to give 20 percent if there is profit to the company. Dearness allowance is to be revised twice a year. Employment card, salary slip, identity card every month and attendance card should have the seal and sign of the company. Safety equipment like gloves, goggles, shoes, safety belts etc. should be given on the basis of work. There is also a rule of providing gratuity after five years.

Leave facility, festival, casual, national holiday facility, earned leave, HPL

should be available. If

there is a regular employee in the factory, then a service book and leave card should also be prepared. There should be a wage structure for a factory worker. There should be a promotion in 3 years and in 5 years. PF should be deducted on full attendance but some companies, contractors deduct less PF by showing less attendance. There are some institutions where there are more than 100, 200, 300 employees but the PF is deducted not for all but for some selected people. If there are more than 10 employees then the employer should have ESI card. Some contractors and companies work for 12 hours and work 30-31 days

on Sundays but still do not pay minimum wages. The employees who work in BSP NSPCL have to pay Rs 2300 separately along with salary on 26th day on the basis of AWA attendance.

On termination of employment, the final payment (final settlement) is to be given as per rules. These rules and regulations are applicable in all institutions, factories, security agencies, schools, colleges, hotels, restaurants, gas agencies, petrol pumps etc. in the state. Mishra urged all the laborers and employees to unite and struggle for their rights fearlessly. HMS is working for the rights of labourers in the industries of Chhattisgarh, he said.

NN Rao elected INMWF National Secretary for third term



Bhilai, Jan 24:

Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c (BSP), said that this exhibition has been organised with the aim of increasing Safety awareness among the people. We organise various events in the field of Safety so that no accident takes place in the Plant. We must strive to avoid accidents, he said. He congratulated Safety Department for organising this exhibition. Children have participated with great enthusiasm and showcased their beautiful ideas through pictures, he said. He also appreciated the posters made by the participants.

Anjan Kumar, ED (Works), AK Chakraborty ED (MM) also expressed their views on the occasion. At the outset, GP Singh, Acting CGM (Safety & FS) gave a briefing on Safety month.

and Pravas Andhra Praja Natya Mandali honoured NN Rao with garlands, shawl and srifal. S Rajaiyya Reddy, K Venkat Rao, M Babu Rao, P Venkat Rao, P Dharmendra Rao, Sahu and Shrinu were present. NN Rao expressed gratitude towards Federation National President Dr Sanjeeva Reddy.

CCET commemoates National Girl Child Day



Bhilai, Jan 24: CCET's Women Cell organised a speech competition on the occasion of National Girl Child Day. National Girl Child was an initiative taken by the Indian government on January 24, 2008. The program started with welcome address of Principal Dr Dipali Soren. In her speech, she spoke about the challenges and barriers faced by the women of India. She also said that world without a

daughter is a world without water. Executive Vice chairman, Fr Dr PS Varghese in his speech, spoke about how a girl after her birth takes up the role of a daughter, mother, sister and wife and also she is an entrepreneur, a doctor and a scientist. Empowering the girl means empowering the nation. He also encouraged men to motivate their daughters, sisters or wives. Students from Mar Baselios Vidhya Bhawan

Kailash Nagar, St Thomas College Kailash Nagar and CCET participated in the speech competition. They mentioned about various challenges faced by women and also about the different schemes introduced by the government for the empowerment of women in India. Winners from college group were 1 st Prema Yadav and 2 nd Nafisa Khan. Winners from school group in English category were 1 st Disha Kumari and 2 nd Garima Choudhury and in Hindi category was Tulsi Sadwani. The program was overall looked after by Dr Sudha Singh (Women cell coordinator) and Richa Sahu.

Free check-up and counselling camp for childless couples at SR Hospital today

Bhilai, Jan 24:

A free check-up and counselling camp has been organized for women and childless couples on January 25, 2023 at SR Hospital and Research Center Chikhali Durg. The Camp will begin at 11:00 hrs and end at 15:00 hrs. The camp is being organized jointly by The Sriyan Test Tube Baby Center, Revival Medical Center and SR Hospital and Research Center Chikhali Durg. Renowned IVF specialist of the area Dr Sangeeta Sinha will provide her services free of cost in the said camp. Giving in-

formation, Dr Sangeeta Sinha said that IVF and IUI are advanced methods of artificial insemination. Gynaecologist & Obstetrician from SR Hospital Dr Sweta Rani Prasad informed that in the camp free of cost check-up for diagnosis of diseases related to women and girls such as menstrual irregularities, hormonal changes, white discharge, non-pregnancy etc and counselling will be provided. Senior doctor of the hospital, Dr SP Keswani has appealed to the women and girls of the area to take advantage of the free health check-up camp.

Bhilai, Jan 24: The NSS unit of St Thomas College, Bhilai organised One Day Blood Donation Camp in association with NCC and IQAC in collaboration with Indian Red Cross Society Raipur on Tuesday. On this occasion first of all Principal of the College, Dr MG Roymon motivated all the students and volunteers and said that Blood Donation is the biggest donation toward humanity. He personally encouraged the volunteers to donate blood. Administrator of the College Fr Dr Joshi Varghese said that donation of blood on regular intervals is very helpful for the fitness and health of our body. The Manager Bishop of St Thomas

conduct more programs. During the camp students and all staff members actively participated in the program. 108 Unit of Blood was donated in the camp. The program was organised and conducted by NSS Program officer Mahendra Khar in which all the NSS volunteers played a significant role to make the event successful.

Blood Donation Camp organised in St Thomas College



College, HG Alexios Mar Eusebius appreciated the work done by volunteers towards the society. Sudeep Shrivastava, State Head and Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society also motivated the volunteers and said that St Thomas College is well known for conducting these types of blood donation camps and in near future also we will

DLSA organises awareness programmes on National Girl Child Day



Bhilai, Jan 24: Under the directions of National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi and Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority, Bilaspur, the District Legal Services Authority of Durg District organised several awareness programmes on the occasion of National Girl Child Day. Under the guidance of District and Sessions Judge Sanjay Jaiswal (Chairman, DLSA, Durg), legal awareness camps were organised in schools / colleges and villages. The paralegal volunteers conducted camps at schools and detailed the students about good touch - bad touch, free and compulsory education for girl students and the significance of education in life. They also shared information about the government schemes for education. They also detailed the constitutional provisions for free education and Right to Education. It is often seen that a section of society remains deprived of basic education in the struggle for earning livelihood. The people of such sections were provided information about the government schemes for free education. They were also informed about the free health kits and health services provided by the government to the girls. The paralegal volunteers made appreciable efforts to spread awareness on the occasion of National Girl Child Day.

Run for SAIL, Long Service Awards and cultural programme held



Bhilai, Jan 24:

Various events marked the SAIL Foundation celebrations at Bhilai Steel Plant and Mines on January 24, 2023. A Run for SAIL was organised at Jayanti stadium, Indira Place. The Run was flagged off by Anirban Dasgupta, Director I/c BSP, Executive Directors including Anjan Kumar (ED Works), MM Gadre (ED P&A), AK Chakraborty (ED MM), Samir Swarup (ED Mines), Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M & HS), Nisha Soni, CGM (Personnel) were present at Jayanti stadium. The 'Run for SAIL' on SAIL Foundation Day was held for Boys and Girls in different categories: upto Class 6, from class 7 to 12, Above Class 12 to 45 years, persons between 46 to 60 years and Ex-employees. SAIL employees, their families, wards, ex-employees and students of schools run by SAIL were eligible.



ble to participate in the competition. A total of 2130 participants participated in different categories in the 5 KM Run for SAIL. Best Clocking time in the Male Group was bagged by Jayavant Dugga (Timing-18 : 43.49) while Rimpal Saigal bagged the Best Clocking time in the female group (Timing-20 : 47.19). The following participants won prizes in the Run for SAIL. Tolmol Bagh, Gaurav Bharti, Shivedeep Kumar Roy won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Boys upto CLASS VI, Rajani Urav, Urvi Sonay and Arti Patel won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Girls upto CLASS VI, K Vanishika, Asha and Anjali Kumari won in category Class VII to XII, T Saiman, Sanjay

Kumar and Vikash Berkar Roy won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Boys from Class VII to XII, Nand Kumar, MVicky and Bhola Rama Roy won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Men Class XII to 45 years, Arti, Laxmi and Pushpa won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Women Class XII to 45 years. Gangeshwar, Suresh Kumar and LR Adil won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Boys upto CLASS VI, Rajani Urav, Urvi Sonay and Arti Patel won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Girls upto CLASS VI, K Vanishika, Asha and Anjali Kumari won in category Class VII to XII, T Saiman, Sanjay

employee Men while Ms Ram Bai Mandavi, Kokila Prasad and Lachan Manday Roy won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the category Ex employee women. Long Service Awards for having completed 25 years of service in the organization were given away to 729 employees on SAIL Foundation Day, at Ispat Bhavan Conference hall. Executive Directors including Anjan Kumar (ED Works), MM Gadre (ED P&A), AK Chakraborty (ED MM), Samir Swarup (ED Mines), Dr M Ravindranath, CMO I/c (M & HS), NK Banchhor, President, Officers Association, Pervinder Singh, General Secretary, OA were present on the occasion. At the outset, MM Gadre (ED P&A) gave the welcome address. Atul Nautil, GM (Pers.-EE) compered the programme at Ispat Bhavan.

Congratulating all recipients of Long Service Awards, Anirban Dasgupta wished them well for their future in the organization. Your experience in running and guiding the organization in val-

able. You all are capable of taking our company forward, he said. I hope you retain the passion you had in the organisation which when you joined and continue to give your best, he added. NK Banchhor, President, Officers Association stated that the contribution of employees like you is noteworthy. Adapting to change with the time is necessary, he said. HoDs gave away Long Service Awards to those who have completed 25 years' service at their respective shops and departments while maintaining Covid protocols. Gaurav Diwas was celebrated across SAIL and a cultural programme was telecasted across SAIL units on the virtual platform with glimpses of performances by various SAIL units. A 'Sangeet Sandhya' by Sports, Culture and Civic Amenities department of BSP with prominent local artists alongwith a skit 'Bhilai ka Safar - Neev se shikhar ki aur' by school children of Senior Secondary School Sector-10 tracing the history of Bhilai Steel Plant was organised at Mahatma Gandhi Kala Mandir on the occasion of SAIL Foundation Day.

Full dress final rehearsal for R-Day celebrations held



Armed Forces Platoon of Jharkhand State to participate in the parade this time

Raipur, Jan 24: The main function of Republic Day will be held at Police Parade Ground in the capital Raipur from 9 am. Governor Anusuya Ukey will take the salute of the joint parade by hoisting the flag at the main venue. Preparations for the Republic Day celebrations are almost complete. To this end full dress final rehearsal took place here today at the Police Parade Ground. Pre-preparations for the medal presentation ceremony and other events were tested with an impressive march-past in the

rehearsal. Governor's Security Officer Ashok Kumar took stock of the preparations by playing the role of the Governor in the rehearsal. Activities of the ceremony were conducted according to the minute to minute programme. The parade was followed by a salute by contingents of the armed forces with a guard of honor at the rehearsal. This time a platoon of the Armed Police Force of the neighboring state of Jharkhand will also participate in the march-past at the Police Parade Ground. Director General of Police Ashok Juneja, Collector Dr Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, Senior Superintendent of Police Prashant Agrawal and other departmental officers were present on the occa-

The Band Platoon marched with 12 platoons of the security forces under the leadership of Parade Commander Ms Puja Kumar at the rehearsal. The Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Force, Central Industrial Security Force, Sashastra Seema Bal, Jharkhand State Armed Forces (Men), C.G. Armed Forces (Men), Chhattisgarh Police (Men), Chhattisgarh Police (Women), Chhattisgarh Armed Forces (Women), Chhattisgarh Jail, Home Guard Men and Women and Band Platoons took out an impressive march-past and saluted in the rehearsal of the ceremony. Ashish Netam was the second officer in command of the parade.



Governor to award more than 50 officers-jawans

More than fifty police officers and jawans of the state will be honored with various medals and awards in the main function on the occasion of Republic Day. Officers and employees who have shown indomitable courage and bravery against the Naxals in Naxal-affected districts of Chhattisgarh state will be presented President's 'Police Bravery Medal'. Police officers and jawans will also be honored with the President's 'Vishisht Seva Medal' for outstanding service at the function. Soldiers who

have done remarkable work in disaster relief and rescue work will be presented Civil Defense Medal. The trainers who have done remarkable work in police training will be given 'Union Home Minister's Medal'. Similarly, two children will also be given Rs 15,000 and a citation and a gallantry medal for their bravery. This time on Republic Day, there will be colorful cultural programs by school students, as well as display of tableaux based on the achievements of government schemes.

NIT Raipur to organize 'SAMAR' 2022



Raipur, Jan 24: National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur's Shaurya - The Sports Committee is organizing SAMAR 2022, the annual sports fest of the Institute from 26th to 29th January 2023. The fest will be organized under the supervision of Dr Nitin Kumar Jain (Associate Dean, Student Welfare) & Dr Rajesh Doriya (Professor In-charge, Shaurya Club). The aim of the event is to nurture the sportsman inside everyone and to develop a platform where the quality of sportsmanship can be woven. Past editions of SAMAR have garnered significant participation from the students and this edi-

tion hopes to replicate the same and build upon past successes.

The four-day fest would constitute various Indian sports like Kho-Kho and Kabaddi. Various team sports like Basketball, Volleyball, Football, Cricket, and Handball will be played. Track and Field events will remain the center of attraction in the four-day-long sports fest. Intra-college, as well as Inter-college tournaments, will also be organized along with various events of yoga and athletics. Recreational activities shall also be conducted for the students for entertainment and interaction.

BJP announces ST Morcha executive body

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jan 24: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Scheduled Tribe Morcha President Vikas Markam after consulting the State BJP President Arun Sao and General Secretary (Organization) Pawan Sai, has announced the jumbo executive body of the frontal organization. Satyanarayan Singh

from Surajpur and Nandlal Mudami have been appointed General Secretaries whereas Chatrapratap Dev Dugga from Kanker as Treasurer. Apart from it, former MLAs Sumitra Markole and Suniti Rathia have been appointed as Vice Presidents whereas Md Thakur from Rajnandgaon, Bhagirathi Majhi, Salig Sai and

Devendra Mahla have also been entrusted with the responsibility of Vice Presidents. Anuj Ekka, Sangeeta Poyam, Goverdhan Kanwar, Manohar Raj, Khobla Dhruv and Ravi Dhruv are Secretaries whereas Ashu Podeti from Raipur is the Office in-charge whereas Chandrasekhar Chedaiya would be his deputy.

Rs 29.64 crore approved for three irrigation projects

Raipur, Jan 24: The

Chhattisgarh government has sanctioned the Rs.29 crore 64 lakh 7 thousand for the works of three different irrigation projects of the state. After the completion of these projects, farmers of that region will get irrigation facilities for 2127 hectares of area. In the sanctioned irrigation project, an amount of Rs.13 crore 39 lakh 14 thousand has been sanctioned for Devkatta reservoir canal lining work under the Dongargarh development

block. After the completion of the project in this area, an irrigation facility will be available in 1187 hectares of area. Similarly, an amount of Rs.8 crore 72 lakh 55 thousand has been sanctioned for the construction work of Pachra anicut on Tan river under Podi-Uprada development block of Korba district. After the completion of the project in this area, an irrigation facility will be available in 180 hectares of area.

National Voters' Day today

Raipur, Jan 24: A state-level function is to be organized on the occasion of National Voters' Day at the auditorium of Indira Gandhi Agricultural College located in Raipur.

It will be organized to honor the officer and employees engaged in the election process.

The district that has encouraged voters to vote

will also be honored. Governor Ms. Anusuya Ukey will attend the program as the chief guest. State Election Commissioner Thakur Ram Singh will preside over the program. Vice-Chancellor of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University Dr. Girish Chandel will also attend the program. Various apps related to elections and short films focusing on EVMs and VVPATs will be screened on the occasion. In the program, the names of the winners will be announced through a lucky draw for the state-level award and special brief revision 2023. Voters will also take the oath to vote in the election process.

Baghel hands over 'chadar', flowers to be offered at Ajmer Sharif Dargah



Raipur, Jan 24: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Tuesday handed over a 'Chadar' and flowers that would be offered at the shrine of Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti Garib Nawaz in Ajmer. Chief Minister handed over the offerings to Aldermen Naeem Raza and Shri Faheem Khan. Naeem said Raipur

Mayor Ajaz Dhebar along with a group of 40 people will take this Chadar to Ajmer. This Chadar being sent by the Chief Minister will be offered at the holy shrine on Urs of Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti. Shri Baghel has prayed for the happiness, prosperity, and progress of the state and country.

EPFO to organise 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat'- 2.0 on Jan 27

Central Chronicle News

Raipur, Jan 24: Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) will organise 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' -2.0 program in every district of Chhattisgarh on 27th of every month to provide easy, simple, accessible and home-access service to its EPF members and pensioners. It may be mentioned that 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' program is being organized on the 10th of every month in the EPFO office premises to listen to the

grievances of the PF members and their quick redressal by the EPFO Regional Office. Office in-charge and Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Mr. Abhishek Kumar informed that the regional office, Raipur, now on behalf of the office in each district, to solve the provident fund and pension related problems of provident fund members living in remote districts of Chhattisgarh state is organizing 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' program on 27th of every month (next

working day in case of holiday) from 9.00 am to 5.45 pm in which the officers and employees will try to solve the complaints by being present themselves. He also informed that mainly this is an awareness campaign in which earlier provident fund members had to come to participate in this program, now every month the employees and officers have to resolve their complaints.

In this program apart from provident fund members and pension-

ers, employers of institutions recently covered under Provident Fund Act, their representatives, employers of already covered institutions, heads of contractors and trade unions and their representatives to solve their respective problems. On this occasion, Mr. Abhishek appealed to all the provident fund members and EPS pension beneficiaries of the state of Chhattisgarh to take part in the program and get its benefits and make it a success.

5-Year old Girl got her life back after CHB



Left Bundle Pacing - The complex yet efficient technique successfully performed at NH MMI Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Raipur

Raipur, Jan 24: Heart is a very complicated organ and furthermore complex it understanding the functioning and rhythm of heart beat. When heart rate doesn't increase during high physical activity can be a sign of a dangerous disorder, it could even be a heart block. Here is a case of a child who suffered from Complete Heart Block (CHB).

Complete heart block is a serious cardiac condition in which the heart rate of a person remains low and does not increase to appropriate level when needed- like walking, running etc. Such condition happens because of fault in the conduction system (electric

circuit) in our heart. Normally in children it happens due to congenital (by birth) or sometimes after cardiac surgery, about 1% of congenital cardiac surgeries may result in heart block. Untreated cases of complete heart block, especially when the condition is a result of cardiac surgery, have a very high risk and could even result in death (high mortality rate).

A 5yr old baby girl with a weight of 14 kg was suffering from Tetralogy of Fallot (Blue baby syndrome). Blue baby syndrome is a condition that cause cyanosis (Bluish or greyish colour of the skin, nails, lips or around the eyes) in babies because of low oxygen levels in the blood. The Cardiac sciences team at NH MMI Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Raipur has been successful in restoring the health of the baby. However, post-surgery she developed complete heart block. Despite waiting for equate time (more than 2 weeks) it did not improve. Dr Sumanta Shekhar Padhi (Sr Interventional Cardiologist) the proce-

Interventional Cardiologist proposed a complex yet effective solution - Left bundle pacing.

Pacemaker implantation is the usual treatment of choice in such cases. Left bundle pacing is a newer advancement in pacing that is more physiological (feasibility and safe) and has more long-term benefits. However currently the option is more feasible for adults due to varied technicalities involved, and no dedicated instruments are available for children. Hence such kind of procedures for children are done in very limited centers and needs very high levels of skill and expertise.

Left bundle pacing involves permanent pacemaker implantation. The Team of doctors led by Dr Sumanta Shekhar Padhi (Sr Interventional Cardiologist) with the help of Dr Kinjal Bakshi (Sr Paediatric cardiologist) and Dr Dharmesh Lad (Sr Cardiac Anaesthesiologist) the proce-

dure was done successfully on Dec 31st. Dr Sumanta Shekhar Padhi (Sr Interventional Cardiologist) Said, "Post procedure the child had a normal recovery and was discharged in 5 days after the procedure. This was one of the rare case of such young kid to undergo this procedure in India and she was the youngest kid in central India to undergo this procedure."

Mr. Tapanti Ghosh (Facility Director, NH MMI Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Raipur) said, "We are a world class Cardiac Care Facility with best-in-class equipment and the best in state cardiac care team. I would like to congratulate the entire team for saving the life of the young girl. I am very proud of the success of the cardiac care team for providing the little girl with the opportunity to live the big life she has ahead."

कैसर सर्जरी पश्चात अंगों का पुनःनिर्माण (जबड़ा, तटन व अन्य)
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It's administration's responsibility to deliver benefits of govt schemes to eligible people: CM

Raipur, Jan 24: Chief Minister, Mr. Bhupesh Baghel, reviewed development and construction works at the Balodabazar Collectorate premises following Bhent-Mulaqat with the general public in villages Sarora and Purena-Khapri of the Balodabazar Assembly Constituency. The Chief Minister directed construction department officials to pay special attention to the quality and timeliness of the construction work. He stated that there should be no negligence in construction work. According to the Chief Minister, it is the administration's job to ensure that the benefits of the government's initiatives reach eligible people.

During the discussion, the Chief Minister also inquired of the officials about the state of the Gauthans built in the village under the Suraj Gaon Yojana. He stated that the number of



Gauthans should be expanded in accordance with demand. The Chief Minister further directed that RIPA (Rural Industrial Park) construction in Gauthans be completed as soon as possible. He also instructed the village's youth to take the initiative to become self-sufficient by connecting them with other income-generating businesses that are included in Ripa. The Chief Minister directed that wall writing be done to promote health care and other welfare programs. The Mineral Officer was

basis from Gauthans, as well as that the generation of electricity and paint from cow dung should be accelerated. He also inquired about the progress of road construction, Mukhyamantri Suposhan Abhiyan, Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre, Mukhyamantri Haat Bazaar Clinic Yojana, and Jal Jeevan Mission. The Chief Minister directed that wall writing be done to promote health care and other welfare programs. The Mineral Officer was given stern orders to stop unlawful mining. The Chief Minister also reviewed the most recent state of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, MNREGA, study-teaching status in schools, teacher presence, and income matters. In the meeting, Secretary Dr. S. Bharathidasan, Divisional Commissioner Mr. Yashanwat Kumar, Collector Mr. Rajat Bansal, Superintendent of Police, and officers of all departments were present.

ITM University conducted a special session on stress-free life



Raipur, Jan 24: ITM University Raipur organized a special session on stress-free Life- Chalo Duniya Jeetin at Uparwara Naya Raipur-based campus. Senior Consultant Psychologist and Professor of IIM Raipur Dr. Ela Gupta conducted a great stress management session for university students and demonstrated effective troubleshooting and problem-solving techniques for handling students' day-to-day issues. As per the directives of Director General Ms. Lakshmi Murthy, the event was well organized in association

with CII & Young Indians under the supervision of Mr. Ritesh Gandeche, Chair-Yuva Vertical, Raipur Chapter, and Mr. Prakhar Agrawal Co-chair Young India Heath, RR Ispat Vice President, Hira Group.

IQAC Director Dr. Yasin Sheikh welcomed the guest speaker and highlighted the current academic activities of the university. ITM University's Registrar Saurav Chatterjee, Head-SER Dr. S. P. Makija, Head-SAPD Prof. Sonal Sawant, Head-SHTM Prof. Ameya Jani, and GM-Training & Placement Raju Tyagi

with university students and faculties from various departments of ITMUR attended the program and came to know how to deal with stress and anxiety. Addressing the students, speaker Dr. Gupta asked the students to ignite their inner potential and inspired them to believe that Sapno key Liye aap akele hee bahut hai. Stress is a universal human experience that almost everyone deals with from time to time; Dr. Gupta addressed this natural feeling and threw light on how to overcome it. She explained four simple steps: Plan purposefully, Proceed positive-

ly, Prepare prayerfully and Pursue persistently.

The event ended up with many queries from students, followed by their own experiences and struggles related to studies, exam stress, relationships, and career growth. All were beautifully answered by Dr. Gupta through an example of the life pyramid.

The event was successfully organized by Head of Operations Deepali Mishra and hosted by Prof. Incy Pandey from SCMR with the coordination of Toushif Ayesha Ansari from the training and Placement Department.

Saluting Every Voter

Rajiv Kumar

Today, January 25, marks the foundation day of Election Commission of India, also celebrated as National Voters' Day (NVD) since 2011. Its purpose is to sensitize the citizens of India about their rights and responsibilities as voters. The Election Commission (ECI) was established on January 25, 1950 on the eve of the first Republic Day. The Constituent Assembly gave it a Constitutional status under Article 324 to ensure independence of its functioning and decision making. Establishing a permanent, central and a uniform ombudsman's Commission to conduct elections based on the adult suffrage in an era of low literacy and non-existent electoral rolls is a tribute to the foresight of the Constituent Assembly. The institution's competency, impartiality and trustworthiness have been upheld in

17 Lok Sabha elections, 16 elections each to the office of the President and Vice President, 399 Legislative Assembly elections till date. The 400th assembly elections are underway. Contrary to occasional international experiences, election results in India have been never in dispute. Individual elections petitions are adjudicated by relevant High Courts. The ECI has earned the trust of both political parties and citizens of India. The commitment is to enhance and deepen it.

Strong and inclusive electoral participation is crucial for building a robust democracy. Elections in a vibrant democracy should be more than free, fair, regular and credible. They ought to be popular and participatory as well, in order to bear their full weight upon governance. The right to vote is power only when exercised. We are reminded of a saying of Mahatma Gandhi: If

leaving duties unperformed we run after rights, they escape us like a will-o'-the-wisp".

India's largest democracy having 94 crore plus registered electors. Still the actual voting figure of 67.4 percent in the last general elections (2019) leaves a lot to be desired. The challenge is to motivate the missing 30 crore electors to the booth. Missing voters have many dimensions like urban apathy, youth apathy, domestic migration, others. As in most liberal democracies, where enrollment and voting are voluntary, persuasive and facilitative methods are best. This entails targeting the low voting constituencies and underperforming segment of voters.

The ECI has already institutionalized systems for facilitating two crore plus voters of age eighty years and above, eighty-five lakh PWD voters, enrolling of 47,500 plus third gender people. Recently, I thanked over

two lakh centenarian voters by a personal letter to recognize their commitment to democracy. On November 5, 2022 I had the mournful honour of paying homage to Late Shyam Saran Negi at Kalpa in Himachal Pradesh. Acknowledged as the first voter in the First General Election of India (1951), he never missed out on exercising franchise, before passing away at the ripe age of 106 years. The example of Late Shyam Saran Negi inspires us to cast our vote dutifully.

Young voters are the future of the Indian democracy. The next gen, born around and after 2000 have started joining our electoral roll. Their participation as voters would shape future of democracy, almost throughout the entire century.

It is, therefore critical that democratic roots are seeded at school level before students attain voting age. Simultaneously, youth are being engaged

through various mediums in order to bring them to the polling booths. So is the case with urban voters, who tend to display voting apathy.

The ECI is leading the development of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMF) like toilets, electricity, drinking water, ramps at every polling station. The Commission is keen that the facilities developed in the schools should be of permanent nature, which is financially prudent decision as well.

In democracy, voters have a right to be informed about the background of candidates they vote. Enabling the voter to make informed choices thus assumes critical importance.

It is for this reason that the criminal cases, if any, pending against the candidates should be notified in newspaper.

Also, while every political party is within its right to promise welfare measures in its mani-

festo, voters equally have right to know their financial implications to the public exchequer.

Though muscle power has largely been subdued, there still remain a few states where election related violence impinges upon free choice of voters. Violence should have no place in democracy. Curbing money power remains a bigger challenge in the elections. The scale and quantum of inducement offered to voters is felt more acutely in certain states than others.

Though, stricter vigilance by law enforcement agencies have resulted in record seizures as witnessed during recently held elections, there can be no substitute for sincere and vigilant voters in a democracy.

The mobile Apps like C-Vigil has helped common citizen report incidents of violation of Model Code of Conduct, thereby helping the Election Observers initiate prompt action (with

their enormous AI capabilities, in the least, to red flag such evident disinformation efforts. The responsibility to protect the free spaces including free speech is co-shared.

The realization that deep fakes make job of Election Management Bodies much more difficult, needs to dawn and self-correction effected.

The NVD epitomizes the resolve of ECI to pull all stops out to make elections inclusive, participatory, voter friendly and ethical.

The theme for 13th NVD (2023) is "Nothing Like Voting, Vote for Sure".

As evident, the theme is such that it can capture the imagination of the voters. When citizens take pride in being a voter, as part of their civic duty, its impact on the level of governance is sure to be felt. Happy voters Day.

(The author is the Chief Election Commissioner of India.)

HNLU launches 5th edition of 'Lex Osmose'

Raipur, Jan 24: Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur has launched its fifth edition of the 'Lex Osmose' courses after successfully completing the past four editions. The course will be conducted from 30th January to 5th March 2023. The Fifth Edition has six courses offered on various interdisciplinary themes of 'Drafting of Pleadings and Documents in Courts and Different Tribunals', 'Law and Economics: Theory and Applications', 'Law & Practice(s) Regulating Acquisition of Listed Companies', 'Framing Legal Issues in Suits & Arbitration Proceedings', 'Arbitration in Reality - A Simulated Practitioner's Perspective', and 'Intellectual Property issues in ICT'. The instructors for

the fifth edition have eminent academics and practitioners like Mr. L. Ravichander (Senior Counsel at Andhra Pradesh and Telangana High Court), Prof. T.S. Somashekhar (Professor of Economics and Chairperson, Post-Graduate and Doctoral Council, NLSIU), Mr. Vaibhav Ganjwale (Head of Learning and Development, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas), Mr. PV Giridhar Senior (Senior Council at Madras High Court and Senior Partner in Giridhar and Sai Law Firm), Dr. Srikant Parthasarathy, Door Tenant, Holborn Chambers, London) and Dr. Anindya Sircar (Chair Professor, IPR NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad).

Speaking at the launch of the latest edition,

The course is offered free and has no enrollment charges and is open for students of B.A.LL.B. (Hons.) Course and LL.M. Course with appropriate reservation of numbers which are detailed in the HNLU's website section of 'Lex Osmose'. In each course, three HNLU Faculty Members can also participate. The 16 hour course is spread out in 4-5 weeks and offered in the evenings on working days and day time in holidays. Each session will be of 120 minutes with a ten minute break and approximately two per week. The non-HNLU students can register for the courses at <https://hnlu.ac.in/hnlu/lex-osmose/>. The Edition is coordinated by Dr. Vipan Kumar, Dean of special projects and faculty members of HNLU.

Baghel inaugurates Gadh Kaleva in Baloda Bazar



Raipur, Jan 24: Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated Gadh Kaleva built in an area of 3,000 square feet at Baloda Bazar district headquarters on Monday. On the occasion, Chief Minister interacted with the women of self-help groups and inquired about the arrangements there. Ethnic food of Chhattisgarh will be served here.

The members of Archana Mahila Self Help Group told the Chief Minister that the ethnic food of Chhattisgarh including Cheela, Fara,

Thethari, Khurmi, Airsa, Chowsla, Tasmal, Curry Laddu, Sohari, and a variety of dishes will be available in here. In addition,

curd and ghee made from milk and canned dry items like sesame laddu, namkeen, curry laddu, saloni, murku, khaja, balushahi,

khurmi, bijouri will also be available for sale here.

Outdoor and indoor seating arrangements have been made for the customers coming here,

where they can relish the delicious taste of Chhattisgarh food as per their comfort.

It is worth mentioning that a separate 'Kuria' has been constructed in the premises to give an experience of the rural setting.

People can have food sitting on the ground here.

Besides, a WiFi facility will be also available in here along with an attractive selfie point.

Problems of common citizens heard through Jan Chaupal in Collectorate



Raipur, Jan 23: Under the guidance of Collector Dr. Sarveshwar Narendra Bhure, Commissioner of Municipal Corporation, Raipur, Mr. Mayank Chaturvedi listened to the problems of common citizens through Jan Chaupal at the Collectorate. He listened to the problems and complaints of residents, villagers, women from far-flung areas of various development blocks of the district through Jan Chaupal and instructed the concerned officials to redress those applications as per the rules.

He said that by proper implementation of all the government schemes, it should be ensured that the benefits of the schemes are given to the common people on time.

Social worker Suresh Dewan of Gram Panchayat Akoli gave application for sanctioning the construction of pucca irrigation channel from Pahadi Talab to Badi Dabri and for cover-

ing the vehicles transporting coal from railway station Mandhar with tarpaulin, Suresh Dahriya of village Silyari of Dharsinwa police station area gave an application for the demand of land and grant amount for building a house in the village.

Similarly, Meena Jaiswal, a resident of Gudiyari Road, Raipur, for the renaming of the land, Nikam Vaishnav, a resident of Dondeka, for construction of a house under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Ishwaricharan Shukla, Pramod of Ward 22, Sahu, Rajashekhar Choube gave application for removal of encroachments from drains.

Collector and SP reviewed development works

In remote areas of Timenar and Etepali



R.Kumar



R.Kumar

Bijapur, Jan 24: Collector Mr. Rajendra Kumar Katara and Superintendent of Police Mr. Anjaneya Varshney reviewed various development works including roads, bridges and culverts in remote areas of Bhairamgarh block. After reaching the sensitive areas Timenar, Etepali, Bechapal, inquired about road construction. And the school building of

Timenar village is being operated in the shed. Collector and SP taught subject-based lessons to school children. On the other hand, while SP was teaching lessons in local dialect, the collector Mr. Katara also took information related to education from teacher Ganesh Mandavi. Electricity facilities will be given to the villagers, while inspecting the bridge under construction at Etepali after Timenar; asked the depart-

mental officers to pay special attention to the quality. Met the villagers at Government Fair Price Shop Bechapal, assuring the villagers that very soon a ration shop would be opened at Etepali. In which the villagers of Etepali, Poriwada, Timenar, Idrinari will be able to get ration. At present, the villagers of the said villages go to Bechapal to get ration, due to which the villagers are facing problems due to the

distance. Collector Mr. Katara, during a surprise inspection of Bechapal's sub-health center, took information about daily OPD, availability of medicines, health workers and patients. During the visit, inspected the high level bridge under construction at Phundri and gave necessary guidelines. During this, officers and employees of Public Works Department, Police and other departments were present.

NI work at Uslapur station

For the electrification in doubling line at Uslapur station

Bilaspur, Jan 24:

Bilaspur-Anuppur rail route is an important and busy rail route of South East Central Railway, which connects this entire region with North India. New lines are being constructed to make the operations more smooth and to pave the way for new trains. Due to this development in infrastructure along with increase in new passenger facilities, passenger trains will also not be affected. Actively working in this direction, doubling line work is being done between Bilaspur to Annanpur. Under this, non-interlocking work will be done to connect Uslapur railway station of Bilaspur-Pendra road section with the doubling line. It may be noted that the length of the Bilaspur-Pendra road rail line is 103 km, various stations of which have been connected to the third line. This work is being completed in a phased manner.

The doubling railway line between Bilaspur to Anuppur is a very important line of South East Central Railway, which acts as a bridge connecting this region of Central India with North India. From Bilaspur to Katni and beyond, this entire region is connected to central India and important cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Madras, Kolkata, Bhopal, Jabalpur, Kota, Allahabad through this line. As soon as the work of the third line is completed, new dimensions of economic and social development of this area will be paved with the movement of trains in future.

न्यायालय कालेक्टर, दुर्ग मिला - दुर्ग (छत्तीसगढ़)
प्राप्तिकारी अधिकारी, परिवास वेक्षक विभाग
संपर्क - न्यायालय, राजवास चैम्बर, नवास स्ट्रेट फोर्म वार्ड, न्यायालय (छत्तीसगढ़) - 492001
मिला दुर्ग (छत्तीसगढ़)

उपर्युक्त छान्दो द्वारा इस न्यायालय में दिए गए आवासीय कार्य प्रशिक्षण कार्यालय के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न विभागों के अधिकारी वार्ड नं. 121/ वर्ष 2022-23
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मिला दुर्ग (छत्तीसगढ़)

1. श्री योगेन्द्र कुमार शर्मा अ. समूह समाधान
2. अभ्यासी भूमि नाथ चौधरी कुमार समाधान
दोस्रों कारा पाना - जामा - 11 ए. एस्ट्रेट नं. 06,
मिला - 2 दोस्रों घुम्की के बारे में जामा - 07, प
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प्र

BRIEF



Punjab police personnel takes part in the full dress rehearsal of the Republic Day Parade in Amritsar, Tuesday.

Shot dead

Imphal: A BJP leader was shot dead by unidentified people in Manipur's Thoubal district on Tuesday, police said. Laishram Rameshwar Singh, the convenor of ex-service-men cell of the saffron party's state unit, was murdered near the gates of his residence in Kshetri locality in the morning, a police officer said. Unidentified persons came on a car without registration plate and shot at Singh from a close range, he said.

Dismiss

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Tuesday denied bail to Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Anubrata Mondal in a money laundering case related to alleged cattle smuggling in West Bengal. Special judge Raghbir Singh dismissed the bail application of Mondal, noting there was no ground to grant him the relief. The court passed the order after taking note of the arguments made by Special Public Prosecutor of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) Nitesh Rana, who said the application filed by the accused was without any merit.

Bodies

Pune: The bodies of seven members of a family, including three children, were found in a riverbed in Pune district of Maharashtra, police said on Tuesday. The deceased included an elderly couple, their daughter and son-in-law, and three grandchildren, a police officer said citing the preliminary information. Four bodies were found on Monday and three on Tuesday near Pargaon bridge on the Bheema river on the outskirts of Yavat village in Daund tehsil, around 45 km away from Pune city.

Suicide

Sultnpur: A 35-year-old man committed suicide by hanging himself from a tree in Bandhukala here on Tuesday, police said. Inspector-in-charge of Bandhukala police station Ravindra Kumar Singh said the incident took place in Katra village. Mangal Yadav climbed atop a truck parked near the tree and then hung himself.

Bird census

Chennai: A synchronised census of wetland and terrestrial birds for 2022-2023 will be conducted in two phases beginning January 28, the Tamil Nadu Forest Department informed on Tuesday. During the first phase the wetland (both inland and coastal) bird census will be taken up on January 28 and 29, while the census of terrestrial birds (both in protected area and outside) is scheduled for March 4 and 5.

'Pack up', Cong to Bommai

Bengaluru, Jan 24 (PTI):

Asking Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Ministers to "pack up" with assembly polls around, Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar on Tuesday said his party will come to power and purify the 'Vidhana Soudha' with 'Ganjal' (cow urine), alleging that it was polluted by corruption during the BJP rule.

Speaking to reporters here, he said, "Bommai, better, tell all you ministers to pack up soon."

Also, hitting out at the ruling BJP and Bommai for leveling "false allegations" against previous Congress regime led by him, Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah challenged the Chief Minister to constitute a Supreme Court Judge led inquiry commission to probe both tenures, if his government has the guts. "It's about 40-45 days

left for your government, pack your tents and do whatever collection that is left and go. We will come with dettol to clean Vidhana Soudha. I have even got some Ganjal (cow urine) for purification....people are wanting to get rid of this evil government," Shivakumar said.

BJP has a "brand" of 40 per cent commission, and to cover up they were trying to make baseless allegations against Congress, he said. Questioning as to why BJP old timers were not speaking or reacting to allegations of corruption, and the ruling party was using someone like Sudhakar who had defected from the Congress to make counter allegations, he said, "You (BJP) are not able to make one person from your party speak.

nancial irregularities to the tune of Rs 35,000 crore under the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government. Hitting back at Sudhakar's allegations, Shivakumar asked as to what BJP was doing for the last 3.5 years. "They were in power and should have ordered an inquiry and got it investigated."

M e a n w h i l e , Siddaramaiah, hitting back at Bommai and BJP for levelling corruption charges against the previous Congress government headed by him, demanded a probe by a Supreme Court judge headed commission about alleged scams and corruption charges from 2013 to till now. "The allegations about 40 per cent commission, PSI recruitment and COVID scam- let all those allegations that we have made, be combined with the allegations that they (BJP) are making against us now, and together they be handed over to an inquiry commission headed by a Supreme Court Judge.

'BJP's defeat inevitable in Tripura'



Manik Sarkar

Agartala, Jan 24 (PTI):

Claiming that BJP's defeat is "inevitable" in the upcoming polls in Tripura, leader of opposition in the state assembly Manik Sarkar on Tuesday urged the electors to exercise their democratic rights cautiously for ensuring the defeat of the saffron party.

Sarkar said the saffron party placed its "last bet" by making Manik Saha Chief Minister, replacing Biplob Kumar Deb less than a year before the Assembly elections.

"The BJP is trying to retain power and Prime Minister Narendra Modi

and Union Home Minister Amit Shah have already visited the state. But the people have made up their mind to immerse the BJP government for its failure to deliver", the former chief minister said.

Government employees, youth, minorities, tribals-all sections of people have raised the slogan "immerse the saffron party to save the state", the CPI(M) leader claimed.

Noting that terror shall not have the last word, Sarkar appealed to the people to prevent looting of votes. Slamming the BJP for not allowing the opposition parties to undertake political activities in the past five years, Sarkar said the CPI(M) has been carrying out its organisational activities in Jirania subdivision secretly. "They (BJP workers) thought the CPI(M) had vanished from the Jirania subdivision but today's meeting proved them wrong.

The chief minister made the remarks after inaugurating along with Governor Anandiben Patel the three-day 'Uttar Pradesh Day' celebrations.

"Today, UP is moving forward with pride and dignity. The lines of division on the basis of caste,

region, religion and language have caused irreparable damage to Uttar Pradesh. Ending these anomalies, we have to move forward with determination to make UP stand in the category of the best state," Adityanath claimed.

Police accord permission to Lokesh's 4,000 Km-foot march

Amaravati, Jan 24 (PTI):

The Andhra Pradesh police on Tuesday accorded permission to the proposed 4,000-km-long padayatra of Telugu Desam Party president N Chandrababu Naidu's son and party general secretary Nara Lokesh which is set to begin from Kuppam in Chittoor district on January 27.

Chittoor SP Rishanth Reddy told PTI that the police imposed certain conditions which are common for all public gatherings and no

specific condition was imposed for the padayatra (foot march).

"Whenever the padayatra enters a new constituency, the organisers need to take permission from the police of the district concerned," Reddy said.

According to party sources, the foot march titled Yuva Galam (voice of youth) has been designed in such way that Lokesh will cover around 125 constituencies in 400 days from Kuppam to Ichapuram.

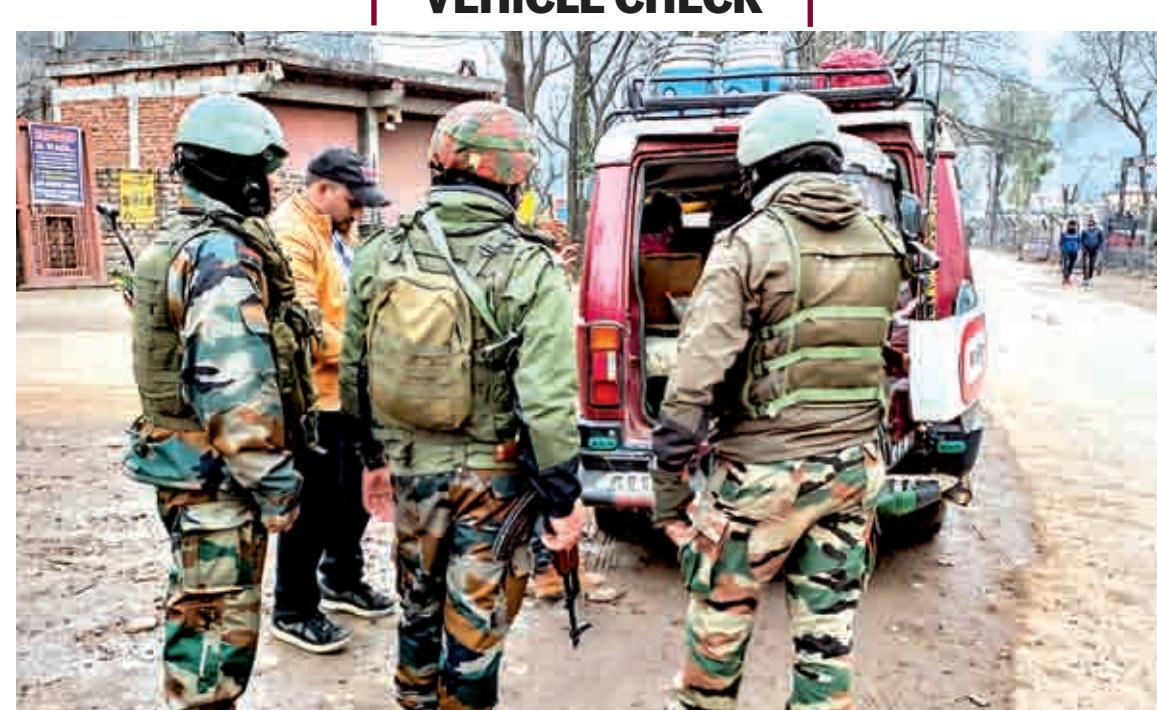
The TDP which is

struggling to come back to power in AP is pinning hopes on the foot march presuming that it connects with the masses.

The party also hopes that the padayatra will galvanise the party cadre and revive its fortunes in the run-up to the 2024 Assembly polls in the state.

Former minister Lokesh is currently a Member of Legislative Council and unsuccessfully contested from Mangalagiri Assembly constituency in 2019 elections.

VEHICLE CHECK



Army jawans check vehicles ahead of the Republic Day celebrations, in Poonch district, Tuesday.

SARASWATI PUJA PREPARATIONS



A Sarawati Puja Pandal themed on Teacher Recruitment Scam being prepared for the upcoming Sarawati Puja, in Kolkata, Tuesday.

'Casteism, regionalism caused irreparable damage to UP'

Lucknow, Jan 24 (PTI):

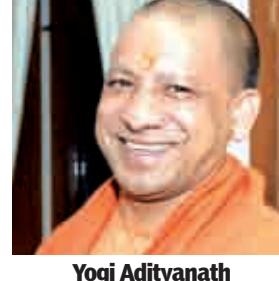
Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday said casteism, regionalism and linguism have caused irreparable damage to Uttar Pradesh and now it has to move forward with determination to become the best state in the country.

The chief minister made the remarks after inaugurating along with Governor Anandiben Patel the three-day 'Uttar Pradesh Day' celebrations.

"Today, UP is moving forward with pride and dignity. The lines of division on the basis of caste,

region, religion and language have caused irreparable damage to Uttar Pradesh. Ending these anomalies, we have to move forward with determination to make UP stand in the category of the best state," Adityanath claimed.

"This is the birthplace of Maryada Purushottam Lord Shri Ram and Leeladhar Shri Krishna. It is the holy land of Tathagat Gautam Buddha...also the land of



Yogi Adityanath

said. He also said that being born in UP is a matter of pride in itself.

"It is difficult to be born in India and it is more difficult to be born as a human being. If there is an opportunity to be born in Uttar Pradesh, then it is a pride for an Indian," the chief minister said.

"This is the birthplace of Maryada Purushottam Lord Shri Ram and Leeladhar Shri Krishna. It is the holy land of Tathagat Gautam Buddha...also the land of

Ganga-Yamuna. This is the 74th foundation day of Uttar Pradesh and it is being held as 'UP Day' with a new resolution," the CM said.

Adityanath said UP should act as a growth engine to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's aim to make India's economy the world's largest.

The three-day statewide event from January 24-26 is being celebrated this year with a focus on investment and employment.

The UP foundation day (January 24) has been celebrated for three days since 2018 with the participation of all government departments. However, this year, it has been decided to ensure public participation in the celebrations, an official statement quoting UP Chief Secretary Durga Shankar Mishra had earlier said.

Referring to the contribution of UP in the freedom struggle, the chief minister recalled the names of freedom fighters like Mangal Pandey, Rani of Jhansi, Bandhu Singh, Dhan Singh Kotwal and said that Gorakhpur's Chauri Chaura incident and Lucknow's Kakori Kand (conspiracy) are witnesses to the freedom struggle.

Nainisharanya of Sitapur is the base of India's vedic knowledge and it is also in UP, he said.

Giving credit to former Governor Ram Naik for organizing UP Day, Adityanath said, "I cannot forget that when the double engine government was formed in 2017, then Governor Ram Naik reminded all of us that all the states have their own foundation day and organise it as their day, but UP does not."

'Kushwaha alleges 'conspiracy' on to weaken Nitish'

Patna, Jan 24 (PTI):

JD(U)'s sulking parliamentary board chief Upendra Kushwaha on Tuesday alleged that he was being undermined within the party as part of a "conspiracy" to "politically weaken" his mentor Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Talking to reporters here, the former Union minister, whose recent meeting with BJP leaders in Delhi has raised many eyebrows, said he was ready to clear the air if given an opportunity.

"Nitish Kumar can summon me for an explanation. A meeting of the party can also be convened. But I will keep raising my voice against any attempts to weaken the chief minister", said Kushwaha.

He also alleged that RJD has been officially stating that it had stuck a deal with our party at the time of the formation of the alliance.

The truth of their claim must be made known to us by people in the know of things".

He expressed anguish over being "kept out of party functions", like celebration of birth anniversary of former chief minister and socialist leader Karpoori Thakur.

"No one else in the party has taken on detractors indulging in diatribes against Nitish Kumar like I have", said Kushwaha claiming that but for his vehement protests, ally RJD would not have issued a show cause notice to its MLA Sudhaker Singh who remains in news for caustic attacks on the CM.

He also alleged that RJD has been officially stating that it had stuck a deal with our party at the time of the formation of the alliance. The truth of their claim must be made known to us by people in the know of things".

He also claimed that the CM has, of late, been cutting a sorry figure by re-

peatedly saying "I don't know" whenever asked by the media about events roiling the state.

"This shows that the CM has got surrounded by people who do not brief him properly. And it is yet another proof of the conspiracy to weaken him", said Kushwaha.

Meanwhile, Kumar, indicated his growing sense of unease with Kushwaha, whom he had recently ruled out as his possible Deputy, besides RJD's Tejashwi Yadav.

"Don't ask me about him. He may say whatever he pleases. He had gone away and came back some time ago. But neither I nor anyone else in the party is going to react to his utterances", said Kumar when reporters approached him with queries about Kushwaha.

'BJP should accept MCD poll defeat'

New Delhi, Jan 24 (PTI):

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday asked the BJP to accept their defeat in the MCD polls and help ensure smooth conduct of mayoral elections.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) House was adjourned on Tuesday without electing mayor and deputy mayor amid a ruckus by some councilors.

After the oath of aldermen and elected councilors, the House was adjourned for 15 minutes during which a number of BJP councillors started moving into the House,



Manish Sisodia

chanting "Modi, Modi", and raised slogans against AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal.

Sisodia, a senior Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader, also accused the BJP of "running away from the

election of mayor". "Everyone saw the drama of the BJP. The public had got fed up with their rule in the MCD. They gave mountains of garbage to Delhi and ruined the entire capital," Sisodia said.

"First, they avoided MCD elections and when the public has showed them the door, they are running away from the election of mayor," he said.

The BJP should accept their defeat in the MCD polls and ensure smooth election of mayor; he said. The BJP knows that an AAP mayor will expedite work that it couldn't do. This is not democratic, he said.

Talks between India and Pakistan is a matter for those two countries to decide: US

Washington, Jan 24 (PTI):

The US has reaffirmed that the pace, the scope and the character of any dialogue between India and Pakistan is a matter for the two countries, asserting that Washington has always supported talks between the two neighbours to ensure peace in South Asia.

Responding to a question raised by a Pakistani journalist on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent remarks seeking peace talks with India, US State Department Spokesperson Ned Price said that even though the United States wants to see regional stability in South Asia, its relationships with Pakistan and India "stand on their own".

"We've long called for regional stability in South Asia. That's certainly what we want to see. We want to see it advanced. When it comes to our part-

nership our partnerships with India and Pakistan, these are relationships that stand on their own. We do not see these relationships as zero-sum," Price told reporters at his daily news conference.

He further said that the "pace, scope, the character of any dialogue between India and Pakistan is a matter for those two countries."

In a recent interview with a UAE media outlet, Prime Minister Sharif expressed a desire for talks with India. However, the Prime Minister's Office later said talks are not possible without India revoking its 2019 actions on Kashmir.

Commenting on Sharif's remarks, India said it always wanted normal neighbourly ties with Pakistan but there should be an atmosphere free from terror and violence for such a relationship.

India has been main-

taining that it desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan while insisting that the onus is on Islamabad to create an environment free of terror and hostility for such an engagement.

The ties between India and Pakistan came under severe strain after India's warplanes pounded a Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist training camp in Balakot in Pakistan in February 2019 in response to the Pulwama terror attack.

The relations further deteriorated after India in August 2019 announced withdrawing special powers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcation of the state into two union territories.

When asked if the US would open the door for talks with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan and his party if he gets elected as the prime minister,

ister, the spokesperson said that Washington is open and would work with any elected government in Pakistan.

"We have demonstrated our desire to see constructive relations with Pakistan over the course of successive governments. As we have said in different contexts, we judge governments by the policies they pursue. It would ultimately be a question of the type of policy that any future government of Pakistan might pursue," Price said.

Khan, who was removed from power through a no-trust vote in April last year, had alleged that the no-confidence vote was part of a US-led conspiracy targeting him because of his independent foreign policy decisions on Russia, China, and Afghanistan. The US has denied the allegations.



New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, center, has a photo taken as she arrives at Ratana, New Zealand, Tuesday, Jan. 24. Ardern made her final public appearance as New Zealand's prime minister on Tuesday, saying the thing she would miss most was the people, because they had been the "joy of the job."

7 killed in two shootings in California community



Half Moon Bay (US), Jan 24 (AP):

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors President Dave Pine says four people were killed at the farm and three at the trucking business on the outskirts south of San Francisco, and a suspect was in custody. It wasn't immediately clear

how the locations were connected.

California state Sen. Josh Becker, who represents the area, said people were killed in separate shootings. San Mateo County Supervisor David Canape tweeted that one shooting happened at a mushroom farm. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office tweeted just before 5 p.m. that a suspect was in custody. "There is no ongoing threat to the community at this time," the sheriff's office said.

Television footage from the area showed officers taking a man into custody without incident. Aerial television images also showed police offi-

cers collecting evidence from a farm with dozens of greenhouses.

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E-Tender Notice No.: TRS - BIA - TFP-5400-22-23-01.
Name of Work: Rehabilitation of 5400 KVA Transformer for WAG-7 Locos. Approx. Cost of the Work: ₹ 33,62,156/- (₹ Thirty Three Lakhs Sixty Two Thousand One Hundred Fifty Six Only). Bid Security Amount to be Deposited: ₹ 67,300/- (₹ Sixty Seven Thousand Three Hundred Only). Completion Period of the Work: 12 (Twelve) Months. Date and Time for Closing of Tender: 22.02.2023 at 15.00 hours.
Website particulars & details of tender can be seen at: "<https://www.ireps.gov.in>". The complete particular of the tender is available on IREPS Website: "<https://www.ireps.gov.in>"
Sr.Div. Electrical Engineer (TRS)/ PR/R/TRS/F/L/210 Bhilai.
f South East Central Railway @ Gsecra

Pak PM Shehbaz apologises to nation for power outage

Islamabad, Jan 24 (PTI):



Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday apologised to the nation for the inconvenience caused by the countrywide power outage that plunged millions of people into darkness and vowed to fix responsibility for the second major breakdown in nearly four months.

Pakistan faced a major power breakdown on Monday due to a voltage fluctuation in the nation-

al grid, disrupting normal life and leaving major parts of the country, including capital Islamabad and financial hub Karachi, without electricity. Taking to Twitter, the premier wrote: "On behalf of my

government, I would like to express my sincere regrets for the inconvenience our citizens suffered due to power outage yesterday."

"On my orders an inquiry is underway to determine reasons of the power failure. Responsibility will be fixed," he tweeted.

Power supply was mostly restored in Pakistan, though some parts of the country still experienced blackouts on Tuesday. Minister for

Energy Khurram Dastgir said on Tuesday that electricity has been fully restored at grid stations across the country.

"Power at all 1,112 stations of the national grid has been restored," Dastgir tweeted.

Prime Minister Sharif ordered the constitution of a high-level three-member committee to probe the reason behind the breakdown.

It is not the first time that the country has faced such a crisis.

Finland's top diplomat hints at joining NATO without Sweden

Stockholm, Jan 24 (AP):

Finland's top diplomat appeared to suggest Tuesday that the country may have to join NATO without Sweden after Turkey's president cast doubt on the expansion of the military alliance.

"We still have to evaluate the situation if it turns out that Sweden's application is stalling for a long time to come," Finnish Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto told Finnish broadcaster YLE.

His comment came a day after Turkish President Recep Tayyip

Erdogan warned Sweden not to expect support for its bid for NATO membership following weekend protests in Stockholm by an anti-Islam activist and pro-Kurdish groups.

Sweden and Finland's historic bid to join the alliance needs the approval of all existing NATO members, including Turkey, which has so far blocked the expansion, saying Sweden in particular needs to crack down on exiled Kurdish militants and their sympathizers.

Until now, Sweden and Finland have been com-

mitted to join the alliance together, but Haavisto's comment appeared to suggest that Finland was considering proceeding without its Nordic neighbour.

Swedish Foreign Minister Tobias Billstrom told YLE that "we are in contact with Finland to find out what is really meant."



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निवास संचयन क्रमांक	दंडना स्थिति	कार्यालय का नाम	अनुपायी स्थान
332/09.01.2023	121231	पिकासरापाट मरापुर का	233.96 लाख
333/09.01.2023	121232	पिकासरापाट मरापुर का	82.19 लाख

उपरोक्त निम्नलिखित कार्यालय की निवास को 13.02.2023 तक आवश्यकता जाती है। निवास की सामग्री शाही, विद्युत नियामिति, निवास दस्तावेज एवं अन्य जानकारी हैं। प्रोक्षणांक देखें: <https://eproc-cgstate.gov.in>, पर रेस्टर्डी का सम्बन्धी है।

कार्यालय कार्यालय अभियंता
लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी खण्ड मरापुर (छ.ग.)

G-97916/2

निवास संचयन क्रमांक	दंडना स्थिति	कार्यालय का नाम	अनुपायी स्थान
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G-97916/2

CENTRAL Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 113

PM CARES for Children: A Visionary Approach

A large number of children have lost both parents or one parent or legal parents or adoptive parents during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic, between 11th March, 2020 and 28th February, 2022. The whole country stands with such children in difficult times. To support such orphan children, the 'PM CARES for Children' scheme was launched across the country on 29th May, 2021. The scheme is a determined step taken by the country for a golden future of such children. The scheme aims to ensure comprehensive care and protection of children who have lost their parents to the Covid pandemic, in a sustained manner, ensure their well-being through health insurance, empower them through education and equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support of Rs 10 lakh on reaching 23 years of age. The child should not have completed 18 years of age on the death of the parents. The PM CARES for Children scheme will provide educational assistance entitlements - (i) support for boarding and lodging to the extent feasible in the government residential schools, (ii) uniforms, textbooks, tuition fees, notebooks, stationery, and transport facilities to the beneficiaries. Children above 10 years of age can be enrolled in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Awasiya Vidyalaya, Eklavya Model School, Sainik School and Navodaya Vidyalaya as per the guidelines of the institution concerned. All identified and verified children will be enrolled as beneficiaries under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) scheme with a health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh. The cover under the scheme includes all expenses incurred on medical examinations, treatment and consultations, pre-hospitalization, medicine and medical consumables, non-intensive and intensive care services, diagnostic and laboratory investigations, medical implantation services, accommodation benefits, food services, complications arising during treatment and post-hospitalization follow-up up to 15 days. A lump-sum amount will be directly transferred to the Post Office account of the beneficiaries. A pro-rata amount will be credited upfront in the account of the beneficiary so that the corpus becomes Rs 10 lakh at the time of attaining the age of 18 years. On attaining the age of 18 years, the beneficiary will receive a stipend till the age of 23 years by investing the corpus of Rs 10 lakh. They will receive an amount Rs 10 lakh on attaining the age of 23 years. The Central government has promised Rs 4,000 for daily basic needs of children through other schemes. For the execution of the scheme, the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) is the nodal ministry at the Central level; Department of Social Justice or Department of Women & Child Development is the nodal agency at the state level and District Magistrate is the nodal authority at the district level. Various ministries and departments have a crucial role to play in providing facilities and services to the children as per their needs. The Department of School and Literacy will ensure that the beneficiary children receive educational assistance; the Department of Higher Education will facilitate loans and scholarships; the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will ensure insurance cover under PM-JAY scheme. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPNR) has claimed that 1,47,492 children have lost either both their parents or one of their parents due to the Covid-19 pandemic and other reasons between March, 2020 and 29th May, 2021, but data of deaths due only to Covid is not available. According to MoWCD, 9,042 applications from 33 states/UTs have been received on the 'PM CARES for Children' portal, out of which 4,345 beneficiaries from 31 states/UTs have been approved. In reality, neither the government nor any NGO has complete data of children orphaned during the Covid pandemic. The government should ensure proper survey of such children. Only then will the developed policies and programmes benefit them. Also, the society should come forward to adopt such children for their welfare. PM CARES for Children is a holistic approach to cover children who lost their parents during the worldwide pandemic Covid-19. It is hoped that through this ambitious scheme, the lives of such unfortunate children will be settled to some extent and they will move ahead on the path of a bright future.

Parliament session will be stormy

Yash Pal Ralhan

For the last three/four parliament sessions there is pandemonium in the both houses and the very much purpose of calling the sessions is being defeated. Whereas India is a largest democratic country and other countries follow the Indian democracy. It appears such type of ruckus will continue till the March 2024 when parliament elections will be declared and we have to be prepared to see disruptions in the parliament. It is worth notable that public opinion or will is not involved in the bills passed by the parliament. In this context I quote the example of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and he called the joint Parliament Session to discuss the Hindu Code Bill and when one of members asked Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru why are you calling joint session when there is no opposition to this bill then he replied that in parliament democracy public opinion/will is must otherwise the democracy will have no meanings. Crude prices are rising and which is not within the approach of a common man and it is incumbent on the government to convince the opposition parties that it is due to international market. On whatsoever reasons they may be ruckus in parliament but the sanctuary of parliament must be maintained. It is expected from the political parties that should not involve the party politics and the national interests must be watched first as we had seen in the previous session when the political parties were settling their political scores without caring for the national interests. During the last two sessions due to disruptions in parliament many important bills could not be passed and it is expected that these bills will be passed in this session. Let us hope that good wisdom will prevail on parliament members and petty party politics will be kept away by both the ruling party as well as by opposition parties, I would like to quote the expressions expressed by late Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar "if a person wants to enter in politics then he/she must have to maintain habit of expressing sorry for any act and as well to say thanks" and the ruckus in parliament sometimes is only based to express sorry for their act. During the period of Atal Bihari Vajpeyi it was the instructions to the Parliamentary Minister that he should be more visible in opposition benches/leaders than on treasury benches so that the house may run smoothly. To maintain the sanctity of parliament it is expected from the ruling party that it should refrain from passing the bills in the last one or two days without any discussions as the ruling party had done in the last parliament session as the last session was also washed away. India has the largest democracy in the world and many countries also follow the procedure of Indian parliament so it is expected from the members of parliament to maintain the decorum which may be the example for other countries also. The collective wisdom of parliament is not being brought to bear to craft legislation and this leads to flawed laws and the promulgation of ordinances to enforce amendments. In the end both ruling party as well as opposition parties should maintain decorum and dignity of parliament. Tussle is going on between Chief Minister of Delhi and Lt Governor and it will have impact on the smooth functioning of Rajya Sabha as the AAP has ten MP in Rajya Sabha but no MP in Lok Sabha. Cong Bharat Jodo Yatra will be finished on Jan 30 but new Yatra will be started from Jan 26 for two months. In Bihar Daily new issues are being raised and subsequently will have the effect on the parliament session also. Elections to three north east states had been declared. Unemployment price rise and demands of farmers are the burning, Joshimath will be a hot issue. Old pension scheme is a burning topic for all political parties. In the last we can only wish for the smooth functioning of the Parliament.

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

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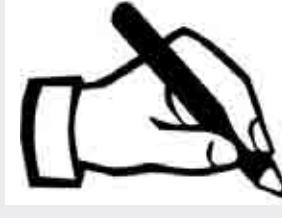
R-DAY REHEARSAL PARADE



Artists perform during the full dress rehearsal of the Republic Day Parade 2023, at Kamarajar Salai in Chennai, Tuesday, Jan. 24.

How spatial thinking could help children learn maths and go on to use it in their careers

EMILY FARRAN



Do you struggle to visualise how to rotate your shoes so that they nest together in a shoe box?

How are you with flat-packed furniture? Are you good at giving directions?

These everyday activities require spatial thinking. Spatial thinking is important for mathematics, and it is what we use to understand the properties of objects, such as their location, size and shape, as well as the relationship between objects.

When we manipulate objects in our mind's eye such as visualising how to rearrange our living room we are using spatial abilities. When we navigate our way home from a trip out, we are using spatial abilities.

People who have strong spatial skills are more likely to be interested in science, technology, engineering and maths (Stem) and to choose Stem degrees and Stem careers.

This association is unsurprising when you think about the skills required for Stem:

using graphs to visualise patterns of data in maths, understanding the scale of a diagram of the solar system, or using the spatial layout of the periodic table to understand

chemical relationships.

Nevertheless, spatial thinking is given little emphasis within the English national curriculum. It has recently been de-prioritised as an "early learning goal" for young children.

Lacking maths skills

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak recently announced his ambition for all children to continue with maths education to age 18, citing the need for maths skills in the workforce. And it does seem that these skills are lacking.

The UK Stem industry is thought to lose EUR 1.5 billion annually as a result of Stem skills shortages.

Around half of working-age UK adults have only primary school level maths, and maths difficulties are estimated to cost the UK around EUR 20.2 billion each year, according to the charity National Numeracy.

Sunak proposes to continue maths education past 16. But focusing on spatial training for younger children is one promising avenue for increasing maths enjoyment and maths achievement, as well as nudging the next generation towards Stem careers.

Spatial skills can be improved by training, and spatial training consistently increases achievement in mathematics and other Stem disciplines, including at degree level.

The largest effects of spatial training among children are for those from disadvantaged backgrounds. This means that spatial training provides an opportunity to reduce attainment gaps. It could help spatial skills.

It helps with mental rotation (rotating a piece in your mind to figure out which way

bolster catch-up after pandemic school closures for the children most affected by this learning loss.

What's more and particularly important for maths' sometimes dull image spatial activities are enjoyable. Engagement scores for our spatial activities and training suggest that children like learning in this way.

Improving spatial ability

There are some easy ways to improve spatial ability. Visualisation imagining a process in your head has been linked to stronger science and maths performance and it can be improved through training.

Younger children could discover visualisation by being encouraged to imagine rotating jigsaw pieces in their head, rather than trying to fit pieces in a puzzle through trial and error. Older children could be prompted to use visualisation as a mental sketchpad when rearranging maths formulae.

Small-world play such as with dolls houses or toy farm sets can be used to help children learn to see things from other viewpoints and understand differences in spatial scale. Both of these are spatial skills which help with maths and science.

In a preprint study (which means it has not yet been reviewed by other scientists) colleagues and I have also found that following visual instructions when using construction toys, such as Lego, can help spatial skills.

It helps with mental rotation (rotating a piece in your mind to figure out which way

round it should go) and understanding the relationship between parts and a whole, such as the individual bricks in a Lego model. This is useful for fractions and maths proficiency more generally.

As a final example, children who hear more spatial language have stronger spatial skills, and stronger spatial language is associated with better maths performance.

This means using words as simple as "in", "on", and "next to" to describe the spatial relationships between objects, or "small" and "big" to draw attention to the properties of objects. More difficult words like "parallel" and "separate" can help children to conceptualise otherwise difficult spatial concepts, particularly if hand movements are also used to help explain the meaning.

I am a member of the Early Childhood Maths Group, an independent group of early years mathematics enthusiasts and experts who work together to promote early childhood mathematics.

The group has launched the Spatial Reasoning Toolkit to help adults support children's development in spatial activities.

Introducing more spatial thinking to the curriculum could reduce attainment gaps, increase confidence and nudge children towards Stem careers. Children's enjoyment of spatial activities could also help to change attitudes towards maths.

Professor of Cognitive Development, University of Surrey

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Spirited performance needed

Losing and winning are part of any sport and it's not the end of the world. Even so there is nothing wrong if the hockey lover expected much better World Cup hockey from India as Olympic bronze medalists and Commonwealth Games silver medalists. I feel bad for Orissa Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik who has been a relentless supporter of hockey, better (he announced Rs. 1 crore each Indian hockey player if they have won the FIH World Cup) from the national team. What's a tragedy for India that from 3-1 Indian team could not sustain New Zealand pressure and ended in draw (took a two-goal lead twice in regulation time) and finally lost 5-4 on penalties (it took 19 shots in the shootout and the sudden death) to Kiwis after being tied 3-3 in regulation time in the Hockey World Cup crossover match. If winning the world cup was the dream, then I don't think there is much in this loss, since given our performance (except Great Britain) across all the matches there was hardly anything that indicated we will be making much progress. Regardless, Kiwis, to give them their due, were brilliant. They took the game by the scruff of the neck when it needed to be taken by the scruff of the neck and kept their cool much better when it came to crunch time. India's loss will give gritty Kiwis that set up a quarterfinal clash against reigning champions Belgium for its efforts.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee, Faridabad

Charaideo Maidams as World Heritage Centre

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to send Charaideo Maidam as the country's nomination for the UNESCO World Heritage Site status out of 52 nominations. There are over 150 maidams, but only 30 of these are protected by the Archaeological Survey of India along with the Assam State Archaeological Department, which means that the archaeological department should protect other maidams also. Owing to the seriousness of the situation, I think the issue should be highlighted so that some action can be taken by the authorities concerned.

Anisha Baruah, by mail

Leaders like Jacinda Arden

New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Arden's sudden announcement of her resignation has come as a shock to the entire world. She was seen as a global liberal icon as she made a name for herself as she successfully vanquished the Coronavirus from her country and also with her stubborn leadership quality she sailed through a series of extraordinary events, notably the white supremacists massacre of worshippers at two mosques in Christchurch and the White Island volcanic eruption that killed a group of 21 people. She became a global icon in a rise dubbed "Jacinda-mania" as she campaigned passionately for women's rights and put an end to child poverty and economic inequality. Arden also received brickbats as many in her country targeted her for showing incompetence and vulnerability. Nevertheless, it must be noted that she did not step down because the job was hard, but because she believed others could perform even better than her.

Ranganathan Sivakumar, Chennai

India has a rich cultural heritage that attracts various foreign tourists

Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

25th January is marked as National Tourism Day with a motive to appreciate our country's beauty and spread awareness of the importance of tourism and its impact on the Indian economy. It is a day to promote the tourism industry and recognize its contribution to the growth and sustainability of tourist destinations and local communities. Tourism is travel for recreational, leisure or business purposes and it has now become a popular global leisure activity. Tourism is the engine of economic growth. India is a diverse nation and it offers several forms of tourism including cultural, nature, heritage, educational, sports, rural, eco-tourism, etc. This diversity of India makes it a prime attraction for tourists.

Tourism helps in women empowerment and youth employment. This day helps us to spread the word of both the importance and immense benefits universal accessibility has and can bring to society at large. It is an opportunity to reflect on the importance of tourism to global well-being. We all know that when Tourism has become the continuous growing and developing economic sectors worldwide because of the occurrence of various attractive and new destinations for the tourists, it has become the main source of income for the developing countries. The tourism industry has helped growth in other sectors as diverse as horticulture, handicraft, agriculture, construction and even poultry. Both directly and indirectly increased tourism in India has created jobs in a variety of related sectors. Almost 20 million people are now working in the India's tourism industry. Tourism today plays a vital role in bringing the world closer as it has been a major social phenomenon of societies all over the world and it is driven by the natural urge of every human being for new experiences, and the desire to be both educated and entertained. Every time we travel, for whatever reason, we are part of a global movement; a movement that has the power to drive inclusive development, create jobs and build the sustainable societies we want for our future. Perhaps every citizen can do the role of city ambassador and play courteous hosts. Each one of us is responsible

for contributing our bit to protect the natural resources of our planet. India has innumerable attractions for tourists. Throughout the country there are numerous beauty and scenic spots. We live in such a country that others dream of visiting and becoming wiser by the experience. Can't we help them with right directions, authentic fares, uniform pricing and respect for the personal space of tourists while maintaining basic facilities that we ourselves are comfortable using.

We must remember that the tourism is an ever-evolving and thriving industry that contributes to the economic well-being of every nation and generates lakhs of employment opportunities besides focusing on environment-friendly measures. As we celebrate

the National Tourism Day, let us recall that all of the world's citizens have the right to experience the incredible diversity this planet has to offer. Tourism in India can become a viable industry if effective and concerted steps are taken. It promotes national integration, international understanding, harmony, friendship and goodwill.

Diversity, unity and assimilation have always been the hallmark of the eternal India and these make India the ultimate tourist destination. India has a composite culture. India has fascinated people from all over the world with her secularism and her culture. Let us take adequate steps to protect and preserve the flora and fauna, the historical monuments and heritage sites of this great country.

BRIEF

Investment



Chandigarh: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann extended a red carpet to top honchos of the Indian industry and invited them to invest in the state. The chief minister had detailed parleys with the representatives of big corporate houses like Godrej, Hindustan Unilever, Mafatlal Group, Mahindra & Mahindra, Jindal Steel and others during his Mumbai visit. Mann had gone to Mumbai on Sunday to meet industry leaders with an aim to attract investments in his state. Mann apprised the industry leaders that the government of Punjab is making strenuous efforts to further strengthen the single window system for facilitating investors, said a state government release here.

Skill development

New Delhi: NSE Academy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Stock Exchange (NSE), has inked a pact with the Government of Andhra Pradesh for skilling students and enhancing employability in the area of capital markets, financial services and banking. The two entities - NSE Academy and Commissionerate of Collegiate Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh - have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard, NSE said in a release on Monday.

Agreements signed



Jaipur: The Rajasthan government signed agreements for investment worth Rs 1.36 lakh crore in the state. The investment was committed under Invest Rajasthan, which was held in October last year. Agreements of 26 projects related to industries, energy, tourism and other sectors were signed at the chief minister's residence. Nearly 17,000 people will get employment from these projects being set up in different districts of the state, according to a statement.

Axis Bank

Mumbai: Axis Bank reported a 56 per cent jump in its December quarter consolidated net at Rs 6,187.38 crore, helped by a healthy core income growth aided by widening margins. On a standalone basis, the third largest private sector lender reported a 62 per cent growth at Rs 5,853 crore. The core net interest income was up 32 per cent at Rs 11,459 crore, helped by a 0.73 per cent improvement in the net interest margin at 4.26 per cent, and a 15 per cent advances growth.

FLAGGING OFF CEREMONY



Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri and Union MoS for Petroleum and Natural Gas Rameswar Teli during the flagging off ceremony of an inland water vessel powered by methanol blended diesel (MD15), in Guwahati, Tuesday, Jan. 24.

FinMin meets pvt sector bankers

Reviews progress of various financial inclusion schemes

New Delhi, Jan 24:

The finance ministry on Tuesday held a meeting with private sector lenders to review progress made by them under the flagship financial inclusion and social security schemes. Dr Vivek Joshi, Secretary DFS chaired a meeting today with the representatives of Private Sector Banks, Small Finance Banks and Payment Banks to review the progress made by them under various Financial Inclusion initiatives (PMJDY, PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY, PM SVANidhi, etc.)

Department of Financial Services said in a tweet. Last week, Joshi met heads of public sector banks and urged them to achieve targets under various schemes for current financial year.

During the meeting, progress of various social security (Jan Suraksha) schemes, including Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Atal Pension Yojana (APY), Pradhan Mantri MUDRA and Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Yojana (PM-SVANidhi), and Agri credit etc., were reviewed.

Himalaya Wellness company launches Baby Massage Oil

Mumbai, Jan 24:

Himalaya Wellness Company, India's leading wellness brand, recently announced the launch of Himalaya Baby Massage Oil -with the goodness of Mustard. The oil is specially formulated with carefully selected herbs and ingredients that help nourish baby's skin with a non-sticky formula. Moreover, it locks the moisture on baby's skin, making it soft and smooth. The essence of four herbs - Aloe Vera, Vetiver, Winter Cherry, and Country Mallow, when combined into one traditional oil, will improve blood circulation, strengthen muscles, and promote baby's growth. Himalaya's new Baby Massage Oil is a well-defined combination of traditional wisdom and modern science and is clinically tested. It is made without parabens, mineral oil, and synthetic fragrances, making it a safe skincare product for newborns. Commenting on the launch, Mr. Chakravarthi N.V., Business Head - BabyCare, Himalaya Wellness Company, said, "The Himalaya Indian Heritage series of Baby Massage Oil is inspired by age-old traditional Ayurvedic practices that emphasize the importance of body massage (Abhyanga) in your baby's daily regimen. Moreover, millennial parents are increasingly becoming conscious and aware of the ingredients and the products they use on their babies. They look for chemically safe products along with giving the right nourishment to their babies. Hence, we believe our new BabyMassage Oil - Mustard will resonate with the parents of today. With the launch of this new oil, we want to provide an all-in-one solution to parents with a tidy residue-free option for their babies."

Apple's handset exports from India reach USD 1 billion in December: IT Secretary

Gandhinagar, Jan 24:

iPhone maker Apple is not only manufacturing mobile phones for India but it exported handsets worth USD 1 billion as of December, a senior government official said. While speaking at The Business 20 (B20), the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community, Electronics and IT Secretary Alkesh Kumar Sharma said that a number of schemes have been introduced to transform India from a service nation to a product nation. "Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme has actually created a buzz in the market. Our mobile manufacturing has gone to the next level. We are not only making it for India but Apple is exporting from India. The

December figure we have just got is that they have exported USD 1 billion worth of mobile phones," Sharma said.

Earlier in the day, Union commerce minister Piyush Goyal said Apple is looking to scale up its manufacturing in India as the business environment is helping global firms make the country their base. Apple at present makes iPhone in India at the manufacturing plant of contract manufacturer Foxconn and Wistron. The

New Delhi, Jan 24:

Full service carrier Vistara will continue to expand and expects to have a total of 70 planes by mid-2024, its chief Vinod Kannan said on Tuesday. The airline, a joint venture between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines, reported an operating profit for the first time since inception in the three months ended December 2022. "The percentage of capacity deployed internationally has increased. We have 25-30 per cent deployed internationally... That is quite positive and a game changer for us," Kannan said at a briefing. Vistara is set to be merged with Air India. By the mid-

of next year, Kannan said it will have a total of 70 aircraft, including 7 Boeing 787s. Out of the total 70 planes, there will also be 10 A321s and 53 A320 neos, the Vistara CEO said at a briefing. Among the 53 A320 neos, 10 planes will have all economy class and the rest will have three classes. Currently, the airline has a fleet of 53 aircraft. "We

KFC announces return of Chizza

Mumbai, Jan 24:

This new year just became happier as KFC announced the return of Chizza. Yes, you heard that right! The cult favKFC Chizzais back with a bang, promising to be the biggest blockbuster of 2023. Bringing together the 2 things foodies loves most - chicken and cheese - KFC Chizza is sure to leave you drooling! The product is all set to make a comeback on popular demand after it received immense love by KFC fans over the years, thanks to its flavorful taste and the shockingly delicious crust. What crust you ask? Well, it's KFC's crispy chicken on top, and more crispy chicken at the bottom, that has made it a fan favourite. The all-chicken,

Rupee falls 28 paise to 81.70 against US dollar

Mumbai, Jan 24:

The rupee fell 28 paise to close as 81.70 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday as unabated foreign fund outflow hit market sentiments. However, a weak dollar and fall in crude prices capped the losses in the local currency, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 81.61 to a dollar against the previous close of 81.42. The local unit moved in a range of 81.43 to 81.76 during the day. On Monday, the rupee had declined by 25 paise to close at 81.42 against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the US dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, declined 0.01 per cent to 102.15 amid concerns over US economic growth. The Brent crude was trading 0.41 per cent lower at USD 87.83 per barrel.

Large firms must take responsibility to handhold MSMEs: Goyal

Help them integrate into supply chain ecosystem

Gandhinagar, Jan 24:

Large companies should take responsibility to handhold MSMEs, and help them adapt best practices and integrate them into the supply chain ecosystem, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said here on Monday. Goyal said that MSMEs (micro, small and medium enterprises) flourish around a larger unit or anchor. Citing an example, he said, as Apple's manufacturing plant comes up, thousands of MSME units flourish in

the ecosystem as mini value chain suppliers to Apple. He said large companies must be sensitized to handhold MSMEs associated with them. "We must also try to make it easier to operate for small companies, eliminate unnecessary paperwork, make custom processes simpler, and use technology to ease and simplify processes," he said at the fourth Plenary Session of B20 India Inception Meeting on Building Resilient Global Value Chains, organised by CII.

He pointed out that Singapore has been playing an important role as a trading hub and suggested that a study can be done to figure out what Singapore

has been doing right and based on this a basic framework can be created for supporting MSMEs. It may involve infrastructure development, addressing challenges of logistics, he added.

On integrating India with global value chains, Goyal said if "we do not harmonise our value chains with the rest of the world, or if we do not create logistics which are easier and faster, it would be difficult for international companies to get India into its value chain". To become a trusted and resilient partner in global value chains, the government is also focusing on creating an enabling ecosystem that is simpler,

faster and promotes ease of doing business, he said. He said the focus of the government is on trying to make our country accept quality as a most important factor in the success story of India. India is in dialogue with some of the larger companies of UAE to leverage best out of the free trade agreement signed between the two countries, he added.

Earlier in the day, the minister asked businesses to adopt a sustainable and green approach in business practices. He asked them to use the forum of B20 along with G20 to look at how we can collectively work towards a sustainable and equitable future agenda.

Biz cycles shortening, ensuring continuous reinvention: KM Birla

A challenge before Aditya Birla Group

Mumbai, Jan 24:

Business cycles are shortening because of changes in technology and consumer preferences, and the Aditya Birla Group has to grapple with the challenge of ensuring continuous reinvention, its Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla said on Tuesday. Birla, who heads the diversified USD 60 billion conglomerate having interests in metals to telecom, also touched upon the proliferation of startups in the business landscape, saying there are no shortcuts to business building and made it clear

that there exists a thin line between "hustle and hubris".

"Changes in technology, and evolving consumer needs, are creating ever shorter business cycles. For a group like ours, a unique challenge is to harness the trust and stability that comes from longevity, while ensuring that we can continuously reinvent ourselves," Birla said. In

Shakti Pumps revenue for Q3FY23 stood at Rs 3,142 million

Pithampur, Jan 24:

9MFY23 as compared to Rs 7,940 million in 9MFY22. Our export business has been delivering significantly for us with the export revenue growing by 24.5% YoY to Rs 1,659 million in 9MFY23. Margins remained muted due to the challenging environment with the prevailing high input costs. EBITDA margin at 7.0% in Q3FY23 declined by 320 bps YoY as compared to 10.2% in Q3FY22. However, EBITDA improved marginally to 121 bps on a QoQ basis.

With the ongoing challenges, there are few positive developments under the PM-KUSUM Scheme. The Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) has issued new tenders for over 6.66 lakh solar pumps in the month of December 2022 and bidding for these new tenders is expected to be completed by March 2023.

On the results, saying, "The company performance during Q3FY23 was decent with revenue registering a growth of 17.0% YoY to Rs 3,142 million as compared to Rs 2,686 million in Q3FY22 supported by strong growth in Solar EPC and export business. Overall, we reported a revenue of Rs 7,850 million in

9MFY23.

The financial results for the quarter and nine months ended December 31, 2022, have been announced by Shakti Pumps (India) Limited (herein referred to as "SPL"), a leading manufacturer of stainless-steel submersible pumps, pressure booster pumps, pump-motors, controllers, and inverters among other products. Shakti Pumps (India) Limited Chairman and Managing Director Mr. Dinesh Patidar commented

on the results, saying, "The company performance during Q3FY23 was decent with revenue registering a growth of 17.0% YoY to Rs 3,142 million as compared to Rs 2,686 million in Q3FY22 supported by strong growth in Solar EPC and export business. Overall, we reported a revenue of Rs 7,850 million in

9MFY23. The company, which on Monday launched a new version of its Activa scooter which conforms to the upcoming stricter emission norms, with price starting at Rs 74,536 (ex-showroom Delhi), plans to come up with charging infrastructure to support its electric vehicle customers. Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India (HMSI), which remains the leader in the scooter segment with a market share of 56 per cent, is also looking to consolidate its position in the motorcycle segment with the introduction of a 100 cc bike next month. The company is looking to consolidate its position in the rural and semi urban markets with the introduction of the bike. "We are looking to launch the first electric model in March 2024... it is being developed on a completely new platform and is based on the requirements of the Indian market," Ogata said on the sidelines of the launch.

Honda lining up multiple EV models for domestic market

First electric scooter to debut next year

New Delhi, Jan 24:

Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India is lining up multiple products in the electric vehicle segment with the first model expected to make debut in March next year, company's Managing Director, President and CEO Atsushi Ogata said on Monday.

The company, which on Monday launched a new version of its Activa scooter which conforms to the upcoming stricter emission norms, with price starting at Rs 74,536 (ex-showroom Delhi), plans to come up with charging infrastructure to support its electric vehicle customers. Honda Motorcycle and Scooter India (HMSI), which remains the leader in the scooter segment with a market share of 56 per cent, is also looking to consolidate its position in the motorcycle segment with the introduction of a 100 cc bike next month. The company is looking to consolidate its position in the rural and semi urban markets with the introduction of the bike. "We are looking to launch the first electric model in March 2024... it is being developed on a completely new platform and is based on the requirements of the Indian market," Ogata said on the sidelines of the launch.



Esha Gaur makes B'wood singing debut with '1920: Horrors of the Heart'

Singer Esha Gaur, who has sung title tracks for TV shows, is all set to make her Bollywood debut with Vikram Bhatt's '1920: Horrors of the Heart', which stars Aishwarya Rai Bachchan in the lead role.

Sharing this information, Esha acknowledged that it was her mother who discovered her singing talent when she was very young, and credits her for the way her career has shaped up.

"My biggest work achievement till date is '1920,'" Esha noted.

"I am from a doctor's family; my father, brother and grandfather are doctors," Esha said, adding: "My mother had an inclination towards singing and she figured out the singer in me when I was four-year-old, and because of her musical journey came out so well. I have done Master's in music."

Esha is well-known for singing the title tracks of TV shows such as 'EK Aasha Aisi Bhi' as well as 'Guddan Tumse Na Ho Payega' in 'Lakeerien' and 'Rangrez' in 'Apna Time Bhi Aayega'.

Talking about her first break, she said: "I performed in the Sangam Kala group in 1994, where I won the first prize. Kalyanji-Anandji called me after looking at my performance and that was the biggest achievement in my singing career."

Asked who her favourite singer is, she shared: "Asha Bhosle, as she is so versatile which is what I like the most. Also, I think everybody should choose to be low profile as it's the best thing you could give yourself."

Anjali Arora: Trolling does affect mental health, it can disturb one's life

Anjali Arora of 'Lock Upp' fame opened up about her depression and mental health issues and shared how tough it is to deal with unnecessary trolling. She shared: "When it comes to talking about anything wrong happening with anyone, there will be a lot of intellectual people seen putting forth their views and experiences, but the moment they switch off from society and open their social media, their mature, open, understanding thoughts get vanished and all they would leave with will be hate speech, abusive words, and I do not know what more." She spoke about facing severe mental illness after getting brutally trolled online. She shared: "Yes, trolling does affect mental health deeply and it can disturb one's life to the core. I know this very well as I have faced trolling at an immense amount, which not only made me cry a lot but also made me think about quitting social media." Anjali has been facing depression for quite long. In fact, once she revealed on a reality show that she attempted suicide in the 11th Std. "I have been in a depression for a very long period, about some months. There was just one thing on my mind: why these things are happening to me and why I have to face such things in life. But by speaking about those things to my close ones, I made myself stable, and after putting up so much effort and giving more time to myself, I became stronger and I bounced back into a life full of enthusiasm." Talking about the solutions to deal with depression and mental illness, Anjali concluded, saying: "There is not a single solution for everyone, as everyone's life, struggles, surroundings, thinking, mental health, and problems are not the same."



Sunny Leone goes meticulously de-glam for her role in 'Quotation Gang'

Ditching make-up, actress Sunny Leone decided to go de-glam for her role in the upcoming crime-drama 'Quotation Gang', directed by Vivek K. She said didn't want to compromise on the director's vision.

Sunny and her make-up artist worked extensively with the director in creating basic looks for her character. After cracking the genesis of the character and her backstory, the team put together some options. It is a raw part and Sunny didn't want to compromise on the authenticity.

The actress said: "The film's DNA is such that it hinges on its authenticity. I didn't want to compromise on the director's vision. I trusted the director completely. Now when I see the love our teaser is getting, I am glad that the power of his vision is getting its due."

"Sometimes when the character has some much meat, you don't care about anything else. What matters is your performance. Once I stopped focussing on how I will look, I was



able to be the character. I am grateful for the faith the director showed in me!" Her make-up artist Richard Joseph said that the look is organically de-glammed. "The focus feature was the unibrow and the scar on the lip. We tanned and warmed up Sunny's face. The character was supposed to be an unruly woman. So we created brows that are bushy and unkempt. We used real hair and cut them into finer strands to perfect that. We used prosthetic

glue to apply it." He added that the look was created to fit into the character. "There is a scar on the forehead that used 3D silicon pieces for continuity purposes. We used an old scab to get the lip cut. The eyes had a kohl pencil that was smudged and erased for a lived-in look. We got local tattoos on our necks. For the face, we de-glammed the face by getting something slightly cooler to achieve a warm look on the face." "A certain amount of cool tones were

added to enhance the dullness of the skin. We wanted to bring out a tired eye. We created textures on the skin by using alcohol mediums so the makeup would remain longer. The lip was blurred to ensure that the bruise on the lip is visible. Overall the de-tanned face, the kohl eyes, and the lip bruise were the highlights of the look. We accentuated this with the bindi we used."

The film also stars Jackie Shroff and Priyamani.

Mir Sarwar starrer 'Bhalesa' to stream on Mask TV OTT

Bollywood Movies "Bajrangi Bhaijaan", "Dishoom", "Jolly LLB", "Vishwa Roopam-2", "Hamid", "Panipat", "Phantom" Actor Mir Sarwar, who has enthralled us with his performances in web series, Jagga Jasoos and many more, will be seen in a stellar role in Mask TV Originals' Bhalesa after Mission Seventy. Its streaming will be on January 26 on Mask TV.

Significantly, on January 26, there will be streaming of two big films based on Kashmir on Mask TV OTT. While the poster boy of



Kashmir terror Burhan: Hero Ya Villain film is all set to stream on Mask TV OTT, the film 'Bhalesa' a true story inspired by the natural beauty of a village 'Bhalesa' in Jammu Mask TV is all set to show the other side of the coin on OTT.

The only Hindu family of the village lives there relying on the promise of protection given by its Muslim neighbor against terrorism and takes up arms to eradicate terrorism through VDC which is a program encouraged by the local police and army. Bhalesa is based on a true incident in the life of the film's director Balwinder Singh.

Tilotama reveals why she hasn't yet seen 'The Night Manager' original

Tilotama Shome, who's awaiting the release of her upcoming streaming show 'The Night Manager', hasn't seen the original British version of the series.

The show, which sees Aditya Roy Kapur in titular role and Anil Kapoor as an arms dealer, follows the story of trust, betrayal and infiltration.

Shome, who essays a gripping character in the series originally portrayed by Olivia Colman, decided to skip watching the original in order to give her own touch to the character. She said: "Olivia Colman is simply fantastic, starting from her early work, notably 'Tyrannosaurus'. I am a massive fan. It would be impossible to unsee what she has done."



Artists express pride in their daughters

National Girl Child Day is celebrated every year on January 24 to spread awareness about girls' inequities in society & TV artists Mohit Duggal (Ashok, Doosri Maa), Sapna Sikarwar (Bimlesh, Happu Ki Ultan Paltan), and Rohitashv Gour (Manmohan Tiwari, Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai) and proud parents of girl child express their pride and joy in raising their daughters.



Sapna Sikarwar, essaying Bimlesh in &TV's Happu Ki Ultan Paltan, says, "One of the most precious moments of my life was when I held my

daughter, Maanya, for the first time. Her tiny hands and feet changed my life forever. She is 11 years old and one of my biggest fans and critics."

Sushmita shows sheer dedication towards work despite injured during shoot



Chair: Sushmita Mukherjee talks about her dedication to her work and how she managed to complete the filming despite being hurt.

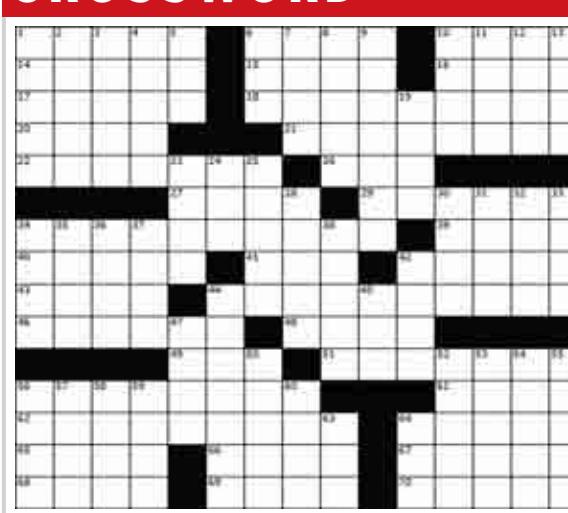
She says, "Unfortunately, I was hurt on the first day of the shoot on December 23, so I returned on the 18th day of the shoot. I was determined to keep working even

though the accident since I'm a theatre artist, and the maxim for theatre performers is that the play must go on no matter what. My producer and director wanted me to stay in the performance to finish it, despite my request to keep a substitute because I was seriously hurt. But since they requested

me to stay it's a great obligation for me to accomplish this.

She further adds, "However, the show must continue whether or not I am a part of it and I'm delighted the show's creators want me to do so. And it goes without saying that someone who makes a commitment from the heart will give it their all. I have that resolve, which keeps me going, and the Almighty is also quickly mending me. The members of the show's crew are incredibly kind and considerate, helping me get into a wheelchair and making sure I'm comfortable. And because of the team's support, I am stronger and more committed to my task."

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1. Nature's bandages
- 6. Roman emperor
- 10. Gifts to charity
- 14. Hot pepper
- 15. Cookie cooker
- 16. Resound
- 17. Speed trap device
- 18. Deep respect
- 20. Operator
- 21. Made a witty reply
- 22. Beg
- 26. Pot cover
- 27. Warm fabric
- 29. ____ system
- 34. Having a backbone
- 39. Rabbit's kin
- 40. Diva's offerings
- 41. Parched
- 42. Slugger Hank _____
- 43. Clock sound
- 44. Tenacious

- 46. Plot
- 48. Time past
- 49. How ____ you?
- 51. Least cluttered
- 56. No-show
- 61. Car part
- 62. Pirates' stashes
- 64. Private teacher
- 65. Greases
- 66. Stir up
- 67. Cook's wear
- 68. Animal skin
- 69. Most excellent
- 70. Gathers
- 74. And not
- 75. Perpetual
- 8. Make merry
- 9. Former (hyph.)
- 10. Copycat
- 11. Gave temporarily
- 12. Nutmeglike spice
- 13. Sleigh
- 19. Was a passenger
- 23. Lambs' moms
- 24. Corn core
- 25. Crowd
- 28. Moe and Curly's pal
- 30. "All ____ jazz"
- 31. Hard to find

544



Gill, Rohit blitzkrieg in clean sweep over Kiwis

Indore, Jan 24 (PTI):

India thrashed New Zealand by 90 runs in the third and final ODI to complete a clean sweep of the three-match series here on Tuesday. Batting first, India rode on centuries from openers Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill to post a formidable 385 for nine.

In reply, New Zealand were all out for 295 in 41.2 overs with Devon Conway scoring a 100-ball 138.

While skipper Rohit struck 101 off 85 balls, the young Gill blazed away to a 78-ball 112, after the visitors asked India to bat at the Holkar Cricket Stadium. Virat Kohli chipped in with 36 off 27 balls after the opening duo added 212 runs in 26.1 overs. Later, Hardik Pandya smashed a 38-ball 54 to power India.

Rohit and Gill put up a belligerent 212-run opening stand as Rohit (101 off 85 balls) got to the three-figure mark for the first time since January 2020. Gill (112 off 78) got his fourth ODI hundred.

Gill hit four fours and a six to plunder 22 runs off Lockie Ferguson in the eighth over, symbolising the kind of form the 23-



year-old has been in lately. The youngster didn't have to even time the ball for it to run to the boundary. After three fours, he launched the short ball for an upper-cut six.

He reached his half-century when he drove the ball square off extra cover for a stylish four. A couple of overs later Rohit, too, brought up his fifty with a flat six over Mitchell Santner's head.

With the outfield quick and the wicket flat, the rather inexperienced New Zealand bowling unit had no answers to the Indian openers' carnage. India raced to 200 with Rohit and Gill sharing 22 fours and 11 sixes between them.

Matching each other's strike rates, the 26th over saw both Rohit and Gill getting their centuries. Rohit pulled away to deep square to get to his century. Three balls later, Gill got to the triple-figure mark, his third in four innings. New Zealand skipper Tom Latham used as many as six bowlers and it was his sixth option - spinner Michael Bracewell - who provided the tourists their first breakthrough.

Trying to slog one out of the park, Rohit missed the ball as it kept low and

Brief scores

India: 385 for 9 in 50 overs (Rohit Sharma 101, Shubman Gill 112, Hardik Pandya 54).
New Zealand: 295 all out in 41.2 overs (Devon Conway 138; Shardul Thakur 3/45, Kuldeep Yadav 3/62).

turned to eventually hit the stumps. His wicket was met with a roar by the partisan crowd, welcoming Virat Kohli (36).

A miscued shot in the next over spelt the end of Gill's innings as New Zealand struck twice in quick succession.

Ishan Kishan (17) didn't look too comfortable and took nine balls to open his account. A yes-no with Kohli, who had sprinted halfway, marked the end of the wicketkeeper batter's stay in the middle.

New Zealand were able to bring down the boundaries and sixes and, looking to play a big shot, Kohli couldn't beat Finn Allen at mid-off.

Looking on course for a 400-plus score, India endured a familiar middle-order batting collapse, before Hardik Pandya (54) provided the final flourish.

Azarenka beats Pegula to reach semis



Melbourne, Jan 24 (AP):

Victoria Azarenka displayed the same confident brand of hard-hitting baseline tennis that carried her

to two Australian Open titles and the No. 1 ranking a decade ago, beating Jessica Pegula 6-4 6-1 on Tuesday night to return to the semifinals at Melbourne Park.

Azarenka won the 2012 and 2013 championships in Australia, but she had not been back to the final four there since then.

Now 33 and a mother

she walked out into Rod Laver Arena wearing a jersey from her 7-year-old son's favorite soccer team,

Paris Saint-Germain

Azarenka, who is from Belarus, delivered big shot after big shot, raced to a 3-0 lead in 12 minutes, and never really let the No. 3-seeded Pegula, a good friend, get into the match.

"Leo doesn't really care so much that I'm playing here," Azarenka said with a laugh.

"He worries more about his football and when are we going to go play again. Obviously, he is watching some matches, but he definitely wants his mom to be home. So a few more days here, and I'll be back."

Michael Holt makes the trip with a trophy in tow if she keeps playing like this.

Even when Pegula did grab a game, she needed to work so hard for it, erasing six break points before finally holding serve to get on the board. It was a far cry

from the sort of success Pegula had earlier in the tournament: She entered Tuesday having dropped zero sets and 18 games across four previous matches.

The No. 24-seeded Azarenka's semifinal opponent will be No. 22 Elena Rybakina, the reigning Wimbledon champion, who defeated 2017 French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko 6-2 6-4 on Tuesday afternoon.

Karen Khachanov reaches first semifinal

In men's action, Karen Khachanov reached his first semifinal at Melbourne Park and made his second consecutive trip to the final four at a Grand Slam tournament, following his run at the US Open last September when 22-year-old American Sebastian Korda stopped playing in the third set because of an injured right wrist.

Khachanov will face either No. 3 Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece or unseeded Jiri Lehecka of the Czech Republic for a berth in the men's final. Tsitsipas and Lehecka were scheduled to play their quarterfinal Tuesday night.

Korda, whose father Petr was the 1998 champion in Australia, felt pain in his wrist when he mis-hit a forehand service return in the second set. He called for a trainer to examine and tape it. But Korda retired from the match while trailing 7-6(5) 6-3 3-0.

Mandhana, Harmanpreet score half-centuries as India win



East London, Jan 24 (PTI):

Smriti Mandhana and captain Harmanpreet Kaur cracked fine unbeaten half-centuries as India defeated West Indies by 56 runs to keep their slate clean in the Women's T20I Tri-Series here. India, after winning the toss and electing to bat, were off to a good start and managed 167 for two in 20 overs. They then restricted the opponents to 111 for four to eke out their second consecutive win of the series.

Ramharack tossed the ball outside off and Yastika attempted a drive over covers but ended up playing away from her body. A faint outside edge saw the opener give an easy catch to wicketkeeper Rashada Williams.

Indonesia Masters

Priyanshu enters main draw, Praneeth's struggle continues

Jakarta, Jan 24 (PTI):

Priyanshu Rajawat progressed to the main draw with two fine victories but the rest of the Indians, including B Sai Praneeth, in the men's singles competition faltered in the qualifying round of the Indonesia Masters Super 500 tournament here on Tuesday.

The 20-year-old, who had reached the finals of Odisha Open Super 100 tournament in 2022, defeated Denmark's Victor Svendsen 21-10 13-21 21-13 after getting rid of France's Christo Popov 21-17 21-19 in the opening match.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam and West Indies skipper Kraigg Brathwaite complete the lineup.

Iyer, Siraj only Indians in ODI Team of 2022. Middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer and young pacer Mohammed Siraj are the only two Indians who found a place in the ICC ODI Team of 2022 captained by Pakistan's Babar Azam.

Indonesia Masters



mer Singapore Open champion had beaten Indonesia's Ikhwan Leonardo Imanuel Rumbay 21-18 9-21 21-15 in the first match. Kiran George and Mithun Manjunath also bowed out after losing to Netherlands' Mark Caljouw and Indonesia's Christian Adinata in the opening round of the qualifiers. Kartikey Gulshan Kumar won 21-8 21-14 against Malaysia's Cheam June Wei defeated Priyanshu 21-18 21-19. The former

to also miss out. In the mixed doubles, Rohan Kapoor and N Sikki Reddy beat Chinese Taipei's Po Li-Wei and Chang Ching Hui 21-15 21-18 to progress to the main draw. B Sumeeth Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa, who had played together at the Commonwealth Games, however, went down 20-22 17-21 to Indonesia's Jafar Hidayatullah and Aisyah Salabsila Putri Pranata. Sikki and Rohan will meet Jafar and Aisyah in main draw.

Bopanna-Mirza move to Australian Open mixed doubles semifinal



Melbourne, Jan 24 (PTI):

The Indian team of Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza moved to the Australian Open mixed doubles semifinals without moving a sine as they got a walk over from Jelena Ostapenko and David Vega Hernandez here on Tuesday. The Indian team has not yet dropped a set in the mixed team competition.

They now await the winner of the quarterfinal between the pairs of third seeded Desirae Krawczyk and Neal Skupski

and Taylor Townsend and Jamie Murray. Bopanna and his partner Mathew Ebden, seeded 10th, had made a first round exit from the men's doubles event, while Mirza and her Kazakh partner Anna Danilina had lost in the women's doubles second round. Ramkumar Ramanathan and his Mexican partner Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela, Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni had also made first round exits. Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and N Sriram Balaji had reached the second round before bowing out.

Winners of the 1986,

Australia enter WC semis for 12th time on trot

Title holders Belgium also in last-four

Bhubaneswar, Jan 24 (PTI):

Defending champions Belgium and three-time winners Australia booked semifinal spots in the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup after getting the better of Spain and New Zealand in their respective quarterfinal matches here on Tuesday.

While Australia toiled hard for a 4-3 win over Spain in the first quarterfinal, Belgium did not face much problem in their 2-0 win over India's conqueror New Zealand in the second last-eight match of the day at the Kalinga Stadium.

With the win over Spain, Australia made their 12th straight semifinals in the World Cup.

They had lost to the Dutch in the semifinals in a penalty shootout in the last edition here in 2018.



Australian Jeremy Hayward (R) celebrates with teammates after scoring the team's third goal via penalty corner against Spain.

2010 and 2014 editions, Australia have made it to the semifinals of a World Cup on 11 occasions since the 1978 edition in Buenos Aires.

They had lost to the Dutch in the semifinals in a penalty shootout in the last edition here in 2018.

Winners of the 1986,

Belgium suffered a jolt just before their quarterfinal match, as their star penalty corner expert Alexander Hendrickx was ruled out of the remainder of the tournament after he twisted his knee in their final Pool B match against Japan on January

20. Belgium now wait the winner of Wednesday's quarterfinal between England and Germany in the semifinals, while title contenders Australia will face the winner of the other last-eight match between the Netherlands and South Korea.

Mbappe scores 5 goals for PSG in French Cup win

Paris Jan 24 (AP):

Kylian Mbappe scored five goals, including a 12-minute hat-trick in the first half, as Paris Saint-Germain won 7-0 at amateur team Pays de Cassel in the French Cup to set up a round-of-16 match at bitter rival Marseille.

It was his first hat-trick since France's World Cup final defeat to Argentina on Dec. 18. It took Mbappe's tally to 25 goals in 24 games this season and moved him onto 196 overall for PSG -- four short of Edinson Cavani's club record.

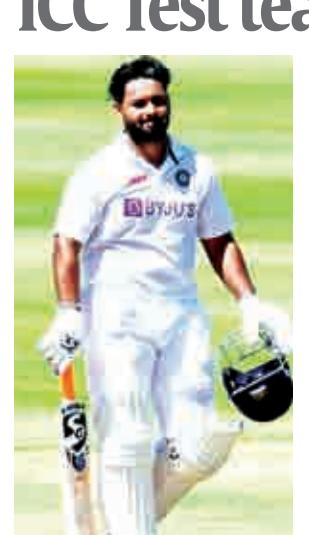
Mbappe became the first PSG player on Monday to score five goals in a competitive match.

"We came here to respect this team by playing at our level. That's what we did and we're very happy," Mbappe said. "It was a great opportunity for them and also for us, because it's a reminder for us that we come from amateur football and



top scorer Mbappe and Neymar in the lineup, although he rested World Cup winner Lionel Messi for the game played at northern France.

it's important to keep this link. Even if it's only for one game." PSG coach Christophe Galtier kept his word and picked a strong side, with the World Cup



Dubai, Jan 24 (PTI):

61.81 and a strike rate of 90.90. He had two centuries and four fifties in the year. He smashed 21 sixes in Tests in 2022 and was decent with the gloves, producing six stumpings and taking 23 catches. England skipper Ben Stokes, who transformed the side with his aggressive brand of cricket, has been named captain of the Test XI that also has his team-mates Jonny Bairstow and James Anderson.

The ICC Test XI features four Aussies including skipper Pat Cummins forming a pace combination with South African ace Kagiso Rabada and Anderson.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam and West Indies skipper Kraigg Brathwaite complete the lineup.

Iyer, Siraj only Indians in ODI Team of 2022. Middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer and young pacer Mohammed Siraj are the only two Indians who found a place in the ICC ODI Team of 2022 captained by Pakistan's Babar Azam.

Wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, who is recovering from the injuries he sustained in a serious car crash two days before the new year, is the only Indian to be picked in the ICC Men's Test team of 2022.

The 25-year-old had a glorious year with the bat, amassing 680 runs from 12 innings at an average of 56.67. He also took 10 wickets at an average of 25.00 and a best of 5-102.

Top order batsmen Virat Kohli (1000 runs at 50.00), Rohit Sharma (950 runs at 47.50), and Shikhar Dhawan (750 runs at 37.50) also made the cut.

Indian spinners Ravindra Jadeja (450 runs at 25.00), Ravichandran Ashwin (400 runs at 20.00), and Axar Patel (350 runs at 17.50) also made the cut.

Indian bowlers Umesh Yadav (25 wickets at 20.00), Jasprit Bumrah (25 wickets at 20.00), and Mohammed Shami (25 wickets at 20.00) also made the cut.

Indian wicket-keepers Wriddhiman Saha (25 wickets at 20.00) and Rishabh Pant (25 wickets at 20.00) also made the cut.

Indian fielders KL Rahul (25 wickets at 20.00) and Suresh Raina (25 wickets at 20.00) also made the cut.

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Indian wicket-keepers Wriddhiman Saha (25 wickets at 20



Election Commission of India
wishes all Voters on the occasion of

13th NATIONAL VOTERS' DAY

25th January, 2023



Theme :

**Nothing like Voting,
I Vote for sure**



Chief Guest

Smt. Droupadi Murmu

Hon'ble President of India

Guest of Honour

Shri Kiren Rijiju

Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice

Highlights of the Event

Awards
Best Electoral Practices

Distribution
EPIC to First Time Voters

Release of ECI Song
Main Bharat hoon, hum Bharat ke Matadata hain
Presenting to the Hon'ble President of India
'Elected the First Citizen- An Illustrated Chronicle of India's Presidential Elections'

Technology enabling Free and Fair Electoral Process



Voter Helpline App



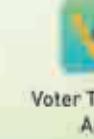
Saksham ECI App



Know Your Candidate App



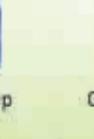
C-Vigil App



Voter Turnout App



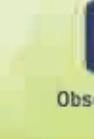
Booth App



Garuda App



Encore



Observer App



EVM Management System



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1950 Voter Helpine

BBC documentary on 2002 Gujarat riots screened

In several parts of Kerala

'A K Antony's son opposes controversial documentary'

The BJP on Tuesday received support from unexpected quarters over the BBC documentary on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with senior Congress leader and former Kerala Chief Minister A K Antony's son Anil saying that placing the views of the British broadcaster over Indian institutions would "undermine" the country's sovereignty. Anil

Antony had handled the digital communications of the grand old party's Kerala unit till recently. His remarks come at a time when various wings of the state Congress have announced that the screening of the controversial documentary on the 2002 Gujarat riots, when Modi was that state's chief minister, will be done in the state.

remove the protestors and prevent any conflict. More screenings are expected to take place in some colleges in Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram later Tuesday, a senior police officer said. DYFI, the youth wing of the ruling CPI(M) in Kerala, said it

will screen the documentary not just in the southern state, but across India.

It has to be shown to the public irrespective of the attempts by the Union government to hide it, V K Sanoj, state secretary of the DYFI told reporters.

He said there was nothing "anti-national" about screening the documentary as it has not been banned. DYFI has no interest in creating any atmosphere of conflict in the state or the country, Sanoj added. Meanwhile, former chief minister Antony's son Anil, in apparent support to BJP in the ongoing political storm in the state, said placing the views of the British broadcaster over Indian institutions would "undermine" the country's sovereignty.



New Secretariat building of Telangana ahead of its inauguration, in Hyderabad, Tuesday.

NEW SECRETARIAT BLDG

Thiruvananthapuram, Jan 24 (PTI): The controversial BBC documentary on 2002 Gujarat riots when Prime Minister Narendra Modi helmed the western state was screened across Kerala on Tuesday by various political organisations including the pro-left Students Federation of India (SFI), as the BJP youth wing went up in arms protesting against the screening. BBC's "India: The Modi Question" was screened in several parts of the state on Tuesday, prompting protest marches by the BJP's Yuva Morcha against the same.

However, support came in for the BJP from unexpected quarters as senior Congress leader and former Kerala CM AK Antony's son, Anil, voiced displeasure against the doc-

umentary. Protest marches were taken out by Yuva Morcha to the Victoria College in Palakkad and Government Law College in Ernakulam where SFI followed through with its announcement to screen the documentary. In both places, police intervened to

hold to ensure there are no lapse of security, they said, adding that checking have been intensified at malls, markets, railway and metro stations and bus terminals.

Around 60,000 to 65,000 people are expected to take part in Republic Day celebrations. This year, entry would be based on QR code given on the pass. No person without a valid pass or ticket would be allowed, Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) Pranav Tayal said.

According to officials, anti-terror measures have been intensified in coordination with other security agencies since Delhi has always been a target for terrorists or anti-social elements. This year, extra pickets have been deployed on bordering areas to ensure no mischievous elements gain entry into the national capital, officials said. Besides the internal meetings of Delhi Police, inter-state coordination meetings are also being

held to ensure there are no lapse of security, they said, adding that checking have been intensified at malls, markets, railway and metro stations and bus terminals.

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Silchar's coaching maintenance depot still going strong at 125 years

Guwahati, Jan 24 (PTI):

Though 125 years have passed, the Coaching Maintenance Depot at Silchar is still used for the maintenance of coaches and rolling stock.

The facility, one of the oldest coaching maintenance depots in the country and the first in the northeastern region, is linked to the beginning of train services during British rule in the region, railway spokesperson

Sabyasachi De said on Tuesday. The depot started functioning in 1898 under Assam-Bengal Railway. Coaching Maintenance Depots are primarily responsible for the maintenance of rolling stock, passenger-carrying vehicles and other types of coaches such as DEMU and EMU.

Currently, this is one of the three coach maintenance depots under the Lumding division of Northeast Frontier

Railway (NFR) and plays an important role in Assam-Mizoram and Assam-Manipur Railway connectivity, he said. The depot has a covered shed of 85m length and 18m width, equipped with upgraded maintenance infrastructure having two maintenance bays and two examination pits, De said. It plays a vital role in the maintenance of all local and long-distance trains operating from Silchar Railway station.

Delhi Police steps up security ahead of R-Day

New Delhi, Jan 24

(PTI):

The Delhi Police have stepped up anti-sabotage checks, verification drives and patrolling in the national capital ahead of Republic Day to thwart any untoward incidents, officials said on Tuesday.

Anti-sabotage checks are being conducted in markets, high footfall areas and other prominent places by the Bomb Disposal Team along

with dog squads, police said. The police are checking hotels and lodges as well as sensitising the staff there to inform police immediately about any suspicious person or activity, they said.

All Assistant Commissioner of Police and Station House Officers have been holding meetings with members of the Residents Welfare Association and Market Welfare Associations and briefing them about security measures in place for

Republic Day, police said. The Delhi Police has also been creating awareness on social media and asking people to alert them about any suspicious person, activity or article, they said.

Tenant and servant verifications are also being done, police said, adding that surprise checks are being conducted at hotels, guest houses and 'dharamshalas', police said. Several districts have also conducted mock drills to check their preparedness for anti-ter-