



BRIEF



Craftsmen make traditional drums and 'dhol's on the outskirts of Jammu, Friday.

Black magic

■ **Dhamtari:** A 25-year-old man has been arrested on the charge of killing his “mentor” believing that it would earn him the ability to perform black magic in the Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh, an official said on Friday. Black magic, which is used for evil purposes, is a punishable offence in the state under the Chhattisgarh Tonahi Pratadna Nivaran Act, 2005 (‘Tonahi’ is another word for witch). Rounak Singh Chhabra, alias Manya Chawla, was taken into custody on Thursday, a day a partially burnt body was found under the limits of the Magarload police station, said the official.

Car crash

■ **Korba:** Two persons of a family were killed and two others injured after their car crashed into a house in Chhattisgarh's Korba district, police said on Friday. The accident occurred when the victims were returning from a wedding at Tiwarta village on Thursday night, said Abhinavkant Singh, the station house officer of Dipka police station said. The driver lost control of the vehicle, which crashed into a house in Dongari village, he said. Dashrath Kanwar, 41, was killed on the spot, while three members of his family were rushed to a hospital, the official said.

Threat mail

■ **Mumbai:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has received an email claiming that a person linked to the Taliban will carry out an “attack” in Mumbai, police said on Friday. The probe agency's Mumbai office received the threat mail on Thursday, following which the city police and the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) were alerted, an official said.

Juveniles detained

■ **New Delhi:** Two juveniles working as field executives for a digital payments company were apprehended for allegedly duping people on the pretext of installing barcodes, police said on Friday. The accused allegedly discreetly activated the victims' e-wallet post-paid accounts and siphoned off money. The victims could detect the cheating only after they received alerts from the company to repay the money, they said. The accused are Class 11 students of a government school and got the job by using the identity of an adult friend.

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MARKET	
NIFTY	17,854.05 ▲
SENSEX	60,841.88 ▲
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GOLD	56,845
SILVER	68,078

Saradha case

ED attaches assets of ‘beneficiaries’, including P Chidambaram’s wife, ex-CPM MLA

**New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):** The ED on Friday said it has attached assets worth more than Rs 6 crore of “beneficiaries” such as Nalini Chidambaram, wife of Congress leader P Chidambaram, former CPM MLA Debendranath Biswas and a company “owned” by former Assam minister, the late Anjan Dutta, in the Saradha money laundering case. A provisional order for attaching movable proper-

ties worth Rs 3.3 crore and immovable assets worth Rs 3 crore has been issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the federal agency said in a statement. These properties were owned by the Saradha Group and other people, who were beneficiaries of “proceeds of crime” generated by the group, it said. The ED said the “beneficiaries” include Nalini Chidambaram, Debabrata

Sarkar (an official of the East Bengal Club), Debendranath Biswas (a former IPS officer and ex-CPM MLA) and Anubhuti Printers and Publications “owned” by Dutta, who was a president of the Congress' Assam unit. Nalini Chidambaram's role in the case was allegedly linked to the payment of a legal fee of Rs 1.26 crore by the Saradha Group for her appearances in court and the Company

Law Board over a television channel purchase deal, the ED had said earlier. Dutta was considered a close confidante of late Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi and he was a minister in his cabinet, handling several departments, including transport. He was appointed APCC (Assam Pradesh Congress Committee) president in December 2014 and he held the post till his death in 2016. The money

laundering case pertains to an alleged chit fund scam perpetrated by the Saradha Group in West Bengal, Assam and Odisha till 2013. The group is alleged to have cheated thousands of depositors, promising abnormally high returns on investments in its illegal schemes. The anti-money laundering agency filed a criminal case in 2013 after studying Kolkata Police FIRs against the group and its promoters.

Congress suspends Patiala MP Preet Kaur



New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

against her from Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Raja Warring and other state leaders that she was helping the BJP in the northern state.

Former Union minister Preet Kaur is the wife of former chief minister Amarinder Singh, who was ousted from the party and he later joined the BJP.

“The Congress president has received a complaint from Amarinder Singh Raja Warring, president of PCC Punjab, alleging that Preet Kaur, MP (Lok Sabha) from Patiala is indulging in anti-party activities to help BJP. Some other senior Congress leaders of Punjab also share this view,” Anwar said in a statement.

SC directs govt to produce original records relating to decision to block BBC documentary

■ On Gujarat riots

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the central government to produce original records relating to its decision to block a BBC documentary on the 2002 Gujarat riots.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and M M Sundresh issued notices to the government and others on pleas filed by veteran journalist N Ram, Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, activist lawyer Prashant Bhushan and lawyer ML Sharma.

Sharma had filed a separate petition and it has now been tagged with similar pleas challenging the government's decision to

block the documentary. The matter is listed for next hearing in April.

“We are issuing notices. Counter affidavit be filed within three weeks. Rejoinder within two weeks after that. The respondents will also produce original records before this court on the next date of hearing,” the bench said. At the outset, the bench asked the petitioners why they did not approach the high court in the matter. Senior advocate CU Singh, appearing for Ram and the others, submitted that the government has invoked the emergency powers under the Information Technology (IT) Rules to block the documentary. He said he was seeking a di-

rection to the Centre to place on record all the original records.

The Supreme Court said it is also a fact that people have been accessing the documentary. It had earlier agreed to hear the plea taking note of the submissions of lawyers Sharma and Singh seeking urgent listing of the petitions against the government's ban on the two-episode BBC series using its emergency powers. One of the petitioners has also alleged that the ban on the documentary ‘India: The Modi question’ was “malafide, arbitrary and unconstitutional”. Reacting strongly after Ram filed his plea, Law Minister Kiren Rijju had tweeted, “This is how they waste the precious

time of Hon'ble Supreme Court where thousands of common citizens are waiting and seeking dates for justice”. Ram and others, in their pleas, have sought a direction to restrain the government from curbing their right to “receive and disseminate information” on the documentary.

“All citizens, including the press, have the fundamental right to view, form an informed opinion, critique, report on, and lawfully circulate the contents of the documentary as the right to freedom of speech and expression incorporates the right to receive and disseminate information...,” the plea said and referred to several apex court orders on freedom of speech and expression.

Jaish module busted

**Srinagar, Feb 03 (PTI):** Security forces on Friday busted a module of the Jaish-e-Mohammad in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district by arresting six overground workers and recovering a huge cache of arms and ammunition, officials said. Acting on specific information on subversive activities in the Mirhama and Damhal Hanji Pora areas, a joint team of police and the army arrested six terror associates, they said. A huge cache of arms and ammunition, including eight magazines and 446 rounds of M4 rifles, a pistol, a pistol magazine and 18 pistol rounds, were recovered on the basis of the disclosures by the accused. Other recoveries include a hand grenade, four UBGL shells, 30 AK rounds, one magazine each of INSAS and AK rifles, two mortar shells, four walkie-talkie sets and a wireless set, the officials added.

‘No proposal to use remote voting machine in ‘upcoming election’ in country’

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

There is no proposal to use the remote electronic voting machine (RVM) in the “upcoming election” in the country and it is also not proposed for the use of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) voters, Lok Sabha was informed on Friday.

Responding to a question in the Lower House of Parliament, Law Minister Kiren Rijju said in a written reply that according to the Election Commission (EC), it has “not proposed to introduce the RVM for the upcoming election in the country”. Several assembly polls are due this year, while the Lok Sabha elections will be held in 2024. The minister said the EC has also informed that the RVM is not proposed for the use of NRI voters. Rijju noted that public sector unit Electronic Corporation of



No proposal to regulate finances of political parties: Govt

**New Delhi:** There is no proposal to regulate the finances of political parties, the government told Lok Sabha on Friday. Responding to a question on “whether the government proposes to regulate the finances of political parties”, Law Minister Kiren Rijju replied in the negative. In his written response, he said from time to time, the government has taken steps to bring electoral reforms to improve the existing electoral practices in the country.

India Limited (ECIL), under the guidance of the EC and the Technical Expert Committee of the poll panel, has developed a prototype of the Multi Constituency Remote Electronic Voting

Machine. The EC, he said, had circulated a concept note to all national and state political parties on improving voter participation of domestic migrants using remote voting.

The note included matters such as defining a ‘migrant voter’, addressing the territorial con-

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Lok Sabha adjourned for day due to Opposition’s protest over Adani issue



**Congress MP Mallikarjun Kharge at Parliament House complex during Budget Session, in New Delhi, Friday.**

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned for the day on Friday as Opposition members raised slogans demanding a discussion and a joint parliamentary committee probe into the fraud-allegation-triggered rout in Adani Group company stocks.

Soon after the House met for the day, Opposition members were on their feet shouting slogans and demanding a probe into the tanking of the

Adani Group scrips and sought a probe into the business practices of the corporate giant.

Speaker Om Birla appealed to members to stop their protests and participate in the discussions.

However, an unrelenting Opposition continued their protests and sloganeering, forcing the speaker to adjourn the proceedings till 2 pm.

After the House met for the second time in the day, opposition members continued with their demand.

HC seeks ASI's stand on Agra Fort event

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court sought the replies of the Centre and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on Friday on an NGO's plea challenging the rejection of permission to organise a cultural programme at the Agra Fort on the occasion of Chhatrapati Shivaji's birth anniversary on February 19. Justice Prathiba Singh issued notices to the authorities on the petition and also asked the counsel for NGO R R Patil Foundation to obtain instructions as regards whether the Maharashtra government is willing to support or sponsor the event.

The issue cropped up as the ASI's counsel said the NGO wants to organise the function inside the Agra Fort, which is not permissible for any private entity, while adding that if the organisation comes with the Maharashtra government, then it can be considered. The court listed the matter for hearing on February 8.

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## 'Mohini' fame Monika & Toshant set to make Hollywood debut

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** The talents of Bhilai have earned name and fame across the globe in various fields. Now for the first time, two young sensational composers and vocalists are all set to make their Hollywood debut after representing Chhattisgarhi music across the globe. Their chartbuster Chhattisgarhi song "Mohini" has broken several records to win many awards after surpassing the popularity of many Bollywood songs on Youtube.

Bhilai based music composers, vocalists and lyricists - Monika Verma and Toshant Kumar are all set to create their mark in Hollywood with highly anticipated and exciting projects. They have signed an American Movie as a Music Director and Singer. Name of the movie is



going to be disclosed soon.

Monika is the first female music composer of Chhattisgarhi cinema. The pair of Monika Verma and Toshant Kumar (Singer Toshant Kumar) is considered to be the biggest hit. Their song "Mohini" has gone viral across the globe and managed to achieve 28th position in the YouTube chart in India as well as 91st position in the world.

It is the first Chhattisgarhi song to have 135 million views, 1.5

million likes and more than 6 lakh Instagram reels in just one year. The popularity of this song can be gauged from the fact that Tanzania's famous creator Kili Paul made a reel on this song.

Monika Verma did her MA from Sarabharatiya Sangeet Parishad, Kolkata. She learnt music from Raja Banerjee. Her schooling was from Mansarovar Vidyalaya and she has completed MCA from BIT, Durg. Toshant Kumar did his

schooling from Devarbija in Bemetara and thereafter completed BE from Shri Shankaracharya Engineering College.

Presently he works as a lecturer in BIT Durg. Born in Bhilai, Toshant Kumar was interested in music from the beginning and later he started with Hindi songs. The duo Toshant Kumar and Monika Verma were awarded Best Singer, Best Music Director, Best Writer and Best Album of the year for the song Mohani. In Chhohollywood, the pair of Monika and Toshant is compared with Bollywood Singer Duo Sachet-Parampara.

Zee Music Chhattisgarhi has released more than 30 songs of the artist duo as a Composer, lyricists and vocalists. Their Hindi songs have been released on Zee Music Company and Venus Entertainment.

## Bethany College of Nursing organises national level workshop

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** Bethany College of Nursing organised a National Workshop, on "Cascading and Conceding: Global Priorities in Leading Health Changes" recently. The workshop was presided over by Fr John Elias OIC Director, Bethany College of Nursing. The chief guest was Dr Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatesalu, Nurse Consultant-Palliative and end of life care, North Middlesex University NHS Trust hospital (UK).

The guest of honour was Dr Susan Raj, Academic Advisor from Pune. Lighting of the lamp, welcoming of the guest was done by Prof Dr Beny Susan Chacko, Principal of Bethany College of Nursing. An insightful address was delivered by the Chief guest Dr Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatesalu, Nurse



while unveiling of the theme was done by Yogita Nagwanshi, Assistant professor, BCN followed by session. Resource persons of the session were Dr Prof Rupa Ashok Verma, Principal MKSSS Sitabai Nargundkar College of Nursing Nagpur, Dr Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatesalu, Nurse

Consultant-Palliative and end of care, North Middlesex University NHS Trust hospital (UK), Dr Susan Raj Academic advisor from Pune, Sandhya Peyush, Associate Professor Community Health Nursing, Bethany College of Nursing, and Moderators were Heena Kaushik, Assistant professor BCN, Jyoti Verma

Clinical Instructor, BCN, Indu Sahu Clinical Instructor, BCN, Suman Yadav, Assistant professor, BCN. After the session paper presentation was done followed by valedictory session and the programme ended with vote of thanks and cultural events. Almost 750 members participated in the National Workshop.

## BSP organises six medical camps under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** CSR Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant organised free health check-up camps in various areas as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. As per the instructions of the Government of India, the purpose of organising the medical camp under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is to provide medical benefits to the last person of a village.

Six medical camps were accordingly organised by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant from January 24, 2023 to January 29, 2023. These medical camps were organised on January 24 at Chhatauna Village of Hirri Mines, on January 25 at Ghughsidih Village, on January 26 at Ahiwara Village of Nandini Mines, on January 27 at Kopedera Village of

Mahamaya Mines, IOC Rajhara, on January 28 in Kamkasur village of Mohla Manpur district of IOC Rajhara and on January 29 in Slum Basti of Raipur Naka.

In the free health check-up camp at village Chhatauna a large number of villagers participated and got their health check-up done. Free medicines were distributed to the patients. DGM Chhatradhari as the CSR head and the members of CSR committee including Partha Chatterjee and Ranjit Singh along with public representatives were present.

Dr Upadhyay, along with his medical staff, patiently listened to the health problems of the villagers, telling them about treatment of their ailments and also distributed medicines free of cost. In Ghughsidih village also a large number of villagers participated in health camp



and got their health check-up done. Free medicines were distributed to the patients. A total of 77 patients got their treatment in this health camp.

In village Ahiwara located near Nandini Mines of BSP a total of 78 patients got their treatment in this health camp. Medicines were distributed

free of cost.

In the camp at Kopedera village near Mahamaya Mines of BSP a total of 131 patients got their treatment. Of these, 31 men, 53 women and 47 children took advantage of this camp. Dr Sarvesh Pradhan, Nurse Asha Maurya, Staff Rachna Yadav, Pharmacist

Phaneshwar Singh Sidar, RHO Ravi Kumar Sahu, Village Sarpanch Lkeshwari Usendi, Additional Labour Welfare Officer Santram Sahu, General Manager cum Agent (Mahamaya and Dulki Mines) Arun Kumar, DGM cum Mines Manager (Mahamaya Mines) Kumar Shivesh and AGM (Mahamaya Mines) Praveen Kumar Rai made important contributions to make this camp successful.

In the free health check-up camp at Kamkasur village of Mohla Manpur district of IOC Rajhara a total of 52 patients got their treatment, out of which 9 men, 26 women and 17 children were benefited. In the health check up camp at Raipur Naka slum Basti, a total of 122 patients got their treatment, out of which 40 were men, 49 women and 33 children.

## St Thomas College conducts Workshop on Art Therapy



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** The PG Department of Psychology St Thomas College, Bhilai under the aegis of Psychometrician organised a workshop on Art Therapy. The programs theme was Art Therapy : Theory and Applications. The session was very engaging where discussion focused on both various theoretical perspectives and practical choices in art therapy. The main idea behind this session was the sharing of academic and Field experience and path to process in Art by the Resource person Neil Chaudhary. Students understood Art

Therapy as Creative expressions that fosters psychological healing. The students learned about the various creative pieces such as Dance, Clay work, Vocal work, Painting and Meditation to develop self awareness, explore emotions and address unresolved emotional conflict. The Clients in the therapy are always looking for truth and truth is different from every client.

Various principles such as Neuroplasticity application in Art therapy was explained. The students learned the process of Diagnosis, Treatment, Prognosis and Documentation in Art Therapy. The Speaker also

explained the Do's and Don'ts in the Therapy.

Principal Dr MG Roymon appreciated the program and said the main learning is through sharing of knowledge and this interactive session targets the concept. Dr Debjani Mukherjee, HOD, spoke on the occasion and motivated the students to gain knowledge of various therapies and wisdom from experienced Speaker. Dr Sumita Singh encouraged the students to learn from the expertise of the Resource Person. Dr Ankita Deshmukh and Tanmaya Pattnaik organised the program and helped in its smooth execution.

## SP Dr Pallava suggests students to read newspapers regularly

■ Annual Day celebrated at Nalanda School

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** Annual Day was celebrated at Nalanda English Medium Higher Secondary School, Kurud. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava was the chief guest of the program. In his address, Dr Pallava said that mobile phones are adversely affecting the studies of children. He suggested the students to stay away from mobile phones and must read the main page and editorial page of the newspaper to increase their knowledge. As far as possible one should learn the art of delivering speech. To eliminate hesitation, one can practice at home or any place.



get a chance to go on stage, but today he is getting an opportunity to address big gatherings. He urged the parents to pay special attention to every activity of the children, especially on mobile. It is very important to control them in time. Negligence can spoil the future of children.

He suggested parents not to buy two-wheelers, especially expensive vehicles for school children. SP further said that chil-

dren should keep learning something or the other all the time and further added that the one who thinks himself to be smarter often lags behind.

KCA Chairman RK David in his address said that parents should pay attention to how much talent their children have. We have to keep an eye on them because there is some specialty in every child. If we ignore, the talent of the children does not come to

the fore. General Secretary S Vincent said that he is one of the founders of the school and spoke about the ups and downs of the institution's journey till date. He said that the school was started in 1978 with only 4 children in Housing Board's house number 3/1.

They tried to develop interest for studies among the children of a labour dominated area. The school has been progressing continuously since then. Vincent said that the Nalanda English Medium Higher Secondary School, Kurud, after its full expansion, has been running the school from Nursery to Class XII since 1978. The School got CBSE affiliation in 2014. Special guest Dr Murli Mohan Murthy, Retired Civil Surgeon Chief Hospital Superintendent of District Hospital Dhamtari, said that

without education any person has no value in the world.

School Vice President Jeebin Rabi said that the dedication with which the children are getting education will improve their future. He thanked the teachers for their remarkable services. School Secretary PS Pramod Kumar wished the children a bright future and urged him to make continuous progress in the field of studies.

KCA Vice President RS Pillai, KCA Treasurer Mathew Varghese, KCA Organizing Secretary TT Sree Kumar, Executive Members - Morgan Pillay, Justin Vincent, MP Ramdas, Saji Varghese, LK Nair, Varghese Ippan, K Santosh, Madhusudan, KM Mathur, George Thomas, Manoj Gangadharan, KCA members, students and parents were present.

## Grand celebration of safety week in Plate Mill

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** A grand celebration of Safety Week was organised at Plate Mill, an important department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant. Executive Director (Works) Anjani Kumar was especially present as the chief guest on the occasion of its closing ceremony held on February 02, 2023 at the main entrance of the Plate Mill.

CGM I/C (Iron) Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/C (M&U) Asit Saha, CGM (MRD) Sushil Kumar, CGM (Plate Mill) RK Bisare, GM (Fire) B Mohapatra, GM (Safety) SK Agarwal and other senior officers were present. All the Departmental Safety Officers of Mill Zone were specially invited on this occasion.

Chief General Manager (Plate Mill) RK Bisare in his welcome address said that ED (Works) Anjani Kumar has always given first priority to safety. We have been getting his guidance from time to time. Today plate mill is determined for safe production. Safety week is a constant reminder to us about safety. Inspire us to act safely.

I heartily welcome all the guests present here. D Shadangi, Dept Safety Officer and General Manager of Plate Mill, in his safety report informed about the various programs organized during the Safety Week.

Chief Guest of the Function, Executive Director (Works) Anjani Kumar said in his inspiring speech that along with the safety week, we have to



adopt safety every day so that none of our personnel gets injured. During work, we have to take care of complete safety. We should not talk on mobile while driving.

Do not make haste while coming or going on duty. Haste is the root of all trouble. Safe production is our first priority. Appreciating the safety

message given in the street play presented, he said that safety should be followed every day, not just during safety week.

The chief guest awarded the winners of various competitions organised during the Safety Week. In this, two personnel each from the operation, mechanical and electrical sections of the plate mill were

awarded the Best Safety Man Award.

Apart from this, the winners of safety harness competition, safety quiz, safety poem, slogan, essay competition, safety suggestion and safety poster competition were also rewarded. It may be noted that the Safety Week was organised in Plate Mill from January 27, 2023 to

February 02, 2023.

In this week, a grand defensive driving training program was organized on January 27, 2023 at Plate Mill Auditorium. The entire mill zone participated in the programme. The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Chief General Manager-in-Charge (Iron) Tapas

Dasgupta.

SK Agarwal, GM (Safety) from Safety Engineering Department highlighted the usefulness of defensive driving training. Speaking on the occasion, RK Bisare, Chief General Manager, Plate Mill, laid special emphasis on the role of safety training in this programme. Chief General Manager-in-Charge (Iron) Tapas Dasgupta highlighted the importance of safety in production.

The Plate Mill fraternity kick started the Plate Mill Safety Week with a massive safety rally. Various competition and creative programs were organised daily during this safety week. Also everyone was impressed by the on-site performance of the fire department.

Along with this, safety harness competition, safety quiz, safety poem, slogan, essay competition, safety suggestion, poster competition etc. were also organised. Under this programme, a film on safety was shown and a workshop on gas safety was also conducted.

In the closing ceremony of this safety week, the importance of safety in the work area was shown very effectively by staging a safety drama, in which the Plate Mill Collective and Personnel Department played an active role.

The program was conducted by GM (Plate Mill) HK Bahurupi and AGM Vivek Ingewar. In the end, the vote of thanks was given by RK Bisare, Chief General Manager (Plate Mill).



# Ramcharitmanas row: CM slams Yogi, Maurya

● Asks all to heed Vinoba Bhav's advice on classics

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Friday said the row over some parts of Tulsidas' epic 'Ramcharitmanas' allegedly being against women and those from backward communities was being created by leaders in Uttar Pradesh as part of vote-bank politics.

The 'Ramcharitmanas' issue was set off in UP by Samajwadi Party leader Swami Prasad Maurya who claimed on January 22 that some portions insult a large section of society on the basis of caste and had sought that they be "banned".

"It (controversy) suited both (UP CM) Yogi



Adityanath and Maurya to garner votes. However, people face the wrath (of such tussles), while essential issues are ignored," Baghel told reporters.

Asserting that "two or four couplets" do not make any difference to such a great epic, Baghel said one must adhere to social reformer Vinoba Bhav's advice that the merits of any religious book or philosophy must be discussed in the present context. He said Bhav advised that the

basic elements (of the book or philosophy) must be discussed and its subtle facts must be accepted after consideration.

"This controversy is wrong, Ramcharitmanas was written 650 years ago by Tulsidas while Valmiki had written it much earlier. There is no need to accept it as it is written in the current situation. You should accept good things from Ramayana and the things you don't like, leave it," the senior Congress leader said. Tulsidas had faced opposition at the time for writing Ramcharitmanas in Hindi but he must be credited for taking the epic to every household, Baghel asserted.

"By creating controversies around such small issues, you are just doing politics of votes," Baghel said without naming anyone.

**Former CS Vivek Dhand appointed as Chairman CSIC**



**Raipur, Feb 03:** Former Chief Secretary and former Chairman of RERA Vivek Dhand has been appointed as the Chairman of 'Chhattisgarh State Innovation Commission' (CSIC) (Chhattisgarh Rajya Navachar Ayog) by the state government. An order to this effect has been issued by the General Administration Department from Mahanadi Bhawan, Nava Raipur here today.

The Commission has been formed with the aim of giving suggestions to the state government from time to time for the effective implementation of administrative innovations and various public welfare schemes to be carried out by the Chhattisgarh government.

# Telghani ROB and Gogaon RUB dedicated to denizens of city

More than 6 lakh city dwellers will get the facility of smooth traffic movement



**Raipur, Feb 03:** The long-awaited demand of the residents of Raipur has been fulfilled today. Minister for PWD and Home Tamradhwaj Sahu inaugurated the 526 meter long Telghani Railway overbridge built at a cost of Rs 35.54 cr near Raipur Railway Station and the 407 meter long and 7.5 meter wide Gogaon Railway bridge constructed at a cost of Rs 15.73 cr in Urkura-Sarona bypass rail line. These two major construction works, on completion, would ensure smooth traffic facility for the people of Raipur city and solve the problem of traffic jam here.

Besides more than 3 lakh common people of the city, Telghani ROB will facilitate smooth traffic to the entire urban area for plat-

forms 6 and 7 of the railway station. Similarly, with the commencement of the Gogaon RUB, a population of more than 3 lakh in this area will be benefited. Mr. Sahu expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on behalf of more than six lakh residents of the city for both these facilities.

On this occasion, Public Works Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu while addressing the local public said that both these bridges were among the priority works of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and the

Chief Minister had also given instructions to complete them as soon as possible.

In his address, Public Works Minister said that today, one corner of the city has been connected with the other. With smooth traffic movement on both sides of the city, trade-business and communication will also improve rapidly. He further told that the movement of heavy vehicles from the old Telghani overbridge has been stopped, now only two wheelers and small four wheelers will be able to pass through this

bridge. This would ensure smooth and safe commute to the people.

Parliamentary Secretary Vikas Upadhyay said that Chhattisgarh government under the leadership of Chief Minister Baghel is running many schemes to put money into people's pockets, significantly improving their purchasing power. People are purchasing vehicles for their convenience, so it is the responsibility of the government to provide good roads for them. Earlier the traffic system of the city was according to the population of 7-8 lakhs, but now the population of city has increased to about 25 lakhs.

To expand the traffic facility as per the requirement of the current population, two new bridges have been inaugurated in the city today. I express my gratitude to the Chief Minister as well as the PWD Minister for providing continuous free movement facility to the people, said Upadhyay.

# NIT Raipur to organise AAVARTAN 22-23

**Raipur, Feb 03:** National Institute of Technology (NIT)

Raipur's Technical Committee is organising Central India's largest technical fest, AAVARTAN '22-23 from Feb 4-5, 2023 in offline mode after a gap of 2 years. The fiesta will serve as an unparalleled platform to unlock the technology acumen of students and cultivate ample growth in the tech lovers across the nation through a wide range of learning opportunities. Dr. Manu Vardhan, Faculty In-

Charge, Technocracy is the key person responsible for such an enormous undertaking.

The technical fest will feature a paraphernalia of technical events, including robotics, electronics, and Science-themed competitions, as well as gaming tournaments, coding challenges, and creative contests. "Vigyaan", a national-level science exhibition will be the cardinal event of the fest enabling a worthy platform to the finest nationwide teams of ingenious minds, filtered through rounds of preced-

ing short-listing, to solve real-time problems with pragmatic approaches. Over 120 teams of scientific-tempered intelligentsia, across the nation had participated in this event. The final selects will be offered grants by the Incubation Cell of NIT Raipur.

Followed by this, events like "Circuitrix", a circuit-building game, "Treasure Hunt", "VR Show", an exploration of Virtual Reality, "Robotrex", the one-of-a-kind robot racing event, Open Mic, "Shipwreck", "Best Out of Waste", "Blind Coding",

"Code Tag", "Speed Cubing", "The Valiant Tournament", "Jenga", "Beg Borrow Steal", "Ecopolis", "The Technomic Quotient 10.0", "The Scavenger Hunt", "Click'O'Vartan", "Animatrix", "Hydrolift", etc., will enhance the overall vibrance and gusto of the fiesta. The two day fest will bring together people from wide cultures across the nation and facilitate a successful conglomeration of technological aspirants, bringing onto the table great innovative ideas and aura.

# Various science activities, mobile exhibition held

● On first two-day of Vikram Sarabhai Space Exhb



**Raipur, Jan 03:** NH Goel World School, under the aegis of ISRO, Ahmedabad, hosted a three day Vikram Sarabhai Space Exhibition between the Feb 2 and 3. The eminent luminaries decorating the exhibition included NJ Bhatt along with his team members

Rachna Patnaik, Paresv Sarvaiya, Dr SP Vyas, Jagdev Thakor, Bhavesh Solanki, Niraj Kuhar, Jitendra Bhai Jadav.

An estimated number of fifteen to twenty thousand stu-

dents including their mentors and parents participated in the exhibition across these three days. The school has also fixed a slot and made arrangements for the children

with special needs. The major attractions of the fair are different kinds of science activities, conversation with the scientists and mobile exhibition. The students will be explaining the process of rocket launch which works on the Newton's Third law of Motion.

It is to be noted that ISRO has been organizing such exhibitions pan India to foster and nurture scientific temperament in students.

# Manish Sharma's family offered heartfelt condolences

**Raipur, Feb 03:** The family of well-known Sarafa businessman Manish Sharma was offered heartfelt condolence close & dear ones and colleagues from the jewellery business of capital city in a 'Shanti Milan' programme held at 'Manas Bhavan', Pujari Park, here on Friday. It is notable here that Manish Sharma left for heavenly abode last on 28 Jan, 2023 at a very young age of 40.

Manish Sharma was a successful Director and businessman of famous Jewellery showroom in city viz. Sun & Sun Jewellers and a person with an attractive personality. It is with his sheer hard work, dedication, farsightedness that he achieved new heights in jewellery business and took the same to new

heights. Living a balanced life and sharing a cordial smile with everyone has been his true identity.

In the jewellery business he carried out novel efforts for transparency and was highly successful in it. He started the percentage system in gold in place of carat and all

liked and hailed his work for the transparency and the only objective behind it was to ensure that people get quality product at right price. He always used to think ahead of others and used to have always unique thinking. It is for this reason that he carved a special identity and a successful businessman in the jewellery field. Manish has been awarded with prestigious awards for his achievements in the jewellery business as well.

# Cong forms panels for party's 85th plenary session

● To be held in Ch'garh from February 24-26

**Raipur/New Delhi, Feb 3 (PTI)** The Congress formed an organising committee on Friday for its three-day 85th plenary session to be held in Chhattisgarh's Raipur from February 24 to 26, with treasurer Pawan Bansal as its chairman and the three party chief ministers as special invitees.

The party also constituted a reception committee headed by Chhattisgarh Congress chief Mohan Markam, with state Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel as its co-chairman. All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary Tariq Anwar has been appointed as the convener of the organising committee.

Top party leaders from across the country will participate in the three-day mega conclave, where all Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates would ratify the

presidentship of Mallikarjun Kharge.

"The Congress president has constituted the organising committee and the reception committee for the 85th plenary session of the Indian National Congress, to be held from 24th to 26th February, 2023, in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, with immediate effect," said a statement issued by AICC general secretary K C Venugopal.

The members of the steering committee have also been included in the organising committee for the three-day mega event, besides Baghel, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his Himachal Pradesh counterpart Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. All ministers and MLAs of the Congress, including TS Singh Deo, Tamradhwaj Sahu, Premraj Singh Tekam and Ravindra Chaubey, have been included in the reception committee for the plenary session. There are a total of 112 members in the reception committee.

# 'Cancer survivors share inspirational messages'

● On World Cancer Day

**Raipur, Feb 03:** February 4 is celebrated as World Cancer Day with the aim of spreading cancer awareness all over the world. A cancer awareness program was organised by Sanjeevani Cancer Care Foundation on this occasion, in which cancer experts shared information about different types of cancer, their symptoms, precautions and treatment. Furthermore, former cancer patients shared their experiences with the aim of spreading awareness and advised people not to be afraid of cancer; but to fight it, seek medical advice on seeing symptoms and get complete treatment. Senior



Cancer Surgeon and the Founder of Sanjeevani Cancer Care Foundation, Dr. Yusuf Memon, Blood Diseases and Blood Cancer Specialist Dr. Vikas Goyal, Senior Cancer Surgeon Dr. Arpan Chaturmohata, Senior Cancer Surgeon Dr. Diwakar Pandey, Chemotherapy Specialist Dr. Aniket Thoke, Medical Oncologist Dr. Rakesh Mishra, Radiotherapy Specialist Dr. Satish Dewangan and Dr. Ramesh Kothari, Nuclear Medicine Specialist. Dr. Abhiram G. and Dr. Himanshu Bansal

spread cancer awareness.

Dr. Yousuf Memon explained that some of the symptoms of breast cancer include lump in the breast, bleeding from the nipple and change in the shape or texture of the nipple or breast. Its treatment depends on the stage of cancer. This may include chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hormone therapy, and surgery.

Dr. Vikas Goyal explained that some of the common symptoms of leukemia are persistent fatigue and weakness, frequent bouts of illness,

weight loss without trying, swollen lymph nodes, bleeding easily from an injury, and symptoms to watch out for are small red spots on the skin. Dr. Arpan Chaturmohata told about the factors of oral cancer that tobacco and its products, alcohol, khaini, gutka, zarda, bidi, cigarette etc. are 80% of the causes of oral cancer. Causes of oral cancer in 10 to 15% of people are papilloma virus, sharp teeth and excessive chili consumption etc. Dr. Aniket Thoke explains about chemotherapy that, it is a therapy in which cancer cells are destroyed in the cancer patients body by using drugs. It usually works by stopping cancer cells from growing, dividing and making more cells.

## विश्व कैंसर दिवस, 2023

के अवसर पर संजीवनी कैंसर केयर फाउंडेशन द्वारा जनहित में जारी

### कैंसर क्या है?

कभी-कभी जब शरीर की कोशिकाएं अनियंत्रित तरीके से बढ़ने लगती हैं तो उसे कैंसर कहा जाता है। नियमित जांच और डॉक्टर परामर्श से कैंसर को शुरुवाती स्टेज में ही डिटेक्ट किया जा सकता है।

#### स्तन कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. नेमन ने बताया की स्तन कैंसर के लक्षणों में स्तन में गांठ, निपल से खुलू बहना और निपल या स्तन के आकार या बनावट में बदलाव आ जाना जैसे कुछ लक्षण शामिल हैं।

डॉ. युसुफ नेमन  
MBBS, MD, FRCR, FRCR, FRCR  
स्तरिय चिकित्सा विशेषज्ञ

#### गुंठ के कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. चतुर्नहाता ने गुंठ के कैंसर के कारकों के बारे में बताया की तंबाकू व उसके उत्पाद, एल्कोहल, खैनी, गुटका, जर्दा, बीड़ी, सिगरेट, पैपिलोमा वायरस, नुकिले टांत एवं अत्यधिक मिर्चों के सेवन होता है।

डॉ. अर्पण चतुर्नहाता  
MS, MCh, FRCR  
स्तरिय चिकित्सा विशेषज्ञ

#### पेट के कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. पांडेय ने पेट के कैंसर के लक्षणों में बताया की अपच, पेट में जलन और पेट फूलना, लगातार कमजोरी, भूख न लगना, वजन कम होना, हीमोग्लोबिन में कमी, पेट में दर्द या बेचैनी, मल में लाल खुलू का घबका या काले रंग का मल आदि आम लक्षण हैं।

डॉ. दिवाकर पांडेय  
MS, MCh, DM, FRCR  
स्तरिय चिकित्सा विशेषज्ञ

#### रेडियेशन थेरेपी

डॉ. देवानग ने रेडियोथेरेपी के बारे में बताया की इसका उपयोग एडवांस्ड स्टेज के कैंसर में लक्षणों को कम करने के लिए, कैंसर के प्रारंभिक उपचार के रूप में, अथवा कैंसर उपचारों के साथ संयोजन में, सर्जरी से पहले ट्यूमर को साइकोड्रॉग के लिए, सर्जरी के बाद किलरी और रिकवरी कोशिकाओं को नष्ट करने के लिए किया जाता है।

डॉ. सतीश देवानग  
MBBS, MD  
रेडियेशन ऑनकोलॉजिस्ट

#### न्यूक्लियर इमेजिंग

डॉ. अजितनग ने बताया कि PET, CT स्कैन, व न्यूक्लियर स्कैन के तरीके के अंदर कैंसर प्रसिद्धियों को पहचाना जा सकता है और ओपी कोशिकाओं के चर्चक स्थिति की सटीक जानकारी प्राप्त की जा सकती है। इससे शरीर में कैंसर कोशिकाओं को सटीकता के साथ हटाया जा सकता है।

डॉ. अजितनग जी ए  
MBBS, MD  
कैंसर, न्यूक्लियर मेडिसिन

### 'क्लोज द केयर गैप'

#### ब्लड कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. गोयल ने बताया की ब्लड कैंसर के कुछ आम लक्षणों में लगातार थकावट और कमजोरी आना, बार-बार बीमारियों से संक्रमित हो जाना, बिना कोशिश किए रक्त का आना, खूनी इर लिंक मोडल, थोड़े रक्तों पर आसानी से खुलू बहना, और आसानी से थोड़े रक्तों पर आसानी से थोड़ा आना जैसे कुछ लक्षणों से सावधान रहना चाहिए।

डॉ. विकास गोयल  
MS, DM (HAEMATOLOGY)  
रक्त रोग विशेषज्ञ

#### किमोथेरेपी

डॉ. ओके जीमोथेरेपी के बारे में बताते हैं कि, यह एक रोगी थेरेपी है जिसमें दवाओं का उपयोग कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट करने के लिए किया जाता है। यह आमतौर पर कैंसर कोशिकाओं को बढ़ने, विभाजित होने और अधिक कोशिकाएं बनाने से रोकने का काम करती है।

डॉ. अनिल ओके  
MD, DM, FRCR  
किमोथेरेपी विशेषज्ञ

#### इम्यूनोथेरेपी

डॉ. मिश्रा ने बताया कि इम्यूनोथेरेपी कैंसर कोशिकाओं से लड़ने के लिए किसी व्यक्ति की प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली के कुछ हिस्सों का उपयोग करता है। यह रोगी कोशिकाओं को बूझ देता है कि वे कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट करें। यह एक रोगी कोशिकाओं को बूझ देता है कि वे कैंसर कोशिकाओं से लड़ने में मदद करता है।

डॉ. राकेश मिश्रा  
MBBS, MD, DM  
किमोथेरेपी विशेषज्ञ

#### रेडियेशन थेरेपी

डॉ. कोहली बताते हैं कि रेडियेशन थेरेपी में हाई डोज के रेडियेशन की सहायता से कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट किया जाता है। कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट किया जाता है। कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट किया जाता है। कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट किया जाता है।

डॉ. रमेश कोहली  
MBBS, MD, DM  
रेडियेशन ऑनकोलॉजिस्ट

#### ल्यूटिथियम थेरेपी

डॉ. बंसल ने बताया की ल्यूटिथियम थेरेपी का उपयोग एडवांस्ड प्रोस्टेट कैंसर के लक्षणों में सुधार करना, ट्यूमर के आकार को कम करना, व उनकी वृद्धि को भी धीमा करना है। यह एक रोगी कोशिकाओं को नष्ट किया जाता है कि वे कैंसर कोशिकाओं से लड़ने में मदद करता है।

डॉ. हिमंशु बंसल  
MBBS, MD  
कैंसर, न्यूक्लियर मेडिसिन

### कैंसर का इलाज कैसे किया जाता है?

सर्जरी, किमोथेरेपी, रेडियोथेरेपी, इम्यूनोथेरेपी, टारगेटेड थेरेपी एवं हार्मोन थेरेपी द्वारा सामान्यतया कैंसर का इलाज किया जाता है। आपके कैंसर के प्रकार और स्टेज के हिसाब से डॉक्टर इलाज के तरीके और मात्रा का चयन करते हैं।

### क्या कैंसर को जड़ से खत्म किया जा सकता है?

“कैंसर के शुरुवाती स्टेज में इसको जड़ से समाप्त करने की ज्यादा संभावनाएं रहती हैं एवं अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों की सहायता से एडवांस्ड स्टेज में भी इसपर काफी काबू पाया जा सकता है।”

# संजीवनी कैंसर केयर फाउंडेशन

संजीवनी कैंसर हॉस्पिटल के सामने, दावड़ा कॉलोनी, पचपेड़ी नाका, रायपुर (छ.ग.) | +91 8269191010



# School Education Minister honour 31 teachers

## Under MGAY Awards distribution ceremony

**Raipur, Feb 03:** According to the announcement made by the Chief Minister, teachers are rewarded every year at the block, district, and divisional levels through the Mukhyamantri Gaurav Alankaran Yojana (MGAY). Minister of School Education, Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam, honoured 31 Raipur division teachers today in the auditorium of the Joint Director School Education office, which is located on the premises of the Board of Secondary Education. Shiksha Doot Samman was awarded to 12 teachers, Gyandeep was awarded to 3 teachers, 03 Shiksha Shree lecturers, 05 excellent principals, and 08 excellent principal readers. This award is granted to instructors who are conducting outstanding work in the field of education by motivating children's study-teaching as well as skill development and responsibility for intellectual, physical, and social duties. While speaking at the



Mukhyamantri Shiksha Gaurav Alankaran ceremony, School Education Minister Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam stated that the Guru has been the guide of the society since time immemorial, and so they have always been deserving of reverence. Every year on September 5th, teachers are honored by celebrating Teacher's Day. This honor is at the state level. Teachers are being honored with Shikshak Doot at the block level, Gyandeep at the district level and Shiksha

Shree Samman at a divisional level under the 'Mukhyamantri Shiksha Gaurav Alankaran' Yojana said that during the pandemic like Corona, Teachers kept the flame of education alive and developed several improvements. Other states followed the improvements made by the state's instructors at the time. According to Minister Dr. Tekam, if teachers serve as role models, everyone emulates their actions. It is also true that every student is influenced

by one or more teachers during his or her academic career. He congratulated all of the instructors who earned the Mukhyamantri Shiksha Gaurav Alankaran Award and asked them to keep up the fine job in the student's interests. Inspire your colleagues to do better work as well. According to Dr. Tekam, instructors must remember their social obligations. Children should always be on the lookout for opportunities for intellectual, moral, and skill growth. He stated that

as the examination date approaches, everyone should begin preparing physically and mentally, with the goal of improving the school's results this year.

Meanwhile, Shiksha Doot awards of Rs 5,000 were given to teachers teaching classes I to V at the block level, and Gyandeep awards of Rs 7,000 were given to teachers teaching classes VI to VIII at district-level pre-secondary schools. Teachers from classes 9th to 12th at the divisional level received citations and a Rs 10,000 honorarium at the Shiksha Shree Award. Along with this, he presented Rs 2,000 to district principals who are performing outstanding work in their schools, and Rs 1,000 to head teachers of primary and pre-secondary schools at the development block level. All of the recognized instructors received certificates, shawls, and shripal.

On this occasion, Joint Director School Education Raipur Division K. Kumar District Education Officer R.L. Thakur was present, along with education department officers and teachers.

# Two students of DPS clinch gold at INSEF



Anushk Singh and Aradhita Arvelli

**Raipur, Feb 03:** It was a proud moment for DPS, Raipur when Anushk Singh studying in class12 & Aradhita Arvelli studying in class 12 won gold in INSEF National Science Fair held at Rajkot on 29th January, 2023. Their project substantiated the need for recycling kitchen waste to create organic fertilizers and pesticides and hence received an overwhelming response.

Anushk, a Biology student was supported by Aradhita, a Humanities student in creating a Bio-fertilizer and a Bio-pesticide out of the leaves of pomegranate which promises to make chemical-free agriculture possible. Apparently, the project won them a gold medal and words of enormous praise from the jury. For such a pragmatic initiative, the students, along with their mentors, worked relentlessly for months which brought them the laurels they deserved. Now the happy news is these chil-

dren get the privilege of representing India for an international stint in the USA in the month of April.

Since DPS, Raipur promotes project based learning, believes in developing an avid interest in science and technology, students have been encouraged to showcase their innovations as per needs of the society through platforms as provided by Science Society of India which organizes INSEF (Indian Science and Engineering Fair) annually to inculcate project based learning at grass root level. It is the world's largest international pre-college science competition which brings students of about 81 coun-

tries, regions and territories together on variegated research categories. Here, the jury consists of Scientists from ISRO, Professors at IIT, Mumbai and Technical Heads of IT industries, which makes this competition even noteworthy and worth trying for.

Blessing the young researchers' efforts, Principal, Mr. Raghunath Mukherjee tweeted, "Not only will Anushk's and Aradhita's efforts keep the school's glories pristine foreverbut will also give them the confidence to exhibit their model in US and win accolades." Agreeing with him, Pro Vice Chairman, Mr. Baldeo Singh Bhatia and senior members, Mr. Vijay Shah and Mr. Pukhraj Jain also complimented the students as 'Stewards of Future' motivating them to be persistent in their conservation aspect, technology, engineering and mathematics to achieve their altitude in life.

# Awareness campaign on Amrit Sarovar entitlement



**Biapur, Feb 03:** This year is being celebrated as the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence all over the country. Entitlement awareness campaign is being celebrated as an activity under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, under Amrit Mahotsav of Independence, in which participation of MNREGA job card holder families, rural public representatives and senior citizens is necessary. On this occasion, construction and renovation of additional Amrit Sarovars in the district Public awareness campaign including wall writing and announcement is being made under Mission Amrit Sarovar under MNREGA.

Assistant Project Officer

Narayan Banjare said to Central Chronicle that 150 new ponds are expected to dig out in the district and digging of 45 ponds work is going on. Out of 150 ponds, 135 ponds will be new ponds whose village, gram panchayat and places have been identified. And deepening of 15 ponds will be carried out. Also Banjare told that in the month of January-February, to create awareness about Mission Amrit Sarovar, wall writing, banners and posters in gram panchayat buildings and making announcements with mike among villagers and common citizens will be held. For said detail special Instructions have been passed by the District Panchayat CEO Ravi Sahu.

# Sports festival concludes in CRGB

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Bank level sports festival was organised by Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank (CRGB) on January 28 at Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University campus, Raipur, in which more than 200 sportspersons selected from all the 10 Regional Offices of the Bank participated enthusiastically in various competitions. The CRGB Sports Festival was inaugurated by the Chairman of the Bank, Mr. I.K. Gohil by releasing balloons giving the message of peace and harmony. On this occasion, Mr. IK Gohil congratulated all the players of the Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank family for participating in all the competitions with full enthusiasm and sporting spirit and winning. Various events like Athletic (Women/Men), B a d m i n t o n (Women/Men), Carrom (Women/Men), Chess (Women/Men) and CRGB Champions Trophy Cricket (Men) were organized in the sports festival. The sports festival was started by the chairman of the bank by first flagging off the athletic



competition. On this occasion, General Manager of the bank Mr. Vijay Agarwal, General Manager Mr. AK Nirala, General Manager Mr. Mittal, Assistant General Manager Mr. Satish Kashyap, Sports Coordinator Mr. DK Dhruv, Regional Managers, Department Heads of Head Office and a large number of officers/employees of the bank were present. The program was concluded by distribution of prizes to the winning players by the Chairman. In this event, a 100 meter race competition was specially organised for players above 50 years of age, the winner of which was Mr. AK Nirala, General Manager of the bank and

the runner up was Mr. Satish Kashyap, Assistant General Manager.

The winners of the main competitions held are Cricket - Bilaspur region, Man of the match - Nandan Kulkarni, Athletic (Women) - Priyanka Sanga, Athletic (Men) - Vivek and Swaraj, Badminton Singles (Women) - Anupama, Badminton Singles (Men) - Viplav Kumar, Badminton Doubles (Women) - Anupama/Twinkle, Badminton Doubles (Men) - Satveer/Nitin, Carrom (Men) - Vinay Sharma, Carrom (Women) - Neha Agarwal, Chess (Women) - Ankita Dubey and Chess (Men) - Vipul.

# More than 50,000 people availed benefits under MMY

## CM Baghel congratulates Mitans on the success of the scheme

## Essential services are now just a call away

**Raipur, Feb 03:** 'Mukhyamantri Mitan Yojana' (MMY) has brought huge relief to the citizens living in urban areas, as they are now getting important government documents at their doorsteps. Under the scheme, so far more than 50,000 citizens have received their necessary public documents at their doorstep. Besides, more than 1 lakh citizens have sought information regarding the scheme on toll-free number 14545. As per the direction of Chief Minister Bhupesh

Baghel, the home access service 'Mukhyamantri Mitan Yojana' was started on May 01, 2022, by the Urban Administration Development Department in all 14 municipal corporations of the state to make public documents available to the citizens at their doorsteps.

Services under the Mitan Yojana include the home delivery of official documents like birth certificates, correction in the birth certificate, death certificates, correction in the death certificate, domicile certificates, marriage registration certificates, income certificates, OBC certificates, SC/ST certificates, shop and establishment registration certificates, land record copy, land notification (land use), Aadhar card registration, address and mobile number correction in Aadhar card for children up to 5 years of age, application for PAN number,

PAN update, and duplicates. This is saving people's time, money, and effort as they no longer have to make rounds of government offices for getting their required certificates.

Application process: For availing the benefit of the scheme, the applicant has to dial the toll-free number 14545. After this, the appointment is booked. Following this, the applicant receives an SMS with the booking details. After this, Mitan reaches the applicant's house on the fixed time and date and collects the necessary documents. He then verifies the documents through the tablet and uploads them on the portal. The verified documents are then sent online to the concerned departments that issue the certificate. The certificate is issued after document verification and is then delivered to the applicant's doorstep by Mitan.

# Jio True 5G service launched in Ambikapur and Dhamtari

## Jio True 5G service started in 8 cities of Ch'garh in just 18 days

## Jio is the only Operator to launch True 5G service in Ch'garh

**Raipur/Mumbai, Feb 02:** Reliance Jio today launched Jio True 5G service in Ambikapur and Dhamtari in Chhattisgarh. With this launch, Reliance Jio has become the first and only operator to launch Jio True 5G service in 8 major cities of Chhattisgarh. Jio True 5G service has been launched in Chhattisgarh's Raipur,

Durg, Bilai, Bilaspur, Korba, Rajnandgaon, Ambikapur and Dhamtari in just 18 days.

From Jan 31 Jio users of Ambikapur and Dhamtari will be invited under 'Jio Welcome Offer to experience 1Gbps+ 5G speed at no extra cost. Jio is the most preferred brand in the state. With the launch of Jio True 5G, customers will get world class, best telecom network in these cities. Commenting on the occasion, Jio Spokesperson said, "We are really excited to launch Jio True 5G services in 34 additional cities, taking the total count to 225 cities. Jio has achieved this milestone in just under 120 days since the Beta Trial launch and is

well on its way to connect the entire nation with the transformational Jio True 5G services by December 2023. We are happy that today we are launching Jio True 5G service in Ambikapur and Dhamtari as well."

With the launch of Jio True 5G in 8 cities, the people of the region will get endless opportunities in manufacturing, tourism, SME, e-governance, education, healthcare, agriculture, automation, artificial intelligence, gaming and IT sectors.

We are grateful to the CM Bhupesh Baghel Ji, the State Government, and CG administration team for their continued support in our quest to digitize the region.

# HNLU to organize essay competition

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur is celebrating twenty years of its completion and in commemoration of this feat, a series of events by the HNLU Pro Bono Club have been planned. As the first event, it is organising an Essay competition

## By HNLU Pro Bono Club

on the theme PROBONO INITIATIVES IN THE COUNTRY AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE.

The competition is open for students, academicians, researchers and professionals with

the last date of registering for the competition being Feb 10, 2023 and for submitting the essays, the last date is Feb 28. The winner of the essay competition will be awarded with a cash prize of Rs. 10000/-, runner up Rs. 7000/- and second runner up Rs. 5000/- with certificates.

# Students share memories during farewell function



**Raipur, Feb 02:** Pension Bada-based Holy Cross Higher Secondary School on Thursday celebrated the Farewell Ceremony for the outgoing students of class XII during which the students Khushi Dixit and Sana Qureshi shared their beautiful memories and relished their moments, days and years at the school. Principal Sr Maria inspired and motivated the students through her influential words and poem. She further showered her love and blessings by giving the students beautiful mementos. Audience was enthralled by lively and exuberant Dance Performances and Medley by students of class XII, informs a press release issued here.

# Daharia meets regional representatives, common people

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Urban Administration, Development and Labor Minister Dr. Shivkumar Daharia on Tuesday met regional representatives and common people from different places of the state at his government residence office in Raipur. During this, people told Minister Dr. Daharia about the development works of their area. People also sub-

mitted applications to the Urban Administration Minister regarding redressal of their various problems. On this, Dr. Daharia assured the people to solve their problems. It is noteworthy that people meet Minister Dr. Daharia every Tuesday on their own initiative and also submit applications regarding their problems.





Sale of secured immovable asset under SARFAESI Act										
<p>Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the Borrowers/Co-Borrowers/Guarantors in particular, that under mentioned properties mortgaged to <b>Magma Housing Finance Ltd</b> has now been renamed as <b>Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd</b> (PHFL) vide Certificate of Incorporation, the possession of which had been taken by PHFL's Authorized Officer under Sec 13(4)/14 of SARFAESI Act. will be sold through e-auction as per terms mentioned below for recovery of PHFL's outstanding dues with applicable interest, charges, and costs etc. The property described below will be sold on "AS IS, WHERE IS, WHATEVER THERE IS AND WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS" under Rule 8 &amp; 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules.</p> <p>For detailed T&amp;Cs of sale, please refer to link provided in PHFL's/Secured Creditor's website i.e. <a href="http://www.poonawallahousing.com">www.poonawallahousing.com</a></p>										
Proposal No. Customer Name (A)	Demand Notice Date and Outstanding Amount (B)	Nature of Possession (C)	Description of Property (D)	Reserve Price (E)	EMD (10% of RP) (F)	EMD Submission date (G)	Incremental Bid (H)	Property Inspection Date & Time (I)	Date and time of Auction (J)	Known encum- brances/ Court cases if any (K)
<b>Loan No.</b> <b>HM/0022/H/16/100034 AND</b> <b>HL/00002/17/100014</b> <b>SATISH RAI (BORROWER)</b> <b>SUSHILA DEVI,</b> <b>RAJKUMAR RAI,</b> <b>(CO-BORROWER)</b>	<b>Notice date: 13/08/2019 and 22/09/2022</b> <b>Rs. 25,29,988/-</b> (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Eight Only) payable as on 05/08/2019 along with interest @ 15.05% p.a. till the realization. <b>Rs. 7,66,834.98</b> (Rupees Seven Lacs Sixty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Four and Ninety Eight Paises Only) payable as on 22/09/2022 along with interest @ 12.80% p.a. till the realization.	Physical	All That Piece And Parcel Of Mortgage Property Of Khasha No. 677/3, Situated At Gondwara, Ne-taji Kanhaiya Lal Ward, Ward No. 08, Khata No. 820 P.C. No. 108/38, Ric-Raipur 1, Tehsil & Dist. Raipur, Pin 492011, Area 1200 Sq.Ft. <b>Boundaries: North:</b> Lands Of Radhe Lal, <b>South:</b> Lands Of Rao, <b>East:</b> Others Land, <b>West:</b> Road.	<b>Rs. 25,89,300/-</b> (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Only)	<b>Rs. 2,58,930/-</b> (Rupees Two Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Only)	<b>23/02/2023</b> <b>Before 5 PM</b>	<b>10,000/-</b>	<b>17/02/2023</b> <b>(11AM – 4PM)</b>	<b>24/02/2023</b> <b>(11 AM- 2PM)</b>	NIL
<p>For details and queries on purchase and sale, contact Mr. Iqbal Alam at +91 9598195453</p> <p>The intending bidders/purchasers are advised to visit PHFL Branch and the auction properties, and make his own enquiry and ascertain additional charges, encumbrances and any third-party interests and satisfy himself/herself in all aspects thereto before submitting the bids. All statutory dues like property taxes, electricity/water dues and any other dues, if any, attached to the property to be ascertained and paid by the successful bidder.</p> <p>The interested bidders are required to register themselves with the portal and obtain login ID and Password well in advance, which is mandatory for e-bidding, from auction service provider/ <b>C1 India PVT LTD. Address- Plot No-68 3rd floor Gurgaon Haryana-122003, Helpline Number- 7291981124,25.26 Support Email id - <a href="mailto:Support@bankauctions.com">Support@bankauctions.com</a>. Contact Person - Vinod Chauhan, Email id- <a href="mailto:delhi@c1india.com">delhi@c1india.com</a> Contact No- 9813887931</b>. Please note that Prospective bidders may avail online training on e-auctions from them only. The intending purchaser/bidder is required to submit amount of the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of bank of by NEFT/RTGS/DD in the account of "Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd", Bank-ICICI Bank Ltd. Account No-00051000460 and IFSC Code- ICIC0000006, 20, R. N. Mukherjee Road- Kolkata-700011 drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before 23/02/2023 and register their name at <a href="https://www.bankauctions.com">https://www.bankauctions.com</a> and get user ID and password free of cost and get training on e-Auction from the service provider. After their Registration on the website, the intending purchaser/bidder is required to get the copies of the following documents uploaded, e-mail and sent self-attested hard copy to <b>Authorized Officer, Mr. TUSHAR JOSHI, Address- FF11, 4th Floor, Girish Heights, Near LIC Square, Khasha No 101/2, City Survey No. 1870, Sheet No-137/29, Mouza Sitabuldi, Nagpur-440001, Maharashtra. mobile no. +91 9503371360, E-mail ID <a href="mailto:tushar.joshi@poonawallahousing.com">tushar.joshi@poonawallahousing.com</a>.</b></p>										
<p align="right">Authorized Officer Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited (Formerly Known as Magma Housing Finance Ltd)</p>										



## BRIEF



**Relatives react after police arrested people allegedly involved in child marriages, during Assam government's statewide crackdown on child marriages, in Guwahati, Friday.**

## Elephant tramples

**Rishikesh:** A 35-year-old man was trampled to death by an elephant on Friday near a waterfall on the Rishikesh-Neelkanth road, an official said. The elephant also damaged some huts and a few vehicles in the area, SHO Lakhman Jhula police station Vinod Kumar Gosain said. The area where the incident took place falls in the Gohri range of the Rajaji Tiger Reserve. The man's body has been sent to the mortuary of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences here and his identity is yet to ascertained, Gosain said.

## Water scarcity

**Alibag:** The Raigad Zilla Parishad will spend Rs 7.61 crore over the next two to three months to alleviate water scarcity in 1,238 villages, a senior official said on Friday. The figure includes Rs 80 lakh that will be spent to remove sludge from wells to deepen them, Raigad ZP chief executive officer Kiran Patil told reporters. "Water will be supplied through tankers on trucks and bullock carts to 258 villages and 688 wadis, for which a sum of Rs 3.44 crore has been earmarked. We will also spend Rs 1.19 crore to repair 22 items related to water projects here," Patil said.

## Brothers drown

**Jhargram:** Two brothers drowned in a lake in West Bengal's Jhargram district on Friday, police said. The brothers, identified as Soumitra Jana (17) and Subrata Jana (20), went to the Durgahuri Eco Park along with a relative. While Soumitra was supposed to appear in class 10 board exams this year, Subrata was an undergraduate student of first year. Seeing that Soumitra was drowning after getting into the lake, Subrata jumped into the waters to save him, police said. However, both of them drowned. Their relative, who was in another part of the park, soon reached the spot and informed the locals. Later, the bodies of the two brothers were fished out of the lake by police.

## YEIDA territory

**Noida (UP):** The Uttar Pradesh government has added 55 villages from Khurja and Secunderabad tehsil areas in Bulandshahr district to the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) territory, an official said on Friday. The total number of notified villages in the YEIDA has now gone up to 1,242. The authority area has been extended to the Delhi-Howrah railway route, Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) and new Noida.

# 'CPI(M), Congress contesting jointly in Tripura to save their existence'

Agartala, Feb 3 (PTI)

Mocking at the CPI(M) and the Congress for contesting the Tripura Assembly elections jointly, BJP national president J P Nadda on Friday claimed that they have come together not for the state's development but to save their existence.

For the first time in the northeastern state, the CPI(M)-led Left Front, which ran the government in Tripura for 25 years till 2018, and the Congress entered into a seat-sharing deal to contest the poll for the 60-member assembly.

The CPI(M) will contest in 43 seats while Left Front constituents Forward Block, RSP and CPI will fight in one constituency each. While the Congress will contest in 13 seats, the Left Front is supporting



**BJP National President J.P. Nadda addresses during a 'Vijay Sankalpa Janasabha' rally ahead of Tripura Legislative Assembly elections, at PWD ground in Kumarghat, Friday.**

an independent candidate in the Ramnagar constituency.

"Our opponents came together not for the development of the country or the state but to save their existence. Two separate entities have now become one," Nadda said while addressing an election rally

at Amarpur in Gomati district.

He said the BJP-led government has done tremendous work for the overall development and improving law and order in the past five years.

The northeastern state used to witness insurgency, violence and road

blockades before the 2018 Assembly elections, but the double engine' government ensured peace after signing an agreement with the outlawed insurgent group National Liberation Front of Tripura in 2019, he said.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has settled 37,000 Bru refugees by spending Rs 600 crore ending a long fiasco. The BJP wants development to the state's full potential. The Agartala-Akhaura railway project will boost the state's trade and business," he said.

Listing the welfare schemes of the government, the BJP president claimed that the saffron party has changed the face and fortune of the northeastern state, which is marching towards an all-round development.

## AJSU Party announces Sunita Choudhary as its candidate for Ramgarh bypoll

Ranchi, Feb 3 (PTI)

The AJSU Party on Friday announced Sunita Choudhary as its candidate for the by-election to the Ramgarh assembly seat in Jharkhand.

AJSU Party spokesperson Dev Sharan Bhagat it was fighting the election in alliance with the BJP.

"Choudhary will file her nomination on Saturday in presence of NDA leaders," he said. However, state BJP president Deepak Prakash told PTI that he was waiting for the central leadership's decision on the candidate name for the Ramgarh seat.

By-election to the seat, which fell vacant after the disqualification of Congress legislator Mamta Devi, will be held on February 27 and

the votes will be counted on March 2.

The nomination process started on February 1 and will conclude on February 7.

Congress's Mamta Devi defeated AJSU's Sunita Choudhary with a margin of 28,718 votes in the 2019 assembly elections. BJP and AJSU contested the 2019 assembly elections separately.

Balram Mahto, the husband of Mamta Devi, is the frontrunner to be the Congress candidate in the seat.

"We will announce the name of the candidate in a day or two," state Congress president Rajesh Thakur told PTI.

In December, a special MP/MLA court in Hazaribag sentenced Mamta Devi and 12 others to jail for five years in a case of violence registered in 2016.

Bhubaneswar, Feb 3 (PTI)

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Friday demanded re-introduction of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) for the poor and farmers.

BJD vice-president and lawmaker Debi Prasad Mishra, told a press conference that it was good that PMGKAY was started to provide additional 5 kg of free rice per person apart from the 5 kg rice of National Food Security Act per person to counter adverse of impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

"However, the Centre stopped the programme. It will affect the household food security of the poor as well as farmers ... We appeal to the Centre to restart the PMGKAY programme in the interest of the poor and the farmers," Mishra said.

The recent budget saw a reduction in food subsidy

by about Rs 71,000 crore as compared to the amount spent by the Centre in 2021-22. This is primarily due to the stopping of PMGKAY, which will affect the poor and their chances of returning to normal conditions after the pandemic.

The Centre stopped the programme even as the situation post COVID is yet to return to normal and has affected the livelihood of the poor, who have lost their savings in the pandemic. Farmers will also be affected, he said.

The budget this year has also seen a reduction of about Rs 20,000 crore as compared to the amount spent by the Centre in 2021-22 in the procurement of food grains.

"This too is due to the stopping of PMGKAY and therefore reduction in procurement from farmers. This reduction will impact them. As the food procurement allocation is re-

duced, the farmers will also be deprived of getting their minimum support price (MSP) for sale of food grains," Mishra said.

He hoped that the BJP MPs in the state will take up the matter with its central leadership and stress on the need for restarting PMGKAY in the larger interests of the household food security of the poor and the sale of food grains by farmers.

Before stopping the PMGKAY programme the Centre should have either provided an alternate programme or taken care of the financial adverse impact it could cause to the poor, said the leader of BJD, which helms the government in Odisha.

"In this case neither was done. We appeal to the Centre to rethink on these lines and restart the PMGKAY programme in the interests of the poor and the farmers", Mishra added.

## ATTENTION RALLY



**Rajasthan Ministerial Employees Federation members during their Pre-Budget attention rally against the state government, in Jaipur, Friday.**

## Kejriwal questioning ED charge sheet in Delhi excise scam proves his involvement in corruption: BJP

New Delhi, Feb 3 (PTI)

The BJP on Friday attacked Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for questioning the Enforcement Directorate's supplementary charge sheet in the excise scam case and said it proved that he was involved in corruption.

The court on Thursday took cognisance of the supplementary charge sheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) against five individuals and seven companies in connection with alleged irregularities in the Delhi excise policy, which was withdrawn last year by the AAP government after a CBI probe was recommended into alleged corruption in its implementation. Addressing a press conference here, senior BJP leader Meenakshi Lekhi asserted that the ED is a body which is meant to protect the country from corrupt practices. "Anyone trying to question the ED is trying to question the apex court.

The judiciary has upheld that ED's job is to mitigate corruption in the country. The way the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is questioning the ED, it is becoming clear that Arvind Kejriwal is with those who increase corruption. Kejriwal does not want corruption to end from the country," she alleged. She alleged that the ED charge sheet makes it clear that the "AAP has an alliance with unregulated businesses".

"ED has proved through investigation that the AAP was indulging in corruption under the guise of liquor policy. Along with this, the agency also revealed that Kejriwal and his deputy Manish Sisodia were also involved in this," she said. A part of the alleged Rs 100 crore "kickbacks" generated in the scrapped Delhi excise policy was used in the AAP campaign in the 2022 Goa assembly election, the ED claimed in its second charge sheet in the case in which Sisodia is an accused.

## Woman refuses freebies from Meghalaya poll candidates, returns them

Shillong, Feb 3 (PTI)

An elderly woman in Meghalaya, where Assembly poll will be held later this month, has allegedly refused to accept freebies from contestants in East Khasi Hills district and has returned the 'gifts' given to her family.

Purity Phawa, president of the women's organisation in her locality, reportedly even told candidates' agents in person that she wants to elect legislators and not distributors. Election to all the 60 seats in the state Assembly will be held on February 27 and counting will be held on March 2. Phawa's family, which

resides at Lumdiengiri in West Shillong constituency, had reportedly received freebies from the agents of ruling National People's Party candidate Mohindro Rapsang and United Democratic Party (UDP) contest Paul Lyngdoh on January 28 and 30 respectively.

"I was not at home when the freebies arrived. When I returned, my daughter told me that the candidates had sent us a pressure cooker and two sets of imported bowls on January 28 and 30," Phawa told PTI on Friday.

"I called up the agents who had delivered the freebies and they confirmed that the candidates had sent the gifts. The UDP candidate sent a calendar too," she said. Phawa claimed that she returned the freebies on Thursday and asked the candidates not to distribute them if they want to become legislators. "Or else they can choose to become distributors," was her pithy rejoinder.

Phawa also claimed that she would meet the district election officers on Friday to formally inform them of the 'freebies' being distributed by the candidates in her constituency, Rapsang, a first time MLA of the opposition Congress who switched over to the ruling NPP of Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma recently, has been reportedly distributing pressure cookers to the voters publicly in the run up to the elections.

He vehemently denied giving any freebies and insisted that the pressure cookers are from his MLA funds.

Paul is a sitting member of the tribal council and a former MLA who lost to Rapsang in 2018. When asked about the alleged freebies being distributed by their agents, both expressed ignorance. They said the model code of conduct is in place and there is no way the candidates could do so.

## RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



**Devotees take part in a religious procession ahead of Ravidas Jayanti, in Jammu, Friday.**

## Liquor, fuel to cost more in Kerala

### Vehicle tax, land fair price value to go up

**Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 3 (PTI)** Petrol, diesel and liquor are to cost more and motor vehicle tax and fair price value of land to go up in Kerala as the state government acted tough to mobilise additional revenue to carry forward their social security schemes and development programmes in the budget presented here on Friday.

Despite wide expectations, the social security pension received no hike but Finance Minister K N Balagopal, while presenting the budget for the fiscal 2023-24, assured that the financial constraints

would not impact the welfare schemes of the Left government.

The Health and Education sectors were allotted Rs 2,828.33 crore and Rs 1,773.09 crore respectively. The FM said it is proposed to levy a Social Security Cess on Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and on the sale of petrol and diesel as the commitment to continue protecting the decent lives to vulnerable sections of society require supplementing the financial resources.

"It is proposed to levy a Social Security Cess at the rate of Rs 20 for each bottle of IMFL having MRP between Rs 500 and Rs 999 and at the rate of Rs 40 per

bottle of IMFL having MRP above Rs 1,000," Balagopal explained.

Another impetus measure towards the Social Security Seed Fund is proposed to be brought by bringing the Social Security Cess on sale of petrol and diesel at the rate of Rs two per litre, he added.

"This is expected to bring in additional revenue of Rs 750 crore to the Social Security Seed Fund," he said.

The existing fair value of land would be increased by 20 per cent to bridge the gap between market value and fair value, the FM said. The one-time tax on

newly purchased motorcycles having purchase value up to Rs 2 lakh is enhanced by 2 per cent, he said adding that an additional income of Rs 92 crore is expected through this. However, a one-time tax on electric motor cabs and electric tourist motor cabs reduced to 5 percent of the purchase value to minimise air pollution and to promote public transport, the minister added.

Balogopal, in his budget, allocated Rs 100 crore for welfare programmes and set aside Rs 2,000 crore for tackling price rise, besides announcing a slew of initiatives for the infrastructure and higher education sector.

## Nine booked in recruitment exam paper leak case

Dehradun, Feb 3 (PTI)

Nine people were booked on Friday for their alleged involvement in the leak of examination papers for recruitment to posts of assistant and junior engineers by the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission.

The FIRs were lodged against the nine accused after a Special Investigations Team (SIT) looking into the case found their involvement in leaking the exam papers, the Chief Minister's Office said. The FIR has been filed at Haridwar's Kankhal police station

under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act and the Anti-Corruption Act, it added.

In recent months, several paper leak cases have been unearthed in Uttarakhand.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said, "Our government is committed to reform the entire system. Those found involved in irregularities in recruitment examinations will not be spared.

"An SIT investigation was immediately ordered into complaints of paper leak of the examinations

held for the recruitment of AEs/JEs (assistant engineers and junior engineers). The guilty have been booked. It will be ensured that stern action is taken against them."

People involved in irregularities in recruitment examinations have been sent to jail earlier as well, he added. Dhami also pointed out that arrangements are being made to ensure that recruitment examinations are held in a transparent manner. "No injustice against the youth of the state will be permitted. We will soon have the country's biggest anti-copying law," Dhami said.



# Chinese spy balloon spotted over US airspace

● Beijing says it is mainly used for 'meteorological purposes'

Washington/Beijing, Feb 03 (PTI):

A suspected Chinese spy balloon, said to be the size of three buses, was spotted over the United States' airspace, the Pentagon has said, a development that is likely to further strain the already tense bilateral ties ahead of Secretary of State Antony Blinken's key visit to Beijing.

Pentagon spokesman Brig. Gen. Patrick Ryder said the US government has been tracking the balloon for several days as it made its way over the northern United States and flying over sensitive installations.

He told reporters on Thursday that the balloon was "travelling at an altitude well above commercial air traffic and does not present a military or physical threat to people on the ground."

"NORAD (North



American Aerospace Defense Command) continues to track and monitor it closely," he said, adding the balloon was spotted over Montana on Thursday and is "said to be the size of three buses".

Montana, a sparsely populated state, is home to one of only three nuclear missile silo fields in the US, at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

"Once the balloon was detected, the US government acted immediately to protect against the collection of sensitive information," Ryder said.

Reacting to the Pentagon's report, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson confirmed that the balloon was a Chinese "civilian airship" which had deviated from its planned route.

"The airship is from China. It is a civilian airship used for research, mainly meteorological, purposes," the spokesperson said in a statement posted on the Chinese foreign ministry's website.

"Affected by the Westerlies and with limited self-steering capability, the airship deviated far from its planned course.

## Blinken postpones China trip following balloon discovery

Beijing: Secretary of State Antony Blinken has postponed a planned high-stakes weekend diplomatic trip to China as the Biden administration weighs a broader response to the discovery of a high-altitude Chinese balloon flying over sensitive sites in the western United States, a U.S. official said Friday. The abrupt decision comes despite China's claim that the balloon was a

weather research satellite that had blown off course. The U.S. has described it as a surveillance satellite. The decision came just hours before Blinken had been due to depart Washington for Beijing and marked a new blow to already strained U.S.-Chinese relations. Officials said Blinken and President Joe Biden determined it was best not to proceed with the trip at this time.

The Chinese side regrets the unintended entry of the airship into US airspace due to force majeure," the statement said.

Earlier, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told reporters in Beijing on Friday that China was verifying the Pentagon's report on the balloon. She urged calm "until the facts are clear."

"China is a responsible country and always

abides strictly by international law. We have no intention of violating the territory or airspace of any sovereign country," she said.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Ryder said the balloon is travelling at an altitude well above commercial air traffic and does not present a military or physical threat to people on the ground.

## VIP'S GREETES PEOPLE



Former President Bill Clinton, Vice President Kamala Harris and President Joe Biden greets people after an event in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

## IMF giving 'tough time' during talks for loan restoration: Pak PM

Islamabad, Feb 03 (PTI):

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was giving a "tough time" to the government during talks for the restoration of the loan.

The IMF mission led by Nathan Porter began talks on January 31 with the Pakistan side headed by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar for the ninth review of the USD 7 billion assistance package.

The prime minister made his remarks while addressing an Apex Committee meeting in Peshawar. The committee is the highest provincial body to deal with militancy.

While talking about the security situation, Sharif highlighted the economic challenges faced by the country and said that the "situation is in front of the entire nation".

"As I speak, the IMF delegation is in Islamabad and they are giving Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and his team a tough time," he said.

The economic challenge at this point was unimaginable, Sharif said, adding that the IMF conditions that the country has to meet are "be-



yond imagination", but it is mandatory to fulfil the demands of the fund.

He didn't provide details about the talks with the IMF team that coincide with Pakistan's reserves falling to a critically low level of USD 3.09 billion as of January 27 just enough to cover only 18 days' worth of imports.

Pakistan's central bank said on Friday that its foreign exchange reserves have dropped by 16.1 per cent to USD 3.09 billion at the end of the last fiscal week, the lowest in nearly 10 years.

The IMF after a success-

ful ninth review would provide over USD 1.1 billion and the gesture would open venues for bilateral loans from different friendly countries and multilateral institutions.

Meanwhile, the Dawn newspaper, quoting sources, reported that the IMF mission chief demanded clear action to bridge the daunting fiscal gap between 2 to 2.5 trillion rupees.

"You don't have any other option" was the critical message, as members of the mission engaged with the finance and power ministries led by Ishaq Dar and Khurram Dastgir Khan, respectively, sources close to the meetings told the newspaper.

The two sides are expected to complete the technical-level talks in the first round, which will conclude by the end of the day, followed by the policy-level negotiations to complete by February 9.

## Don't blame others for your own failures: Taliban to Pak on Peshawar blast

Taliban, Feb 03:

The Taliban slammed the Pakistan government for blaming Afghanistan for the Peshawar mosque blast. The Taliban's Acting Foreign Minister Amir Muttaqi called on Pakistan to investigate the Peshawar attack rather than blame neighbouring Afghanistan for terror carnage. "Don't blame others for your own failures," said the Taliban.

On January 30, 2023, a suicide bombing at a mosque in the Peshawar Police Lines area claimed the lives of at least 101 people, mostly police officials.

"If Afghanistan was the centre of terrorism, it would have gone into China, Central Asia and

Iran," he said.

Muttaqi said that Pakistani officials should find a solution to their security challenges locally and desist from "sowing the seeds of enmity" between the two countries. Pakistani authorities were quick to blame the outlawed Pakistani Taliban, also called as Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, for what they said was a suicide bomb attack and suggested the violence emanated from Afghanistan.

Muttaqi echoed suspicions and questions being raised by critics in Pakistan in the wake of the large-scale destruction caused by the blast and said, "Our region is used to wars and bomb blasts. But we have not seen in

the past 20 years a lone suicide bomber blowing up roofs of mosques and killing hundreds of people." The TTP, designated a global terrorist group by the United States, has long been conducting deadly terrorist attacks in Pakistan and its leadership allegedly directs the violence from Afghan sanctuaries. But the Pakistani Taliban has formally denied involvement in the Peshawar mosque bombing, reported VOA.

Moazzam Jah Ansari, the provincial police chief, told reporters Tuesday that a suicide bomber had entered the mosque as a guest, using up to 12 kilograms of explosive material earlier brought to the site in bits and pieces.

## Very bullish on India: Apple CEO Tim Cook



New York, Feb 03 (PTI):

Apple CEO Tim Cook has said he is "very bullish on India" and described the country as a major focus and "hugely exciting market" where the technology giant is putting a "significant amount of energy" through investments, retail and online presence.

Apple on Thursday reported revenue of USD 117.2 billion for the December quarter and set "all-time revenue" records in a number of markets, including Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Spain, Turkey and Vietnam, along with

quarterly records in Brazil and India.

The USD 117.2 billion revenue was down 5 per cent year-over-year, from nearly USD 124 billion in December 2021 "as a result of a challenging environment."

"We actually did fairly well through COVID in India. And I'm even more bullish now on the other side of it, or hopefully, on the other side of it. And that's the reason why we're investing there. We're bringing retail there and bringing the online store there and putting a significant amount of energy there. I'm very bullish on India," Cook said at an earnings call after Apple reported financial results for its fiscal 2023 first quarter ended December 31, 2022.

**Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (DBT-InStem)**  
(An autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, MoST, Government of India)  
GKVK Post, Bellary Road, Bangalore-560 065.  
Ph.: 080-236666385 Fax: 080-23698662 www.instem.res.in

### Advertisement No. inStem/02/2023

Online Applications are invited from suitable candidates at the Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (DBT-InStem) on Direct Recruitment failing which by Deputation/Absorption basis for the following Scientific cadre position with all admissible allowances as applicable to Central Government employees posted at Bangalore.

Sl.	Post Code	Name of the Post	Level in Pay Matrix (as per 7th CPC)	No. of posts	Category
1	03/2023	Fellow-E/Scientist-D (Head Stem Cell Facility)	L-12	01 (One)	Unreserved

Please visit <https://www.instem.res.in/jobportal/> for complete advertisement, method of applying, other terms and any subsequent revisions/corrigendum. Last date for receipt of online application is 28.02.2023

-Sd/-  
Director

CBC-36304/12/0025/2223

**छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग**  
नार्थ ब्लॉक, सेक्टर-19, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)  
दूरभाष (का.) 0771-2439564, फैक्स: 0771-2331525, 2446556 वेबसाइट: www.psc.cg.gov.in

क्रमांक 4528/76/परीक्षा/2022 रायपुर, दिनांक 02/02/2023

### "व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 के संबंध में दिव्यांगजनों हेतु महत्वपूर्ण सूचना"

आयोग के विज्ञापन क्र. 29/2022/परीक्षा दिनांक 08.12.2022 के तहत व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 को लिखित परीक्षा दिनांक 26 फरवरी 2023 (रविवार) को 03 जिला क्रमशः- बिलासपुर, दुर्ग-भिलाई एवं रायपुर (छ.ग.) के निर्धारित परीक्षा केंद्रों पर आयोजित की जा रही है।

02/ वर्तमान में जारी व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 में दिव्यांगजनों को सह-लेखक की सुविधा दिये जाने/अथवा रखे जाने को अनुमति दिये जाने संबंधी विस्तृत निर्देश उपरोक्त विज्ञापन क्र. 29/2022/परीक्षा दिनांक 08.12.2022 में जारी किये गये हैं। अतः ऐसे सभी दिव्यांग अभ्यर्थी जिनके द्वारा ऑनलाईन आवेदन पत्र में स्वयं द्वारा सहलेखक की व्यवस्था करने का विकल्प का चयन किया गया है वे अभ्यर्थी सहलेखक के साथ सहलेखक रखे जाने को अनुमति लेने के संबंध में अथवा जिन्होंने जिला/संभाग कार्यालय से सहलेखक उपलब्ध कराने का विकल्प लिया है, वे सभी विज्ञापन में उल्लेखित समस्त प्रमाण पत्रों के साथ परीक्षा तिथि के 7 दिवस पूर्व संबंधित जिला कलेक्टर कार्यालय से अनिवार्यतः संपर्क करें।

3/ अभ्यर्थी एवं उनके सहलेखक द्वारा व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 में केल्यूलेटर का प्रयोग नहीं कर सकेंगे। अभ्यर्थी एवं सहलेखक को अपने साथ डिजिटल डायरी, केल्यूलेटर, सेल्युलर फोन, पेजर और स्मार्ट वॉच लाना पूर्णतः प्रतिबंधित है।

4/ परीक्षा परिसर में एवं भवन के अंदर वीक्षक व केन्द्राध्यक्ष द्वारा दिये जाने वाले निर्देशों का पालन अनिवार्य है। यदि अभ्यर्थी केन्द्राध्यक्ष द्वारा दिये गये निर्देशों का पालन नहीं करता है/अशिष्ट, उद्दण्ड आचरण करता है/अनुचित/अशोभनीय या अश्लील व्यवहार करता है तो वह परीक्षा से निष्कासित किया जा सकेगा एवं उसकी परीक्षा निरस्त की जा सकेगी। इसके अतिरिक्त परीक्षार्थी ऐसे दण्ड का भी भागी होगा, जो आयोग उचित समझे।

सचिव  
छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग,  
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)

G-98200/1

## China confirms offer to Sri Lanka of debt moratorium

Beijing, Feb 03 (AP):

China's government on Friday confirmed it is offering Sri Lanka a two-year moratorium on loan repayments as the Indian Ocean island nation struggles to restructure USD 51 billion in foreign debt that pushed it into a financial crisis.

China lent to Sri Lanka as part of Beijing's multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative to increase trade by building ports and other infrastructure across Asia and Africa.

The International Monetary Fund offered a USD 2.9 billion emergency loan but wants other creditors to cut debts, which Beijing had resisted, possibly for fear other borrow-

ers would want the same relief.

China presented a plan to "provide an extension on debt service due in 2022 and 2023," said a foreign ministry spokeswoman, Mao Ning.

"During that period, Sri Lanka would not have to pay the principal and interest due on bank loans."

China is Sri Lanka's third-biggest creditor after Japan and the Asian Development Bank, accounting for about 10 per cent of its debt. But its lack of agreement blocked a final settlement.

Sri Lanka used Chinese loans to build an airport and other projects that failed to pay for themselves.

India, which China sees

as a strategic rival, announced last month it gave the IMF assurances to facilitate a bailout plan. India has given Sri Lanka USD 4.4 billion in emergency credit.

Sri Lanka ran out of foreign currency last April, leading to food shortages, power cuts and protests that forced a prime minister to resign and a president to flee the country. Debt repayment to China, Japan and other foreign lenders was suspended.

The island's government is cutting spending and says it will cut the size of its 200,000-member military by almost half by 2030.

### SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE FOR MISCELLANEOUS WORK

Tender Notice No. Elect-GSU-R-2022-01, Date: 27.01.2023

**Name of Work:** "TRD works for Capacity augmentation of RVH-RSD line with electrification and coaching fitness of line no. 2." **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,48,19,332.55/-, EMD: ₹ 2,24,100/-, **Submission of Tender:** upto 12.00 Hrs. on 28.02.2023, **Opening of Tender:** upto 12.30 Hrs. on 28.02.2023.

For further details of tender document, eligibility criteria & the complete details for the above work, please contact office of the Senior Division Electrical Engineer (TRD) & Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer (GSU)/SEC Raipur or refer/download tender document which is available on our website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

Sr. Div. Elec. Engineer (TRD) PR/IR/TRD/AN/216 S.E.C.R., Raipur

f South East Central Railway e@secrail

### कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद कवर्धा, जिला-कबीरधाम (छ.ग.)

क्रमांक/1292/न.पा.प./लो.नि.वि./2022-23 कवर्धा, दिनांक 02/02/2023

**मैनूअल पद्धति निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**  
एकीकृत पंचायत प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में निर्माताओं/अधिकृत विक्रेताओं/कर्मों/सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 हेतु मैनूअल पद्धति निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.	कार्य विवरण	अनु. लागत राशि (लाख में)	नि.प्र. प्रत्यक्ष करने हेतु आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि
1	निर्माण सामाग्रीयों प्रदाय	10.00	16.02.2023
2	बॉल राईटिंग/बॉल पेंटिंग/म्यूरल आर्ट्स	10.00	---"
3	टैट एवं टैट से संबंधित सामग्री किराये पर उपलब्ध कराने।	10.00	---"
4	सफाई एवं दवाई सामग्रीयों तथा चूना पूर्ति वावत।	10.00	---"
5	भवन/उद्यानों में विद्युत व्यवस्था, मरम्मत एवं संभारण हेतु सामग्री क्रय।	10.00	---"
6	पेयजल व्यवस्था अंतर्गत मरम्मत एवं संभारण हेतु सामग्री क्रय।	15.00	---"
7	विभिन्न क्षमता के सवर्मासिबल पम्प मरम्मत कार्य	5.00	---"
8	फिल्टर प्लांट व्यवस्था हेतु क्लोरिन गैस सप्लाइ करण।	5.00	---"
9	पेयजल व्यवस्था हेतु विभिन्न एच.पी. का सवर्मासिबल एवं अन्य मोटर पम्प क्रय।	5.00	---"
10	फिल्टर प्लांट व्यवस्था हेतु चूना क्रय।	5.00	---"
11	भवनों में विद्युत व्यवस्था हेतु सामग्री क्रय।	5.00	---"

2- उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य को निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है साथ ही यह जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाइट [www.uad.cg.gov.in](http://www.uad.cg.gov.in) से भी डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

मुख्य नगरपालिका अधिकारी, नगरपालिका परिषद कवर्धा

**विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग**  
**University Grants Commission**  
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार  
(Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)  
बहादुर शाह जफर मार्ग नई दिल्ली-110 002  
Bahadur shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002  
Phone: 011-23604333, 011-23604508

**Adv. No. 22/2023**  
**ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (NAAC), BENGALURU, KARNATAKA**

UGC invites online applications for the post of Director for National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bengaluru in the pay level of Rs. 2,10,000/- (fixed) per month with a special allowance of Rs. 11,250/-p.m. (plus usual allowances as applicable from time to time) which is equivalent to the Vice-Chancellor of a Central University.

The application should be filled online for which the last date is 10-03-2023. Further details are available on the UGC website [www.ugc.ac.in/jobs](http://www.ugc.ac.in/jobs).

CBC-21205/12/0030/2223 Secretary, UGC

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, E/M CIRCLE, RAIPUR (C.G.)

#### e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh from contractors, C.G. P.W.D. in new Registration system (unified Registration system) for the following work:-

NIT.No.	Name of work	Probable amount of Contract	Last date of submission
35/SE E/M/2022-23 (I Call) System Tender No. 118219 Registered contractor class in "D" & above For Form "A" (Percentage Rate Tender)	SITC FOR 2X500KVA/(33KV/0.4KV) TRANSFORMER AT DISTRICT COURT BUILDING (20 COURT & CIVIL COURT) DURG, DISTT - DURG (C.G.)	Rs. 85.51 Lacs	20-02-2023

Note :-

- The tender documents can be downloaded from the web-portal <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>. Only those contractors/bidders, interested in bidding shall pay the tender document cost online.

Superintending Engineer  
P.W.D. E/M Circle Raipur (C.G.)

G-98173/1

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

(CENTRAL TENDER CELL) E-Procurement Tender Notice

Main Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	121465 First Call 23.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF 20 NOS "G" TYPE, 28 NOS "H" TYPE & 30 NOS "I" TYPE (TOTAL 78 NOS) GOVT. RESIDENTIAL BUILDING, I.C. WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY FITTINGS, RAIN WATER HARVESTING & ELECTRIFICATION WORK FOR JUDICIAL STAFF OF DISTRICT COURT AT DISTT. MAHASAMUND, (DN. MAHASAMUND).	857.37
2	121559 First Call 23.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF 01 NOS "B" TYPE, 02 NOS "C" TYPE, 02 NOS "D" TYPE, 03 NOS "E" TYPE & 02 NOS "F" TYPE GOVT. RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS OF DISTRICT COURT MAHASAMUND I.C. WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY FITTINGS, RAIN WATER HARVESTING, HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPING WITH ELECTRIFICATION WORK. (DN. MAHASAMUND).	671.70
3	121561 First Call 23.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF KEWARA MAIN ROAD TO MAHUWAPARA LENGTH 2.00 Km. DISTT. SURAJPUR (C.G.). (Work code -W22421)	229.85
4	121626 First Call 24.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF CHANDI TO SARKHI NEW ROAD, LENGTH 3.25 K.M. I.C. CULVERTS, AT DISTT. RAIPUR. (DN. NO.3, NAWA RAIPUR).	555.25
5	121641 First Call 24.01.2023	Construction of Pali to Butenapara Road Length 2.40 Km.	231.55
6	121677 First Call 25.01.2023	Construction of Junapara to Kathmuda Road Length 2.00 Km.	229.39

Last Date of Tender Downloading For date 15.02.2023. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer  
(Central Tender Cell)  
Office Of Engineer In Chief  
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar

G-98186/2





CENTRAL

# Chronicle

Established 1974 Volume 48 No. 122

## India's dream of techade

India's flight on the technological front has been jetisoned by the 'Make in India' initiative. Not only the focus is on entrepreneurship but the stress is now on innovation. It is very clear to policymakers that unless we are leaders on the technological front, we can never compete with the nations on top. What seemed to be derision eight years ago is fast becoming a reality now. India learnt a hard-earned lesson when turmeric was patented by the USA for its medicinal values, a fact is known to Indians for thousands of years but we were never serious about Intellectual Property Rights and suffered immensely for this. Our illusory vision of the past created anamorphic illusions of all is well and we are doing well. After PM Modi's Make in India pitch things have moved in the right direction frenetically. There has been more than a fifty per cent increase in patent filing in the last seven years, from forty thousand in 2014-15 to sixty-six and four hundred in 2021-22, a five-time increase in the grant of patents from six thousand to thirty thousand. Unambiguously the strides of achievement are visible. Behind the scenes, efforts put into this are not visible as a pragmatic approach and coveted labour have made it possible. This decade is of technology, 'techade', and India dreams to lead it from the front. It has not been one day job but a gradual rise year by year. Indian Institute of Sciences is leading the Indian pack with 145 patents in the last year, a record two patents every five days. The number of private entries for patents has also increased remarkably and domestic patent applicants have surpassed our international patent applications. Subsequently, our ranking in the global innovation index has surged to 40 from below 80 in 2015. All this has been due to the progressive simplification of procedures, electronic delivery of certificates and expedited examination for certain categories of applicants. India ranks now seventh in the world. But there is still a long way to go for India, China alone has more than half the patents in the world with its company Huawei getting almost seven thousand patents and American company Qualcomm with around four thousand patents is ranked second followed by South Korean giants Samsung and LG. Factually total patents filed in India are less than 5 percent of those filed in China and 10 percent of those filed in the US. In India, it takes fifty-eight months to process an application whereas in China it's done in twenty months and in the US in twenty-three months. The real problem lies with the staff aligned for the whole process, China has almost fourteen thousand examiners and controllers, the US has around eight thousand and we have less than a thousand, no comparison at all. A proposal for two thousand more staff for the patent office is under process, once aligned will streamline the process in India to a greater extent. More than one and a half lakh applications are pending, an astonishing figure. In addition to this no fixed timeline for opposition to be filed against the patent application, and cumbersome compliance requirements which are not required at all, adding up to the delays. India has an art of circumventing the odd situations, swimming against the tide is our forte and with the kind of personal interest, guidance and encouragement shown by our PM, the golden days of India are not far away. A bit of more autonomy to the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks by providing more financial and staffing flexibility can produce extraordinary results. India's increasing scientific capabilities have already made an impact on the world scenario, we are at par with the US in space missions, one of the few with nuclear technology, in an elite club of the IT sector; as such, the day of leading 'techade' is not far away now.

## Perils of Nitrogen pollution

Vijaykumar H.K

Nitrogen is an abundant element in the Earth's atmosphere. It makes the sky blue, forms the foundation of proteins in our bodies and helps make soils rich. Still, redundant nitrogen in the terrain in a reactive form – which comes from the use of synthetic diseases, the discharge of wastewater or the combustion of fossil energies – is a hazard, contaminating land, water and air. It also exacerbates climate change and depletes the ozone subcase, which is eventually recovering. Reports say that nitrogen pollution one of the most important pollution issues facing humanity. World needs to wake up to the issues of nitrogen waste and the openings to take common action for its sustainable use. When the vacuity of nitrogen composites exceeds consumption by shops, redundant nitrogen gets into the terrain, frequently filtering into submarine ecosystems. Formerly there, it can beget a rapid-fire increase of poisonous algae, known as algal blooms, which deplete oxygen in water and can produce littoral dead zones affecting aquatic life. Nitrogen pollution is the most influential global motorist of mortal-made biodiversity decline after niche destruction and the emigration of hothouse feasts. When nitrogen in its active form, similar as in fertiliser, is exposed to soil, microbial responses take place that release nitrous oxide. This gas is 300 times more potent at warming the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. It also remains active in the atmosphere for further than 100 times. Algal blooms in lakes and aqueducts, frequently caused by toxin run-off, also emit hothouse gases. Another issue is agrarian ammonia emigrations. This is a gassy form of nitrogen, which is emitted into the atmosphere from the casing, storehouse and spreading of beast ordure and the spreading of synthetic toxin. While ammonia isn't a hothouse gas, when it's released into the air, it acts as a base for emigrations of nitrous oxide, a potent hothouse gas. Water containing elevated situations of nitrate a form of nitrogen performing from beast waste, factory corruption and fertiliser run-off – raises the threat of babies developing methemoglobinemia, generally appertained to as "blue baby pattern", which can be fatal. High situations of nitrate in drinking water can also increase the threat of cancer in adults. Ammonia emigrations, as well as contributing to climate change, are an important motorist for fine particulate matter pollution, reducing air quality and adding adverse goods on mortal health. According to Reports, nitrogen costs the global frugality between US\$ 400 billion and US\$5 trillion annually when taking into account its impact on mortal health and ecosystems. Experts say that using the element more efficiently in food product is crucial to reducing the fat nitrogen released into the terrain. All Countries should work with scientists and other stakeholders, with the support of the Global Environment Facility, to lower the impact of nitrogen pollution on the earth.

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

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

## AGNIVEER RECRUITMENT RALLY



Agniveer candidates wait to submit their documents for checking ahead of their Army Agniveer Recruitment Rally, at Army Recruiting Office, B.C.Road in Jammu, Friday.

## Sweeping scars under patriotic carpet

KAJAL CHATTERJEE



A much popular veteran Bollywood superstar had tweeted with much pleasure that the "whole country" will go to sleep "peacefully" at night from now (following the attainment of that statistical jugglery named "Century of Centuries" by a certain cricketer "God"). That means the poorest of the poor, dominating the landscape of India, were possessing only one aspiration in life -- "When that elusive 100th ton would come". Now that it has come, we can afford to "enjoy" a "sound sleep" or "sweet dreams" every night. What a naked display of supreme inhuman indifference to the plight of millions of Indians (including children) who have to go to bed (innumerable on pavements, under open sky) with deadly pangs of hunger

in their stomachs night after night.

Or might be in the eyes of class-conscious Indians, the marginalised poor (forming the overwhelming majority in the nation) simply don't exist or just do not matter at all. After all, the country is the "zamindari" of the privileged class only. No wonder why "subsidies" to the poor are so frowned upon; but tax breaks, concessions, free medical/travel facilities for the industrialists, corporate honchos and high salaried class are always welcomed with open arms in the name of "incentives". In this pathetic inhuman perspective, it is natural that the trumpet of "Each and every Indian today stands at the summit of self-confidence" would be blown in regular intervals.

When millions are at their wits' end how to survive the day or procure health care with uncountable children getting brutally exploited in labour market (not to speak of bonded labourers) and adults compelled to leave for civil war-torn Middle East or Africa to toil in slave-like conditions just to escape acute poverty back home; how heartlessly can an image of an exclusive well-fed much-

nourished India being blatantly projected either to sweep the scars of the society under "patriotic" carpet or to simply convey that non-privileged Indians do not matter at all in "national consciousness". Nothing can be more heartless, tragic and ridiculous than such a mindset.

And surely this is the precise reason why despite drastic poverty plaguing millions of common Indians bereft of food attire shelter medicine education livelihood with many of the hapless getting, trafficked and meted to inhuman atrocities; we are relentlessly made to hear that India has become "elite" after attaining Mars Orbit or that India has proved its "might" in international community through performance of mass Yoga. In a similar vein, the privileged set of Indians religiously assert India's "greatness" through lofty flags, gigantic statues, missile technology, Bullet trains or presence of Indians in the top tier of international IT companies; notwithstanding the fact of millions of our own fellow citizens simply gasping for breath in abject pathetic state of affairs and bereft of minimum basic rights security and dignity with innumerable

children getting denied of education.

In this highly insensitive scenario, it is natural that mainstream films to advertisements, media to academia would cater only to the elite privileged middle class only with the margins, nomads and poor migrants simply disappearing in these narratives. No wonder why "patriots" among the well-secured moneyed class get "inspired" to sweep all social ills of the country under the "nationalist" carpet (even the great humanitarian named Satyajit Ray also once got maligned for his "sin" of "selling India's poverty" in international forum) and draw "inspiration" from the world's highest statue, "Grand" temples, and glittering Vistas so as to "mesmerize" the world along with supreme indifference to another noble human being named Kailash Satyarthi as his yeoman's service has exposed the bitter truth of existence of millions of vulnerable child labourers in this "elite" country before the entire world. When will this society turn a bit egalitarian and learn to walk on the path of collective progress with an all-embracing attitude.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Sufferings of the disabled

President Murmu had expressed concerns over the poor prisoners who are languishing in the jails due to non deposit of fine imposed by the courts. "You need to do something for these people. Who are these people in jail? They do not know fundamental rights, the Preamble or fundamental duties," Murmu had said. This example shows how a President of country is having the concerns of poor to poor person. Keeping in view the sensitive attitude of President of country, I being a disability activist had sent the representation on behalf of all disabled who had been denied their legitimate right of full pension as well as full family pension. As per media reports the husband of president was in Bank of India so after taking the charge, I had sent two reminders but no response. So through this letter, I request her to take into consideration the representation sent to her as the disparity exists since the last 26 years and no one take interest of the problems of disabled as the numbers of such persons are very few and can be counted on fingers. I expect that President of country will take note of the sufferings of the disabled.

Yash Pal Ralhan,  
Jalandhar

### Schemes for all

Different sections voted for the BJP leaving behind their traditional thinking. This happened because the government had implemented schemes for everyone, irrespective of religion or caste. The credit can be given to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. These plans became the basis for Modi's return in 2019. Since the government has worked to strengthen these schemes, it may yield results in the next elections. In the Budget-2023, besides helping the salaried class, youth, women and the MSME sector, the Awas Yojana has been strengthened. The government has tried to improve social equations by announcing various schemes for the Dalits, underprivileged, backward and tribal communities. However, unemployment remains a problem.

Sikandar Bansal, Shimla

## How chronic stress impacts behaviour, causes depression found

Chronic stress can impact behaviour, leading to problems like depression, reduced interest in things that previously brought us pleasure, even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), according to a new study conducted in mice. Scientists have evidence that a group of neurons in a bow-shaped portion of the brain, the hypothalamus, become hyperactive after chronic exposure to stress. When these proopiomelanocortin, or POMC, neurons became super active, these sort of behavioral problems resulted and when scientists reduced their activity, the behaviours reduced, the study said.

According to the study, scientists at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG), Augusta University, US, looked in the hypothalamus, key to functions like releasing hormones and regulating hunger, thirst, mood, sex drive and sleep, at a population of POMC neurons in response to 10 days of chronic, unpredictable stress.

Chronic unpredictable stress is widely used to study the impact of stress exposure in animal models, and in this case, that included things like restraint, prolonged wet bedding in a tilted cage and social isolation, the study said.

The scientists found the stressors increased spontaneous firing of these POMC neurons in male and female mice, said corresponding author Xin-Yun Lu. The scientists have reported their findings in the journal Molecular

Psychiatry. When they directly activated the neurons, rather than letting stress increase their firing, it also resulted in the apparent inability to feel pleasure, called anhedonia, and behavioral despair, which is essentially depression, the study said.

In humans, indicators of anhedonia might include no longer interacting with good friends and a loss of libido. In mice, their usual love for sugar water wanes, and male mice, who normally like to sniff the urine of females when they are in heat, lose some of their interest as well, the study said. Conversely, when the MCG scientists inhibited the neurons' firing, it reduced these types of stress-induced behavioral changes in both sexes, the study said.

The results indicate POMC neurons are "both necessary and sufficient" to increase susceptibility to stress, and their increased firing is a driver of resulting behavioral changes like depression. In fact, stress overtly decreased inhibitory inputs onto POMC neurons, said Lu. The POMC neurons are located in the arcuate nucleus, or ARC, of the hypothalamus, already thought to be important to how chronic stress affects behaviour.

Occupying the same region is another population of neurons, called AgRP neurons, which are important for resilience to chronic stress and depression, Lu and

her team reported in Molecular Psychiatry in early 2021, the study said. In the face of chronic stress, Lu and her team reported that AgRP activation goes down as behavioral changes like anhedonia occur, and that when they stimulated those neurons the behaviours diminished.

Her team also wanted to know what chronic stress does to the POMC neurons, the study said. AgRP neurons, better known for their role in us seeking food when we are hungry, are known to have a yin-yang relationship with POMC neurons: When AgRP activation goes up, for example, POMC activation goes down. "If you stimulate AgRP neurons it can trigger immediate, robust feeding," Lu says.

Food deprivation also increases the firing of these neurons. It is also known that when excited by hunger signals, AgRP neurons send direct messages to the POMC neurons to release the brake on feeding. The scientists' studies found that chronic stress disrupts the yin-yang balance between these two neuronal populations.

Although AgRP's projection to POMC neurons is clearly important for their firing activity, the intrinsic mechanism is probably the major mechanism underlying hyperactivity of POMC neurons by chronic stress, Lu said. The research was funded by the National Institutes of Health, US.

## Education Budget 2023-24

Dr. Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

The government's increased emphasis on improving education access in rural India in this year's Union Budget is a commendable development that will increase the population's literacy rate. It is clear that the government's top priorities are upskilling youngsters and promoting digitalization in education. The National Education Policy strongly stressed skill development, adopted economic measures that promote widespread job creation, and promoted business possibilities in order to empower our youth and help the "Amrit Peedhi" achieve their goals. In the Union Budget for 23-24, the education sector received the biggest ever allocation of INR 1.12 lakh crore (\$13.66 billion).

We applaud the announcements and substantial increase in funding for the school education and skill development sectors. It is quite admirable that the finance minister has launched a number of initiatives to close growing educational gaps. In addition to providing children with access to high-quality books, the establishment of a national digital library and other knowledge assets for them (such as new labs) will advance our nation's development. State governments would be urged to establish physical libraries at the ward and panchayat levels as well as to set up the necessary infrastructure for users to access the National Digital Library's resources.

The Budget's emphasis on establishing district training centers for educators would revolutionize both public and private school education throughout India, which is very positive. Overall, in order to cultivate a student talent pool, the budget pushes the academic community to promptly incorporate the most recent technology advancements.



## BRIEF

## Disinvestment target



**New Delhi:** The government is likely to sell a part of its residual stake in Hindustan Zinc Ltd by next month to help it achieve the revised sell-off target of Rs 50,000 crore for the current fiscal, DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said. For the coming fiscal, the government has lined up strategic stake sales in companies like HLL Lifecare, PDIL, Shipping Corporation and BEML to meet the similar disinvestment target set in the 2023-24 Budget. The government currently holds a 29.54 per cent stake in Hindustan Zinc or HZL. In 2002, it sold 26 per cent of HZL to the mining billionaire Anil Agarwal-led group.

## Emission norms

**New Delhi:** Automaker Renault said it has upgraded its entire product range conforming to the upcoming stricter emission norms in the country. The company's entire range, including Kiger, Triber and Kwid, will meet the second phase of BS VI emission norms which will kick-in from April 1 this year. With the implementation of the second phase of BS VI norms, all company cars will be equipped with a self-diagnostic device, the automaker said. The device will constantly monitor the vehicle's emission levels while driving, along with other critical emission devices such as the catalytic converter and oxygen sensors, it added.

## Self-reliance



**Bengaluru:** The co-founder of Byju's Divya Gokulnath has said the Union Budget 2023-24 will take the country to become a self-reliant economy. The Indian multinational education technology company co-founder said the push for infrastructure in the budget, which was presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday, will create huge jobs and encourage investment in this sector.

## Overall exposure

**Mumbai:** The country's largest lender SBI on Friday said its overall exposure to the Adani Group is at 0.88 per cent of the book or around Rs 27,000 crore. SBI chairman Dinesh Khara said the bank does not envisage the embattled ports-to-mining group facing any challenge to service its debt obligations and stressed that SBI has not given any loans against shares to the group.

# Budget FY24 focuses on growth with inclusion: Iyer

New Delhi, Feb 03:

NITI Aayog CEO Parameswaran Iyer on Friday described the Budget 2023-24 as 'very comprehensive and balanced' which will promote growth with inclusion. He also observed that the Budget continues all the reforms and other social welfare programmes undertaken by the government over the past few years. Iyer further said the Budget has something for all, from the bottom, right up to industry to trade. "This is a Budget which focuses on growth, with inclusion. It's very balanced, it carries on from all the reforms and other social welfare programmes which the government has undertaken over the past few years," he told PTI in an interview. Iyer noted that the Budget focuses on



infrastructure investment, social sector, and also on reaching out to the poor and marginalised section of society. According to Iyer, the huge focus on infrastructure and capex in the Budget will also incentivise states.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman raised the capital expenditure by 33 per cent to Rs 10 lakh crore for infrastructure development and announced a lower fiscal deficit target of 5.9 per cent for 2023-24, while re-

taining it at 6.4 per cent for current financial year.

Replying to a question on the Modi government's Aspirational Block Programme (ABP), Iyer said ABP is under the Aspirational Districts Programme. "The budget of ABP is being worked out but basically the idea is that state governments converge funds from the existing resources and focus on data-driven delivery and tight monitoring," he said. The NITI Aayog CEO said that all states have agreed to implement ABP. Last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Aspirational Block Programme covering 500 blocks for saturation of essential government services across multiple domains, on the lines of a similar exercise aimed at developing 112 backward districts.

## Sony India unveils premium walkman model NW-ZX707

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Sony India announced a new player NW-ZX707 Walkman, that has been engineered keeping in mind the most eclectic audiophiles and hi-fi enthusiasts. The NW-ZX707, player is designed for listeners to enjoy music the way the artist intended with high-quality sound with a sleek design. The high-end components are meant for extraordinary sound. NW-ZX707 integrates a DSD Remastering Engine where PCM (Pulse Code Modulation) audio is resampled into an 11.2 MHz DSD (Direct Stream Digital), offering even more ways to enjoy music.

S-Master HX digital amp technology, independently developed for Walkman® is compatible with the native DSD format. It reduces distortion and noise across a wide range of frequencies, for rich and

full-bodied sound, further enhanced by new high-quality sound lead free solder. Just like the latest Signature Walkman® model, the model applies a reflow solder containing gold, whose effect is significant in the overall improved sound localization and wider sound space. To realise the music players' evolutionary sound, a dual clock, film capacitor and fine sound register have been precisely placed within each Walkman®.

Inheriting the philosophy of the Signature Walkman, the NW-ZX707 has upgraded fine-tuned capacitors and a FTCAP3 (High polymer capacitor) and a large solid high polymer capacitor which offers large capacitance and low resistance. While an OFC milled block covering the digital block, allows the NW-ZX707 to bring listeners sound that appears to rise up from silence.

## Amazon launches amazing offers

Mumbai, Feb 03:

Bring in the season of love by cooking for your loved ones, friends, family and try new recipes using fresh fruits and vegetables and everyday essentials. Tick off from your list of monthly essentials during the Super Value Days Powered by Gillette on Amazon Fresh, and shop until 7th February. Customers can avail discount of up to 45% off on grocery, household essentials, packaged foods, snacks & beverages, and staples among others from popular brands including by Gillette, Daawat, Tata, Fortune, Godrej, and Dabur among others from Amazon Fresh. Customers can also avail an instant discount of 10% on Kotak Bank Credit & Debit Cards from 1st - 3rd February and ICICI Credit & Debit Card from 4th - 7th February 2023 with a minimum transaction of Rs 2,500, and discounts up to Rs 300.

## BUDGET SESSION



Governor Tamilai Soundararajan with Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao arrives on the first day of the State Budget Session, in Hyderabad, Friday, Feb. 3.

## Monthly GST revenue at Rs 1.50 lakh cr to be new normal next fiscal: CBIC chief

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Monthly GST collection is expected to average around Rs 1.50 lakh crore and it will be the new normal' in FY24 in view of concerted efforts to check evasion and bring new businesses within the GST net, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) chief Vivek Johri said. In an interview to PTI, Johri said the GST and Customs revenue collection numbers as given in Budget 2023-24 are realistic based on nominal GDP growth and import trends, respectively and the indirect tax collection target set for next fiscal will be achieved. Johri said CBIC has drawn up a strategy to augment GST



mop-up by way of stricter audit and scrutiny of tax returns, enforcement action against fake billing and input tax credit claims. "We will focus on increasing the taxpayer base. Even though the growth in taxpayer base has been quite good, we have more than doubled the number of taxpayers from the time we started GST, we feel there are some sectors which have

## Samsung to make premium Galaxy S23 smartphones in India

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Korean smart devices maker Samsung said it will manufacture premium Galaxy S23 smartphones in India to cater to the local market requirements. The launch price of the Galaxy S23 series in India is in the range of Rs 75,000 to Rs 1.55 lakh per piece. At present, Galaxy S Series smartphones are being manufactured at Samsung's Vietnam factory and the company imports them for sale in India. "All Galaxy S23 smartphones sold in India will be manufactured at the company's Noida factory. Samsung already fulfils a majority of the domestic demand in India through local manufacturing at the Noida factory. Samsung's decision to sell 'Made in India' Galaxy S23 smartphones shows the company's commitment to

India's manufacturing and growth story," Samsung said in a statement.

The development comes a day after Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the removal of duty on the import of camera lenses, which is one of the key unique selling propositions of Galaxy S series smartphones.

The company on Wednesday unveiled three models of Galaxy S23 smartphones, which come with high-end camera sensors. "Galaxy S23 Ultra comes with Samsung's most advanced camera system, tailored for nearly any lighting conditions and engineered to render incredible detail. Galaxy S23 Ultra boasts a new 200 MP Adaptive Pixel sensor that captures epic moments with incredible precision," the statement said.

## NSE, BSE put 3 Adani Group companies under short-term additional surveillance measure

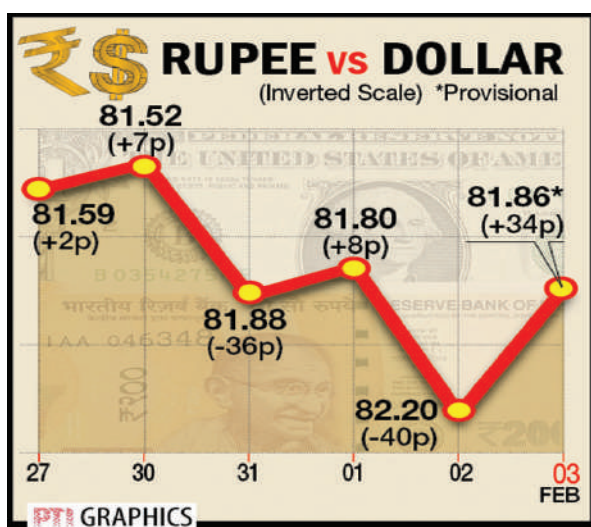
**New Delhi, Feb 03:** As many as three Adani group companies, including Adani Enterprises, have come under short-term additional surveillance measure (ASM) framework of the BSE and NSE, according to the latest data available with the exchanges on Thursday. Apart from Adani Enterprises, the other two firms listed by the exchanges are - Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone and Ambuja Cements. The parameters for shortlisting securities under ASM include high-low variation, client concentration, number of price band hits, close-to-close price variation and price-earnings ratio. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) and BSE said these companies have satisfied the criteria for inclusion in short-term additional surveillance measure or ASM. Under the short-term ASM, the exchanges said, "applicable rate of margin shall be 50 per cent or existing margin whichever is higher, subject to maximum rate of margin capped at 100 per cent, with effect from February 6, 2023 on all open positions as on February 3, 2023 and new positions created from February 6, 2023".

## Rupee gains 34 paise to close at 81.86 against US dollar

New Delhi, Feb 03:

The rupee appreciated by 34 paise to close at 81.86 (provisional) against the US currency on Friday, supported by a rebound in domestic equities and easing crude oil prices. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.15 against the American currency and finally settled at 81.86 against the greenback, registering a gain of 34 paise over its previous close of 82.20.

During the trading session, the rupee also touched a low of 82.31 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, declined 0.12 per cent to 101.63. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures advanced 0.39 per



cent to USD 82.49 per barrel. "Indian Rupee appreciated on a rebound in domestic equities and weakness in crude oil prices. However, positive US Dollar capped sharp gains," said Anuj

Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. Choudhary further noted that the rupee depreciated earlier today as PMI data was disappointing. India's services PMI fell to 57.2 in

January from 58.5 in December while the composite PMI fell to 57.5 from 59.4 during the same period. "We expect the Rupee to trade with a slight positive bias as a rebound in domestic equities may lead to fresh foreign inflows. Decline in crude oil prices and weak Dollar amid dovish Fed may support Rupee at lower levels," Choudhary said. Market participants may remain cautious ahead of non-farm payrolls and ISM services PMI data from the US. While the payroll data is expected to show a slowdown in the pace of job additions, services PMI is expected to show the sector move to expansion territory, Choudhary added. On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex advanced 909.

## Sensex, Nifty jump over 1 pc on heavy buying in banking stocks

**Mumbai, Feb 03:** Equity benchmarks rallied over 1 per cent on Friday due to heavy buying in banking and financial counters amid mixed trend in the global markets. The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex zoomed 909.64 points or 1.52 per cent to settle at 60,841.88. During the day, it jumped 973.1 points or 1.62 per cent to 60,905.34. The broader NSE Nifty advanced 243.65 points or 1.38 per cent to end at 17,854.05. From the Sensex pack, Titan, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, HDFC Bank, HDFC, State Bank of India, Mahindra & Mahindra and IndusInd Bank were among the major winners. HCL Technologies, Wipro and Tech Mahindra were



among the laggards. Elsewhere in Asia, equity markets in Seoul and Tokyo ended in the green, while Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. Equities in Europe were trading mostly lower during mid-session deals. Markets in the US ended

mostly in the positive territory on Thursday. International oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.44 per cent to USD 82.52 per barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) again offloaded shares on Thursday after a day's breather.

## FM asks India Inc to be prime movers in frontier technologies

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman asked India Inc to be prime movers in frontier technologies, adding that the government will facilitate the development. Citing the example of the software industry's success, the minister said it started on its own without any support and the government only came in later. "Industry should look into itself for its potential and then come up with points at which it wants the government to facilitate, rather than say is the government doing anything about it?" she said at a post-Budget interaction with members of industry body Ficci. "How did the software sector start in the country? Did they wait for the government? No, they just kept moving and the government saw that it cannot be sitting and watching and came up

with quite a few facilitating policies after that," she said. So, she said, "I would want industry to be the prime mover as regards the latest frontiers in renewable energy, and as regards the latest frontiers in rare earth materials, conversion of all these towards usable technology."

She assured industry that the government will proactively consider their suggestions on various issues. On capital expenditure utilisation, the finance minister said the government will monitor it on a regular basis and exuded confidence that states too will utilise the funds for promoting infrastructure development. Compared to the current financial year, the Centre is allocating Rs 1.3 lakh crore to the states in FY24, which is 30 per cent higher, she noted. Most of the funds being allocated to states are unconditional.

## No power supply disruption due to high demand: RK Singh

Will not hesitate to import coal

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Power Minister RK Singh exuded confidence that there will be no disruption in electricity supply due to high demand during summer, and he will not hesitate to import coal and mandate thermal plants to run at full capacity for the purpose. The Indian power system has already met a record power demand of 211.6 GW in June 2022. During the current year 2023, the power demand is expected to be around 225 GW during summer, Singh said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha on Thursday. Asked about rising power demand, Singh told reporters in a press confer-



ence, "We are prepared. There is no question of being a disruption in supply if I need to import coal I will import it. If I need to blend, I will blend". He explained that blending (of imported coal) has been happening earlier and so he has no hesitation at all in blending, Singh assured that there is not going to

be any shortage of coal. He stated that as far as section 11 is concerned if there is a need...then I will do (impose) that. In May 2022, the Ministry of Power issued a directive under Section 11 of the Electricity Act, stating that all imported coal-based power plants shall operate and generate power at their full capacity to meet the growing demand.

As per the directive, all states and power-generating companies (gencos) based on domestic coal were mandated to import at least 10 per cent of their fuel requirement for blending with domestic coal for meeting the growing demand for electricity.

## Budget embedded with strong sense of fiscal discipline: Anand Mahindra

New Delhi, Feb 03:

The Union Budget 2023-24 comes embedded with a strong sense of fiscal discipline and an aversion to profligacy and bankruptcy, noted industrialist Anand Mahindra said. Taking to Twitter to share his views on the Budget, which was presented by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday, Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra said: "First, the context is that India's the only major economy in good shape & the budget's task was to preserve that status. So I was gratified to see the higher capex. That's all about investing for higher growth." He lauded the finance ministry for maintaining dis-



cipline and not giving up to profligacy. "The DNA of our finance ministry has been embedded in it a strong sense of fiscal discipline & an aversion to profligacy & bankruptcy. (Unlike a rather fragile neighbour of ours) This budget lived up to that conservative tradition," Mahindra said. In line with conservatism, it was good to see the country back on a trajectory towards a lower fiscal deficit, he added.



## Aarya Babbar turns director for his short film 'Pill Hai Ke Manta Nahi'

Actor Aarya Babbar is all set to make his debut as a director in his new short film 'Pill Hai Ke Manta Nahi'. The movie's star cast includes Sharib Hashmi, Gopi Bhalla, Cheshta Bhagat, Nancy Thakkar, Rashika Pradhan, and Aarya Babbar. It is produced by Babbar House and Parmar Productions. When asked about the project, Aarya stated, "This was an extremely exciting project for me where I wanted the audience to get the entertainment of a two-hour film in a 30 mins film." He added: "We as a team are excited that we have made a film which is just not a frivolous comedy but a comedy that connects with the OTT audience of today and the message of the film resonates with them." The short film is out on Disney+ Hotstar.

# Kartik Aaryan fulfils his dream of singing on stage

This Saturday, Sony Entertainment Television's acclaimed singing reality show, 'Indian Idol - Season 13' will be celebrating the 'Girls vs Boys' special episode and adding charm to the evening will be none other than the cast of, 'Shehzada' - Kartik Aaryan and Kriti Sanon. While the Top 8 contestants impress the celebrity guests and judges Vishal Dadlani and Himesh Reshammiya with their talent, contestant Rishi Singh from Ayodhya gives an outstanding performance on the song, 'Tera Yaar Hoon Mein' from the 2018 film 'Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweetie.' Rishi's performance touched

Kartik Aaryan so much that he gave him a tight hug as Kartik has very special memories attached with this song. Kartik Aaryan shares, "This song and the film was the turning point in my career. The way you sang this song, seriously it made me very emotional. This song is like a friendship anthem for everyone. I feel lucky that I got this song in my career, and it makes me so proud to hear you".

Kartik further went on to reveal how the song was initially not a part of the movie but on Kartik's request, the director add the song in the film. Later, Host Aditya Narayan tells Kartik that he

observed how he was singing along during Rishi's performance to which Kartik adds, "Sometimes when you hear these contestants singing, you wonder 'what talent is this!' I used to wonder sometimes that I too should have become a singer and perform on a stage."

Indian Idol Season 13 helped fulfill Kartik's wish to perform onstage when Aditya invited him to sing 'Tera Yaar Hoon Mein' with Rishi. Together, the duo created magic by making the 'mausam musicanal'.

Be sure to tune into Indian Idol 13, this Saturday at 8:00 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.



# Shilpa, Shamita used to fight as latter didn't share clothes



Actress Shilpa Shetty shared a candid birthday post for her younger sister Shamita Shetty, who turned 44 on Thursday.

Shilpa took to Instagram, where she shared a reel for her sister featuring their pictures together.

Shilpa captioned the clip: "From sharing a box

of chocolates and NOT wanting to share clothes..From being each other's agony aunts to pulling each other's hair out. To... NOW becoming an inseparable pair. I love you to the moon and back...."

"H A P P P Y Y Y Y Y BIRTHDAAYYYYY, my darling Tunki!"

Wishing you only all the choicest blessings the universe has to offer and great health above all. @shamitashetty\_official."

Shilpa was last seen on the silver screen in 'Nikkamma'. Shamita made her film debut with 2000 film 'Mohabbatein', she was last seen in 'Bigg Boss OTT'.

## Tiger Shroff dances to 'Main Khiladi' from 'Selfiee' with Akshay Kumar



Action stars Tiger Shroff and Akshay Kumar danced together to the song 'Main Khiladi' from the upcoming film 'Selfiee'.

Akshay and Tiger, who have started shooting for 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', danced together to Akshay's song and shared a video on Instagram.

In the video, the two stars can be seen wearing a matching black sunglass-

es and black clothes doing the hook step of 'Main Khiladi', a remake of Akshay's 1994 song 'Main Khiladi Tu Anari', which is pictured with him with actor Saif Ali Khan.

Posting the video of them dancing in a garden, Akshay wrote in the caption: "So @tigerjackieshroff played #MainKhiladi with me and this happened!! How about you make a #MainKhiladi reel with

your bestie? I'll repost. #Selfiee.

'Selfiee' is scheduled to release on February 24. Directed by Raj Mehta, it is the official Hindi remake of the Malayalam film 'Driving License' which featured Prithviraj and Suraj Venjaramoodu in lead roles.

'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' is directed by Ali Abbas Zafar and actor Prithviraj Sukumaran will be seen as the antagonist.

The movie, which will mark the beginning of an action franchise, is a follow-up to Amitabh Bachchan and Govinda's 1998 hit film 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', which was directed by David Dhawan.

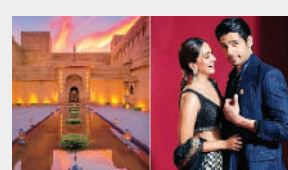
The film is produced by Vashu Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, Jacky Bhagnani, Himanshu Kishan Mehra and Zafar.

## Kiara-Sidharth Jaisalmer wedding details shared by paparazzo

Mumbai-based renowned paparazzo has said that his team will be covering Bollywood stars Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's wedding in Jaisalmer from February 4-6. Viral Bhayani shared a post on Instagram that his team is leaving for the wed-

ding, which will reportedly take place at the luxurious Suryagarh Palace in Jaisalmer.

He wrote, "We are heading to Jaisalmer to cover Kiara Advani and Sidharth Malhotra's wedding. We will land tomorrow and then take a jeep to



Jaisalmer." "One team will have to wait at Jodhpur airport in case guests are not

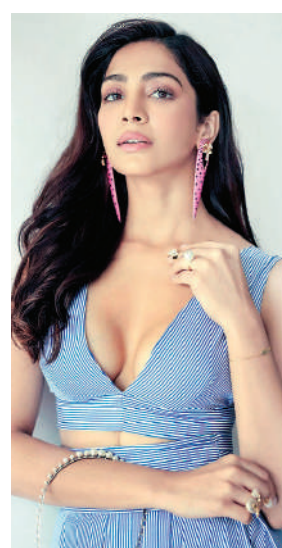
taking chartered flights direct to Jaisalmer. We are not sure what we are going to get, but we will brace the cold weather and try our best." The paparazzi said that "most images normally get uploaded by the stars, we just wait and watch. February 4-6 is

when the wedding will take place at Suryagarh Palace." Sidharth and Kiara, who are often seen together, have been dating since 2021 since their film 'Shershaah', however both have neither confirmed or denied reports about their relationship.

## 'I guess we share a karmic connection'

After making a lasting impression with her first ever film Vikram Vedha alongwith Hrithik Roshan and Saif Ali Khan, Yogita Bihani is now gearing up for her first music video. From a young girl in the audience of The Kapil Sharma Show to now promoting her projects on the show, Yogita has truly scaled an inspirational journey.

Taking the right steps in the right direction, Yogita Bihani is carving her niche in the entertainment industry with one project at a time. Having started her career on television with Ekta Kapoor's show Dil Hi Toh Hai, Yogita Bihani although made her first television appearance on The Kapil Sharma Show. The actress was a part of the audience and as a part of an interaction, came up on stage, years before being invited on the show as a guest to promote her film Vikram Vedha. Now, the actress is all set to feature in a music video alongwith the comedian cum actor and singing sensation



Guru Randhawa, and the trio also recently shot for an episode of The Kapil Sharma Show for the promotions of her song.

Talking about the same, Yogita Bihani said, "As a young girl in the audience for one of the most loved and successful show on Indian Television, I never imagined I

would be promoting my first ever film on the show. It's funny how I keep running into Kapil Sharma at the varied stages of my career, I guess, we share a karmic connection. When I returned to The Kapil Sharma Show last year for my debut Vikram Vedha, I felt like came to a full circle, and now I am a part of his debut music video and we are back on the sets of the show for promoting that. I look forward to the opportunity for returning to The Kapil Sharma Show for my upcoming projects."

Recently, Yogita Bihani shared a post on social media revealing the story behind a scar on her stomach as a result of her Gastrointestinal surgery from eight years ago. The daring and inspirational note was met with support and appreciation from netizens, hailing her courage.

Currently looking forward to her music video, Yogita Bihani is also gearing for her upcoming projects, expected to be announced soon.

## 'Our commitment to spreading smiles is reason behind Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai's success'



Rohitashv Gour, a well-known name in Hindi television and films, has become a household name for his portrayal of Manmohan Tiwari in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai. The actor has been tickling the audience's funny bone with his impeccable comic timing for years and has become the audience's absolute favourite. In this candid chat, the actor discusses his journey as Tiwari and what keeps him committed to the role even after seven years.

Your character Manmohan Tiwari has become a household name. Were you expecting this kind of love when you started shooting for Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai?

When a serial gets popular, several prominent characters become household names. Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai gave me immense success as an actor.

When we started this show, we were worried about how the Indian audience would react to the show's concept. But today, I am grateful for the love and appreciation I have received as an artist, and I also feel happy for my co-stars and the entire crew. Audiences' unwavering support for my character encourages me to give my best in the show and continue to create a unique identity in the entertainment industry.

What was your family's reaction when you bagged the role of Manmohan Tiwari in Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai?

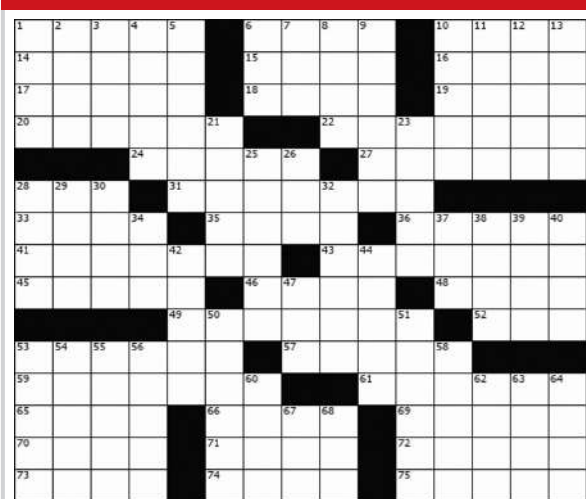
Initially, I felt that my wife Rekha would not like watching me on screen flirting with the bold and beautiful Bhabiji, but she liked the funny antics of my character and loved the show. My entire family has been extremely supportive and enjoys my acting work.

What, according to you, is the reason behind the huge success of Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai?

The biggest reason for the show's success is its unique characters and funny tracks. The tragedies that our characters face and hilarious get-ups keep the audience glued to our show. On several occasions, our fans have mentioned how watching the show has brought happiness into their lives. There have been cases wherein many patients have written to us stating how the show's comedy has helped them divert their minds from their pain. Our commitment to spreading smiles has been the biggest reason behind the show's success.

Watch Rohitashv Gour as Manmohan Tiwari in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 PM every Monday to Friday!

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- code
- Aid in crime
- Grouch
- Notions
- Hand gesture
- Lounge about
- Handed out cards
- Hideout
- Burn-soothing plant
- Tel Aviv's locale
- Reduces

- Greek letter
- Talks back
- Kwanzaa's mo.
- Matrimonial
- She, in Barcelona
- Doll's cry
- Make jubilant
- Level off
- Educational meeting
- Bicycle part
- Ponder
- Sub store

- Chalkboard wipers
- Pint-sized
- Uncommon
- Assumed name
- Phone bug
- Total
- Adam's garden
- Statistics
- Artist's stand
- Fender blemish
- Heroic
- Shoplift
- Historic periods
- Marathon, e.g.
- Swarms

### DOWN

- Average skirt
- Poems of praise
- Bring up
- Mixed greens
- Self-
- Punching tool
- Sheep's cry
- Slinster
- Calcutta's Mother
- Seminar
- Acting parts
- Unaccompanied
- Sanctify
- Peruvian animal
- Massachusetts city
- Serious injury
- Ambition
- Johnny of "Finding Neverland"
- She, in Nice
- Dressed

- Loafer ornament
- "One Day \_\_\_\_ Time" (2 wds.)
- Jar cover
- Over again
- "A \_\_\_\_ of Two Cities"
- Pennsylvania port
- Vote in
- Spooky
- Can's neighbor
- Library patron
- Least daffy
- Stockholm native
- Fall drink
- Sports site
- Leases
- Declare
- Mama's spouse
- "\_\_\_\_ dead people!" (2 wds.)
- Paper measure
- Building wings
- Twitich
- Hero hero





# Australia gets 'Ashwin duplicate' to train ahead of Test series against India

Bengaluru, Feb 03 (PTI):

Australia have roped in Maheesh Pithiya, a 21-year-old spinner with uncanny resemblance to Ravichandran Ashwin, to train in spin-friendly tracks as part of their preparation for the upcoming Test series against India.

Off-spinner Ashwin may prove to be a major threat for Australia, who haven't won a Test series in India since 2014.

Expecting spin to play a major role in the four-Test series, the visitors have opted for tailor-made pitches and have availed the services of Pithiya to get accustomed to the action of Ashwin. The four-Test series begins in

Nagpur on February 9. "Of all the stops Australia have pulled out to prepare for their trip to India, the most noticeable at their Test tour's first training session was the presence of a Ravichandran Ashwin duplicate," a report in cricket.com.au said.

"With facing spin the major focus on Thursday, Pithiya was the standout among the local 'netties', bowling tirelessly and virtually without break through the day as he troubled the likes of Smith, Marnus Labuschagne and Travis Head, who all had long batting sessions."

Pithiya, interestingly, didn't see Ashwin bowl until the age of 11. Growing up in Junagadh,



Gujarat he didn't have access to TV and when he finally watched the India ace in action against the

West Indies in 2013, he started idolising him.

The youngster, who made his first-class debut in December for Baroda, was flown in for the four-day training camp at the KSCA Ground in nearby Alur by Australia after seeing his footages in social media.

It was Pritesh Joshi — one of the bowlers giving throw downs to the Australian batters with the 'side-arm' aid — who first brought Pithiya to the attention of assistant coach Andre Borovec.

He also arranged for Mehrotra Shashank, a left-arm spinner who played first-class cricket for Hyderabad, to attend the camp. "While no spinner in the world can perfectly

mimic the challenge Ashwin will pose in this series, facing Pithiya over the coming days will at least help the Australians come to terms with the visual cues of the world's top-ranked Test spin bowler," the report said.

"The Aussie batters were also tested out by a self-described throwdown specialist Khaleel Shariff, who has worked with numerous Indian Premier League teams and was known to coach Andrew McDonald and Vettori from their time at Royal Challengers Bangalore."

The other Tests will be played in New Delhi (February 17-21), Dharamsala (March 1-5) and Ahmedabad (March 9-13).

## Juventus beats Lazio, will face Inter in semis

Turin, Feb 03 (AP):

The Italian Cup is giving Juventus a respite from its Serie A troubles. Bremer's first-half goal was enough to put Juventus into the semifinals of the competition with a 1-0 win over Lazio on Thursday, setting up a rematch of last year's final.

Juventus broke the deadlock on the stroke of halftime when Bremer took advantage of poor goalkeeping from Luis Maximiano to head in a cross from Filip Kostic.

Juventus came into the match on the back of a 2-0 loss at home to Monza in the league. That was preceded by a draw against Atalanta and a hefty 5-1



loss at Napoli. Its poor run of results and a 15-point penalty for false accounting has left it just 10 points above the Serie A relegation zone.

Juventus has won the Italian Cup a record 14 times, however, and also beat Lazio 3-0 in the league in November.

## Buttler understands why players opting franchise cricket over national duty

London, Feb 03 (PTI):

England white-ball skipper Jos Buttler admitted there is a bit of "frustration" at not being able to pick the best team for international assignments in the run-up to their World Cup title defence with some players choosing T20 leagues over national duty. Alex Hales, Sam Billings and David Willey are among the players who have decided to skip the upcoming Bangladesh series in March to fulfil their franchise cricket commitments. "Wherever people are playing, we want to pick our best available team, especially for World Cups and big ICC events, so we are open minded," Buttler was quoted as saying by 'ESPNcricinfo'. "It's quite complicated, and there are some frustrations at certain points but I completely understand people's positions and it's an individual



## Rachel Haynes appointed head coach of Adani owned WPL team

Nooshin Al Khadeer also roped in

Ahmedabad, Feb 03 (PTI):



Multiple-time World Cup winner Australian opener Rachael Haynes has been appointed head coach of the Gautam Adani-owned Women's Premier League (WPL) team Gujarat Giants while Nooshin Al Khadeer, who guided India to U-19 team to World Cup triumph, will be bowling coach.

The Adani Sportline-owned Gujarat Giants, bought for a whopping Rs 1289 crore, has already roped in former India captain Mithali Raj as their mentor and advisor. Former senior women's team coach Tushar Arothe will be the team's batting coach and Gavan Twining will look after fielding department.

"Not only have they carved a niche for themselves in their roles, but their stories of resilience will be an inspiration for the team," said Mithali. "Their combined strengths will

enable Gujarat Giants to give their best performance on the ground at the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League, which will inspire several aspiring women athletes."

Haynes, who has played at the highest level for more than a decade, has won six world championship titles with the Australian team and was the vice-captain of the side from 2017-2022. The left-handed batter, who was an integral part of the very successful national set-up, is a veteran of 84 T20Is and played crucial roles in the

Australian team's title winning campaigns at the 2018 and 2020 T20 World Cups. Haynes, who was part of the team that won the 2022 Women's Cricket World Cup in New Zealand, has also turned out for the Sydney Thunder in the Women's Big Bash League, often leading the run scoring charts for her side. "The Women's Premier League is such an exciting addition to the cricket landscape. The opportunity to be involved in the inaugural season with the Adani Sportline owned Gujarat Giants and work with the brilliant Mithali Raj is something I'm really looking forward to," said Haynes. "We have formed a wonderful coaching team, with Nooshin Al Khadeer, Tushar Arothe and Gavan Twining, who will be bringing on board their rich experience which will help the team to play an exciting brand of cricket which our fans will enjoy watching."

## You are my new hero: Gavaskar tells Lakshya Sen



New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

A star-struck Lakshya Sen couldn't believe his eyes when the legendary Sunil Gavaskar dropped in at the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA) in Bengaluru to meet him and the youngsters.

The 73-year-old Gavaskar, a member of the 1983 World Cup-winning cricket team, paid a visit to the academy during a regular trip to the city on Thursday.

"He had a meeting in Bengaluru and decided to meet the young aspiring kids of the academy. Badminton and cricket are two of his favourite sports. He was here with us for about an hour," Vimal Kumar, co-founder, director and chief coach of the PPBA, told PTI.

Gavaskar later posted a picture with Lakshya Sen on Instagram and captioned it: "My new badminton hero Lakshya Sen, after the one and only Prakash Padukone."

The legendary cricketer had hailed Padukone several times while doing cricket commentary over the years, saying he is one of India's greatest sportspersons.

Sen, who has been one of India's most prolific sportspersons in 2022, said he was too star struck to react.

"It feels good to hear such things from such big personalities. Honestly, I was too star struck to react," Sen told PTI. The 21-year-old from Almora won gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the India

Open Super 500. He was also a member of the historic Thomas Cup win. He also won silver at the All England Championships and is also the winner of the 2021 World Championships bronze medal.

"Gavaskar sir spoke about the Thomas Cup win. I have heard so much about him from my parents and all the seniors. Also when I watched the movie '83', I got to know what went behind that epic win," he said.

"I can relate to it now, essentially after the Thomas Cup win because back then they were the underdogs and in Thomas Cup, it was us."

India had claimed their first-ever Thomas Cup, beating Indonesia 3-0 in the final at Bangkok in May last year.

Asked what did Gavaskar discuss with the budding shuttlers, Vimal said, "He also gave some tips to the youngsters, asking them to analyse what went right in a day to get the best out of training."

"Gavaskar and Prakash are two self-taught heroes of Indian sport, so coming from him means a lot."

Gavaskar's love for badminton is well-known. He was the co-owner of Mumbai Masters, a franchise which made the last-four of the inaugural Indian Badminton League (IBL).

Whenever the former cricketer is in Mumbai, and is able to spare time from his busy commentary schedule, he makes it a point to play a few games of badminton.

## MP beat Andhra by 5 wickets, face Bengal in semis

Indore, Feb 03 (PTI): Riding on half-centuries from opener Yash Dubey and Rajat Patidar, defending champions Madhya Pradesh completed their remarkable fightback as they beat Andhra by five wickets to enter the Ranji Trophy semifinals here on Friday. After conceding a big first innings lead of 151, MP bounced back on the third day on Thursday by skittling out Andhra for a mere 93 in 32.3 overs in the visiting side's second innings. Set a target of 245 to win the quarterfinal match, MP were 58 for no loss on Thursday and they knocked off the remaining 187 runs in 61 overs on Friday to win the match with a day to spare.

The heroic efforts of Andhra captain Hanuma Vihari who batted one-handed in both their innings after a wrist injury



Bengal's batters Abhimanyu Easwaran and Sudip Kumar greet each other after winning their Ranji Trophy quarter-final cricket match against Jharkhand, at Eden Garden in Kolkata, Friday, Feb. 3.

went in vain as his team could not stop MP from reaching 245 for 5 in 77 overs. MP will now take on Bengal in the semifinals from February 8 in a repeat of last edition's last-four stage match. MP had

won that match by 174 runs at Alur, Karnataka. Most of the MP top order batters except for captain Aditya Shrivastava (2) made useful contributions on the fourth day on Friday. Opener and wicket-

keeper-batter Himanshu Mantri was the first to go in the second ball of the day without adding any run to his overnight 31. Dubey (58) then shared 62 runs for the second wicket with Shubham Sharma (40) before the former was out. Patidar (55) then stitched 49 runs with Saransh Jain (28 not out) for the fourth wicket to take MP to 207 for 4. Jain then completed the formalities along with Harsh Gawli (18 not out) to take MP home. Lalith Mohan and Prithvi Raj took two wickets apiece for Andhra while Nitish Kumar Reddy got one.

### Brief Scores

Andhra 379 and 93  
Madhya Pradesh: 228 and 245 for 5 in 77 overs (Yash Dubey 58, Rajat Patidar 55; Lalith Mohan 2/91, Prithvi Raj 2/50).

## Messi has doubts about playing 2026 World Cup at age 39



Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian forward Neymar (L) and Paris Saint-Germain's Argentine forward Lionel Messi (R) take part in a training session at the 'Camp des Loges', French L1 Paris-Saint-Germain football club's training ground at Saint-Germain-en-Laye, west of Paris.

Buenos Aires, Feb 03 (AP):

Lionel Messi may be in doubt as to whether he'll be still playing for Argentina at the 2026 World Cup but he's sure about one thing: he wants Lionel Scaloni to stay on as head coach until then, regardless. The 35-year-old Messi led Argentina to the title in Qatar last December and wasn't entirely sure if his fifth trip to the World Cup would be his last. The next edition will take place in Mexico, Canada and the United States when Messi is 39.

Messi told newspaper Ol in an interview published on Thursday that he'd regularly said his age would make it difficult to play another World Cup.. "I love playing soccer, I love what I do and while I am feeling well and feel I am fit and continue to enjoy it, I will do it. But it seems to be too

much until the next World Cup," he told the newspaper. "I have to see where my career goes, what I will do. It depends on many things."

In the near future, he suggested he wants to play in next year's Copa America in the US to help Argentina defend its title. "I will stay a little longer, I have to enjoy this," he said. Scaloni is negotiating an extension of his contract with the Argentinian soccer federation and Messi thinks the coach should remain on the job. "He is very important for the national team," Messi said. "To continue with this process would be spectacular."

Asked what it was like returning to his club Par s Saint Germain after Argentina beat France on penalties to win the World Cup, Messi said he didn't have deep discussions about it with his teammate Kylian Mbappé, the French striker.



## KALASH YATRA



Artists dressed as Hindu deities participate in a 'Kalash Yatra' organised by Shri Parivar Divya Mahayagha Samiti, in Moradabad, Friday.

## Money laundering case

# Four associated with Hizbul Mujahideen plead guilty

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

Four people associated with the Hizbul Mujahideen on Friday pleaded guilty before a Delhi court in a money laundering case related to the Jammu Kashmir Affectees Relief Trust terror funding matter.

Mohammad Shafi Shah, Talib Lali, Muzaffar Ahmad Dar and Musthaq Ahmad Lone told the court that they did not claim trial in the matter and accepted the allegations labelled against them by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Special Judge Shailendra Malik posted

the matter for February 16 for further proceedings, including arguments on the quantum of sentence to be awarded to them.

"After making them understand the process, the accused persons have voluntarily agreed to plead guilty. All the accused persons are being represented by their advocates who have also made them understand the process and consequences of pleading guilty," the judge said.

The court also recorded separate statements of each of the accused regarding the plea of guilt.

The accused persons along with Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) chief

Syed Salahuddin and others laundered funds collected and received from Pakistan through different mediums for its expenditure and distribution to active cadres of the HM and other terrorist outfits, purchase of material used for explosives and terrorist acts and abetment of terrorist acts, according to ED Special Public Prosecutor Nitesh Rana.

He submitted before the court that the terror outfit was allegedly involved in funding around Rs 80 crore for terrorist activities in India.

Advocate Ali Khan, also appearing for the agency, had told the court that the

ED had attached several properties in Kashmir that belonged to the accused persons.

The court had earlier declared Salahuddin and a few others proclaimed offenders in the case lodged under sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The ED had filed a criminal case of money laundering in this instance after taking cognisance of a National Investigating Agency charge sheet filed against Salahuddin, Shah and others under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and sections of the Indian Penal Code.

## 8,343 Indian prisoners lodged in foreign jails: MEA

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI): As many as 8,343 Indian prisoners, including undertrials, are lodged in various jails around the world, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday. Minister of State in the MEA, V Muraleedharan said in Lok Sabha that the government attaches the highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indians in foreign countries, including those in the foreign jails. He was replying to a question. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has the highest 1,926 Indian prisoners followed by Saudi Arabia with 1,362 and Nepal having 1,222 inmates, according to the details provided by Muraleedharan in Lok Sabha. "As per the information available with the ministry, the number of Indian prisoners, including undertrials, in foreign prisons at present is 8,343," Muraleedharan said. He said India has signed agreements on transfer of sentenced persons (TSP) with 31 countries.

## 'Amended UAPA is menace to democracy'

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The amended Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) is a "menace to democracy", senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said on Friday, a day after the release of Kerala journalist Siddique Kappan.

Kappan walked out of jail on bail on Thursday, over two years after he was arrested for allegedly trying to instigate violence after the death of a woman in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras.

Reacting to the development, Tharoor said, "The release of Siddique Kappan after 28 months in jail re-



Shashi Tharoor

minds us that UAPA allows the government to detain people indefinitely without charge."

It took the Supreme Court to finally reaffirm "bail not jail", the former Union minister said on Twitter. "The

amended UAPA is a menace to democracy, as I warned when opposing its introduction in LS (Lok Sabha)," Tharoor said.

In another tweet, he said, "A footnote: when Siddique Kappan asked

for reading material in jail he was offered only books in Hindi, a language he does not know, and denied books in English or Malayalam, the only languages he can read."

In the land of Mahatma Gandhi, "is this the level of our humanity", Tharoor asked.

Kappan's release came almost six weeks after the Allahabad High Court granted him bail in a money laundering case filed by the Enforcement Directorate.

In September, the Supreme Court granted him bail in another case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

## Five names recommended by Collegium for SC judges to be cleared soon: Centre to SC

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The Centre on Friday assured the Supreme Court that the Collegium's recommendation of December last year for the appointment of five judges in the apex court will be cleared soon.

Attorney General R Venkataramani told a bench of justices S K Kaul and A S Oka that warrant of appointments of these five names is expected to be issued shortly. During the hearing, the Supreme Court also expressed displeasure over the delay by the

Centre in clearing recommendations for transfer of high court judges, saying "it is a very very serious issue".

"Don't make us take a stand which will be very uncomfortable," the bench told the attorney general. The Supreme Court Collegium on December 13 last year recommended five judges for elevation to the apex court -- Rajasthan High Court Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal, Patna High Court Chief Justice Sanjay Karol, Manipur High Court Chief Justice P V Sanjay Kumar, Patna High Court judge

Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Allahabad High Court judge Manoj Misra.

Later, on January 31, the Collegium headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud recommended to the Centre the names of Allahabad High Court Chief Justice Rajesh Bindal and Gujarat High Court Chief Justice Aravind Kumar for elevation as apex court judges.

The top court, which has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges including the Chief Justice of India (CJI), is currently functioning with 27 judges.

## HC asks Nagpur jail authorities to make available books to 2006 Mumbai blasts convict

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court on Friday asked the Superintendent of Nagpur Central jail to make available certain books to a death row convict in the 2006 Mumbai train bombings case either in physical form or their soft copy. The high court said the publications shall be made available to convict Ehtesham Qutubuddin Siddique, lodged in Nagpur jail, within four weeks failing which he is at liberty to file an appropriate plea before the court.

The court took into consideration the submission of the counsel for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) who said they have asked the Nagpur prison authorities to purchase the books and give it to the convict if he is not entitled to access the internet in jail.

"Considering this stand, the Superintendent of Nagpur Central jail shall make available the books to the petitioner either in physical form or a soft copy within four weeks," Justice Prathiba M Singh said. The high court disposed of the petition filed by the convict on seeking copies of certain publications free of cost under the RTI Act. The ministry's counsel said the books sought for are quite expensive.

Siddique was given capital punishment for the July 11, 2006 serial blasts when seven RDX bombs ripped through many Western line local trains in Mumbai leading to the death of 189 persons and injuring 829. In his plea, the convict said he has completed several courses provided by IGNOU free of cost in jail and wishes to know more about various topics, books and materials.

Since various topics are not available in the prison library, he sought hard copies of those publications or books under the provisions of the RTI Act. Advocate Arpit Bhargava, appearing for Siddique, said the prisoner had mentioned in his RTI application that he was a person below poverty line and since he was in custody, and being a convict, he was entitled to all such publications or books "free of cost".

However, the request was declined by the publication division of the Ministry of I&B and it was stated that since books or publications referred in RTI application are priced ones, they cannot be supplied free of cost to general public under any circumstances and he was advised to contact the sales emporium in Mumbai for buying them or to purchase online.

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BRIEF



Craftsmen make traditional drums and 'dhol's on the outskirts of Jammu, Friday.

Black magic

■ **Dhamtari:** A 25-year-old man has been arrested on the charge of killing his “mentor” believing that it would earn him the ability to perform black magic in the Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh, an official said on Friday. Black magic, which is used for evil purposes, is a punishable offence in the state under the Chhattisgarh Tonahi Pratadna Nivaran Act, 2005 (‘Tonahi’ is another word for witch). Rounak Singh Chhabra, alias Manya Chawla, was taken into custody on Thursday, a day a partially burnt body was found under the limits of the Magarload police station, said the official.

Car crash

■ **Korba:** Two persons of a family were killed and two others injured after their car crashed into a house in Chhattisgarh's Korba district, police said on Friday. The accident occurred when the victims were returning from a wedding at Tiwarta village on Thursday night, said Abhinavkant Singh, the station house officer of Dipka police station said. The driver lost control of the vehicle, which crashed into a house in Dongari village, he said. Dashrath Kanwar, 41, was killed on the spot, while three members of his family were rushed to a hospital, the official said.

Threat mail

■ **Mumbai:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has received an email claiming that a person linked to the Taliban will carry out an “attack” in Mumbai, police said on Friday. The probe agency's Mumbai office received the threat mail on Thursday, following which the city police and the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) were alerted, an official said.

Juveniles detained

■ **New Delhi:** Two juveniles working as field executives for a digital payments company were apprehended for allegedly duping people on the pretext of installing barcodes, police said on Friday. The accused allegedly discreetly activated the victims' e-wallet post-paid accounts and siphoned off money. The victims could detect the cheating only after they received alerts from the company to repay the money, they said. The accused are Class 11 students of a government school and got the job by using the identity of an adult friend.

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MARKET	
NIFTY	17,854.05 ▲
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GOLD	56,845
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Saradha case

## ED attaches assets of ‘beneficiaries’, including P Chidambaram’s wife, ex-CPM MLA

**New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):** The ED on Friday said it has attached assets worth more than Rs 6 crore of “beneficiaries” such as Nalini Chidambaram, wife of Congress leader P Chidambaram, former CPM MLA Debendranath Biswas and a company “owned” by former Assam minister, the late Anjan Dutta, in the Saradha money laundering case. A provisional order for attaching movable proper-

ties worth Rs 3.3 crore and immovable assets worth Rs 3 crore has been issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the federal agency said in a statement. These properties were owned by the Saradha Group and other people, who were beneficiaries of “proceeds of crime” generated by the group, it said. The ED said the “beneficiaries” include Nalini Chidambaram, Debabrata

Sarkar (an official of the East Bengal Club), Debendranath Biswas (a former IPS officer and ex-CPM MLA) and Anubhuti Printers and Publications “owned” by Dutta, who was a president of the Congress' Assam unit.

Nalini Chidambaram's role in the case was allegedly linked to the payment of a legal fee of Rs 1.26 crore by the Saradha Group for her appearances in court and the Company

Law Board over a television channel purchase deal, the ED had said earlier. Dutta was considered a close confidante of late Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi and he was a minister in his cabinet, handling several departments, including transport. He was appointed APCC (Assam Pradesh Congress Committee) president in December 2014 and he held the post till his death in 2016. The money

laundering case pertains to an alleged chit fund scam perpetrated by the Saradha Group in West Bengal, Assam and Odisha till 2013. The group is alleged to have cheated thousands of depositors, promising abnormally high returns on investments in its illegal schemes. The anti-money laundering agency filed a criminal case in 2013 after studying Kolkata Police FIRs against the group and its promoters.



## Congress suspends Patiala MP Preet Kaur



**New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):**

The Congress disciplinary committee on Friday suspended party's Lok Sabha MP Preet Kaur and asked her to explain within three days why she should not be expelled for anti-party activities.

Congress' disciplinary panel member secretary Tariq Anwar said the action follows complaints

against her from Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Raja Warring and other state leaders that she was helping the BJP in the northern state.

Former Union minister Preet Kaur is the wife of former chief minister Amarinder Singh, who was ousted from the party and he later joined the BJP.

“The Congress president has received a complaint from Amarinder Singh Raja Warring, president of PCC Punjab, alleging that Preet Kaur, MP (Lok Sabha) from Patiala is indulging in anti-party activities to help BJP. Some other senior Congress leaders of Punjab also share this view,” Anwar said in a statement.

## SC directs govt to produce original records relating to decision to block BBC documentary

### ■ On Gujarat riots

**New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):**

The Supreme Court on Friday directed the central government to produce original records relating to its decision to block a BBC documentary on the 2002 Gujarat riots.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and M M Sundresh issued notices to the government and others on pleas filed by veteran journalist N Ram, Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, activist lawyer Prashant Bhusan and lawyer M.L.Sharma.

Sharma had filed a separate petition and it has now been tagged with similar pleas challenging the government's decision to

block the documentary. The matter is listed for next hearing in April.

“We are issuing notices. Counter affidavit be filed within three weeks. Rejoinder within two weeks after that. The respondents will also produce original records before this court on the next date of hearing,” the bench said. At the outset, the bench asked the petitioners why they did not approach the high court in the matter. Senior advocate CU Singh, appearing for Ram and the others, submitted that the government has invoked the emergency powers under the Information Technology (IT) Rules to block the documentary. He said he was seeking a di-

rection to the Centre to place on record all the original records.

The Supreme Court said it is also a fact that people have been accessing the documentary. It had earlier agreed to hear the plea taking note of the submissions of lawyers Sharma and Singh seeking urgent listing of the petitions against the government's ban on the two-episode BBC series using its emergency powers. One of the petitioners has also alleged that the ban on the documentary ‘India: The Modi question’ was “malafide, arbitrary and unconstitutional”. Reacting strongly after Ram filed his plea, Law Minister Kiren Rijju had tweeted, “This is how they waste the precious

time of Hon'ble Supreme Court where thousands of common citizens are waiting and seeking dates for justice”. Ram and others, in their pleas, have sought a direction to restrain the government from curbing their right to “receive and disseminate information” on the documentary.

“All citizens, including the press, have the fundamental right to view, form an informed opinion, critique, report on, and lawfully circulate the contents of the documentary as the right to freedom of speech and expression incorporates the right to receive and disseminate information...,” the plea said and referred to several apex court orders on freedom of speech and expression.

## Jaish module busted

**Srinagar, Feb 03 (PTI):** Security forces on Friday busted a module of the Jaish-e-Mohammad in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district by arresting six overground workers and recovering a huge cache of arms and ammunition, officials said. Acting on specific information on subversive activities in the Mirhama and Damhal Hanji Pora areas, a joint team of police and the army arrested six terror associates, they said. A huge cache of arms and ammunition, including eight magazines and 446 rounds of M4 rifles, a pistol, a pistol magazine and 18 pistol rounds, were recovered on the basis of the disclosures by the accused. Other recoveries include a hand grenade, four UBGL shells, 30 AK rounds, one magazine each of INSAS and AK rifles, two mortar shells, four walkie-talkie sets and a wireless set, the officials added.

## ‘No proposal to use remote voting machine in ‘upcoming election’ in country’

**New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):**

There is no proposal to use the remote electronic voting machine (RVM) in the “upcoming election” in the country and it is also not proposed for the use of Non-Resident Indian (NRI) voters, Lok Sabha was informed on Friday.

Responding to a question in the Lower House of Parliament, Law Minister Kiren Rijju said in a written reply that according to the Election Commission (EC), it has “not proposed to introduce the RVM for the upcoming election in the country”. Several assembly polls are due this year, while the Lok Sabha elections will be held in 2024. The minister said the EC has also informed that the RVM is not proposed for the use of NRI voters. Rijju noted that public sector unit Electronic Corporation of



### No proposal to regulate finances of political parties: Govt

**New Delhi:** There is no proposal to regulate the finances of political parties, the government told Lok Sabha on Friday. Responding to a question on “whether the government proposes to regulate the finances of political parties”, Law Minister Kiren Rijju replied in the negative. In his written response, he said from time to time, the government has taken steps to bring electoral reforms to improve the existing electoral practices in the country.

India Limited (ECIL), under the guidance of the EC and the Technical Expert Committee of the poll panel, has developed a prototype of the Multi Constituency Remote Electronic Voting

cept, the method of remote voting and counting of votes, enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct, and setting up of controlled environment to ensure free and fair voting.

### HC seeks ASI's stand on Agra Fort event

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court sought the replies of the Centre and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) on Friday on an NGO's plea challenging the rejection of permission to organise a cultural programme at the Agra Fort on the occasion of Chhatrapati Shivaji's birth anniversary on February 19. Justice Prathiba Singh issued notices to the authorities on the petition and also asked the counsel for NGO R R Patil Foundation to obtain instructions as regards whether the Maharashtra government is willing to support or sponsor the event.

The issue cropped up as the ASI's counsel said the NGO wants to organise the function inside the Agra Fort, which is not permissible for any private entity, while adding that if the organisation comes with the Maharashtra government, then it can be considered. The court listed the matter for hearing on February 8.

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## 'Mohini' fame Monika & Toshant set to make Hollywood debut

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** The talents of Bhilai have earned name and fame across the globe in various fields. Now for the first time, two young sensational composers and vocalists are all set to make their Hollywood debut after representing Chhattisgarhi music across the globe. Their chartbuster Chhattisgarhi song "Mohini" has broken several records to win many awards after surpassing the popularity of many Bollywood songs on Youtube.

Bhilai based music composers, vocalists and lyricists - Monika Verma and Toshant Kumar are all set to create their mark in Hollywood with highly anticipated and exciting projects. They have signed an American Movie as a Music Director and Singer. Name of the movie is



going to be disclosed soon.

Monika is the first female music composer of Chhattisgarhi cinema. The pair of Monika Verma and Toshant Kumar (Singer Toshant Kumar) is considered to be the biggest hit. Their song "Mohini" has gone viral across the globe and managed to achieve 28th position in the YouTube chart in India as well as 91st position in the world.

It is the first Chhattisgarhi song to have 135 million views, 1.5

million likes and more than 6 lakh Instagram reels in just one year. The popularity of this song can be gauged from the fact that Tanzania's famous creator Kili Paul made a reel on this song.

Monika Verma did her MA from Sarabharatiya Sangeet Parishad, Kolkata. She learnt music from Raja Banerjee. Her schooling was from Mansarovar Vidyalaya and she has completed MCA from BIT, Durg. Toshant Kumar did his

schooling from Devarbija in Bemetara and thereafter completed BE from Shri Shankaracharya Engineering College.

Presently he works as a lecturer in BIT Durg. Born in Bhilai, Toshant Kumar was interested in music from the beginning and later he started with Hindi songs. The duo Toshant Kumar and Monika Verma were awarded Best Singer, Best Music Director, Best Writer and Best Album of the year for the song Mohani. In Chhohollywood, the pair of Monika and Toshant is compared with Bollywood Singer Duo Sachet-Parampara.

Zee Music Chhattisgarhi has released more than 30 songs of the artist duo as a Composer, lyricists and vocalists. Their Hindi songs have been released on Zee Music Company and Venus Entertainment.

## Bethany College of Nursing organises national level workshop

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** Bethany College of Nursing organised a National Workshop, on "Cascading and Conceding: Global Priorities in Leading Health Changes" recently. The workshop was presided over by Fr John Elias OIC Director, Bethany College of Nursing. The chief guest was Dr Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatesalu, Nurse Consultant-Palliative and end of life care, North Middlesex University NHS Trust hospital (UK).

The guest of honour was Dr Susan Raj, Academic Advisor from Pune. Lighting of the lamp, welcoming of the guest was done by Prof Dr Beny Susan Chacko, Principal of Bethany College of Nursing. An insightful address was delivered by the Chief guest Dr Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatesalu, Nurse



while unveiling of the theme was done by Yogita Nagwanshi, Assistant professor, BCN followed by session. Resource persons of the session were Dr Prof Rupa Ashok Verma, Principal MKSSS Sitabai Nargundkar College of Nursing Nagpur, Dr Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatesalu, Nurse

Consultant-Palliative and end of care, North Middlesex University NHS Trust hospital (UK), Dr Susan Raj Academic advisor from Pune, Sandhya Peyush, Associate Professor Community Health Nursing, Bethany College of Nursing, and Moderators were Heena Kaushik, Assistant professor BCN, Jyoti Verma

Clinical Instructor, BCN, Indu Sahu Clinical Instructor, BCN, Suman Yadav, Assistant professor, BCN. After the session paper presentation was done followed by valedictory session and the programme ended with vote of thanks and cultural events. Almost 750 members participated in the National Workshop.

## BSP organises six medical camps under Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** CSR Department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant organised free health check-up camps in various areas as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. As per the instructions of the Government of India, the purpose of organising the medical camp under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is to provide medical benefits to the last person of a village.

Six medical camps were accordingly organised by SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant from January 24, 2023 to January 29, 2023. These medical camps were organised on January 24 at Chhatauna Village of Hirri Mines, on January 25 at Ghughsidih Village, on January 26 at Ahiwara Village of Nandini Mines, on January 27 at Kopedera Village of

Mahamaya Mines, IOC Rajhara, on January 28 in Kamkasur village of Mohla Manpur district of IOC Rajhara and on January 29 in Slum Basti of Raipur Naka.

In the free health check-up camp at village Chhatauna a large number of villagers participated and got their health check-up done. Free medicines were distributed to the patients. DGM Chhatradhari as the CSR head and the members of CSR committee including Partha Chatterjee and Ranjit Singh along with public representatives were present.

Dr Upadhyay, along with his medical staff, patiently listened to the health problems of the villagers, telling them about treatment of their ailments and also distributed medicines free of cost. In Ghughsidih village also a large number of villagers participated in health camp



and got their health check-up done. Free medicines were distributed to the patients. A total of 77 patients got their treatment in this health camp.

In village Ahiwara located near Nandini Mines of BSP a total of 78 patients got their treatment in this health camp. Medicines were distributed

free of cost.

In the camp at Kopedera village near Mahamaya Mines of BSP a total of 131 patients got their treatment. Of these, 31 men, 53 women and 47 children took advantage of this camp. Dr Sarvesh Pradhan, Nurse Asha Maurya, Staff Rachna Yadav, Pharmacist

Phaneshwar Singh Sidar, RHO Ravi Kumar Sahu, Village Sarpanch Lkeshwari Usendi, Additional Labour Welfare Officer Santram Sahu, General Manager cum Agent (Mahamaya and Dulki Mines) Arun Kumar, DGM cum Mines Manager (Mahamaya Mines) Kumar Shivesh and AGM (Mahamaya Mines) Praveen Kumar Rai made important contributions to make this camp successful.

In the free health check-up camp at Kamkasur village of Mohla Manpur district of IOC Rajhara a total of 52 patients got their treatment, out of which 9 men, 26 women and 17 children were benefited. In the health check up camp at Raipur Naka slum Basti, a total of 122 patients got their treatment, out of which 40 were men, 49 women and 33 children.

## St Thomas College conducts Workshop on Art Therapy



Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** The PG Department of Psychology St Thomas College, Bhilai under the aegis of Psychometrician organised a workshop on Art Therapy. The programs theme was Art Therapy : Theory and Applications. The session was very engaging where discussion focused on both various theoretical perspectives and practical choices in art therapy. The main idea behind this session was the sharing of academic and Field experience and path to process in Art by the Resource person Neil Chaudhary. Students understood Art

Therapy as Creative expressions that fosters psychological healing. The students learned about the various creative pieces such as Dance, Clay work, Vocal work, Painting and Meditation to develop self awareness, explore emotions and address unresolved emotional conflict. The Clients in the therapy are always looking for truth and truth is different from every client.

Various principles such as Neuroplasticity application in Art therapy was explained. The students learned the process of Diagnosis, Treatment, Prognosis and Documentation in Art Therapy. The Speaker also

explained the Do's and Don'ts in the Therapy.

Principal Dr MG Roymon appreciated the program and said the main learning is through sharing of knowledge and this interactive session targets the concept. Dr Debjani Mukherjee, HOD, spoke on the occasion and motivated the students to gain knowledge of various therapies and wisdom from experienced Speaker. Dr Sumita Singh encouraged the students to learn from the expertise of the Resource Person. Dr Ankita Deshmukh and Tanmaya Pattnaik organised the program and helped in its smooth execution.

## SP Dr Pallava suggests students to read newspapers regularly

■ Annual Day celebrated at Nalanda School

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** Annual Day was celebrated at Nalanda English Medium Higher Secondary School, Kurud. SP Dr Abhishek Pallava was the chief guest of the program. In his address, Dr Pallava said that mobile phones are adversely affecting the studies of children. He suggested the students to stay away from mobile phones and must read the main page and editorial page of the newspaper to increase their knowledge. As far as possible one should learn the art of delivering speech. To eliminate hesitation, one can practice at home or any place.



get a chance to go on stage, but today he is getting an opportunity to address big gatherings. He urged the parents to pay special attention to every activity of the children, especially on mobile. It is very important to control them in time. Negligence can spoil the future of children.

He suggested parents not to buy two-wheelers, especially expensive vehicles for school children. SP further said that children

should keep learning something or the other all the time and further added that the one who thinks himself to be smarter often lags behind.

KCA Chairman RK David in his address said that parents should pay attention to how much talent their children have. We have to keep an eye on them because there is some specialty in every child. If we ignore, the talent of the children does not come to

the fore. General Secretary S Vincent said that he is one of the founders of the school and spoke about the ups and downs of the institution's journey till date. He said that the school was started in 1978 with only 4 children in Housing Board's house number 3/1.

They tried to develop interest for studies among the children of a labour dominated area. The school has been progressing continuously since then. Vincent said that the Nalanda English Medium Higher Secondary School, Kurud, after its full expansion, has been running the school from Nursery to Class XII since 1978. The School got CBSE affiliation in 2014. Special guest Dr Murli Mohan Murthy, Retired Civil Surgeon Chief Hospital Superintendent of District Hospital Dhamtari, said that

without education any person has no value in the world.

School Vice President Jeebin Rabi said that the dedication with which the children are getting education will improve their future. He thanked the teachers for their remarkable services. School Secretary PS Pramod Kumar wished the children a bright future and urged him to make continuous progress in the field of studies.

KCA Vice President RS Pillai, KCA Treasurer Mathew Varghese, KCA Organizing Secretary TT Sree Kumar, Executive Members - Morgan Pillay, Justin Vincent, MP Ramdas, Saji Varghese, LK Nair, Varghese Ippan, K Santosh, Madhusudan, KM Mathur, George Thomas, Manoj Gangadharan, KCA members, students and parents were present.

## Grand celebration of safety week in Plate Mill

Central Chronicle News

**Bhilai, Feb 03:** A grand celebration of Safety Week was organised at Plate Mill, an important department of SAIL-Bhilai Steel Plant. Executive Director (Works) Anjani Kumar was especially present as the chief guest on the occasion of its closing ceremony held on February 02, 2023 at the main entrance of the Plate Mill.

CGM I/C (Iron) Tapas Dasgupta, CGM I/C (M&U) Asit Saha, CGM (MRD) Sushil Kumar, CGM (Plate Mill) RK Bisare, GM (Fire) B Mohapatra, GM (Safety) SK Agarwal and other senior officers were present. All the Departmental Safety Officers of Mill Zone were specially invited on this occasion.

Chief General Manager (Plate Mill) RK Bisare in his welcome address said that ED (Works) Anjani Kumar has always given first priority to safety. We have been getting his guidance from time to time. Today plate mill is determined for safe production. Safety week is a constant reminder to us about safety. Inspire us to act safely.

I heartily welcome all the guests present here. D Shadangi, Dept Safety Officer and General Manager of Plate Mill, in his safety report informed about the various programs organized during the Safety Week.

Chief Guest of the Function, Executive Director (Works) Anjani Kumar said in his inspiring speech that along with the safety week, we have to



adopt safety every day so that none of our personnel gets injured. During work, we have to take care of complete safety. We should not talk on mobile while driving.

Do not make haste while coming or going on duty. Haste is the root of all trouble. Safe production is our first priority. Appreciating the safety

message given in the street play presented, he said that safety should be followed every day, not just during safety week.

The chief guest awarded the winners of various competitions organised during the Safety Week. In this, two personnel each from the operation, mechanical and electrical sections of the plate mill were

awarded the Best Safety Man Award.

Apart from this, the winners of safety harness competition, safety quiz, safety poem, slogan, essay competition, safety suggestion and safety poster competition were also rewarded. It may be noted that the Safety Week was organised in Plate Mill from January 27, 2023 to

February 02, 2023.

In this week, a grand defensive driving training program was organized on January 27, 2023 at Plate Mill Auditorium. The entire mill zone participated in the programme. The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Chief General Manager-in-Charge (Iron) Tapas

Dasgupta.

SK Agarwal, GM (Safety) from Safety Engineering Department highlighted the usefulness of defensive driving training. Speaking on the occasion, RK Bisare, Chief General Manager, Plate Mill, laid special emphasis on the role of safety training in this programme. Chief General Manager-in-Charge (Iron) Tapas Dasgupta highlighted the importance of safety in production.

The Plate Mill fraternity kick started the Plate Mill Safety Week with a massive safety rally. Various competition and creative programs were organised daily during this safety week. Also everyone was impressed by the on-site performance of the fire department.

Along with this, safety harness competition, safety quiz, safety poem, slogan, essay competition, safety suggestion, poster competition etc. were also organised. Under this programme, a film on safety was shown and a workshop on gas safety was also conducted.

In the closing ceremony of this safety week, the importance of safety in the work area was shown very effectively by staging a safety drama, in which the Plate Mill Collective and Personnel Department played an active role.

The program was conducted by GM (Plate Mill) HK Bahurupi and AGM Vivek Ingewar. In the end, the vote of thanks was given by RK Bisare, Chief General Manager (Plate Mill).



# Ramcharitmanas row: CM slams Yogi, Maurya

● Asks all to heed Vinoba Bhav's advice on classics

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on Friday said the row over some parts of the 'Ramcharitmanas' allegedly being against women and those from backward communities was being created by leaders in Uttar Pradesh as part of vote-bank politics.

The 'Ramcharitmanas' issue was set off in UP by Samajwadi Party leader Swami Prasad Maurya who claimed on January 22 that some portions insult a large section of society on the basis of caste and had sought that they be "banned".

"It (controversy) suited both (UP CM) Yogi



Adityanath and Maurya to garner votes. However, people face the wrath (of such tussles), while essential issues are ignored," Baghel told reporters.

Asserting that "two or four couplets" do not make any difference to such a great epic, Baghel said one must adhere to social reformer Vinoba Bhav's advice that the merits of any religious book or philosophy must be discussed in the present context. He said Bhav advised that the

basic elements (of the book or philosophy) must be discussed and its subtle facts must be accepted after consideration.

"This controversy is wrong, Ramcharitmanas was written 650 years ago by Tulsidas while Valmiki had written it much earlier. There is no need to accept it as it is written in the current situation. You should accept good things from Ramayana and the things you don't like, leave it," the senior Congress leader said. Tulsidas had faced opposition at the time for writing Ramcharitmanas in Hindi but he must be credited for taking the epic to every household, Baghel asserted.

"By creating controversies around such small issues, you are just doing politics of votes," Baghel said without naming anyone.

**Former CS Vivek Dhand appointed as Chairman CSIC**



**Raipur, Feb 03:** Former Chief Secretary and former Chairman of RERA Vivek Dhand has been appointed as the Chairman of 'Chhattisgarh State Innovation Commission' (CSIC) (Chhattisgarh Rajya Navachar Ayog) by the state government. An order to this effect has been issued by the General Administration Department from Mahanadi Bhawan, Nava Raipur here today.

The Commission has been formed with the aim of giving suggestions to the state government from time to time for the effective implementation of administrative innovations and various public welfare schemes to be carried out by the Chhattisgarh government.

# Telghani ROB and Gogaon RUB dedicated to denizens of city

More than 6 lakh city dwellers will get the facility of smooth traffic movement



**Raipur, Feb 03:** The long-awaited demand of the residents of Raipur has been fulfilled today. Minister for PWD and Home Tamradhwaj Sahu inaugurated the 526 meter long Telghani Railway overbridge built at a cost of Rs 35.54 cr near Raipur Railway Station and the 407 meter long and 7.5 meter wide Gogaon Railway bridge constructed at a cost of Rs 15.73 cr in Urkura-Sarona bypass rail line. These two major construction works, on completion, would ensure smooth traffic facility for the people of Raipur city and solve the problem of traffic jam here.

Besides more than 3 lakh common people of the city, Telghani ROB will facilitate smooth traffic to the entire urban area for plat-

forms 6 and 7 of the railway station. Similarly, with the commencement of the Gogaon RUB, a population of more than 3 lakh in this area will be benefited. Mr. Sahu expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel on behalf of more than six lakh residents of the city for both these facilities.

On this occasion, Public Works Minister Tamradhwaj Sahu while addressing the local public said that both these bridges were among the priority works of Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel and the

Chief Minister had also given instructions to complete them as soon as possible.

In his address, Public Works Minister said that today, one corner of the city has been connected with the other. With smooth traffic movement on both sides of the city, trade-business and communication will also improve rapidly. He further told that the movement of heavy vehicles from the old Telghani overbridge has been stopped, now only two wheelers and small four wheelers will be able to pass through this

bridge. This would ensure smooth and safe commute to the people.

Parliamentary Secretary Vikas Upadhyay said that Chhattisgarh government under the leadership of Chief Minister Baghel is running many schemes to put money into people's pockets, significantly improving their purchasing power. People are purchasing vehicles for their convenience, so it is the responsibility of the government to provide good roads for them. Earlier the traffic system of the city was according to the population of 7-8 lakhs, but now the population of city has increased to about 25 lakhs.

To expand the traffic facility as per the requirement of the current population, two new bridges have been inaugurated in the city today. I express my gratitude to the Chief Minister as well as the PWD Minister for providing continuous free movement facility to the people, said Upadhyay.

# NIT Raipur to organise AAVARTAN 22-23

**Raipur, Feb 03:** National Institute of Technology (NIT) Raipur's Technical Committee is organising Central India's largest technical fest, AAVARTAN '22-23 from Feb 4-5, 2023 in offline mode after a gap of 2 years. The fiesta will serve as an unparalleled platform to unlock the technology acumen of students and cultivate ample growth in the tech lovers across the nation through a wide range of learning opportunities. Dr. Manu Vardhan, Faculty In-

Charge, Technocracy is the key person responsible for such an enormous undertaking.

The technical fest will feature a paraphernalia of technical events, including robotics, electronics, and Science-themed competitions, as well as gaming tournaments, coding challenges, and creative contests. "Vigyan", a national-level science exhibition will be the cardinal event of the fest enabling a worthy platform to the finest nationwide teams of ingenious minds, filtered through rounds of preced-

ing short-listing, to solve real-time problems with pragmatic approaches. Over 120 teams of scientific-tempered intelligentsia, across the nation had participated in this event. The final selects will be offered grants by the Incubation Cell of NIT Raipur.

Followed by this, events like "Circuitrix", a circuit-building game, "Treasure Hunt", "VR Show", an exploration of Virtual Reality, "Robotrex", the one-of-a-kind robot racing event, Open Mic, "Shipwreck", "Best Out of Waste", "Blind Coding",

"Code Tag", "Speed Cubing", "The Valiant Tournament", "Jenga", "Beg Borrow Steal", "Ecopolis", "The Technomic Quotient 10.0", "The Scavenger Hunt", "Click'O'Vartan", "Animatrix", "Hydrolift", etc., will enhance the overall vibrance and gusto of the fiesta. The two day fest will bring together people from wide cultures across the nation and facilitate a successful conglomeration of technological aspirants, bringing onto the table great innovative ideas and aura.

# Various science activities, mobile exhibition held

● On first two-day of Vikram Sarabhai Space Exhb



**Raipur, Jan 03:** NH Goel World School, under the aegis of ISRO, Ahmedabad, hosted a three day Vikram Sarabhai Space Exhibition between the Feb 2 and 3. The eminent luminaries decorating the exhibition included NJ Bhatt along with his team members

Rachna Patnaik, Paresv Sarvaiya, Dr SP Vyas, Jagdev Thakor, Bhavesh Solanki, Niraj Kuhar, Jitendra Bhai Jadav.

An estimated number of fifteen to twenty thousand stu-

dents including their mentors and parents participated in the exhibition across these three days. The school has also fixed a slot and made arrangements for the children

with special needs. The major attractions of the fair are different kinds of science activities, conversation with the scientists and mobile exhibition. The students will be explaining the process of rocket launch which works on the Newton's Third law of Motion.

It is to be noted that ISRO has been organizing such exhibitions pan India to foster and nurture scientific temperament in students.

# Manish Sharma's family offered heartfelt condolences

**Raipur, Feb 03:** The family of well-known Sarafa businessman Manish Sharma was offered heartfelt condolence close & dear ones and colleagues from the jewellery business of capital city in a 'Shanti Milan' programme held at 'Manas Bhavan', Pujari Park, here on Friday. It is notable here that Manish Sharma left for heavenly abode last on 28 Jan, 2023 at a very young age of 40.

Manish Sharma was a successful Director and businessman of famous Jewellery showroom in city viz. Sun & Sun Jewellers and a person with an attractive personality. It is with his sheer hard work, dedication, farsightedness that he achieved new heights in jewellery business and took the same to new

heights. Living a balanced life and sharing a cordial smile with everyone has been his true identity.

In the jewellery business he carried out novel efforts for transparency and was highly successful in it. He started the percentage system in gold in place of carat and all

liked and hailed his work for the transparency and the only objective behind it was to ensure that people get quality product at right price. He always used to think ahead of others and used to have always unique thinking. It is for this reason that he carved a special identity and a successful businessman in the jewellery field. Manish has been awarded with prestigious awards for his achievements in the jewellery business as well.

# Cong forms panels for party's 85th plenary session

● To be held in Ch'garh from February 24-26

**Raipur/New Delhi, Feb 3 (PTI)** The Congress formed an organising committee on Friday for its three-day 85th plenary session to be held in Chhattisgarh's Raipur from February 24 to 26, with treasurer Pawan Bansal as its chairman and the three party chief ministers as special invitees.

The party also constituted a reception committee headed by Chhattisgarh Congress chief Mohan Markam, with state Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel as its co-chairman. All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary Tariq Anwar has been appointed as the convener of the organising committee.

Top party leaders from across the country will participate in the three-day mega conclave, where all Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates would ratify the

presidentship of Mallikarjun Kharge.

"The Congress president has constituted the organising committee and the reception committee for the 85th plenary session of the Indian National Congress, to be held from 24th to 26th February, 2023, in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, with immediate effect," said a statement issued by AICC general secretary K C Venugopal.

The members of the steering committee have also been included in the organising committee for the three-day mega event, besides Baghel, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his Himachal Pradesh counterpart Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. All ministers and MLAs of the Congress, including TS Singh Deo, Tamradhwaj Sahu, Premraj Singh Tekam and Ravindra Chaubey, have been included in the reception committee for the plenary session. There are a total of 112 members in the reception committee.

# 'Cancer survivors share inspirational messages'

● On World Cancer Day

**Raipur, Feb 03:** February 4 is celebrated as World Cancer Day with the aim of spreading cancer awareness all over the world. A cancer awareness program was organised by Sanjeevani Cancer Care Foundation on this occasion, in which cancer experts shared information about different types of cancer, their symptoms, precautions and treatment. Furthermore, former cancer patients shared their experiences with the aim of spreading awareness and advised people not to be afraid of cancer; but to fight it, seek medical advice on seeing symptoms and get complete treatment. Senior



Cancer Surgeon and the Founder of Sanjeevani Cancer Care Foundation, Dr. Yusuf Memon, Blood Diseases and Blood Cancer Specialist Dr. Vikas Goyal, Senior Cancer Surgeon Dr. Arpan Chaturmohata, Senior Cancer Surgeon Dr. Diwakar Pandey, Chemotherapy Specialist Dr. Aniket Thoke, Medical Oncologist Dr. Rakesh Mishra, Radiotherapy Specialist Dr. Satish Dewangan and Dr. Ramesh Kothari, Nuclear Medicine Specialist. Dr. Abhiram G. and Dr. Himanshu Bansal

spread cancer awareness.

Dr. Yousuf Memon explained that some of the symptoms of breast cancer include lump in the breast, bleeding from the nipple and change in the shape or texture of the nipple or breast. Its treatment depends on the stage of cancer. This may include chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hormone therapy, and surgery.

Dr. Vikas Goyal explained that some of the common symptoms of leukemia are persistent fatigue and weakness, frequent bouts of illness,

weight loss without trying, swollen lymph nodes, bleeding easily from an injury, and symptoms to watch out for are small red spots on the skin. Dr. Arpan Chaturmohata told about the factors of oral cancer that tobacco and its products, alcohol, khaini, gutka, zarda, bidi, cigarette etc. are 80% of the causes of oral cancer. Causes of oral cancer in 10 to 15% of people are papilloma virus, sharp teeth and excessive chili consumption etc. Dr. Aniket Thoke explains about chemotherapy that, it is a therapy in which cancer cells are destroyed in the cancer patients body by using drugs. It usually works by stopping cancer cells from growing, dividing and making more cells.

## विश्व कैंसर दिवस, 2023

के अवसर पर संजीवनी कैंसर केयर फाउंडेशन द्वारा जनहित में जारी

### कैंसर क्या है?

कभी-कभी जब शरीर की कोशिकाएं अनियंत्रित तरीके से बढ़ने लगती हैं तो उसे कैंसर कहा जाता है। नियमित जांच और डॉक्टर परामर्श से कैंसर को शुरुवाती स्टेज में ही डिटेक्ट किया जा सकता है।

#### स्तन कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. नेमन ने बताया की स्तन कैंसर के लक्षणों में स्तन में गांठ, निपल से खुलू बहना और निपल या स्तन के आकार या बनावट में बदलाव आ जाना जैसे कुछ लक्षण शामिल हैं।

**डॉ. युसुफ नेमन**  
MBBS, MD, FRCR, FRCGS, FRCR  
स्तरातार कर्माजरी, स्तन विशेषज्ञ

#### गुंठ के कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. चतुर्नहाता ने गुंठ के कैंसर के कारकों के बारे में बताया की तंबाकू व उसके उत्पाद, एल्कोहल, खैनी, गुटका, जर्दा, बीड़ी, सिगरेट, पैपिलोमा वायरस, नुकुले दांत एवं अत्यधिक मिर्चों के सेवन होता है।

**डॉ. अर्पण चतुर्नहाता**  
MS, MD, FRCR  
संजीवनी कैंसर केयर

#### पेट के कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. पांडेय ने पेट के कैंसर के लक्षणों में बताया की अपच, पेट में जलन और पेट फूलना, लगातार कमजोरी, भूख न लगना, वजन कम होना, हीमोग्लोबिन में कमी, पेट में दर्द या बेचैनी, मल में लाल खुलू का घबका या काले रंग का मल आदि आम लक्षण हैं।

**डॉ. दिवाकर पांडेय**  
MS, MD, DM, FRCR  
संजीवनी कैंसर केयर

#### रेडियेशन थेरेपी

डॉ. देवानग ने रेडियोथेरेपी के बारे में बताया की इसका उपयोग एडवांस स्टेज के कैंसर में लक्षणों को कम करने के लिए, कैंसर के प्रारंभिक उपचार के रूप में, अथवा कैंसर उपचारों के साथ संयोजन में, सर्जरी से पहले कैंसर को संकोचने के लिए, सर्जरी के बाद किली औ रीह कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट करने के लिए किया जाता है।

**डॉ. सतीश देवानग**  
MBBS, MD, DM  
संजीवनी कैंसर केयर

#### न्यूक्लियर इमेजिंग

डॉ. अजितनग ने बताया कि PET, CT स्कैन, व न्यूक्लियर स्कैन से शरीर के अंदर कैंसर प्रसिक्त अंगों की छवि प्राप्त कर व शरीर के अंगों और कोशिकाओं के वर्तमान स्थिति की सटीक जानकारी प्राप्त की जा सकती है। इससे शरीर में कैंसर कोशिकाओं की संख्या के साथ हूदा जा सकता है।

**डॉ. अजितनग जी**  
MBBS, MD  
कैंसर, न्यूक्लियर मेडिसिन

#### ब्लड कैंसर के लक्षण

डॉ. गोयल ने बताया की ब्लड कैंसर के कुछ आम लक्षणों में लगातार थकावट और कमजोरी आना, बार-बार बीमारियों से संक्रमित हो जाना, बिना कोशिश किए रक्त कम हो जाना, खूनी इर लिंक मोडस, घटते रक्त पत्र अस्थिनी से खुलू बहना, और आसानी से घटे रक्त घबके हो जाना जैसे कुछ लक्षणों से सावधान रहना चाहिए।

**डॉ. विकास गोयल**  
MS, DM (HAEMATOLOGY)  
एडवांस कैंसर केयर

#### कीमोथेरेपी

डॉ. रोके कीमोथेरेपी के बारे में बताते हैं कि, यह एक रीथेरेपी है जिससे रक्तों का उपयोग कैंसर कोशिकाओं को नष्ट किया जाता है। यह आमतौर पर कैंसर कोशिकाओं को बढ़ने, बिनाजिने होने और अधिक कोशिकाएं बनाने से रोकने का काम करती है।

**डॉ. अनिकेत रोके**  
MD, DM, ESMO  
कीमोथेरेपी विशेषज्ञ

#### इन्फ्यूजोथेरेपी

डॉ. मिश्रा ने बताया कि इन्फ्यूजोथेरेपी कैंसर रीथेरेपी कोशिकाओं से लड़ने के लिए किसी व्यक्ति की प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली के कुछ हिस्सों का उपयोग करता है। यह रीथेरेपी इन्फ्यूजोथेरेपी को इतर कैंसर एवं केमिकल थेरेपी से आसानी प्रतिक्रिया प्रणाली की रनिजिने की तरह बल्के कैंसर कोशिकाओं से लड़ने में मदद करता है।

**डॉ. राकेश मिश्रा**  
MBBS, MD, DM  
कीमोथेरेपी विशेषज्ञ

#### रेडियेशन थेरेपी

डॉ. कोहारी बताते हैं कि रेडियेशन थेरेपी में हाई डोज के रेडियेशन की सहायता से कैंसर कोशिकाओं को खत्म तथा कैंसर का आकार घोट किया जाता है। कम डोज के रेडियेशन में x-ray की सहायता से आसानी रनिजिने के अंदर के अंगों को देखकर, कैंसर की सटीक स्थिति की जानकारी ली जा सकती है।

**डॉ. रमेश कोहारी**  
MBBS, MD, DM  
रेडियेशन ऑनकोलॉजिस्ट

#### ल्यूटेथियम थेरेपी

डॉ. बंसल ने बताया की ल्यूटेथियम थेरेपी का रीथेरेपी आसानी प्रोस्टेट कैंसर के लक्षणों में सुधार करना, कैंसर के आकार को कम करना, व उनकी वृद्धि को भी धीमा करना है। यह एक राड्योथेरेपी उपचार है जिसमें कैंसर प्रसिक्त कोशिकाओं के आसपास के अंगों को कम नुकसान होता है।

**डॉ. हिमंशु बंसल**  
MBBS, MD, DM  
कैंसर, न्यूक्लियर मेडिसिन

## कैंसर का इलाज कैसे किया जाता है?

सर्जरी, कीमोथेरेपी, रेडियोथेरेपी, इन्फ्यूजोथेरेपी, टारगेटेड थेरेपी एवं हार्मोन थेरेपी द्वारा सामान्यतया कैंसर का इलाज किया जाता है। आपके कैंसर के प्रकार और स्टेज के हिसाब से डॉक्टर इलाज के तरीके और मात्रा का चयन करते हैं।

## क्या कैंसर को जड़ से खत्म किया जा सकता है?

“कैंसर के शुरुवाती स्टेज में इसको जड़ से समाप्त करने की ज्यादा संभावनाएं रहती हैं एवं अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों की सहायता से एडवांस स्टेज में भी इसपर काफी काबू पाया जा सकता है।”

# संजीवनी कैंसर केयर फाउंडेशन

संजीवनी कैंसर हॉस्पिटल के सामने, दावड़ा कॉलोनी, पचपेड़ी नाका, रायपुर (छ.ग.) | +91 8269191010



# School Education Minister honour 31 teachers

● Under MGAY Awards distribution ceremony

**Raipur, Feb 03:** According to the announcement made by the Chief Minister, teachers are rewarded every year at the block, district, and divisional levels through the Mukhyamantri Gaurav Alankaran Yojana (MGAY). Minister of School Education, Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam, honoured 31 Raipur division teachers today in the auditorium of the Joint Director School Education office, which is located on the premises of the Board of Secondary Education. Shiksha Doot Samman was awarded to 12 teachers, Gyandeep was awarded to 3 teachers, 03 Shiksha Shree lecturers, 05 excellent principals, and 08 excellent principal readers. This award is granted to instructors who are conducting outstanding work in the field of education by motivating children's study-teaching as well as skill development and responsibility for intellectual, physical, and social duties. While speaking at the



Mukhyamantri Shiksha Gaurav Alankaran ceremony, School Education Minister Dr. Premsai Singh Tekam stated that the Guru has been the guide of the society since time immemorial, and so they have always been deserving of reverence. Every year on September 5th, teachers are honored by celebrating Teacher's Day. This honor is at the state level. Teachers are being honored with Shikshak Doot at the block level, Gyandeep at the district level and Shiksha

Shree Samman at a divisional level under the 'Mukhyamantri Shiksha Gaurav Alankaran' Yojana said that during the pandemic like Corona, Teachers kept the flame of education alive and developed several improvements. Other states followed the improvements made by the state's instructors at the time. According to Minister Dr. Tekam, if teachers serve as role models, everyone emulates their actions. It is also true that every student is influenced

by one or more teachers during his or her academic career. He congratulated all of the instructors who earned the Mukhyamantri Shiksha Gaurav Alankaran Award and asked them to keep up the fine job in the student's interests. Inspire your colleagues to do better work as well. According to Dr. Tekam, instructors must remember their social obligations. Children should always be on the lookout for opportunities for intellectual, moral, and skill growth. He stated that

as the examination date approaches, everyone should begin preparing physically and mentally, with the goal of improving the school's results this year.

Meanwhile, Shiksha Doot awards of Rs 5,000 were given to teachers teaching classes I to V at the block level, and Gyandeep awards of Rs 7,000 were given to teachers teaching classes VI to VIII at district-level pre-secondary schools. Teachers from classes 9th to 12th at the divisional level received citations and a Rs 10,000 honorarium at the Shiksha Shree Award. Along with this, he presented Rs 2,000 to district principals who are performing outstanding work in their schools, and Rs 1,000 to head teachers of primary and pre-secondary schools at the development block level. All of the recognized instructors received certificates, shawls, and shripal.

On this occasion, Joint Director School Education Raipur Division K. Kumar District Education Officer R.L. Thakur was present, along with education department officers and teachers.

## Two students of DPS clinch gold at INSEF



Anushk Singh and Aradhita Arvelli

**Raipur, Feb 03:** It was a proud moment for DPS, Raipur when Anushk Singh studying in class12 & Aradhita Arvelli studying in class 12 won gold in INSEF National Science Fair held at Rajkot on 29th January, 2023. Their project substantiated the need for recycling kitchen waste to create organic fertilizers and pesticides and hence received an overwhelming response.

Anushk, a Biology student was supported by Aradhita, a Humanities student in creating a Bio-fertilizer and a Bio-pesticide out of the leaves of pomegranate which promises to make chemical-free agriculture possible. Apparently, the project won them a gold medal and words of enormous praise from the jury. For such a pragmatic initiative, the students, along with their mentors, worked relentlessly for months which brought them the laurels they deserved. Now the happy news is these children

get the privilege of representing India for an international stint in the USA in the month of April. Since DPS, Raipur promotes project based learning, believes in developing an avid interest in science and technology, students have been encouraged to showcase their innovations as per needs of the society through platforms as provided by Science Society of India which organizes INSEF (Indian Science and Engineering Fair) annually to inculcate project based learning at grass root level. It is the world's largest international pre-college science competition which brings students of about 81 countries,

regions and territories together on variegated research categories. Here, the jury consists of Scientists from ISRO, Professors at IIT, Mumbai and Technical Heads of IT industries, which makes this competition even noteworthy and worth trying for.

Blessing the young researchers' efforts, Principal, Mr. Raghunath Mukherjee tweeted, "Not only will Anushk's and Aradhita's efforts keep the school's glories pristine forever but will also give them the confidence to exhibit their model in US and win accolades." Agreeing with him, Pro Vice Chairman, Mr. Baldeo Singh Bhatia and senior members, Mr. Vijay Shah and Mr. Pukhraj Jain also complimented the students as 'Stewards of Future' motivating them to be persistent in their conservation aspect, technology, engineering and mathematics to achieve their altitude in life.

## Awareness campaign on Amrit Sarovar entitlement



**Bijapur, Feb 03:** This year is being celebrated as the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence all over the country. Entitlement awareness campaign is being celebrated as an activity under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, under Amrit Mahotsav of Independence, in which participation of MNREGA job card holder families, rural public representatives and senior citizens is necessary. On this occasion, construction and renovation of additional Amrit Sarovars in the district Public awareness campaign including wall writing and announcement is being made under Mission Amrit Sarovar under MNREGA.

Assistant Project Officer

Narayan Banjare said to Central Chronicle that 150 new ponds are expected to dig out in the district and digging of 45 ponds work is going on. Out of 150 ponds, 135 ponds will be new ponds whose village, gram panchayat land places have been identified. And deepening of 15 ponds will be carried out. Also Banjare told that in the month of January-February, to create awareness about Mission Amrit Sarovar, wall writing, banners and posters in gram panchayat buildings and making announcements with mike among villagers and common citizens will be held. For said detail special Instructions have been passed by the District Panchayat CEO Ravi Sahu.

## Sports festival concludes in CRGB

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Bank level sports festival was organised by Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank (CRGB) on January 28 at Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla University campus, Raipur, in which more than 200 sportspersons selected from all the 10 Regional Offices of the Bank participated enthusiastically in various competitions. The CRGB Sports Festival was inaugurated by the Chairman of the Bank, Mr. I.K. Gohil by releasing balloons giving the message of peace and harmony. On this occasion, Mr. IK Gohil congratulated all the players of the Chhattisgarh Rajya Gramin Bank family for participating in all the competitions with full enthusiasm and sporting spirit and winning. Various events like Athletic (Women/Men), B a d m i n t o n (Women/Men), Carrom (Women/Men), Chess (Women/Men) and CRGB Champions Trophy Cricket (Men) were organized in the sports festival. The sports festival was started by the chairman of the bank by first flagging off the athletic



competition. On this occasion, General Manager of the bank Mr. Vijay Agarwal, General Manager Mr. AK Nirala, General Manager Mr. Mittal, Assistant General Manager Mr. Satish Kashyap, Sports Coordinator Mr. DK Dhruv, Regional Managers, Department Heads of Head Office and a large number of officers/employees of the bank were present. The program was concluded by distribution of prizes to the winning players by the Chairman. In this event, a 100 meter race competition was specially organised for players above 50 years of age, the winner of which was Mr. AK Nirala, General Manager of the bank and

the runner up was Mr. Satish Kashyap, Assistant General Manager.

The winners of the main competitions held are Cricket - Bilaspur region, Man of the match - Nandan Kulkarni, Athletic (Women) - Priyanka Sanga, Athletic (Men) - Vivek and Swaraj, Badminton Singles (Women) - Anupama, Badminton Singles (Men) - Viplav Kumar, Badminton Doubles (Women) - Anupama/Twinkle, Badminton Doubles (Men) - Satveer/Nitin, Carrom (Men) - Vinay Sharma, Carrom (Women) - Neha Agarwal, Chess (Women) - Ankita Dubey and Chess (Men) - Vipul.

## More than 50,000 people availed benefits under MMY

**CM Baghel congratulates Mitans on the success of the scheme**

**Essential services are now just a call away**

Baghel, the home access service 'Mukhyamantri Mitan Yojana' was started on May 01, 2022, by the Urban Administration Development Department in all 14 municipal corporations of the state to make public documents available to the citizens at their doorsteps.

Services under the Mitan Yojana include the home delivery of official documents like birth certificates, correction in the birth certificate, death certificates, correction in the death certificate, domicile certificates, marriage registration certificates, income certificates, OBC certificates, SC/ST certificates, shop and establishment registration certificates, land record copy, land notification (land use), Aadhar card registration, address and mobile number correction in Aadhar card for children up to 5 years of age, application for PAN number,

PAN update, and duplicates. This is saving people's time, money, and effort as they no longer have to make rounds of government offices for getting their required certificates.

Application process: For availing the benefit of the scheme, the applicant has to dial the toll-free number 14545. After this, the appointment is booked. Following this, the applicant receives an SMS with the booking details. After this, Mitan reaches the applicant's house on the fixed time and date and collects the necessary documents. He then verifies the documents through the tablet and uploads them on the portal. The verified documents are then sent online to the concerned departments that issue the certificate. The certificate is issued after document verification and is then delivered to the applicant's doorstep by Mitan.

## Jio True 5G service launched in Ambikapur and Dhamtari

**Jio True 5G service started in 8 cities of Ch'garh in just 18 days**

**Jio is the only Operator to launch True 5G service in Ch'garh**

**Raipur/Mumbai, Feb 02:** Reliance Jio today launched Jio True 5G service in Ambikapur and Dhamtari in Chhattisgarh. With this launch, Reliance Jio has become the first and only operator to launch Jio True 5G service in 8 major cities of Chhattisgarh. Jio True 5G service has been launched in Chhattisgarh's Raipur,

Durg, Bhilai, Bilaspur, Korba, Rajnandgaon, Ambikapur and Dhamtari in just 18 days.

From Jan 31 Jio users of Ambikapur and Dhamtari will be invited under 'Jio Welcome Offer to experience 1Gbps+ 5G speed at no extra cost. Jio is the most preferred brand in the state. With the launch of Jio True 5G, customers will get world class, best telecom network in these cities. Commenting on the occasion, Jio Spokesperson said, "We are really excited to launch Jio True 5G services in 34 additional cities, taking the total count to 225 cities. Jio has achieved this milestone in just under 120 days since the Beta Trial launch and is

well on its way to connect the entire nation with the transformational Jio True 5G services by December 2023. We are happy that today we are launching Jio True 5G service in Ambikapur and Dhamtari as well."

With the launch of Jio True 5G in 8 cities, the people of the region will get endless opportunities in manufacturing, tourism, SME, e-governance, education, healthcare, agriculture, automation, artificial intelligence, gaming and IT sectors.

We are grateful to the CM Bhupesh Baghel Ji, the State Government, and CG administration team for their continued support in our quest to digitize the region.

## Students share memories during farewell function



**Raipur, Feb 02:** Pension Bada-based Holy Cross Higher Secondary School on Thursday celebrated the Farewell Ceremony for the outgoing students of class XII during which the students Khushi Dixit and Sana Qureshi shared their beautiful memories and relished their moments, days and years at the school. Principal Sr Maria inspired and motivated the students through her influential words and poem. She further showered her love and blessings by giving the students beautiful mementos. Audience was enthralled by lively and exuberant Dance Performances and Medley by students of class XII, informs a press release issued here.

## Daharia meets regional representatives, common people

**Raipur, Feb 03:** Urban Administration, Development and Labor Minister Dr. Shivkumar Daharia on Tuesday met regional representatives and common people from different places of the state at his government residence office in Raipur. During this, people told Minister Dr. Daharia about the development works of their area. People also submitted applications to the Urban Administration Minister regarding redressal of their various problems. On this, Dr. Daharia assured the people to solve their problems. It is noteworthy that people meet Minister Dr. Daharia every Tuesday on their own initiative and also submit applications regarding their problems.

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# Chaubebandha Bridge uprooted of ballast



Central Chronicle News

**Rajim, Feb 03:** The uprooting of the ballast of the Chaubebandha Rajim Parswani Bridge adjacent to the city is point of concern, as pedestrians have to suffer while walking on the route.

This 500 meters long high level bridge was com-

pleted in the year 2005 and was inaugurated by the then Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh and since then, the roads were not made smooth in 17 years.

According to information it was under the care of Dhamtari PWD but now Rajim PWD is maintaining the bridge and there are hopes of cleanliness and

smoothening of the road at the time of Maghi Punni Mela.

Heavy vehicles will reach the district headquarters through this route for the whole 15 days and as soon as the fair starts, all the big vehicles will leave via this route for district headquarter Gariaband and capital



Raipur via Navagaon, Navapara, Dhamtari, Kurud, Dantewada, Nagri, Sihawa can also be reached through this route. This route gets very busy and they are bypassed every year by changing the route to cover the traffic.

It is necessary to tell that parking arrangements are

made till here, as the crowd increases, parking arrangements are also given under the bridge and along with this, the police department deploys soldiers for security by putting barriers, but the smoothening of the roads remains a big question, as the fair is all set to commence in a couple of days.

# Water supply cut to 15 min in Ward No 12

Central Chronicle News

**Balod, Feb 03:** In the whole city where there is 1 hour water supply, but one ward (Ward No 12) hardly gets 15 minutes water supply and the Chairman Yograj Bharati has raised the issue with Balod Water supply under the Water Augmentation Yojana. With the introduction of this scheme (Water Augmentation Yojana) in Balod city, people have started getting enough water for 1 hour, but there is such a ward with dense population in the city

which is getting, water available only for 15 minutes and the people of

works, has demanded the construction of a 300 KL tank here, in Kundru Para Ward No. 12.

According to the information received from Municipality, after the implementation of water augmentation scheme in Balod city, water supply has been done better, but there are some wards where water does not reach, for which pipeline expansion is needed even today. With the introduction of water, the residents of the city are getting pure drinking water, but water scarcity in Ward 12 is a concern.



that area are worried. Yograj Bharti, the chairman of the city's water

## Leopard enters residential area

Central Chronicle News

**Balod, Feb 03:** A leopard is reportedly lurking in areas close to human habitations, and as per information has entered a private farm house in Sonaidongari village under Gurur forest range of Balod district, where the leopard made a dog its victim.

Since this incident, sensation has spread in the entire area and all the forest departments have been requested for help.

According to the information received

from the nearby people and the forest department, a leopard had entered a private farm house there and the incident has been captured in the CCTV camera and it has also made the dog its victim, after which the operator of the farm house informed about it.

Given to the forest department, after which the forest department is also on alert mode and alerting the people. The area is also surrounded by dense forest area, but now it is being speculated that this area is not a permanent area

for the leopard to visit.

Along with humans, the safety of animals is also a big challenge for the people around because people often keep pets tied outside their homes, so leopards make animals their prey.

Meanwhile Balod district has been a camp of animals for the last two years, earlier the tiger had camped here, followed by a team of Chanda elephant herd and now with latest arrival of the leopard have alarmingly feared the people of the region.

## Guru's place is best in the society: Dhruv

Central Chronicle News

**Kharora, Feb 03:** A grand felicitation ceremony of promoted and transferred teachers and teachers was organized under the joint auspices of Gram Panchayat, Gram Sabha, School Management Development Committee and school family in nearby village Mohdi Sankul Adsen, development block Tilda.

Laxminarayan Sahu, Headmaster, Ramnagar, Raipur, Mrs. Anita Verma, Headmaster, Adasena (Bhulan Dabri), Mrs. Sangeeta Verma, Headmaster, Sonbhata, promoted from Kumhari



Dharsinwa, along with Principal, Parmanand Dhruv, promoted to Primary School, Mohdi, after transfer, were promoted together from Government Primary

School, Mohdi. For continuous 17 to 22 years of uninterrupted, successful academic services and for efficient management, the newly designated upper class teachers, Principal

Shagupta Sultana, Cluster Coordinator Bhola Prasad Verma, Mrs. Tulsi Sahu, Ishwari Prasad Verma, Awadhesh Kumar Verma, Mrs. Renu Dhurandhar to Sarpanch Dhanesh Dhruv,

Secretary Rohit Kumar Sahu, Deputy Sarpanch Sunil Kumar Verma, Village Head Dr. Derha Ram Verma, Former Sarpanch Mongra Hariram Tandon, Principal Anita Nag Parmar, Bhuneshwari Sahu, Daulat Dhurandhar, Manoj Kumar Chelak, Alok Tikriha were felicitated.

On this occasion, first citizen Dhanesh Dhruv describing the Guru as the natural authority said that it is the responsibility of teachers in making a civilized, well-educated, citizen. A large number of teachers and students were present.

## Commissioner conducts surprise inspection of Chhindgarh Tehsil

- Praises the resolution of office arrangements and revenue cases

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Feb 03:** Bastar Divisional Commissioner Shyam Dhavde conducted a surprise inspection of Chhindgarh Tehsil Office, Chhindgarh Post Matric Girls Hostel and Boys Hostel of Tongpal in Sukma district on Wednesday.

He inspected the disposal of cases related to revenue in the Tehsil office, caste-residence,

Map-measles and the works being done in Bhuiyan portal. He also took detailed information regarding the record room and the land being preserved for Devgudi-Mataguri.

He appreciated the in-charge Tehsildar Mahendra Lahere for the systematic operation of the office and instructed the Patwaris present in the office to resolve the revenue cases within time-limit and get the 'Rin-Pustika' (forest rights) distributed.

He also discussed with the villagers who reached the office for revenue related works re-



garding the services being provided by the office and the implementation of government schemes in the villages.

On this occasion, Deputy Commissioner

Madhuri Som, Rituraj Bisen, in-charge Tehsildar Mahendra Lahare, Chhindgarh Janpad Panchayat CEO Dewangan and other officers were present.

Commissioner Dhavde also inspected the post-matric girls hostel located near Chhindgarh headquarter. He appreciated the Superintendent for the cleanliness of the hostel premises, toilets and well organized bedrooms of the students.

The Commissioner also discussed with the children of the hostel regarding their studies and hostel facilities. He inspected the children's hostel at Tongpal and appreciated the restoration work. Accepting the demand of additional room by the Superintendent, Collector Sukma was directed in this regard.

- In district level Ramayana troupe competition
- Parliamentary Secretary Rekchhand Jain presented award

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Feb 03:** Under the Ramayana Mandali Promotion Scheme 2022-23, the district level Ramayana Mandali competition was organized on Wednesday in the presence of Parliamentary Secretary and MLA Rekchhand Jain at Bastar Art Gallery near Dalpat Sagar.

In the program, 'Sur Shringar Social and Cultural Folk Art Committee' from District Panchayat Jagdalpur (Urban



Body) Jagdalpur, 'Shivshakti Manas Mandali' Bhanpuri from District Panchayat Bastar, 'Shiv Manas Mandali Badanji' from District Panchayat Lohandiguda, 'Vihagan Bhajan Mandali' Karanji from District Panchayat Tokapal, District Panchayat 'Om Shiv Shakti Manas' Mandali from Bakavand and 'Manasgan Mandali' of Karitgaon participated. 'Sur Shringar Social and Cultural Folk Art Committee' Jagdalpur stood first in the competition.

At the conclusion of the program, MLA Jain and CEO District

Panchayat Prakash Kumar Survey and Deputy Director Viendra Bahadur honoured Manasgan Mandali with a cheque of Rs 50,000 and a citation certificate for the first place. Other participating teams were also honoured with mementos and certificates.

The winning teams of the district level Ramayana troupe will participate in the state level Ramayan-gaan competition to be held at Rajim in district Gariyaband. Suraj Kashyap, Shiv Narayan Pandey, Lakheshwar Ritlam, Nand Kumar Patel were the judges of this program.

## Collector reviews implementation of GNY

Instructions to take action against Gouthan nodal officers absent in the meeting

Central Chronicle News

**Jagdalpur, Feb 03:** Collector Chandan Kumar reviewed the Godhan Nyay Yojana (GNY). He said that the Godhan Nyay Yojana has to be made successful with the coordination of many departments.

On implementation of this scheme in the district, the Nodal Officers, while emphasizing on the need for continuous inspection of Gouthans, directed to make necessary progress in the work of purchase of cow-dung and vermicompost conversion.

CEO District Panchayat Prakash Survey, Dy. Director of Agriculture Department Srivastava along with CEO District Panchayat, Forest Department officials and nodal officers related to Gouthan were present in the meeting held at the Collectorate's meeting room on Thursday.

The Collector expressed his displeasure over the nodal officers not conducting continuous inspection of Gouthans. He directed the officers of the



concerned department to take necessary action against the absent Gouthan nodal officers in the review meeting.

Collector Kumar, while expressing his displeasure for the purchase of cow dung in recurring grazing scheme by the Forest Department and negligence in not making vermin-compost, directed the officers to show sensitivity in the implementation of the scheme.

He insisted on making online entry in the portal as well. In the meeting, he also directed the field staff of the Agriculture

Department to inspect all Gouthans. The Collector also instructed the District CEO to review the scheme at the district level for the successful implementation of the scheme in Gouthans.

In the meeting, progress of Gouthan construction and action plan to complete incomplete Gouthans, purchase of cow dung, compost production, sale and use (rural and urban), review of Gouthans with less cow dung purchase in the last fortnight, Gouthans with low percentage of conversion of cow dung,

Payment to self-help groups and Gouthan committee, progress of 'pairadan', action plan for self-supporting Gouthan, progress of entry and improvement of Godhan Nyay Yojana portal, promotion of cow urine purchase and use and economic condition of self-supporting Gouthan were also discussed.

It may be known that in the review meeting on January 10, under the GNY, the convergence rate of compost production in 148 Gouthans of the district was found to be less than 30 percent.

## Program on energy conservation and efficiency held

- Winners of painting and slogan competition awarded

Central Chronicle News

**Bemetara, Feb 03:** Chhattisgarh in collaboration with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Government of India, Chhattisgarh Renewable Energy Development Agency (CREDA) organized district-level painting and slogan competition under Energy Conservation Week 2022 in district Bemetara in the month of December 2022, in which students from all private/government schools of Bemetara district participated.

The top 3 places of painting and slogans were selected by the respective schools and sent to the district-level, which were tested by the district level committee and the first, second and third places were selected in the painting and slogan competition at the district level. Selected winners were presented to the selected winners on Thursday at District Education Officer's Office Bemetara by District Education Officer Arvind Mishra and Assistant Engineer of CREDA Department Bemetara.

The first, second and third winners were given cash prizes and certificates by Sdar. In which Rs 5000, 3000 and 2000 respectively for the first, second and third

place in the painting competition. Similarly Rs 3000, 2000 and 1000 cash prizes were given to top three of the slogan competition respectively.

Encouraging the winning students, the District Education Officer explained in detail the importance of energy conservation, such as traditional energy which is obtained from coal, necessary measures for its conservation, such as closing all electrical equipments while leaving the room; B.E. Star rated equipment should be used, LED lights, BLDC fans should be used, vehicles should be stopped at red signal and renewable sources of energy should be used like solar energy, wind energy, hydro energy, biogas etc.

The assistant engineer said that the main objective of the energy conservation programme is to make children and parents aware of energy conservation, so that the pressure on traditional energy can be reduced and the information about saving debt by implementing important measures of energy conservation in daily life. Sunil Kumar Jha was present in the prize distribution programme. Lecturer Education Department Bemetara, Khemraj Verma Deputy Engineer and Domendra Kosaria Assistant Grade-3 CREDA Bemetara and Principals and teachers of related schools were also present.

## 664057 MT of paddy procured till January 31

Central Chronicle News

**Bemetara, Feb 03:** There were a total of 150669 registered farmers in the Kharif marketing year 2022-23 in Bemetara district. Out of these, 147367 farmers have been benefited from the paddy purchase scheme on support price.

From 1 November 2022 to 31 January 2023, 6 lakh 64 thousand 57 metric tonnes (MT) of paddy has been purchased

from 147367 farmers. It may be noted that paddy was procured on support price from 125 paddy procurement centers under 102 cooperative societies in Bemetara district.

In this way, in the Kharif marketing year 2022-23, the percentage of farmers selling paddy in Bemetara district was 98 percent. Paddy was procured from farmers every Monday to Friday except government holidays.

**ESAF**  
ESAF SMALL FINANCE BANK

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**GOLD AUCTION NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold ornaments pledged with ESAF Small Finance Bank and not redeemed by borrowers, despite repeated reminders and notices, of our branches, are listed below. This will be auctioned as per the details given below:

DATE OF AUCTION	: 07-02-2023	TIME	: 10 AM TO 4 PM
AUCTION VENUE	: THROUGH E-AUCTION		
AUCTION ADDRESS	: <a href="https://gold.matextnet.org/">https://gold.matextnet.org/</a>		

To register as bidder for the e-Auction with terms and conditions, and full details of e-Auction please visit the above site

BRANCHES & LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBERS	
<b>BHILAI:</b> 63210001624583, 1669588, <b>DURG:</b> 63210001652780, 1678531, 1644365, 1634724, <b>KORBA:</b> 63210001613094, 1663899, <b>PITHORA:</b> 63210001632528, <b>RAIGARH:</b> 63210001637849, 1625031, 1664687	

Customers who are interested to release the ornaments by paying the total due amount may do so, at the respective branches, on or two days before the date of the auction.

Bidders who wish to participate in the auction shall produce their KYC documents. GST No. is mandatory for registered firms/companies. Bidders shall deposit a sum of Rs.50,000 as EMD before participating in the auction.

Thrissur  
Date: 04-02-2023

Sd/-  
Authorized Signatory



## BRIEF



**Relatives react after police arrested people allegedly involved in child marriages, during Assam government's statewide crackdown on child marriages, in Guwahati, Friday.**

## Elephant tramples

**Rishikesh:** A 35-year-old man was trampled to death by an elephant on Friday near a waterfall on the Rishikesh-Neelkanth road, an official said. The elephant also damaged some huts and a few vehicles in the area, SHO Lakhman Jhula police station Vinod Kumar Gosain said. The area where the incident took place falls in the Gohri range of the Rajaji Tiger Reserve. The man's body has been sent to the mortuary of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences here and his identity is yet to ascertained, Gosain said.

## Water scarcity

**Alibag:** The Raigad Zilla Parishad will spend Rs 7.61 crore over the next two to three months to alleviate water scarcity in 1,238 villages, a senior official said on Friday. The figure includes Rs 80 lakh that will be spent to remove sludge from wells to deepen them, Raigad ZP chief executive officer Kiran Patil told reporters. "Water will be supplied through tankers on trucks and bullock carts to 258 villages and 688 wadis, for which a sum of Rs 3.44 crore has been earmarked. We will also spend Rs 1.19 crore to repair 22 items related to water projects here," Patil said.

## Brothers drown

**Jhargram:** Two brothers drowned in a lake in West Bengal's Jhargram district on Friday, police said. The brothers, identified as Soumitra Jana (17) and Subrata Jana (20), went to the Durgahuri Eco Park along with a relative. While Soumitra was supposed to appear in class 10 board exams this year, Subrata was an undergraduate student of first year. Seeing that Soumitra was drowning after getting into the lake, Subrata jumped into the waters to save him, police said. However, both of them drowned. Their relative, who was in another part of the park, soon reached the spot and informed the locals. Later, the bodies of the two brothers were fished out of the lake by police.

## YEIDA territory

**Noida (UP):** The Uttar Pradesh government has added 55 villages from Khurja and Secunderabad tehsil areas in Bulandshahr district to the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) territory, an official said on Friday. The total number of notified villages in the YEIDA has now gone up to 1,242. The authority area has been extended to the Delhi-Howrah railway route, Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) and new Noida.

# 'CPI(M), Congress contesting jointly in Tripura to save their existence'

Agartala, Feb 3 (PTI)

Mocking at the CPI(M) and the Congress for contesting the Tripura Assembly elections jointly, BJP national president J P Nadda on Friday claimed that they have come together not for the state's development but to save their existence.

For the first time in the northeastern state, the CPI(M)-led Left Front, which ran the government in Tripura for 25 years till 2018, and the Congress entered into a seat-sharing deal to contest the poll for the 60-member assembly.

The CPI(M) will contest in 43 seats while Left Front constituents Forward Block, RSP and CPI will fight in one constituency each. While the Congress will contest in 13 seats, the Left Front is supporting



**BJP National President J.P. Nadda addresses during a 'Vijay Sankalpa Janasabha' rally ahead of Tripura Legislative Assembly elections, at PWD ground in Kumarghat, Friday.**

an independent candidate in the Ramnagar constituency.

"Our opponents came together not for the development of the country or the state but to save their existence. Two separate entities have now become one," Nadda said while addressing an election rally

at Amarpur in Gomati district.

He said the BJP-led government has done tremendous work for the overall development and improving law and order in the past five years.

The northeastern state used to witness insurgency, violence and road

blockades before the 2018 Assembly elections, but the double engine government ensured peace after signing an agreement with the outlawed insurgent group National Liberation Front of Tripura in 2019, he said.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has settled 37,000 Bru refugees by spending Rs 600 crore ending a long fiasco. The BJP wants development to the state's full potential. The Agartala-Akhaura railway project will boost the state's trade and business," he said.

Listing the welfare schemes of the government, the BJP president claimed that the saffron party has changed the face and fortune of the northeastern state, which is marching towards an all-round development.

## AJSU Party announces Sunita Choudhary as its candidate for Ramgarh bypoll

Ranchi, Feb 3 (PTI)

The AJSU Party on Friday announced Sunita Choudhary as its candidate for the by-election to the Ramgarh assembly seat in Jharkhand.

AJSU Party spokesperson Dev Sharan Bhagat it was fighting the election in alliance with the BJP. "Choudhary will file her nomination on Saturday in presence of NDA leaders," he said.

However, state BJP president Deepak Prakash told PTI that he was waiting for the central leadership's decision on the candidate name for the Ramgarh seat.

By-election to the seat, which fell vacant after the disqualification of Congress legislator Mamta Devi, will be held on February 27 and

the votes will be counted on March 2.

The nomination process started on February 1 and will conclude on February 7.

Congress's Mamta Devi defeated AJSU's Sunita Choudhary with a margin of 28,718 votes in the 2019 assembly elections. BJP and AJSU contested the 2019 assembly elections separately.

Balram Mahto, the husband of Mamta Devi, is the frontrunner to be the Congress candidate in the seat.

"We will announce the name of the candidate in a day or two," state Congress president Rajesh Thakur told PTI.

In December, a special MP/MLA court in Hazaribag sentenced Mamta Devi and 12 others to jail for five years in a case of violence registered in 2016.

Bhubaneswar, Feb 3 (PTI)

The Biju Janata Dal (BJD) Friday demanded re-introduction of the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) for the poor and farmers.

BJD vice-president and lawmaker Debi Prasad Mishra, told a press conference that it was good that PMGKAY was started to provide additional 5 kg of free rice per person apart from the 5 kg rice of National Food Security Act per person to counter adverse of impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

"However, the Centre stopped the programme. It will affect the household food security of the poor as well as farmers ... We appeal to the Centre to restart the PMGKAY programme in the interest of the poor and the farmers," Mishra said.

The recent budget saw a reduction in food subsidy

by about Rs 71,000 crore as compared to the amount spent by the Centre in 2021-22. This is primarily due to the stopping of PMGKAY, which will affect the poor and their chances of returning to normal conditions after the pandemic.

The Centre stopped the programme even as the situation post COVID is yet to return to normal and has affected the livelihood of the poor, who have lost their savings in the pandemic. Farmers will also be affected, he said.

The budget this year has also seen a reduction of about Rs 20,000 crore as compared to the amount spent by the Centre in 2021-22 in the procurement of food grains.

"This too is due to the stopping of PMGKAY and therefore reduction in procurement from farmers. This reduction will impact them. As the food procurement allocation is re-

duced, the farmers will also be deprived of getting their minimum support price (MSP) for sale of food grains," Mishra said.

He hoped that the BJP MPs in the state will take up the matter with its central leadership and stress on the need for restarting PMGKAY in the larger interests of the household food security of the poor and the sale of food grains by farmers.

Before stopping the PMGKAY programme the Centre should have either provided an alternate programme or taken care of the financial adverse impact it could cause to the poor, said the leader of BJD, which helms the government in Odisha.

"In this case neither was done. We appeal to the Centre to rethink on these lines and restart the PMGKAY programme in the interests of the poor and the farmers", Mishra added.

## ATTENTION RALLY



**Rajasthan Ministerial Employees Federation members during their Pre-Budget attention rally against the state government, in Jaipur, Friday.**

## Kejriwal questioning ED charge sheet in Delhi excise scam proves his involvement in corruption: BJP

New Delhi, Feb 3 (PTI)

The BJP on Friday attacked Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal for questioning the Enforcement Directorate's supplementary charge sheet in the excise scam case and said it proved that he was involved in corruption.

The court on Thursday took cognisance of the supplementary charge sheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) against five individuals and seven companies in connection with alleged irregularities in the Delhi excise policy, which was withdrawn last year by the AAP government after a CBI probe was recommended into alleged corruption in its implementation. Addressing a press conference here, senior BJP leader Meenakshi Lekhi asserted that the ED is a body which is meant to protect the country from corrupt practices. "Anyone trying to question the ED is trying to question the apex court.

The judiciary has upheld that ED's job is to mitigate corruption in the country. The way the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) is questioning the ED, it is becoming clear that Arvind Kejriwal is with those who increase corruption. Kejriwal does not want corruption to end from the country," she alleged. She alleged that the ED charge sheet makes it clear that the "AAP has an alliance with unregulated businesses".

"ED has proved through investigation that the AAP was indulging in corruption under the guise of liquor policy. Along with this, the agency also revealed that Kejriwal and his deputy Manish Sisodia were also involved in this," she said. A part of the alleged Rs 100 crore "kickbacks" generated in the scrapped Delhi excise policy was used in the AAP campaign in the 2022 Goa assembly election, the ED claimed in its second charge sheet in the case in which Sisodia is an accused.

## RELIGIOUS PROCESSION



**Devotees take part in a religious procession ahead of Ravidas Jayanti, in Jammu, Friday.**

## Woman refuses freebies from Meghalaya poll candidates, returns them

Shillong, Feb 3 (PTI)

An elderly woman in Meghalaya, where Assembly poll will be held later this month, has allegedly refused to accept freebies from contestants in East Khasi Hills district and has returned the 'gifts' given to her family.

Purity Phawa, president of the women's organisation in her locality, reportedly even told candidates' agents in person that she wants to elect legislators and not distributors. Election to all the 60 seats in the state Assembly will be held on February 27 and counting will be held on March 2. Phawa's family, which

resides at Lumdiengiri in West Shillong constituency, had reportedly received freebies from the agents of ruling National People's Party candidate Mohindro Rapsang and United Democratic Party (UDP) contest Paul Lyngdoh on January 28 and 30 respectively.

"I was not at home when the freebies arrived. When I returned, my daughter told me that the candidates had sent us a pressure cooker and two sets of imported bowls on January 28 and 30," Phawa told PTI on Friday.

"I called up the agents who had delivered the freebies and they confirmed that the candidates had sent the gifts. The UDP candidate sent a calendar too," she said. Phawa claimed that she returned the freebies on Thursday and asked the candidates not to distribute them if they want to become legislators. "Or else they can choose to become distributors," was her pithy rejoinder.

Phawa also claimed that she would meet the district election officers on Friday to formally inform them of the 'freebies' being distributed by the candidates in her constituency, Rapsang, a first time MLA of the opposition Congress who switched over to the ruling NPP of Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma recently, has been reportedly distributing pressure cookers to the voters publicly in the run up to the elections.

He vehemently denied giving any freebies and insisted that the pressure cookers are from his MLA funds.

Paul is a sitting member of the tribal council and a former MLA who lost to Rapsang in 2018.

When asked about the alleged freebies being distributed by their agents, both expressed ignorance. They said the model code of conduct is in place and there is no way the candidates could do so.

## Liquor, fuel to cost more in Kerala

- **Vehicle tax, land fair price value to go up**

**Thiruvananthapuram, Feb 3 (PTI)** Petrol, diesel and liquor are to cost more and motor vehicle tax and fair price value of land to go up in Kerala as the state government acted tough to mobilise additional revenue to carry forward their social security schemes and development programmes in the budget presented here on Friday.

Despite wide expectations, the social security pension received no hike but Finance Minister K N Balagopal, while presenting the budget for the fiscal 2023-24, assured that the financial constraints

would not impact the welfare schemes of the Left government.

The Health and Education sectors were allotted Rs 2,828.33 crore and Rs 1,773.09 crore respectively. The FM said it is proposed to levy a Social Security Cess on Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and on the sale of petrol and diesel as the commitment to continue protecting the decent lives to vulnerable sections of society require supplementing the financial resources.

"It is proposed to levy a Social Security Cess at the rate of Rs 20 for each bottle of IMFL having MRP between Rs 500 and Rs 999 and at the rate of Rs 40 per

bottle of IMFL having MRP above Rs 1,000," Balagopal explained.

An additional revenue of Rs 400 crore is expected through this, he said.

Another impetus measure towards the Social Security Seed Fund is proposed to be brought by bringing the Social Security Cess on sale of petrol and diesel at the rate of Rs two per litre, he added. "This is expected to bring in additional revenue of Rs 750 crore to the Social Security Seed Fund," he said.

The existing fair value of land would be increased by 20 per cent to bridge the gap between market value and fair value, the FM said. The one-time tax on

newly purchased motorcycles having purchase value up to Rs 2 lakh is enhanced by 2 per cent, he said adding that an additional income of Rs 92 crore is expected through this. However, a one-time tax on electric motor cabs and electric tourist motor cabs reduced to 5 percent of the purchase value to minimise air pollution and to promote public transport, the minister added. Balagopal, in his budget, allocated Rs 100 crore for welfare programmes and set aside Rs 2,000 crore for tackling price rise, besides announcing a slew of initiatives for the infrastructure and higher education sector.

## Nine booked in recruitment exam paper leak case

Dehradun, Feb 3 (PTI)

Nine people were booked on Friday for their alleged involvement in the leak of examination papers for recruitment to posts of assistant and junior engineers by the Uttarakhand Public Service Commission.

The FIRs were lodged against the nine accused after a Special Investigations Team (SIT) looking into the case found their involvement in leaking the exam papers, the Chief Minister's Office said. The FIR has been filed at Haridwar's Kankhal police station

under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act and the Anti-Corruption Act, it added.

In recent months, several paper leak cases have been unearthed in Uttarakhand.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said, "Our government is committed to reform the entire system. Those found involved in irregularities in recruitment examinations will not be spared.

"An SIT investigation was immediately ordered into complaints of paper leak of the examinations

held for the recruitment of AEs/JEs (assistant engineers and junior engineers). The guilty have been booked. It will be ensured that stern action is taken against them."

People involved in irregularities in recruitment examinations have been sent to jail earlier as well, he added. Dhami also pointed out that arrangements are being made to ensure that recruitment examinations are held in a transparent manner. "No injustice against the youth of the state will be permitted. We will soon have the country's biggest anti-copying law," Dhami said.



# Chinese spy balloon spotted over US airspace

● Beijing says it is mainly used for 'meteorological purposes'

Washington/Beijing, Feb 03 (PTI):

A suspected Chinese spy balloon, said to be the size of three buses, was spotted over the United States' airspace, the Pentagon has said, a development that is likely to further strain the already tense bilateral ties ahead of Secretary of State Antony Blinken's key visit to Beijing.

Pentagon spokesman Brig. Gen. Patrick Ryder said the US government has been tracking the balloon for several days as it made its way over the northern United States and flying over sensitive installations.

He told reporters on Thursday that the balloon was "travelling at an altitude well above commercial air traffic and does not present a military or physical threat to people on the ground."

"NORAD (North



American Aerospace Defense Command) continues to track and monitor it closely," he said, adding the balloon was spotted over Montana on Thursday and is "said to be the size of three buses".

Montana, a sparsely populated state, is home to one of only three nuclear missile silo fields in the US, at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

"Once the balloon was detected, the US government acted immediately to protect against the collection of sensitive information," Ryder said.

Reacting to the Pentagon's report, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson confirmed that the balloon was a Chinese "civilian airship" which had deviated from its planned route.

"The airship is from China. It is a civilian airship used for research, mainly meteorological, purposes," the spokesperson said in a statement posted on the Chinese foreign ministry's website.

"Affected by the Westerlies and with limited self-steering capability, the airship deviated far from its planned course.

## Blinken postpones China trip following balloon discovery

Beijing: Secretary of State Antony Blinken has postponed a planned high-stakes weekend diplomatic trip to China as the Biden administration weighs a broader response to the discovery of a high-altitude Chinese balloon flying over sensitive sites in the western United States, a US official said Friday. The abrupt decision comes despite China's claim that the balloon was a

weather research satellite that had blown off course. The U.S. has described it as a surveillance satellite. The decision came just hours before Blinken had been due to depart Washington for Beijing and marked a new blow to already strained U.S.-Chinese relations. Officials said Blinken and President Joe Biden determined it was best not to proceed with the trip at this time.

The Chinese side regrets the unintended entry of the airship into US airspace due to force majeure," the statement said.

Earlier, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told reporters in Beijing on Friday that China was verifying the Pentagon's report on the balloon. She urged calm "until the facts are clear."

"China is a responsible country and always

abides strictly by international law. We have no intention of violating the territory or airspace of any sovereign country," she said.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Ryder said the balloon is travelling at an altitude well above commercial air traffic and does not present a military or physical threat to people on the ground.

## VIP'S GREETINGS PEOPLE



Former President Bill Clinton, Vice President Kamala Harris and President Joe Biden greets people after an event in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

## IMF giving 'tough time' during talks for loan restoration: Pak PM

Islamabad, Feb 03 (PTI):

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was giving a "tough time" to the government during talks for the restoration of the loan.

The IMF mission led by Nathan Porter began talks on January 31 with the Pakistan side headed by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar for the ninth review of the USD 7 billion assistance package.

The prime minister made his remarks while addressing an Apex Committee meeting in Peshawar. The committee is the highest provincial body to deal with militancy.

While talking about the security situation, Sharif highlighted the economic challenges faced by the country and said that the "situation is in front of the entire nation".

"As I speak, the IMF delegation is in Islamabad and they are giving Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and his team a tough time," he said.

The economic challenge at this point was unimaginable, Sharif said, adding that the IMF conditions that the country has to meet are "be-



yond imagination", but it is mandatory to fulfil the demands of the fund.

He didn't provide details about the talks with the IMF team that coincide with Pakistan's reserves falling to a critically low level of USD 3.09 billion as of January 27 just enough to cover only 18 days' worth of imports.

Pakistan's central bank said on Friday that its foreign exchange reserves have dropped by 16.1 per cent to USD 3.09 billion at the end of the last fiscal week, the lowest in nearly 10 years.

The IMF after a success-

ful ninth review would provide over USD 1.1 billion and the gesture would open venues for bilateral loans from different friendly countries and multilateral institutions.

Meanwhile, the Dawn newspaper, quoting sources, reported that the IMF mission chief demanded clear action to bridge the daunting fiscal gap between 2 to 2.5 trillion rupees.

"You don't have any other option" was the critical message, as members of the mission engaged with the finance and power ministries led by Ishaq Dar and Khurram Dastgir Khan, respectively, sources close to the meetings told the newspaper.

The two sides are expected to complete the technical-level talks in the first round, which will conclude by the end of the day, followed by the policy-level negotiations to complete by February 9.

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, E/M CIRCLE, RAIPUR (C.G.)

### e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited on behalf of Governor of Chhattisgarh from contractors, C.G. P.W.D. in new Registration system (unified Registration system) for the following work:-

NIT.No.	Name of work	Probable amount of Contract	Last date of submission
35/SE E/M/2022-23 (I Call) System Tender No. 118219 Registered contractor class in "D" & above For Form "A" (Percentage Rate Tender)	SITC FOR 2X500KVA/(33KV/0.4KV) TRANSFORMER AT DISTRICT COURT BUILDING (20 COURT & CIVIL COURT) DURG, DISTT - DURG (C.G.)	Rs. 85.51 Lacs	20-02-2023

Note :-  
- The tender documents can be downloaded from the web-portal <http://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>. Only those contractors/bidders, interested in bidding shall pay the tender document cost online.

Superintending Engineer  
P.W.D. E/M Circle Raipur (C.G.)  
G-98173/1

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

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

Tenders are invited for the Following works:-

S. No	System Tender No./ Date	Name of Work	PAC Amount (Rupees in lacs)
1	121465 First Call 23.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF 20 NOS "G" TYPE, 28 NOS "H" TYPE & 30 NOS "I" TYPE (TOTAL 78 NOS) GOVT. RESIDENTIAL BUILDING, I.C. WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY FITTINGS, RAIN WATER HARVESTING & ELECTRIFICATION WORK FOR JUDICIAL STAFF OF DISTRICT COURT AT DISTT. MAHASAMUND, (DN. MAHASAMUND).	857.37
2	121559 First Call 23.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF 01 NOS "B" TYPE, 02 NOS "C" TYPE, 02 NOS "D" TYPE, 03 NOS "E" TYPE & 02 NOS "F" TYPE GOVT. RESIDENTIAL BUILDING FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS OF DISTRICT COURT MAHASAMUND I.C. WATER SUPPLY, SANITARY FITTINGS, RAIN WATER HARVESTING, HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPING WITH ELECTRIFICATION WORK. (DN. MAHASAMUND).	671.70
3	121561 First Call 23.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF KEWARA MAIN ROAD TO MAHUWAPARA LENGTH 2.00 Km. DISTT. SURAJPUR (C.G.). (Work code -W22421)	229.85
4	121626 First Call 24.01.2023	CONSTRUCTION OF CHANDI TO SARKHI NEW ROAD, LENGTH 3.25 KM. I.C. CULVERTS, AT DISTT. RAIPUR. (DN. NO.3, NAWA RAIPUR).	555.25
5	121641 First Call 24.01.2023	Construction of Pali to Butenapara Road Length 2.40 Km.	231.55
6	121677 First Call 25.01.2023	Construction of Junapara to Kathmuda Road Length 2.00 Km.	229.39

Last Date of Tender Downloading For date 15.02.2023. For more details on the tender and bidding process please visit the above mentioned portal.

Chief Engineer  
(Central Tender Cell)  
Office Of Engineer In Chief  
P.W.D. Nava Raipur Atal Nagar  
G-98186/2

## Don't blame others for your own failures: Taliban to Pak on Peshawar blast

Taliban, Feb 03:

The Taliban slammed the Pakistan government for blaming Afghanistan for the Peshawar mosque blast. The Taliban's Acting Foreign Minister Amir Muttaqi called on Pakistan to investigate the Peshawar attack rather than blame neighbouring Afghanistan for terror carnage. "Don't blame others for your own failures," said the Taliban.

On January 30, 2023, a suicide bombing at a mosque in the Peshawar Police Lines area claimed the lives of at least 101 people, mostly police officials.

"If Afghanistan was the centre of terrorism, it would have gone into China, Central Asia and

Iran," he said.

Muttaqi said that Pakistani officials should find a solution to their security challenges locally and desist from "sowing the seeds of enmity" between the two countries. Pakistani authorities were quick to blame the outlawed Pakistani Taliban, also called as Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, for what they said was a suicide bomb attack and suggested the violence emanated from Afghanistan.

Muttaqi echoed suspicions and questions being raised by critics in Pakistan in the wake of the large-scale destruction caused by the blast and said, "Our region is used to wars and bomb blasts. But we have not seen in

the past 20 years a lone suicide bomber blowing up roofs of mosques and killing hundreds of people." The TTP, designated a global terrorist group by the United States, has long been conducting deadly terrorist attacks in Pakistan and its leadership allegedly directs the violence from Afghan sanctuaries. But the Pakistani Taliban has formally denied involvement in the Peshawar mosque bombing, reported VOA.

Moazzam Jah Ansari, the provincial police chief, told reporters Tuesday that a suicide bomber had entered the mosque as a guest, using up to 12 kilograms of explosive material earlier brought to the site in bits and pieces.

## Very bullish on India: Apple CEO Tim Cook



New York, Feb 03 (PTI):

Apple CEO Tim Cook has said he is "very bullish on India" and described the country as a major focus and "hugely exciting market" where the technology giant is putting a "significant amount of energy" through investments, retail and online presence.

Apple on Thursday reported revenue of USD 117.2 billion for the December quarter and set "all-time revenue" records in a number of markets, including Canada, Indonesia, Mexico, Spain, Turkey and Vietnam, along with

quarterly records in Brazil and India.

The USD 117.2 billion revenue was down 5 per cent year-over-year, from nearly USD 124 billion in December 2021 "as a result of a challenging environment."

"We actually did fairly well through COVID in India. And I'm even more bullish now on the other side of it, or hopefully, on the other side of it. And that's the reason why we're investing there. We're bringing retail there and bringing the online store there and putting a significant amount of energy there. I'm very bullish on India," Cook said at an earnings call after Apple reported financial results for its fiscal 2023 first quarter ended December 31, 2022.

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Sl.	Post Code	Name of the Post	Level in Pay Matrix (as per 7th CPC)	No. of posts	Category
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Please visit <https://www.instem.res.in/jobportal/> for complete advertisement, method of applying, other terms and any subsequent revisions/corrigendum. Last date for receipt of online application is 28.02.2023

-Sd/-  
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क्रमांक 4528/76/परीक्षा/2022 रायपुर, दिनांक 02/02/2023

### "व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर)

### परीक्षा-2022 के संबंध में दिव्यांगजनों हेतु महत्वपूर्ण सूचना"

आयोग के विज्ञापन क्र. 29/2022/परीक्षा दिनांक 08.12.2022 के तहत व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 को लिखित परीक्षा दिनांक 26 फरवरी 2023 (रविवार) को 03 जिला क्रमशः- बिलासपुर, दुर्ग-भिलाई एवं रायपुर (छ.ग.) के निर्धारित परीक्षा केंद्रों पर आयोजित की जा रही है।

02/ वर्तमान में जारी व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 में दिव्यांगजनों को सह-लेखक की सुविधा दिये जाने/अथवा रखे जाने को अनुमति दिये जाने संबंधी विस्तृत निर्देश उपरोक्त विज्ञापन क्र. 29/2022/परीक्षा दिनांक 08.12.2022 में जारी किये गये हैं। अतः ऐसे सभी दिव्यांग अभ्यर्थी जिनके द्वारा ऑनलाईन आवेदन पत्र में स्वयं द्वारा सहलेखक की व्यवस्था करने का विकल्प का चयन किया गया है वे अभ्यर्थी सहलेखक के साथ सहलेखक रखे जाने को अनुमति लेने के संबंध में अथवा जिन्होंने जिला/संभाग कार्यालय से सहलेखक उपलब्ध कराने का विकल्प लिया है, वे सभी विज्ञापन में उल्लेखित समस्त प्रमाण पत्रों के साथ परीक्षा तिथि के 7 दिवस पूर्व संबंधित जिला कलेक्टर कार्यालय से अनिवार्यतः संपर्क करें।

3/ अभ्यर्थी एवं उनके सहलेखक द्वारा व्यवहार न्यायाधीश (प्रवेश स्तर) परीक्षा-2022 में केल्यूलेटर का प्रयोग नहीं कर सकेंगे। अभ्यर्थी एवं सहलेखक को अपने साथ डिजिटल डायरी, केल्यूलेटर, सेल्युलर फोन, पेजर और स्मार्ट वॉच लाना पूर्णतः प्रतिबंधित है।

4/ परीक्षा परिसर में एवं भवन के अंदर वीक्षक व केन्द्राध्यक्ष द्वारा दिये जाने वाले निर्देशों का पालन अनिवार्य है। यदि अभ्यर्थी केन्द्राध्यक्ष द्वारा दिये गये निर्देशों का पालन नहीं करता है/अशिष्ट, उद्दण्ड आचरण करता है/अनुचित/अशोभनीय या अश्लील व्यवहार करता है तो वह परीक्षा से निष्कासित किया जा सकेगा एवं उसकी परीक्षा निरस्त की जा सकेगी। इसके अतिरिक्त परीक्षार्थी ऐसे दण्ड का भी भागी होगा, जो आयोग उचित समझे।

सचिव  
छत्तीसगढ़ लोक सेवा आयोग,  
नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)  
G-98200/1

## China confirms offer to Sri Lanka of debt moratorium

Beijing, Feb 03 (AP):

China's government on Friday confirmed it is offering Sri Lanka a two-year moratorium on loan repayments as the Indian Ocean island nation struggles to restructure USD 51 billion in foreign debt that pushed it into a financial crisis.

China lent to Sri Lanka as part of Beijing's multi-billion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative to increase trade by building ports and other infrastructure across Asia and Africa.

The International Monetary Fund offered a USD 2.9 billion emergency loan but wants other creditors to cut debts, which Beijing had resisted, possibly for fear other borrow-

ers would want the same relief.

China presented a plan to "provide an extension on debt service due in 2022 and 2023," said a foreign ministry spokeswoman, Mao Ning.

"During that period, Sri Lanka would not have to pay the principal and interest due on bank loans."

China is Sri Lanka's third-biggest creditor after Japan and the Asian Development Bank, accounting for about 10 per cent of its debt. But its lack of agreement blocked a final settlement.

Sri Lanka used Chinese loans to build an airport and other projects that failed to pay for themselves.

India, which China sees

as a strategic rival, announced last month it gave the IMF assurances to facilitate a bailout plan. India has given Sri Lanka USD 4.4 billion in emergency credit.

Sri Lanka ran out of foreign currency last April, leading to food shortages, power cuts and protests that forced a prime minister to resign and a president to flee the country. Debt repayment to China, Japan and other foreign lenders was suspended.

The island's government is cutting spending and says it will cut the size of its 200,000-member military by almost half by 2030.

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CBC-21205/12/0030/2223 Secretary, UGC

## कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद कवर्धा, जिला-कबीरधाम (छ.ग.)

क्रमांक/1292/न.पा.प./लो.नि.वि./2022-23 कवर्धा, दिनांक 02/02/2023

### मैनूअल पद्धति निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

एकीकृत पंचायत प्रणाली अंतर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में निर्माताओं/अधिकृत विक्रेताओं/कर्मों/सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 हेतु मैनूअल पद्धति निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.	कार्य विवरण	अनु. लागत राशि (लाख में)	नि.प्र. प्रवृत्त करने हेतु आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि
1	निर्माण सामाग्रीयों प्रदाय	10.00	16.02.2023
2	बॉल राईटिंग/बॉल पेटींग/म्यूरल आर्ट्स	10.00	---"
3	टैट एवं टैट से संबंधित सामग्री किराये पर उपलब्ध कराने।	10.00	---"
4	सफाई एवं दवाई सामग्रीयों तथा चूना पूर्ति वावत।	10.00	---"
5	भवन/उद्यानों में विद्युत व्यवस्था, मरम्मत एवं संभारण हेतु सामग्री क्रय।	10.00	---"
6	पेयजल व्यवस्था अंतर्गत मरम्मत एवं संभारण हेतु सामग्री क्रय।	15.00	---"
7	विभिन्न क्षमता के सख्तमसिबिल पम्प मरम्मत कार्य	5.00	---"
8	फिल्टर प्लांट व्यवस्था हेतु क्लोरिन गैस सप्लाइ करण।	5.00	---"
9	पेयजल व्यवस्था हेतु विभिन्न एच.पी. का सख्तमसिबिल एवं अन्य मोटर पम्प क्रय।	5.00	---"
10	फिल्टर प्लांट व्यवस्था हेतु चूना क्रय।	5.00	---"
11	भवनों में विद्युत व्यवस्था हेतु सामग्री क्रय।	5.00	---"

2- उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य को निविदा की सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है साथ ही यह जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाइट [www.uad.cg.gov.in](http://www.uad.cg.gov.in) से भी डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

मुख्य नगरपालिका अधिकारी, नगरपालिका परिषद कवर्धा





CENTRAL  
Chronicle

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India's dream of techade

India's flight on the technological front has been jetisoned by the 'Make in India' initiative. Not only the focus is on entrepreneurship but the stress is now on innovation. It is very clear to policymakers that unless we are leaders on the technological front, we can never compete with the nations on top. What seemed to be derision eight years ago is fast becoming a reality now. India learnt a hard-earned lesson when turmeric was patented by the USA for its medicinal values, a fact is known to Indians for thousands of years but we were never serious about Intellectual Property Rights and suffered immensely for this. Our illusory vision of the past created anamorphic illusions of all is well and we are doing well. After PM Modi's Make in India pitch things have moved in the right direction frenetically. There has been more than a fifty per cent increase in patent filing in the last seven years, from forty thousand in 2014- 15 to sixty-six and four hundred in 2021-22, a five-time increase in the grant of patents from six thousand to thirty thousand. Unambiguously the strides of achievement are visible. Behind the scenes, efforts put into this are not visible as a pragmatic approach and coveted labour have made it possible. This decade is of technology, 'techade', and India dreams to lead it from the front. It has not been one day job but a gradual rise year by year. Indian Institute of Sciences is leading the Indian pack with 145 patents in the last year, a record two patents every five days. The number of private entries for patents has also increased remarkably and domestic patent applicants have surpassed our international patent applications. Subsequently, our ranking in the global innovation index has surged to 40 from below 80 in 2015. All this has been due to the progressive simplification of procedures, electronic delivery of certificates and expedited examination for certain categories of applicants. India ranks now seventh in the world. But there is still a long way to go for India, China alone has more than half the patents in the world with its company Huawei getting almost seven thousand patents and American company Qualcomm with around four thousand patents is ranked second followed by South Korean giants Samsung and LG. Factually total patents filed in India are less than 5 percent of those filed in China and 10 percent of those filed in the US. In India, it takes fifty-eight months to process an application whereas in China it's done in twenty months and in the US in twenty-three months. The real problem lies with the staff aligned for the whole process, China has almost fourteen thousand examiners and controllers, the US has around eight thousand and we have less than a thousand, no comparison at all. A proposal for two thousand more staff for the patent office is under process, once aligned will streamline the process in India to a greater extent. More than one and a half lakh applications are pending, an astonishing figure. In addition to this no fixed timeline for opposition to be filed against the patent application, and cumbersome compliance requirements which are not required at all, adding up to the delays. India has an art of circumventing the odd situations, swimming against the tide is our forte and with the kind of personal interest, guidance and encouragement shown by our PM, the golden days of India are not far away. A bit of more autonomy to the Office of Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks by providing more financial and staffing flexibility can produce extraordinary results. India's increasing scientific capabilities have already made an impact on the world scenario, we are at par with the US in space missions, one of the few with nuclear technology, in an elite club of the IT sector; as such, the day of leading 'techade' is not far away now.

Perils of Nitrogen pollution

Vijaykumar H.K

Nitrogen is an abundant element in the Earth's atmosphere. It makes the sky blue, forms the foundation of proteins in our bodies and helps make soils rich. Still, redundant nitrogen in the terrain in a reactive form – which comes from the use of synthetic diseases, the discharge of wastewater or the combustion of fossil energies – is a hazard, contaminating land, water and air. It also exacerbates climate change and depletes the ozone subcaste, which is eventually recovering. Reports say that nitrogen pollution one of the most important pollution issues facing humanity. World needs to wake up to the issues of nitrogen waste and the openings to take common action for its sustainable use. When the vacuity of nitrogen composites exceeds consumption by shops, redundant nitrogen gets into the terrain, frequently filtering into submarine ecosystems. Formerly there, it can beget a rapid-fire increase of poisonous algae, known as algal blooms, which deplete oxygen in water and can produce littoral dead zones affecting aquatic life. Nitrogen pollution is the most influential global motorist of mortal-made biodiversity decline after niche destruction and the emigration of hothouse feasts. When nitrogen in its active form, similar as in fertiliser, is exposed to soil, microbial responses take place that release nitrous oxide. This gas is 300 times more potent at warming the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. It also remains active in the atmosphere for further than 100 times. Algal blooms in lakes and aqueducts, frequently caused by toxin run-off, also emit hothouse gases. Another issue is agrarian ammonia emigrations. This is a gassy form of nitrogen, which is emitted into the atmosphere from the casing, storehouse and spreading of beast ordure and the spreading of synthetic toxin. While ammonia isn't a hothouse gas, when it's released into the air, it acts as a base for emigrations of nitrous oxide, a potent hothouse gas. Water containing elevated situations of nitrate a form of nitrogen performing from beast waste, factory corruption and fertiliser run-off – raises the threat of babies developing methemoglobinemia, generally appertained to as "blue baby pattern", which can be fatal. High situations of nitrate in drinking water can also increase the threat of cancer in adults. Ammonia emigrations, as well as contributing to climate change, are an important motorist for fine particulate matter pollution, reducing air quality and adding adverse goods on mortal health. According to Reports, nitrogen costs the global frugality between US\$ 400 billion and US\$5 trillion annually when taking into account its impact on mortal health and ecosystems. Experts say that using the element more efficiently in food product is crucial to reducing the fat nitrogen released into the terrain. All Countries should work with scientists and other stakeholders, with the support of the Global Environment Facility, to lower the impact of nitrogen pollution on the earth.

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

AGNIVEER RECRUITMENT RALLY



Agniveer candidates wait to submit their documents for checking ahead of their Army Agniveer Recruitment Rally, at Army Recruiting Office, B.C.Road in Jammu, Friday.

Sweeping scars under patriotic carpet

KAJAL CHATTERJEE



A much popular veteran Bollywood superstar had tweeted with much pleasure that the "whole country" will go to sleep "peacefully" at night from now (following the attainment of that statistical jugglery named "Century of Centuries" by a certain cricketer "God"). That means the poorest of the poor, dominating the landscape of India, were possessing only one aspiration in life -- "When that elusive 100th ton would come". Now that it has come, we can afford to "enjoy" a "sound sleep" or "sweet dreams" every night. What a naked display of supreme inhuman indifference to the plight of millions of Indians (including children) who have to go to bed (innumerable on pavements, under open sky) with deadly pangs of hunger

in their stomachs night after night.

Or might be in the eyes of class-conscious Indians, the marginalised poor (forming the overwhelming majority in the nation) simply don't exist or just do not matter at all. After all, the country is the "zamindari" of the privileged class only. No wonder why "subsidies" to the poor are so frowned upon; but tax breaks, concessions, free medical/travel facilities for the industrialists, corporate honchos and high salaried class are always welcomed with open arms in the name of "incentives". In this pathetic inhuman perspective, it is natural that the trumpet of "Each and every Indian today stands at the summit of self-confidence" would be blown in regular intervals.

When millions are at their wits' end how to survive the day or procure health care with uncountable children getting brutally exploited in labour market (not to speak of bonded labourers) and adults compelled to leave for civil war-torn Middle East or Africa to toil in slave-like conditions just to escape acute poverty back home; how heartlessly can an image of an exclusive well-fed much-

nourished India being blatantly projected either to sweep the scars of the society under "patriotic" carpet or to simply convey that non-privileged Indians do not matter at all in "national consciousness". Nothing can be more heartless, tragic and ridiculous than such a mindset.

And surely this is the precise reason why despite drastic poverty plaguing millions of common Indians bereft of food attire shelter medicine education livelihood with many of the hapless getting, trafficked and meted to inhuman atrocities; we are relentlessly made to hear that India has become "elite" after attaining Mars Orbit or that India has proved its "might" in international community through performance of mass Yoga. In a similar vein, the privileged set of Indians religiously assert India's "greatness" through lofty flags, gigantic statues, missile technology, Bullet trains or presence of Indians in the top tier of international IT companies; notwithstanding the fact of millions of our own fellow citizens simply gasping for breath in abject pathetic state of affairs and bereft of minimum basic rights security and dignity with innumer-

able children getting denied of education.

In this highly insensitive scenario, it is natural that mainstream films to advertisements, media to academia would cater only to the elite privileged middle class only with the margins, nomads and poor migrants simply disappearing in these narratives. No wonder why "patriots" among the well-secured moneyed class get "inspired" to sweep all social ills of the country under the "nationalist" carpet (even the great humanitarian named Satyajit Ray also once got maligned for his "sin" of "selling India's poverty" in international forum) and draw "inspiration" from the world's highest statue, "Grand" temples, and glittering Vistas so as to "mesmerize" the world along with supreme indifference to another noble human being named Kailash Satyarthi as his yeoman's service has exposed the bitter truth of existence of millions of vulnerable child labourers in this "elite" country before the entire world. When will this society turn a bit egalitarian and learn to walk on the path of collective progress with an all-embracing attitude.

LETTERS  
TO THE EDITOR

Sufferings of the disabled

President Murmu had expressed concerns over the poor prisoners who are languishing in the jails due to non deposit of fine imposed by the courts. "You need to do something for these people. Who are these people in jail? They do not know fundamental rights, the Preamble or fundamental duties," Murmu had said. This example shows how a President of country is having the concerns of poor to poor person. Keeping in view the sensitive attitude of President of country, I being a disability activist had sent the representation on behalf of all disabled who had been denied their legitimate right of full pension as well as full family pension. As per media reports the husband of president was in Bank of India so after taking the charge, I had sent two reminders but no response. So through this letter, I request her to take into consideration the representation sent to her as the disparity exists since the last 26 years and no one take interest of the problems of disabled as the numbers of such persons are very few and can be counted on fingers. I expect that President of country will take note of the sufferings of the disabled.

Yash Pal Ralhan,  
Jalandhar

Schemes for all

Different sections voted for the BJP leaving behind their traditional thinking. This happened because the government had implemented schemes for everyone, irrespective of religion or caste. The credit can be given to Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana. These plans became the basis for Modi's return in 2019. Since the government has worked to strengthen these schemes, it may yield results in the next elections. In the Budget-2023, besides helping the salaried class, youth, women and the MSME sector, the Awas Yojana has been strengthened. The government has tried to improve social equations by announcing various schemes for the Dalits, underprivileged, backward and tribal communities. However, unemployment remains a problem.

Sikandar Bansal, Shimla

How chronic stress impacts behaviour, causes depression found

Chronic stress can impact behaviour, leading to problems like depression, reduced interest in things that previously brought us pleasure, even post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), according to a new study conducted in mice. Scientists have evidence that a group of neurons in a bow-shaped portion of the brain, the hypothalamus, become hyperactive after chronic exposure to stress. When these proopiomelanocortin, or POMC, neurons became super active, these sort of behavioral problems resulted and when scientists reduced their activity, the behaviours reduced, the study said.

According to the study, scientists at the Medical College of Georgia (MCG), Augusta University, US, looked in the hypothalamus, key to functions like releasing hormones and regulating hunger, thirst, mood, sex drive and sleep, at a population of POMC neurons in response to 10 days of chronic, unpredictable stress.

Chronic unpredictable stress is widely used to study the impact of stress exposure in animal models, and in this case, that included things like restraint, prolonged wet bedding in a tilted cage and social isolation, the study said.

The scientists found the stressors increased spontaneous firing of these POMC neurons in male and female mice, said corresponding author Xin-Yun Lu. The scientists have reported their findings in the journal Molecular

Psychiatry. When they directly activated the neurons, rather than letting stress increase their firing, it also resulted in the apparent inability to feel pleasure, called anhedonia, and behavioral despair, which is essentially depression, the study said.

In humans, indicators of anhedonia might include no longer interacting with good friends and a loss of libido. In mice, their usual love for sugar water wanes, and male mice, who normally like to sniff the urine of females when they are in heat, lose some of their interest as well, the study said. Conversely, when the MCG scientists inhibited the neurons' firing, it reduced these types of stress-induced behavioral changes in both sexes, the study said.

The results indicate POMC neurons are "both necessary and sufficient" to increase susceptibility to stress, and their increased firing is a driver of resulting behavioral changes like depression. In fact, stress overtly decreased inhibitory inputs onto POMC neurons, said Lu. The POMC neurons are located in the arcuate nucleus, or ARC, of the hypothalamus, already thought to be important to how chronic stress affects behaviour.

Occupying the same region is another population of neurons, called AgRP neurons, which are important for resilience to chronic stress and depression, Lu and

her team reported in Molecular Psychiatry in early 2021, the study said. In the face of chronic stress, Lu and her team reported that AgRP activation goes down as behavioral changes like anhedonia occur, and that when they stimulated those neurons the behaviours diminished.

Her team also wanted to know what chronic stress does to the POMC neurons, the study said. AgRP neurons, better known for their role in us seeking food when we are hungry, are known to have a yin-yang relationship with POMC neurons: When AgRP activation goes up, for example, POMC activation goes down. "If you stimulate AgRP neurons it can trigger immediate, robust feeding," Lu says.

Food deprivation also increases the firing of these neurons. It is also known that when excited by hunger signals, AgRP neurons send direct messages to the POMC neurons to release the brake on feeding. The scientists' studies found that chronic stress disrupts the yin-yang balance between these two neuronal populations.

Although AgRP's projection to POMC neurons is clearly important for their firing activity, the intrinsic mechanism is probably the major mechanism underlying hyperactivity of POMC neurons by chronic stress, Lu said. The research was funded by the National Institutes of Health, US.

Education Budget 2023-24

Dr. Krishna Kumar Vepakomma

The government's increased emphasis on improving education access in rural India in this year's Union Budget is a commendable development that will increase the population's literacy rate. It is clear that the government's top priorities are upskilling youngsters and promoting digitalization in education. The National Education Policy strongly stressed skill development, adopted economic measures that promote widespread job creation, and promoted business possibilities in order to empower our youth and help the "Amrit Peedhi" achieve their goals. In the Union Budget for 23-24, the education sector received the biggest ever allocation of INR 1.12 lakh crore (\$ 13.66 billion).

We applaud the announcements and substantial increase in funding for the school education and skill development sectors. It is quite admirable that the finance minister has launched a number of initiatives to close growing educational gaps. In addition to providing children with access to high-quality books, the establishment of a national digital library and other knowledge assets for them (such as new labs) will advance our nation's development. State governments would be urged to establish physical libraries at the ward and panchayat levels as well as to set up the necessary infrastructure for users to access the National Digital Library's resources.

The Budget's emphasis on establishing district training centers for educators would revolutionize both public and private school education throughout India, which is very positive. Overall, in order to cultivate a student talent pool, the budget pushes the academic community to promptly incorporate the most recent technology advancements.



## BRIEF

## Disinvestment target



**New Delhi:** The government is likely to sell a part of its residual stake in Hindustan Zinc Ltd by next month to help it achieve the revised sell-off target of Rs 50,000 crore for the current fiscal, DIPAM Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey said. For the coming fiscal, the government has lined up strategic stake sales in companies like HLL Lifecare, PDIL, Shipping Corporation and BEML to meet the similar disinvestment target set in the 2023-24 Budget. The government currently holds a 29.54 per cent stake in Hindustan Zinc or HZL. In 2002, it sold 26 per cent of HZL to the mining billionaire Anil Agarwal-led group.

## Emission norms

**New Delhi:** Automaker Renault said it has upgraded its entire product range conforming to the upcoming stricter emission norms in the country. The company's entire range, including Kiger, Triber and Kwid, will meet the second phase of BS VI emission norms which will kick-in from April 1 this year. With the implementation of the second phase of BS VI norms, all company cars will be equipped with a self-diagnostic device, the automaker said. The device will constantly monitor the vehicle's emission levels while driving, along with other critical emission devices such as the catalytic converter and oxygen sensors, it added.

## Self-reliance



**Bengaluru:** The co-founder of Byju's Divya Gokulnath has said the Union Budget 2023-24 will take the country to become a self-reliant economy. The Indian multinational education technology company co-founder said the push for infrastructure in the budget, which was presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday, will create huge jobs and encourage investment in this sector.

## Overall exposure

**Mumbai:** The country's largest lender SBI on Friday said its overall exposure to the Adani Group is at 0.88 per cent of the book or around Rs 27,000 crore. SBI chairman Dinesh Khara said the bank does not envisage the embattled ports-to-mining group facing any challenge to service its debt obligations and stressed that SBI has not given any loans against shares to the group.

# Budget FY24 focuses on growth with inclusion: Iyer

New Delhi, Feb 03:

NITI Aayog CEO Parameswaran Iyer on Friday described the Budget 2023-24 as 'very comprehensive and balanced' which will promote growth with inclusion. He also observed that the Budget continues all the reforms and other social welfare programmes undertaken by the government over the past few years. Iyer further said the Budget has something for all, from the bottom, right up to industry to trade. "This is a Budget which focuses on growth, with inclusion. It's very balanced, it carries on from all the reforms and other social welfare programmes which the government has undertaken over the past few years," he told PTI in an interview. Iyer noted that the Budget focuses on



infrastructure investment, social sector, and also on reaching out to the poor and marginalised section of society. According to Iyer, the huge focus on infrastructure and capex in the Budget will also incentivise states.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman raised the capital expenditure by 33 per cent to Rs 10 lakh crore for infrastructure development and announced a lower fiscal deficit target of 5.9 per cent for 2023-24, while re-

taining it at 6.4 per cent for current financial year.

Replying to a question on the Modi government's Aspirational Block Programme (ABP), Iyer said ABP is under the Aspirational Districts Programme. "The budget of ABP is being worked out but basically the idea is that state governments converge funds from the existing resources and focus on data-driven delivery and tight monitoring," he said. The NITI Aayog CEO said that all states have agreed to implement ABP. Last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Aspirational Block Programme covering 500 blocks for saturation of essential government services across multiple domains, on the lines of a similar exercise aimed at developing 112 backward districts.

## Sony India unveils premium walkman model NW-ZX707

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Sony India announced a new player NW-ZX707 Walkman, that has been engineered keeping in mind the most eclectic audiophiles and hi-fi enthusiasts. The NW-ZX707, player is designed for listeners to enjoy music the way the artist intended with high-quality sound with a sleek design. The high-end components are meant for extraordinary sound. NW-ZX707 integrates a DSD Remastering Engine where PCM (Pulse Code Modulation) audio is resampled into an 11.2 MHz DSD (Direct Stream Digital), offering even more ways to enjoy music.

S-Master HX digital amp technology, independently developed for Walkman® is compatible with the native DSD format. It reduces distortion and noise across a wide range of frequencies, for rich and

full-bodied sound, further enhanced by new high-quality sound lead free solder. Just like the latest Signature Walkman® model, the model applies a reflow solder containing gold, whose effect is significant in the overall improved sound localization and wider sound space. To realise the music players' evolutionary sound, a dual clock, film capacitor and fine sound register have been precisely placed within each Walkman®.

Inheriting the philosophy of the Signature Walkman, the NW-ZX707 has upgraded fine-tuned capacitors and a FTCAP3 (High polymer capacitor) and a large solid high polymer capacitor which offers large capacitance and low resistance. While an OFC milled block covering the digital block, allows the NW-ZX707 to bring listeners sound that appears to rise up from silence.

## Amazon launches amazing offers

Mumbai, Feb 03: Bring in the

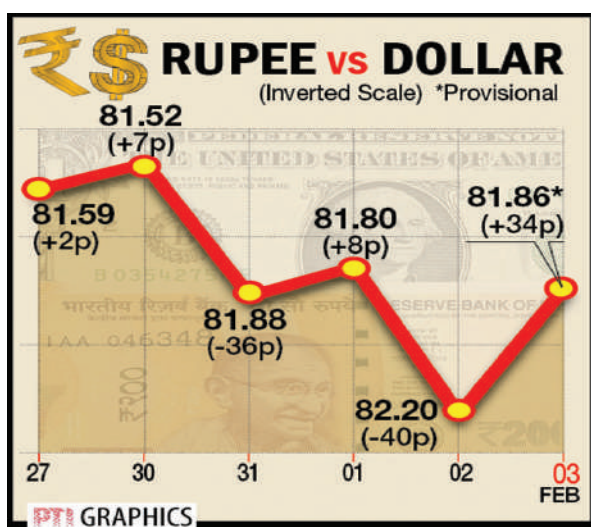
season of love by cooking for your loved ones, friends, family and try new recipes using fresh fruits and vegetables and everyday essentials. Tick off from your list of monthly essentials during the Super Value Days Powered by Gillette on Amazon Fresh, and shop until 7th February. Customers can avail discount of up to 45% off on grocery, household essentials, packaged foods, snacks & beverages, and staples among others from popular brands including by Gillette, Daawat, Tata, Fortune, Godrej, and Dabur among others from Amazon Fresh. Customers can also avail an instant discount of 10% on Kotak Bank Credit & Debit Cards from 1st - 3rd February and ICICI Credit & Debit Card from 4th - 7th February 2023 with a minimum transaction of Rs 2,500, and discounts up to Rs 300.

## Rupee gains 34 paise to close at 81.86 against US dollar

New Delhi, Feb 03:

The rupee appreciated by 34 paise to close at 81.86 (provisional) against the US currency on Friday, supported by a rebound in domestic equities and easing crude oil prices. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 82.15 against the American currency and finally settled at 81.86 against the greenback, registering a gain of 34 paise over its previous close of 82.20.

During the trading session, the rupee also touched a low of 82.31 against the dollar. The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, declined 0.12 per cent to 101.63. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures advanced 0.39 per



cent to USD 82.49 per barrel. "Indian Rupee appreciated on a rebound in domestic equities and weakness in crude oil prices. However, positive US Dollar capped sharp gains," said Anuj

Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas. Choudhary further noted that the rupee depreciated earlier today as PMI data was disappointing. India's services PMI fell to 57.2 in

## FM asks India Inc to be prime movers in frontier technologies

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman asked India Inc to be prime movers in frontier technologies, adding that the government will facilitate the development. Citing the example of the software industry's success, the minister said it started on its own without any support and the government only came in later. "Industry should look into itself for its potential and then come up with points at which it wants the government to facilitate, rather than say is the government doing anything about it?" she said at a post-Budget interaction with members of industry body Ficci. "How did the software sector start in the country? Did they wait for the government? No, they just kept moving and the government saw that it cannot be sitting and watching and came up

with quite a few facilitating policies after that," she said. So, she said, "I would want industry to be the prime mover as regards the latest frontiers in renewable energy, and as regards the latest frontiers in rare earth materials, conversion of all these towards usable technology."

She assured industry that the government will proactively consider their suggestions on various issues. On capital expenditure utilisation, the finance minister said the government will monitor it on a regular basis and exuded confidence that states too will utilise the funds for promoting infrastructure development. Compared to the current financial year, the Centre is allocating Rs 1.3 lakh crore to the states in FY24, which is 30 per cent higher, she noted. Most of the funds being allocated to states are unconditional.

## No power supply disruption due to high demand: RK Singh

Will not hesitate to import coal

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Power Minister RK Singh exuded confidence that there will be no disruption in electricity supply due to high demand during summer, and he will not hesitate to import coal and mandate thermal plants to run at full capacity for the purpose. The Indian power system has already met a record power demand of 211.6 GW in June 2022. During the current year 2023, the power demand is expected to be around 225 GW during summer, Singh said in a written reply to the Lok Sabha on Thursday. Asked about rising power demand, Singh told reporters in a press confer-

## BUDGET SESSION



Governor Tamil S. Soundararajan with Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao arrives on the first day of the State Budget Session, in Hyderabad, Friday, Feb. 3.

## Monthly GST revenue at Rs 1.50 lakh cr to be new normal next fiscal: CBIC chief

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Monthly GST collection is expected to average around Rs 1.50 lakh crore and it will be the new normal' in FY24 in view of concerted efforts to check evasion and bring new businesses within the GST net, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) chief Vivek Johri said. In an interview to PTI, Johri said the GST and Customs revenue collection numbers as given in Budget 2023-24 are realistic based on nominal GDP growth and import trends, respectively and the indirect tax collection target set for next fiscal will be achieved. Johri said CBIC has drawn up a strategy to augment GST



mop-up by way of stricter audit and scrutiny of tax returns, enforcement action against fake billing and input tax credit claims. "We will focus on increasing the taxpayer base. Even though the growth in taxpayer base has been quite good, we have more than doubled the number of taxpayers from the time we started GST, we feel there are some sectors which have

## Samsung to make premium Galaxy S23 smartphones in India

New Delhi, Feb 03:

Korean smart devices maker Samsung said it will manufacture premium Galaxy S23 smartphones in India to cater to the local market requirements. The launch price of the Galaxy S23 series in India is in the range of Rs 75,000 to Rs 1.55 lakh per piece. At present, Galaxy S Series smartphones are being manufactured at Samsung's Vietnam factory and the company imports them for sale in India. "All Galaxy S23 smartphones sold in India will be manufactured at the company's Noida factory. Samsung already fulfils a majority of the domestic demand in India through local manufacturing at the Noida factory. Samsung's decision to sell 'Made in India' Galaxy S23 smartphones shows the company's commitment to

India's manufacturing and growth story," Samsung said in a statement.

The development comes a day after Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the removal of duty on the import of camera lenses, which is one of the key unique selling propositions of Galaxy S series smartphones.

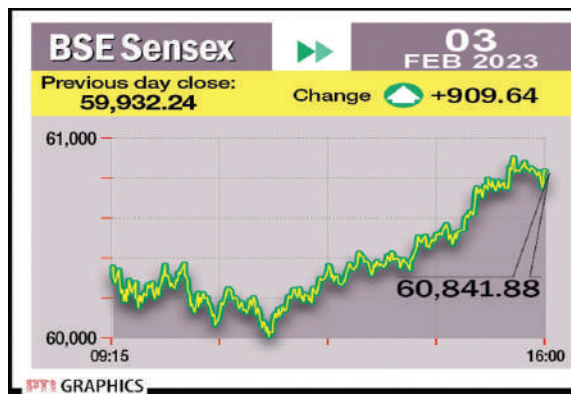
The company on Wednesday unveiled three models of Galaxy S23 smartphones, which come with high-end camera sensors. "Galaxy S23 Ultra comes with Samsung's most advanced camera system, tailored for nearly any lighting conditions and engineered to render incredible detail. Galaxy S23 Ultra boasts a new 200 MP Adaptive Pixel sensor that captures epic moments with incredible precision," the statement said.

## NSE, BSE put 3 Adani Group companies under short-term additional surveillance measure

**New Delhi, Feb 03:** As many as three Adani group companies, including Adani Enterprises, have come under short-term additional surveillance measure (ASM) framework of the BSE and NSE, according to the latest data available with the exchanges on Thursday. Apart from Adani Enterprises, the other two firms listed by the exchanges are - Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone and Ambuja Cements. The parameters for shortlisting securities under ASM include high-low variation, client concentration, number of price band hits, close-to-close price variation and price-earnings ratio. The National Stock Exchange (NSE) and BSE said these companies have satisfied the criteria for inclusion in short-term additional surveillance measure or ASM. Under the short-term ASM, the exchanges said, "applicable rate of margin shall be 50 per cent or existing margin whichever is higher, subject to maximum rate of margin capped at 100 per cent, with effect from February 6, 2023 on all open positions as on February 3, 2023 and new positions created from February 6, 2023".

## Sensex, Nifty jump over 1 pc on heavy buying in banking stocks

**Mumbai, Feb 03:** Equity benchmarks rallied over 1 per cent on Friday due to heavy buying in banking and financial counters amid mixed trend in the global markets. The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex zoomed 909.64 points or 1.52 per cent to settle at 60,841.88. During the day, it jumped 973.1 points or 1.62 per cent to 60,905.34. The broader NSE Nifty advanced 243.65 points or 1.38 per cent to end at 17,854.05. From the Sensex pack, Titan, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, HDFC Bank, HDFC, State Bank of India, Mahindra & Mahindra and IndusInd Bank were among the major winners. HCL Technologies, Wipro and Tech Mahindra were



among the laggards. Elsewhere in Asia, equity markets in Seoul and Tokyo ended in the green, while Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. Equities in Europe were trading mostly lower during mid-session deals. Markets in the US ended

mostly in the positive territory on Thursday. International oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.44 per cent to USD 82.52 per barrel. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) again offloaded shares on Thursday after a day's breather.

## Budget embedded with strong sense of fiscal discipline: Anand Mahindra

New Delhi, Feb 03:

The Union Budget 2023-24 comes embedded with a strong sense of fiscal discipline and an aversion to profligacy and bankruptcy, noted industrialist Anand Mahindra said. Taking to Twitter to share his views on the Budget, which was presented by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday, Mahindra Group Chairman Anand Mahindra said: "First, the context is that India's the only major economy in good shape & the budget's task was to preserve that status. So I was gratified to see the higher capex. That's all about investing for higher growth." He lauded the finance ministry for maintaining dis-



cipline and not giving up to profligacy. "The DNA of our finance ministry has been embedded in it a strong sense of fiscal discipline & an aversion to profligacy & bankruptcy. (Unlike a rather fragile neighbour of ours) This budget lived up to that conservative tradition," Mahindra said. In line with conservatism, it was good to see the country back on a trajectory towards a lower fiscal deficit, he added.



## Aarya Babbar turns director for his short film 'Pill Hai Ke Manta Nahi'

Actor Aarya Babbar is all set to make his debut as a director in his new short film 'Pill Hai Ke Manta Nahi'. The movie's star cast includes Sharib Hashmi, Gopi Bhalla, Cheshta Bhagat, Nancy Thakkar, Rashika Pradhan, and Aarya Babbar. It is produced by Babbar House and Parmar Productions. When asked about the project, Aarya stated, "This was an extremely exciting project for me where I wanted the audience to get the entertainment of a two-hour film in a 30 mins film." He added: "We as a team are excited that we have made a film which is just not a frivolous comedy but a comedy that connects with the OTT audience of today and the message of the film resonates with them." The short film is out on Disney+ Hotstar.

# Kartik Aaryan fulfils his dream of singing on stage

This Saturday, Sony Entertainment Television's acclaimed singing reality show, 'Indian Idol - Season 13' will be celebrating the 'Girls vs Boys' special episode and adding charm to the evening will be none other than the cast of, 'Shehzada' - Kartik Aaryan and Kriti Sanon. While the Top 8 contestants impress the celebrity guests and judges Vishal Dadlani and Himesh Reshammiya with their talent, contestant Rishi Singh from Ayodhya gives an outstanding performance on the song, 'Tera Yaar Hoon Mein' from the 2018 film 'Sonu Ke Titu Ki Sweetie.' Rishi's performance touched

Kartik Aaryan so much that he gave him a tight hug as Kartik has very special memories attached with this song. Kartik Aaryan shares, "This song and the film was the turning point in my career. The way you sang this song, seriously it made me very emotional. This song is like a friendship anthem for everyone. I feel lucky that I got this song in my career, and it makes me so proud to hear you".

Kartik further went on to reveal how the song was initially not a part of the movie but on Kartik's request, the director add the song in the film. Later, Host Aditya Narayan tells Kartik that he

observed how he was singing along during Rishi's performance to which Kartik adds, "Sometimes when you hear these contestants singing, you wonder 'what talent is this!' I used to wonder sometimes that I too should have become a singer and perform on a stage."

Indian Idol Season 13 helped fulfill Kartik's wish to perform onstage when Aditya invited him to sing 'Tera Yaar Hoon Mein' with Rishi. Together, the duo created magic by making the 'mausam musicanal'.

Be sure to tune into Indian Idol 13, this Saturday at 8:00 pm only on Sony Entertainment Television.



# Shilpa, Shamita used to fight as latter didn't share clothes



Actress Shilpa Shetty shared a candid birthday post for her younger sister Shamita Shetty, who turned 44 on Thursday.

Shilpa took to Instagram, where she shared a reel for her sister featuring their pictures together.

Shilpa captioned the clip: "From sharing a box

of chocolates and NOT wanting to share clothes..From being each other's agony aunts to pulling each other's hair out. To... NOW becoming an inseparable pair. I love you to the moon and back...."

"H A P P P Y Y Y Y Y BIRTHDAAYYYYY, my darling Tunki!"

Wishing you only all the choicest blessings the universe has to offer and great health above all. @shamitashetty\_official."

Shilpa was last seen on the silver screen in 'Nikkamma'. Shamita made her film debut with 2000 film 'Mohabbatein', she was last seen in 'Bigg Boss OTT'.

# 'I guess we share a karmic connection'

After making a lasting impression with her first ever film Vikram Vedha alongwith Hrithik Roshan and Saif Ali Khan, Yogita Bihani is now gearing up for her first music video. From a young girl in the audience of The Kapil Sharma Show to now promoting her projects on the show, Yogita has truly scaled an inspirational journey.

Taking the right steps in the right direction, Yogita Bihani is carving her niche in the entertainment industry with one project at a time. Having started her career on television with Ekta Kapoor's show Dil Hi Toh Hai, Yogita Bihani although made her first television appearance on The Kapil Sharma Show. The actress was a part of the audience and as a part of an interaction, came up on stage, years before being invited on the show as a guest to promote her film Vikram Vedha. Now, the actress is all set to feature in a music video alongwith the comedian cum actor and singing sensation



Guru Randhawa, and the trio also recently shot for an episode of The Kapil Sharma Show for the promotions of her song.

Talking about the same, Yogita Bihani said, "As a young girl in the audience for one of the most loved and successful show on Indian Television, I never imagined I

would be promoting my first ever film on the show. It's funny how I keep running into Kapil Sharma at the varied stages of my career, I guess, we share a karmic connection. When I returned to The Kapil Sharma Show last year for my debut Vikram Vedha, I felt like came to a full circle, and now I am a part of his debut music video and we are back on the sets of the show for promoting that. I look forward to the opportunity for returning to The Kapil Sharma Show for my upcoming projects."

Recently, Yogita Bihani shared a post on social media revealing the story behind a scar on her stomach as a result of her Gastrointestinal surgery from eight years ago. The daring and inspirational note was met with support and appreciation from netizens, hailing her courage.

Currently looking forward to her music video, Yogita Bihani is also gearing for her upcoming projects, expected to be announced soon.



## Tiger Shroff dances to 'Main Khiladi' from 'Selfiee' with Akshay Kumar



Action stars Tiger Shroff and Akshay Kumar danced together to the song 'Main Khiladi' from the upcoming film 'Selfiee'.

Akshay and Tiger, who have started shooting for 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', danced together to Akshay's song and shared a video on Instagram.

In the video, the two stars can be seen wearing a matching black sunglass-

es and black clothes doing the hook step of 'Main Khiladi', a remake of Akshay's 1994 song 'Main Khiladi Tu Anari', which is pictured with him with actor Saif Ali Khan.

Posting the video of them dancing in a garden, Akshay wrote in the caption: "So @tigerjackieshroff played #MainKhiladi with me and this happened!! How about you make a #MainKhiladi reel with

your bestie? I'll repost. #Selfiee.

'Selfiee' is scheduled to release on February 24. Directed by Raj Mehta, it is the official Hindi remake of the Malayalam film 'Driving License' which featured Prithviraj and Suraj Venjaramoodu in lead roles.

'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' is directed by Ali Abbas Zafar and actor Prithviraj Sukumaran will be seen as the antagonist.

The movie, which will mark the beginning of an action franchise, is a follow-up to Amitabh Bachchan and Govinda's 1998 hit film 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan', which was directed by David Dhawan.

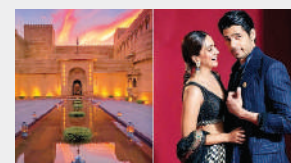
The film is produced by Vashu Bhagnani, Deepshikha Deshmukh, Jacky Bhagnani, Himanshu Kishan Mehra and Zafar.

## Kiara-Sidharth Jaisalmer wedding details shared by paparazzo

Mumbai-based renowned paparazzo has said that his team will be covering Bollywood stars Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's wedding in Jaisalmer from February 4-6. Viral Bhayani shared a post on Instagram that his team is leaving for the wed-

ding, which will reportedly take place at the luxurious Suryagarh Palace in Jaisalmer.

He wrote, "We are heading to Jaisalmer to cover Kiara Advani and Sidharth Malhotra's wedding. We will land tomorrow and then take a jeep to



Jaisalmer." "One team will have to wait at Jodhpur airport in case guests are not

taking chartered flights direct to Jaisalmer. We are not sure what we are going to get, but we will brace the cold weather and try our best." The paparazzi said that "most images normally get uploaded by the stars, we just wait and watch. February 4-6 is

when the wedding will take place at Suryagarh Palace." Sidharth and Kiara, who are often seen together, have been dating since 2021 since their film 'Shershaah', however both have neither confirmed or denied reports about their relationship.

## 'Our commitment to spreading smiles is reason behind Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai's success'



Rohitashv Gour, a well-known name in Hindi television and films, has become a household name for his portrayal of Manmohan Tiwari in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai. The actor has been tickling the audience's funny bone with his impeccable comic timing for years and has become the audience's absolute favourite. In this candid chat, the actor discusses his journey as Tiwari and what keeps him committed to the role even after seven years.

Your character Manmohan Tiwari has become a household name. Were you expecting this kind of love when you started shooting for Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai?

When a serial gets popular, several prominent characters become household names. Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai gave me immense success as an actor.

When we started this show, we were worried about how the Indian audience would react to the show's concept. But today, I am grateful for the love and appreciation I have received as an artist, and I also feel happy for my co-stars and the entire crew. Audiences' unwavering support for my character encourages me to give my best in the show and continue to create a unique identity in the entertainment industry.

What was your family's reaction when you bagged the role of Manmohan Tiwari in Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai?

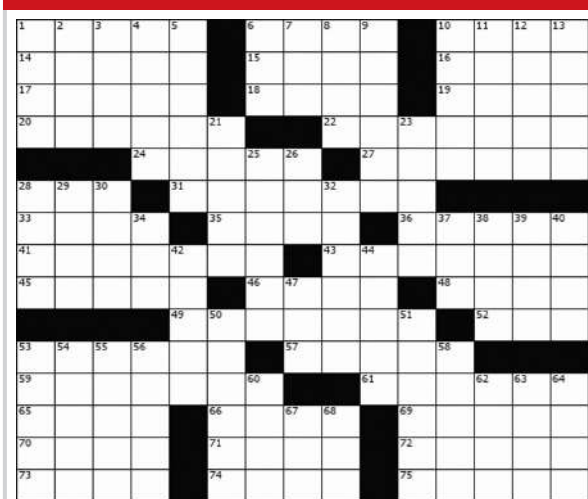
Initially, I felt that my wife Rekha would not like watching me on screen flirting with the bold and beautiful Bhabhi, but she liked the funny antics of my character and loved the show. My entire family has been extremely supportive and enjoys my acting work.

What, according to you, is the reason behind the huge success of Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai?

The biggest reason for the show's success is its unique characters and funny tracks. The tragedies that our characters face and hilarious get-ups keep the audience glued to our show. On several occasions, our fans have mentioned how watching the show has brought happiness into their lives. There have been cases wherein many patients have written to us stating how the show's comedy has helped them divert their minds from their pain. Our commitment to spreading smiles has been the biggest reason behind the show's success.

Watch Rohitashv Gour as Manmohan Tiwari in &TV's Bhabiji Ghar Par Hai at 10:30 PM every Monday to Friday!

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- code
- Aid in crime
- Grouch
- Notions
- Hand gesture
- Lounge about
- Handed out cards
- Hideout
- Burn-soothing plant
- Tel Aviv's locale
- Reduces

- Greek letter
- Talks back
- Kwanzaa's mo.
- Matrimonial
- She, in Barcelona
- Doll's cry
- Make jubilant
- Level off
- Educational meeting
- Bicycle part
- Ponder
- Sub store

- Chalkboard wipers
- Pint-sized
- Uncommon
- Assumed name
- Phone bug
- Total
- Adam's garden
- Statistics
- Artist's stand
- Fender blemish
- Heroic
- Shoplift
- Historic periods
- Marathon, e.g.
- Swarms

### DOWN

- Average skirt
- Poems of praise
- Bring up
- Mixed greens
- Self-
- Punching tool
- Sheep's cry
- Slinster
- Calcutta's Mother
- Seminar
- Acting parts
- Unaccompanied
- Sanctify
- Peruvian animal
- Massachusetts city
- Serious injury
- Ambition
- Johnny of "Finding Neverland"
- She, in Nice
- Dressed

- Loafer ornament
- "One Day \_\_\_\_\_ Time" (2 wds.)
- Jar cover
- Over again
- "A \_\_\_\_\_ of Two Cities"
- Pennsylvania port
- Vote in
- Spooky
- Can's neighbor
- Library patron
- Least daffy
- Stockholm native
- Fall drink
- Sports site
- Leases
- Declare
- Mama's spouse
- "\_\_\_\_\_ dead people!" (2 wds.)
- Paper measure
- Building wings
- Twit
- Hero





# Australia gets 'Ashwin duplicate' to train ahead of Test series against India

Bengaluru, Feb 03 (PTI):

Australia have roped in Maheesh Pithiya, a 21-year-old spinner with uncanny resemblance to Ravichandran Ashwin, to train in spin-friendly tracks as part of their preparation for the upcoming Test series against India.

Off-spinner Ashwin may prove to be a major threat for Australia, who haven't won a Test series in India since 2014.

Expecting spin to play a major role in the four-Test series, the visitors have opted for tailor-made pitches and have availed the services of Pithiya to get accustomed to the action of Ashwin. The four-Test series begins in

Nagpur on February 9. "Of all the stops Australia have pulled out to prepare for their trip to India, the most noticeable at their Test tour's first training session was the presence of a Ravichandran Ashwin duplicate," a report in cricket.com.au said.

"With facing spin the major focus on Thursday, Pithiya was the standout among the local 'nettles', bowling tirelessly and virtually without break through the day as he troubled the likes of Smith, Marnus Labuschagne and Travis Head, who all had long batting sessions."

Pithiya, interestingly, didn't see Ashwin bowl until the age of 11. Growing up in Junagadh,



Gujarat he didn't have access to TV and when he finally watched the India ace in action against the

West Indies in 2013, he started idolising him.

The youngster, who made his first-class debut in December for Baroda, was flown in for the four-day training camp at the KSCA Ground in nearby Alur by Australia after seeing his footages in social media.

It was Pritesh Joshi — one of the bowlers giving throw downs to the Australian batters with the 'side-arm' aid — who first brought Pithiya to the attention of assistant coach Andre Borovec.

He also arranged for Mehrotra Shashank, a left-arm spinner who played first-class cricket for Hyderabad, to attend the camp. "While no spinner in the world can perfectly

mimic the challenge Ashwin will pose in this series, facing Pithiya over the coming days will at least help the Australians come to terms with the visual cues of the world's top-ranked Test spin bowler," the report said.

"The Aussie batters were also tested out by a self-described throwdown specialist Khaleel Shariff, who has worked with numerous Indian Premier League teams and was known to coach Andrew McDonald and Vettori from their time at Royal Challengers Bangalore."

The other Tests will be played in New Delhi (February 17-21), Dharamsala (March 1-5) and Ahmedabad (March 9-13).

## Juventus beats Lazio, will face Inter in semis

Turin, Feb 03 (AP):

The Italian Cup is giving Juventus a respite from its Serie A troubles. Bremer's first-half goal was enough to put Juventus into the semifinals of the competition with a 1-0 win over Lazio on Thursday, setting up a rematch of last year's final.

Juventus broke the deadlock on the stroke of halftime when Bremer took advantage of poor goalkeeping from Luis Maximiano to head in a cross from Filip Kostic.

Juventus came into the match on the back of a 2-0 loss at home to Monza in the league. That was preceded by a draw against Atalanta and a hefty 5-1



loss at Napoli. Its poor run of results and a 15-point penalty for false accounting has left it just 10 points above the Serie A relegation zone.

Juventus has won the Italian Cup a record 14 times, however, and also beat Lazio 3-0 in the league in November.

## Buttler understands why players opting franchise cricket over national duty

London, Feb 03 (PTI):

England white-ball skipper Jos Buttler admitted there is a bit of "frustration" at not being able to pick the best team for international assignments in the run-up to their World Cup title defence with some players choosing T20 leagues over national duty. Alex Hales, Sam Billings and David Willey are among the players who have decided to skip the upcoming Bangladesh series in March to fulfil their franchise cricket commitments. "Wherever people are playing, we want to pick our best available team, especially for World Cups and big ICC events, so we are open minded," Buttler was quoted as saying by 'ESPNcricinfo'. "It's quite complicated, and there are some frustrations at certain points but I completely understand people's positions and it's an individual



## Rachel Haynes appointed head coach of Adani owned WPL team

Nooshin Al Khadeer also roped in

Ahmedabad, Feb 03 (PTI):



Multiple-time World Cup winner Australian opener Rachael Haynes has been appointed head coach of the Gautam Adani-owned Women's Premier League (WPL) team Gujarat Giants while Nooshin Al Khadeer, who guided India to U-19 team to World Cup triumph, will be bowling coach.

The Adani Sportline-owned Gujarat Giants, bought for a whopping Rs 1289 crore, has already roped in former India captain Mithali Raj as their mentor and advisor. Former senior women's team coach Tushar Arothe will be the team's batting coach and Gavan Twining will look after fielding department.

"Not only have they carved a niche for themselves in their roles, but their stories of resilience will be an inspiration for the team," said Mithali. "Their combined strengths will

enable Gujarat Giants to give their best performance on the ground at the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League, which will inspire several aspiring women athletes."

Haynes, who has played at the highest level for more than a decade, has won six world championship titles with the Australian team and was the vice-captain of the side from 2017-2022. The left-handed batter, who was an integral part of the very successful national set-up, is a veteran of 84 T20Is and played crucial roles in the

Australian team's title winning campaigns at the 2018 and 2020 T20 World Cups. Haynes, who was part of the team that won the 2022 Women's Cricket World Cup in New Zealand, has also turned out for the Sydney Thunder in the Women's Big Bash League, often leading the run scoring charts for her side. "The Women's Premier League is such an exciting addition to the cricket landscape. The opportunity to be involved in the inaugural season with the Adani Sportline owned Gujarat Giants and work with the brilliant Mithali Raj is something I'm really looking forward to," said Haynes. "We have formed a wonderful coaching team, with Nooshin Al Khadeer, Tushar Arothe and Gavan Twining, who will be bringing on board their rich experience which will help the team to play an exciting brand of cricket which our fans will enjoy watching."

## You are my new hero: Gavaskar tells Lakshya Sen



New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

A star-struck Lakshya Sen couldn't believe his eyes when the legendary Sunil Gavaskar dropped in at the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy (PPBA) in Bengaluru to meet him and the youngsters.

The 73-year-old Gavaskar, a member of the 1983 World Cup-winning cricket team, paid a visit to the academy during a regular trip to the city on Thursday.

"He had a meeting in Bengaluru and decided to meet the young aspiring kids of the academy. Badminton and cricket are two of his favourite sports. He was here with us for about an hour," Vimal Kumar, co-founder, director and chief coach of the PPBA, told PTI.

Gavaskar later posted a picture with Lakshya Sen on Instagram and captioned it: "My new badminton hero Lakshya Sen, after the one and only Prakash Padukone."

The legendary cricketer had hailed Padukone several times while doing cricket commentary over the years, saying he is one of India's greatest sportspersons.

Sen, who has been one of India's most prolific sportspersons in 2022, said he was too star struck to react.

"It feels good to hear such things from such big personalities. Honestly, I was too star struck to react," Sen told PTI. The 21-year-old from Almora won gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the India

Open Super 500. He was also a member of the historic Thomas Cup win. He also won silver at the All England Championships and is also the winner of the 2021 World Championships bronze medal.

"Gavaskar sir spoke about the Thomas Cup win. I have heard so much about him from my parents and all the seniors. Also when I watched the movie '83', I got to know what went behind that epic win," he said.

"I can relate to it now, essentially after the Thomas Cup win because back then they were the underdogs and in Thomas Cup, it was us."

India had claimed their first-ever Thomas Cup, beating Indonesia 3-0 in the final at Bangkok in May last year.

Asked what did Gavaskar discuss with the budding shuttlers, Vimal said, "He also gave some tips to the youngsters, asking them to analyse what went right in a day to get the best out of training."

"Gavaskar and Prakash are two self-taught heroes of Indian sport, so coming from him means a lot."

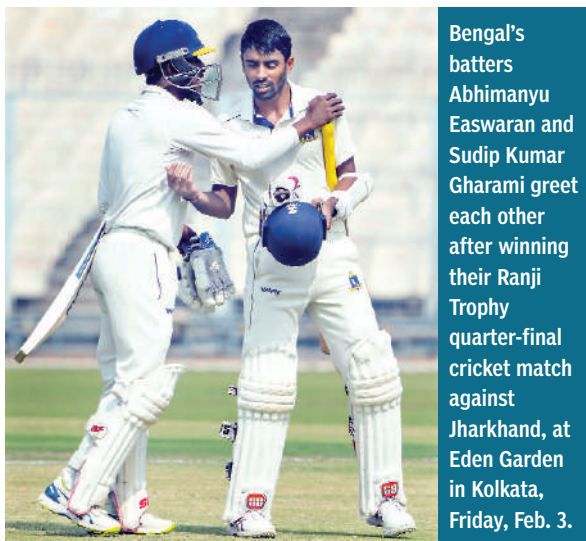
Gavaskar's love for badminton is well-known. He was the co-owner of Mumbai Masters, a franchise which made the last-four of the inaugural Indian Badminton League (IBL).

Whenever the former cricketer is in Mumbai, and is able to spare time from his busy commentary schedule, he makes it a point to play a few games of badminton.

## MP beat Andhra by 5 wickets, face Bengal in semis

Indore, Feb 03 (PTI): Riding on half-centuries from opener Yash Dubey and Rajat Patidar, defending champions Madhya Pradesh completed their remarkable fightback as they beat Andhra by five wickets to enter the Ranji Trophy semifinals here on Friday. After conceding a big first innings lead of 151, MP bounced back on the third day on Thursday by skittling out Andhra for a mere 93 in 32.3 overs in the visiting side's second innings. Set a target of 245 to win the quarterfinal match, MP were 58 for no loss on Thursday and they knocked off the remaining 187 runs in 61 overs on Friday to win the match with a day to spare.

The heroic efforts of Andhra captain Hanuma Vihari who batted one-handed in both their innings after a wrist injury



Bengal's batters Abhimanyu Easwaran and Sudip Kumar greet each other after winning their Ranji Trophy quarter-final cricket match against Jharkhand, at Eden Garden in Kolkata, Friday, Feb. 3.

went in vain as his team could not stop MP from reaching 245 for 5 in 77 overs. MP will now take on Bengal in the semifinals from February 8 in a repeat of last edition's last-four stage match. MP had

won that match by 174 runs at Alur, Karnataka. Most of the MP top order batters except for captain Aditya Shrivastava (2) made useful contributions on the fourth day on Friday. Opener and wicket-

keeper-batter Himanshu Mantri was the first to go in the second ball of the day without adding any run to his overnight 31. Dubey (58) then shared 62 runs for the second wicket with Shubham Sharma (40) before the former was out. Patidar (55) then stitched 49 runs with Saransh Jain (28 not out) for the fourth wicket to take MP to 207 for 4. Jain then completed the formalities along with Harsh Gawli (18 not out) to take MP home. Lalith Mohan and Prithvi Raj took two wickets apiece for Andhra while Nitish Kumar Reddy got one.

### Brief Scores

Andhra 379 and 93  
Madhya Pradesh: 228 and 245 for 5 in 77 overs (Yash Dubey 58, Rajat Patidar 55; Lalith Mohan 2/91, Prithvi Raj 2/50).

## Messi has doubts about playing 2026 World Cup at age 39



Paris Saint-Germain's Brazilian forward Neymar (L) and Paris Saint-Germain's Argentine forward Lionel Messi (R) take part in a training session at the 'Camp des Loges', French L1 Paris-Saint-Germain football club's training ground at Saint-Germain-en-Laye, west of Paris.

Buenos Aires, Feb 03 (AP):

Lionel Messi may be in doubt as to whether he'll be still playing for Argentina at the 2026 World Cup but he's sure about one thing: he wants Lionel Scaloni to stay on as head coach until then, regardless. The 35-year-old Messi led Argentina to the title in Qatar last December and wasn't entirely sure if his fifth trip to the World Cup would be his last. The next edition will take place in Mexico, Canada and the United States when Messi is 39.

Messi told newspaper Ol in an interview published on Thursday that he'd regularly said his age would make it difficult to play another World Cup.. "I love playing soccer, I love what I do and while I am feeling well and feel I am fit and continue to enjoy it, I will do it. But it seems to be too

much until the next World Cup," he told the newspaper. "I have to see where my career goes, what I will do. It depends on many things."

In the near future, he suggested he wants to play in next year's Copa America in the US to help Argentina defend its title. "I will stay a little longer, I have to enjoy this," he said. Scaloni is negotiating an extension of his contract with the Argentinian soccer federation and Messi thinks the coach should remain on the job. "He is very important for the national team," Messi said. "To continue with this process would be spectacular."

Asked what it was like returning to his club Par s Saint Germain after Argentina beat France on penalties to win the World Cup, Messi said he didn't have deep discussions about it with his teammate Kylian Mbappé, the French striker.



## KALASH YATRA



Artists dressed as Hindu deities participate in a 'Kalash Yatra' organised by Shri Parivar Divya Mahayagha Samiti, in Moradabad, Friday.

## Five names recommended by Collegium for SC judges to be cleared soon: Centre to SC

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The Centre on Friday assured the Supreme Court that the Collegium's recommendation of December last year for the appointment of five judges in the apex court will be cleared soon.

Attorney General R Venkataramani told a bench of justices S K Kaul and A S Oka that warrant of appointments of these five names is expected to be issued shortly. During the hearing, the Supreme Court also expressed displeasure over the delay by the

Centre in clearing recommendations for transfer of high court judges, saying "it is a very very serious issue".

"Don't make us take a stand which will be very uncomfortable," the bench told the attorney general. The Supreme Court Collegium on December 13 last year recommended five judges for elevation to the apex court -- Rajasthan High Court Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal, Patna High Court Chief Justice Sanjay Karol, Manipur High Court Chief Justice P V Sanjay Kumar, Patna High Court judge

Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Allahabad High Court judge Manoj Misra.

Later, on January 31, the Collegium headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud recommended to the Centre the names of Allahabad High Court Chief Justice Rajesh Bindal and Gujarat High Court Chief Justice Aravind Kumar for elevation as apex court judges.

The top court, which has a sanctioned strength of 34 judges including the Chief Justice of India (CJI), is currently functioning with 27 judges.

## 'Amended UAPA is menace to democracy'

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The amended Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) is a "menace to democracy", senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said on Friday, a day after the release of Kerala journalist Siddique Kappan.

Kappan walked out of jail on bail on Thursday, over two years after he was arrested for allegedly trying to instigate violence after the death of a woman in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras.

Reacting to the development, Tharoor said, "The release of Siddique Kappan after 28 months in jail re-



Shashi Tharoor

minds us that UAPA allows the government to detain people indefinitely without charge."

It took the Supreme Court to finally reaffirm "bail not jail", the former Union minister said on Twitter. "The

matter for February 16 for further proceedings, including arguments on the quantum of sentence to be awarded to them.

"After making them understand the process, the accused persons have voluntarily agreed to plead guilty. All the accused persons are being represented by their advocates who have also made them understand the process and consequences of pleading guilty," the judge said.

The court also recorded separate statements of each of the accused regarding the plea of guilt.

The accused persons along with Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) chief

Syed Salahuddin and others laundered funds collected and received from Pakistan through different mediums for its expenditure and distribution to active cadres of the HM and other terrorist outfits, purchase of material used for explosives and terrorist acts and abetment of terrorist acts, according to ED Special Public Prosecutor Nitesh Rana.

He submitted before the court that the terror outfit was allegedly involved in funding around Rs 80 crore for terrorist activities in India.

Advocate Ali Khan, also appearing for the agency, had told the court that the

ED had attached several properties in Kashmir that belonged to the accused persons.

The court had earlier declared Salahuddin and a few others proclaimed offenders in the case lodged under sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The ED had filed a criminal case of money laundering in this instance after taking cognizance of a National Investigating Agency charge sheet filed against Salahuddin, Shah and others under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and sections of the Indian Penal Code.

## 8,343 Indian prisoners lodged in foreign jails: MEA

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

As many as 8,343 Indian prisoners, including undertrials, are lodged in various jails around the world, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday. Minister of State in the MEA, V Muraleedharan said in Lok Sabha that the government attaches the highest priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indians in foreign countries, including those in the foreign jails. He was replying to a question. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has the highest 1,926 Indian prisoners followed by Saudi Arabia with 1,362 and Nepal having 1,222 inmates, according to the details provided by Muraleedharan in Lok Sabha. "As per the information available with the ministry, the number of Indian prisoners, including undertrials, in foreign prisons at present is 8,343," Muraleedharan said. He said India has signed agreements on transfer of sentenced persons (TSP) with 31 countries.

## HC asks Nagpur jail authorities to make available books to 2006 Mumbai blasts convict

New Delhi, Feb 03 (PTI):

The Delhi High Court on Friday asked the Superintendent of Nagpur Central jail to make available certain books to a death row convict in the 2006 Mumbai train bombings case either in physical form or their soft copy. The high court said the publications shall be made available to convict Ehtesham Qutubuddin Siddique, lodged in Nagpur jail, within four weeks failing which he is at liberty to file an appropriate plea before the court.

The court took into consideration the submission of the counsel for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (I&B) who said they have asked the Nagpur prison authorities to purchase the books and give it to the convict if he is not entitled to access the internet in jail.

"Considering this stand, the Superintendent of Nagpur Central jail shall make available the books to the petitioner either in physical form or a soft copy within four weeks," Justice Prathiba M Singh said. The high court disposed of the petition filed by the convict on seeking copies of certain publications free of cost under the RTI Act. The ministry's counsel said the books sought for are quite expensive.

Siddique was given capital punishment for the July 11, 2006 serial blasts when seven RDX bombs ripped through many Western line local trains in Mumbai leading to the death of 189 persons and injuring 829. In his plea, the convict said he has completed several courses provided by IGNOU free of cost in jail and wishes to know more about various topics, books and materials.

Since various topics are not available in the prison library, he sought hard copies of those publications or books under the provisions of the RTI Act. Advocate Arpit Bhargava, appearing for Siddique, said the prisoner had mentioned in his RTI application that he was a person below poverty line and since he was in custody, and being a convict, he was entitled to all such publications or books "free of cost".

However, the request was declined by the publication division of the Ministry of I&B and it was stated that since books or publications referred in RTI application are priced ones, they cannot be supplied free of cost to general public under any circumstances and he was advised to contact the sales emporium in Mumbai for buying them or to purchase online.

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